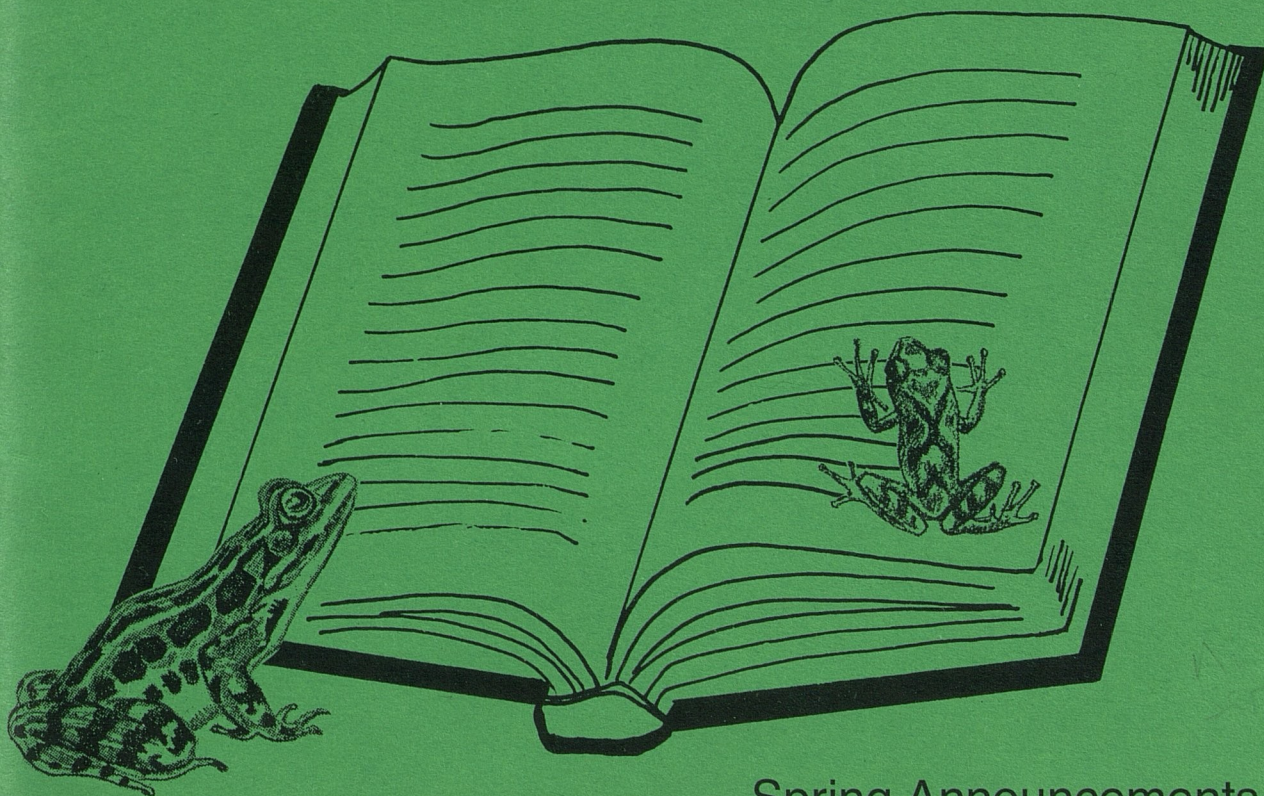

Feminist Bookstore News



Spring Announcements

March/April 1997

Volume 19 Number 6

Femina Serial am F32978 10/22/97

Lesbian Origins

Susan Cavin

Cavin, a lesbian feminist sociologist, advances a new theory of women's oppression and women's liberation, based on cross-cultural data. She holds that original human societies were woman-centered, with females greatly outnumbering males; men occupied a marginal position. When armed men overthrew women's societies they integrated themselves into society, breaking women's power.

Janice Raymond called *Lesbian Origins* "one of the most stimulating and original works to come out of the last five years of feminist thought." (*Women's Review of Books*)

263 pages.....ISBN 0-910383-15-4 \$12



Love & Politics

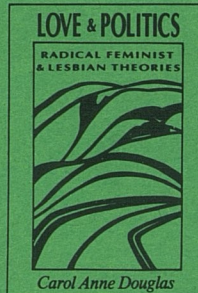
Carol Anne Douglas

Critically surveys radical and lesbian feminist ideas developed from the 1960s through the 1980s. Douglas examines diverse theories on the roots of male domination; love and sexuality; lesbianism and friendship between women; lesbian separatism; strategy and tactics for women's liberation – and more.

"Douglas provides a lively and coherent overview of radical and lesbian feminist ideas over the past few decades, reminding us of their creativity and diversity," wrote Charlotte Bunch.

Carol Anne Douglas has written for *off our backs* since 1973 and teaches women's studies.

363 pages.....ISBN 0-910383-17-0 \$12

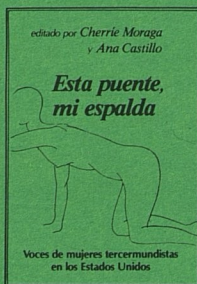


Esta puente, mi espalda

The Spanish translation of *This Bridge Called My Back*, edited by Cherríe Moraga and Ana Castillo. Adapted for a Latina readership, *Esta puente, mi espalda* contains personal narratives, essays, and poems by radical women of color in the U.S. – including Barbara Smith, Gloria Anzaldúa, Chrystos, Nellie Wong, Aurora Levins Morales, and many more.

"An enriching book," wrote the Mexican women's monthly *fem*. "Through reading it, we Latin American feminist women can identify the racism pervading our societies as well, which—try as we may to conceal it—does affect our personal and political relationships."

268 pages.....ISBN 0-910383-19-7 \$10



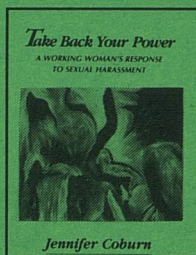
Take Back Your Power

Jennifer Coburn

Severe sexual harassment by her supervisor in her first job after college drove Jennifer Coburn to fight back and win a legal settlement. She then interviewed a hundred other women to gather their stories of sexual harassment on a variety of jobs. She presents and analyzes her own experiences and those of the women she interviewed, emphasizing the psychological and practical dimensions of the struggle.

"*Take Back Your Power* is a comprehensive and empowering guide to addressing sexual harassment at the work place." —Patricia Ireland, president, National Organization for Women.

141 pages.....ISBN 0-910383-13-8 \$10



ism press, P.O. Box 12447-F, San Francisco, CA 94112. Distributed by Bookpeople.

NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE

FBN is turning 20! And you're invited to send stories, memories, reflections on FBN's past or it's role in your/your organization's past, present or future, and/or your wishes for our collective future for publication in our 20th Anniversary (!) issue. 50 to 250 words, please. Deadline is March 14 or thereabouts, so do it right now!

And we're moving! As much as we love our current office, tiny garden, and Castro Street location, we finally had to admit that we've outgrown it. But we're very excited about our new neighbors — we'll be in the same building with Aunt Lute Books (from whom we'll be sub-letting some of the space) as well as Brava for the Arts, and several other women's organizations. The new address is 2180 Bryant Street #207, San Francisco CA 94107. (The PO Box stays the same — please continue to use it whenever possible.)

BEA (BookExpo America) is continuing to be a bundle of contradictions. We need a strong, vital trade show that functions as a platform to discuss independent bookselling and publishing issues — however heatedly. And BEA, with all of it's problems, including its stagnant location (which limits the number of booksellers who will attend), the high price of booths, the effective boycott by corporate publishers, not to mention its overly patriotic, theme-park style name, is what we've got. (Ruth Gottstein outlines the problems quite effectively on page 27.)

Frustrated with the back-of-the bus location assigned to the Gay/Lesbian/Feminist Aisle, FBN considered withdrawing from the show entirely but, in the end, chose to make a statement to support the show by moving to the the Small Press section (Booth #32). (Turn to page 9 for more BEA-related news and events.)

Julie Mitchell has advised us that she's quitting her job (manager at Sisterhood) and going on the road. We envy her the adventure, but we'll be needing a new Science Fiction columnist this summer. If you're interested, or interested in our opening for a sidelines column, give me a call.

Just in case the amount of flu going around wasn't enough, FBN's computers were hit with an infestation of "wazzu" — a macro-virus that travels on Word documents and inserts the word "wazzu" randomly into Word files. It also "hijacks" words and moves them to unlikely places.... It was Team FBN vs. the creepoids for a while, but we had it tamed in a mere four days. We *think* we've cleaned up all the files — but if you find a "wazzu" — or a weirdly placed or missing word...well, take it in stride and ignore it as best you can.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol

FBN Articles Due

FBN's 20th Anniversary &
ALA/BEA Special Issue
May/June
March 7

Summer/Sidelines Issue
July/August
May 2

New Spring Titles



A first novel by the author of the Lambda Literary Award finalist, Sweat

Working Parts

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Not for the faint of heart, this debut collection of comic narratives is incisive and riotously funny

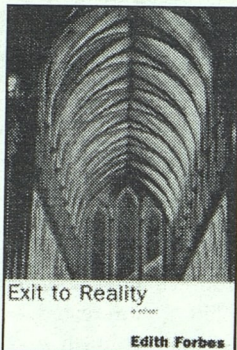
Lap Dancing for Mommy

Tender Stories of Disgust, Blame and Inspiration

Erika Lopez

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1-878067-96-6 June



In her finest novel, Edith Forbes has imagined a world in which technology and humanity face off

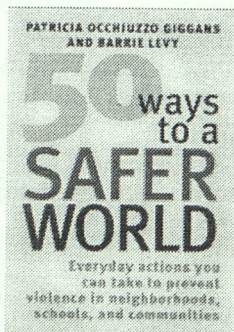
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FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS is the communications vehicle for the informal network of feminist bookstores. FBN reaches 500 feminist and feminist-inclined bookstores in the U.S. and Canada as well as feminist book-sellers in England, Europe, Australia,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

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CONTENTS

Articles

Holiday Sales	18
Nuts & Bolts of Fundraising	25
Publisher's Column: The Rise & Fall of ABA	27
Calyx's Year From Heck	31
TCB: Basics of Bulk Mailing	35
News/Short Stories	9
Bernie Rath Resigns from ABA • Call for Fourth National Women-In-Print Conference • BEA/ABA 1997 Events/Who's Where • Borders Moves to Top of Naiad's Wholesale Sales • Pacific Pipeline Declares Bankruptcy • Cleis Moves to San Francisco • Unionizing at Borders • Laugh Lines in Cyberspace • Pandora, New Venture Awards	
Bookstore News	17
Bestsellers	45

Departments

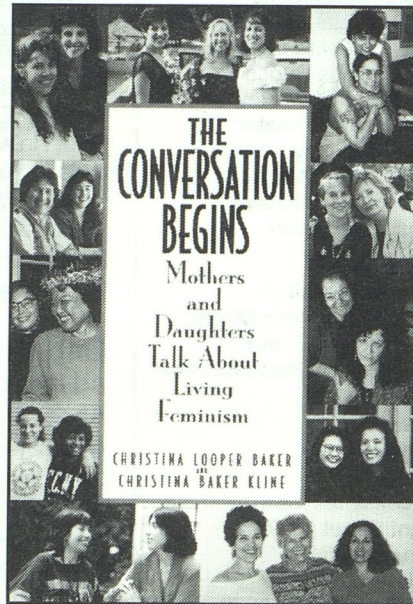
Ad Index	131
Announcements	23
Classified Ads	132
Letters	5
Subscription Information	12
They Went That-A-Way	39
Writing Wanted	43

The Books

Art Books	49
Canadian Books	47
Gay Men's Lit	55
Humor	51
Kids' Lit	53
Mysteries	59
Music News	69
New Media	75
Our Own Presses	79
Publisher's Row	121
Science Fiction & Fantasy	63
Short Raves	44
Small Presses	95
University Presses	109

"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*



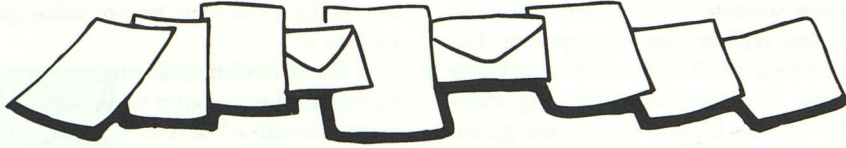
In this moving testament mothers and daughters join together to share their candid reflections on the women's movement — and how their lives were shaped by it. What was it like to be a feminist mother twenty years ago? And how are the daughters recasting the movement to suit their needs? *THE CONVERSATION BEGINS* offers an inspiring touchstone for every woman who reads it.

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LETTERS



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Dear FBN,

The issue is not really "To Website or Not to Website" (FBN 19#5, pg. 29) because just paying for the creation of a website is absolutely not enough. The Web is a glut of millions of sites. Simply tossing a bookstore's site out onto the Net without following up with a concentrated (and continuing) publicity campaign can only yield disappointing results. Just like building clientele for a store, a website must actively develop traffic to it. Otherwise, the only visitors to your site will be your own customers who learn about your WWW address at the bookstore. A successful site involves assigning a staffperson to actively manage it, which means not just keeping the content fresh, but surfing the Web regularly in search of potential sites to link up with.

At this point even registering your site with all the search engines does not guarantee that folks will persevere through all the search results until they reach your listing. A keyword search on, say "feminist bookstore" gets 261 listings, of which only 10 show up on a page. So, if you're at the back of the list, good luck, since the average searcher will probably look at no more than the first 3-4 search results pages — the first 30-40 listings. (Parenthetically, A Different Light has managed to get itself into the search engines quite prominently and repeatedly as a "feminist bookstore.")

What wasn't really mentioned in Carol's article was that because the Internet allows feminist bookstores to solicit business without regard to geography, the premier feminist bookstore WWW sites will be able to drain customers from their sister stores. Those that do not have their own websites, or whose

websites are so obscure and low-key that they cannot be easily located, will suffer the most.

Further, what no one talks about very much is the fact that the Internet allows — promotes even — direct sales to the customer from the publishers. This is why the Internet will have vast repercussions on our economy as we know it. People will be able to buy directly from the manufacturers without having to go into retail stores. I don't mean to be an alarmist, but I truly believe that the fate of the feminist bookstore movement depends on the bookstores coming to grips with these issues, which will soon effect the entire economy. And doing it *together* along with the publishers (14 of whom have WWW sites that we know about — none of which is being aggressively managed at the moment).



I propose a Feminist Bookstore Supersite. It would be a collaborative site — like the FBN catalog — involving all the bookstores, publishers, and feminist publications that review books. The books with their cover art plus any reviews would be available in a comprehensive catalog. Orders would automatically be routed to the bookstore serving the geographic region of the orderer — similar to the way the FTD florist system operates. There are other very cool things that could also be added to the site to make it *The Internet Feminist Book site*. The technology for all this already exists, and someone will eventually come along and do it. Except it will be one individual or company — possibly not even a women's enterprise.

Carol, I recognize your cynicism about the fact that great sums of money are not yet being made on

the WWW. The problem is if you wait until the time that great sums of money are being made, it will be too late. At that point corporate capital will roll onto the Web (I'm thinking Barnes & Noble, who recently announced their new website) and all the most visible "feminist books" sites will by then be corporate. The Internet trade journals are full of the rush to develop Cybercash systems. The companies funding these enterprises are the world's biggest hi-tech and global financial goliaths.

Don't kid yourself, online shopping is right around the corner — and all sectors of the financial markets are racing madly to prepare for it. Online

buying *is the future* and it will drain off foot traffic from retail stores.

The only prescription is for the retail stores themselves to stake out their territory in cyberspace, and stake it out well, before some giant corporation usurps it.

The economics of collaboration are impressive. Compare the cost of a bookstore launching its own comprehensive Website, which includes pricey catalog and shopping cart software, and considerable staff time in getting it linked and generating traffic to it. Compare this to the relatively minor cost of contributing probably less than \$500 per store to the creation of one SuperSite with one half-time person committed to maintaining and publicizing it. Everyone would benefit because feminists wouldn't have to comb the Net looking for feminist books — they'd be under one tent. Every feminist site in the Internet would link to it. And most importantly, the bookstores would gain an important income stream that will only grow larger in the future, to assure their continued ability to provide books to their communities. Then, by the time that the big-box-bookstores decide to horn in, we will finally have the biggest and best location "on the block," and it will be they who won't be able to compete.



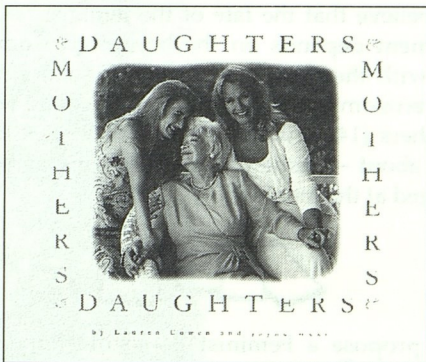
We at The ElectraPages: Online Directory of the Women's Movement (<http://electrapages.com>) stand ready to help with this project in any way we can. Our site, as you know, exists to increase the visibility of feminist organizations. Our searchable directory has over 8,500 organizations (we need to update the count on our homepage graphic), as well as links to over 820 WWW sites. And believe me, when I speak about increasing traffic to a site, I know of what I speak. It's taken a year of concentrated work to get over 300 feminist sites to link to us. This generates around 1,200 searches of our directory a day, and growing.

Anyone who agrees that this is an idea whose time has come, please feel free to contact me. I have a practical vision, a blueprint, and a willingness to contribute it to the feminist bookstore community.

Jill Lippitt



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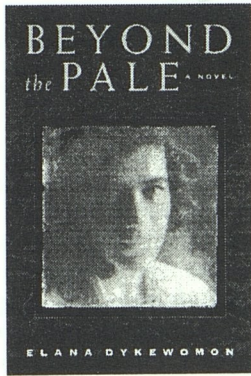
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News News News

ABA Executive Director Bernie Rath Resigns

In a move that took the industry by surprise, ABA Executive Director Bernie Rath declined to renew his contract with ABA. His resignation is effective February 28, but he will probably continue to serve as a consultant on various ABA projects. Rath has been executive director of ABA for 13 years. Although indicating that he may go into business, Rath has announced no firm plans for the future.

Rath is universally credited with strengthening the Association financially and otherwise during the early years of his tenure. While some cite the sale of the ABA Convention and ABA's successful price-discrimination lawsuits as Rath's biggest achievements, others are critical of Rath's handling of the convention, the Newt Gingrich fiasco, the escalation of booth fees to beyond publisher tolerance, and the sale of the convention to a firm that would root the show in a single location, as causal factors in the convention's current crisis. Others criticize Rath for his failure to address the impact of the mega-chains on independent bookselling and for failing to take legal action until forced to do so by membership resolutions. ABA may have a lavish new headquarters in Tarrytown, but the ten-acre campus and Rath's generous severance package provide little comfort to independent booksellers who were driven out of business by illegal and unfair competition while their Association was focused on buying real estate.

In the wake of the successful completion of the lawsuits, the ABA Board has engaged the Association in a strategic planning process to evaluate its priorities. ABA past president Avin Domnitz, co-owner of Harry S. Schwartz Booksellers, will serve as acting executive director until Rath's successor is hired. ○

Call for a Fourth National Women-In-Print Conference

"I think it is time for another Women-In-Print conference," Beth Dingman wrote in an email post to the Bookfiends list, "which would include publishers (book, magazine, and newspaper) and bookstores. I don't want to wait another year to do this, I think we are in desperate need of it now. Comments?" And the response has been significant and strong. May seems to have been ruled out as "too soon to organize effectively." Discussion is currently centering on late August or early fall. Search for a site is underway. Send feedback, encouragement, ideas, suggestions, et al. to Beth Dingman, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055; 802-649-5297, email <newvic@aol.com>.

The first Women-In-Print Conference was called by Daughters Press founder June Arnold twenty years ago. Feminist publishers (book and periodical), printers, and booksellers drove cross-country to meet at the Camp Harriet Harding Campfire Girl camp for a week in the fall of 1976. It, and the 1981 follow-up conference in Washington, DC, were tremendously powerful and effective conferences. A third WIP conference was organized in Berkeley in 1985. The International Feminist Book Fairs were initiated in 1984. ○

BEA/ABA 1997

• FB-Network Conference

Feminist Bookstore Network members will convene on Thursday and Friday (May 29 and 30) to discuss topics that are currently being selected by the membership.

• LesBiGay Publishers/Booksellers Meeting?

Lee Boojamra (Rising Tide Press) and Bert Herrman (Alamo Square) are contemplating setting

up a meeting for gay, lesbian, and bisexual publishers and booksellers to discuss common concerns in the midst of the current publishing and bookselling crisis. Tentative time is late Thursday afternoon and early evening. For more information, contact Lee or Burt at 516-427-1289 or 415-252-0643, respectively.

• **The Lammys**

The Lambda Literary Awards banquet will be held Friday, May 30, at the Midland Hotel. Tickets are \$75 after April 15, \$65 if ordered before.

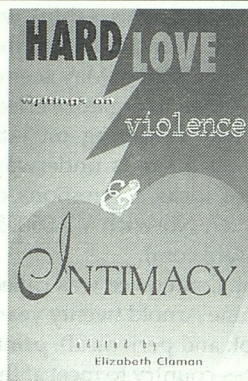
More events and more details in the next issue....

The Shrinking G/L/F Aisle

There's been a great deal of coverage of corporate publishers' frustrations with the convention and decisions not to attend this year, but there's been almost no

attention given to independent presses' dissatisfaction. (HarperCollins, Random House, Penguin USA, Simon & Schuster, the Putnam Group, Bantam Doubleday Dell, the Hearst Group [Morrow & Avon], Houghton Mifflin, and Farrar, Straus and Giroux as well as Harvard University Press and Oxford University Press have all decided not to exhibit at BEA 1997.)

As reported in the last issue (see page 1), FBN and several other publishers were extremely dissatisfied with the location The Aisle was assigned this year — a mere two booths from the outer (rear) wall of the show. ABA/BEA's exhibitor's packets clearly state that "applications received by the July 15 deadline will be processed by seniority (the number of years a company has participated in the show), in numerical descending order. Within each seniority classification,



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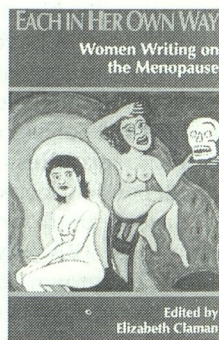
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order of priority in selection space will be based upon the total square footage selected — from largest to smallest.... Organized Groups...are assigned space based on their seniority."

Given these clearly published guidelines, FBN is at a loss to understand how it is that any group with 15 or so years of seniority and 22 booths could possibly end up on the outer fringe of the hall — and at full price.

Having duly rented booth space at each and every convention for 12 years, and being more than a little dismayed to have that contribution to ABA disregarded, FBN has decided to raise these issues and to move to the Small Press section to protest BEA's failure to assign a location appropriate to our seniority. Look for us in Small Press Booth 32.

Also disappointed with the location, Papier Mache has left The Aisle for a booth on a main aisle. Canadian feminist publishers gynergy and Second Story decided after ABA last year to move to the Small Press section for 1997. Cleis Press, citing reduced set-up and break-down time, being relieved of the cost of renting furniture, et al., and reduced shipping costs, is taking a half-booth in the PGW stand. Firebrand, citing similar financial realities and not being required to stay through the entire show, will exhibit from within the Login booth. Three of the publishers remaining on The Aisle have told FBN, in private conversations, that they may not exhibit in 1998 if conditions are not significantly improved.

To Attend BEA or Not to Attend BEA

Both independent press and corporate press frustrations with BEA bode ill for independent booksellers. Independent booksellers and their organization, the ABA, need to have a strong and powerful presence at BEA to maintain the status and power independents have, despite declining market share. The sale of the convention to Reed already shifts independent booksellers out of the "ownership" position and into a "guest" position. If booksellers stay away from BEA in droves (whether due to boredom with the Chicago location or their own financially challenged situations, or in response to corporate publishers' withdrawal), independent booksellers will lose image, power, and strength. Further, with the resignation of ABA's executive director, this could be a pivotal year for shaping the future of the new ABA. If you can't go to BEA, then you can't. But if you're undecided — go. ○

Borders Takes Lead in Naiad's Wholesale Sales

Naiad recently sent FBN a fascinating — and revealing — set of figures: their breakdown of sales to wholesalers in 1996. Borders took the lead, and far exceeded sales to Ingram, Login, and Bookpeople as well as (not surprisingly) Naiad's British distributor (Airlift) and their Australian distributor (Stilone). Sales to Borders were \$139,685; Ingram, \$117,176; Login, \$88,494; Airlift, \$42,324; Bookpeople, \$34,244; and Stilone, \$24,130; and miscellaneous smaller distributors, \$7,993, for a total of \$454,046. (These figures do not include sales directly to bookstores or to retail customers.) ○

Pacific Pipeline Declares Bankruptcy

Pacific Pipeline, the Northwest's own home-grown book wholesaler, filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy papers on January 31. Court documents state that Pipeline's debts run to \$12.2 million. Assets are estimated at \$8.8 million. An estimated 1800 unsecured creditors wait in the wings to see what funds will be distributed.

Pacific Pipeline's visible problems started during the 1995 Christmas season when the company, in an attempt to capture chain business, attempted to install a new computer system in early December that had not been adequately pre-tested. The computer fiasco decimated Pipeline's holiday sales and stressed Pipeline's normally excellent relationships with bookstore customers who did not receive confirmed orders during the prime selling season. The computer problems, FBN has been told, were not resolved until the following August.

But other industry observers note that Ingram's aggressive move into the Northwest, opening a 300,000-square-foot "superwarehouse" in Roseburg, Oregon, in late 1994, successfully undermined the 20-year-old wholesaler.

The largest publishers' claims include Random House (\$1.3 million), Harper Collins (\$970,000), Bantam (\$825,000), Penguin USA (\$725,000), Von Holtzbrinck trade group (\$700,000), and Simon &

Schuster (\$675,000). But the publishers most seriously affected by the bankruptcy may be the smaller independents, some of whom are still trying to recoup from their losses during the Inland/InBook bankruptcy.

In an industry that needs independent wholesalers as much as it needs independent bookstores, the loss of Pacific Pipeline will have ramifications throughout the booktrade. ○

**Cleis Press East
to Join Cleis Press West
in San Francisco**

Cleis Press, founded 17 years ago in Minneapolis, has operated from a split location for the last 14 years with one founder, Frederique Delacoste, living and working in San Francisco, and co-founder Felice Newman and the rest of the Cleis staff located in Pittsburgh.

"Moving to San Francisco has been a dream for the last few years," Felice told FBN. "It started in 1992

when we were considering leaving InBook and I went to San Francisco to check out PGW. I fell in love with the city and, what with traveling to SF three or four times a year for meetings with PGW, I started to make friends and develop a personal life in San Francisco as well as a professional one."

Felice will "put Cleis on a truck" at the end of April, arrive in May, head back to Chicago for BEA in June (at another new location, on the PGW aisle)...and keep the books rolling out. "In addition to moving, we're publishing more books than ever — thirteen books this year," she added.

The San Francisco Bay Area is Cleis' biggest market, many of Cleis' authors live here, and the move, Felice estimates, will save the publishing company \$200 to \$300 per month in telephone and Federal Express bills.

Other Cleis staff declined offers to relocate to San Francisco, but Leasa Burton will continue to do copyediting on a long-distance basis. Cleis anticipates hiring an office manager and an assistant to the publishers at the new location. People interested in these positions should send résumés (no phone calls

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please) to Cleis' San Francisco office (PO Box 14684, SF 94114). Cleis would also be happy to receive résumés from Bay Area-based free-lance editors. ○

Update: Unionizing at Borders

Employees at the Stamford, Connecticut, Borders have filed for union elections.

In December, just two days before the elections that brought the union to the Des Moines Borders store, the Philadelphia City Council passed a resolution urging Borders to reinstate bookseller Miriam Fried. The resolution reads, in part, "Whereas bookstores such as Borders are basic to our free society in that they promote a diversity of opinion.... But an equally important tenet of a free society is the right to freely associate and advocate for the formation of unions...the Council of the City of Philadelphia...urge[s] Borders to reinstate bookseller Miriam Fried and restore its reputation as a socially-responsible company." Miriam Fried was discharged, allegedly over a policy dispute, shortly after the union drive at the Borders where she worked failed to win the election. She was an outspoken union advocate and one of the key organizers in the first drive to unionize a Borders store. ○

Laugh Lines in Cyberspace

Laugh Lines Press now has two Web pages — one U.S. site and one Canadian and has met its goals of 1) getting into cyberspace without the trouble and expense of putting up and maintaining its own site and 2) ensuring that all book sales generated by the sites would go to a fellow women-owned business rather than a soulless conglomerate.

Laugh Lines did this by joining forces with two feminist bookstores — OutBooks in Illinois and Orlando Books in Edmonton, who have set up and will maintain Laugh Lines Web sites in connection with their own Web pages. The stores will keep Laugh Lines titles in stock and Laugh Lines, in exchange, will direct as much traffic to the sites as possible and otherwise promote the sites.

Laugh Lines Press' owner Roz Warren explains, "We think this is a sensible solution for small feminist presses who want to get into cyberspace in a way that keeps us all strong and healthy."

The U.S. site's address is (<http://www.outbooks.com/laughlines>) and the Canadian address is (<http://www.compusmart.ab.ca/orlando/laughlines/htm>). Please check out the sites! Roz welcomes feedback at: (RozWarren@aol.com). —JT ○

Pandora, New Venture Awards

The British-based professional organization, Women in Publishing, has awarded its 1996 Pandora award to Dr. Anita Miller and its 1996 New Venture award to Rosemarie Meleady.

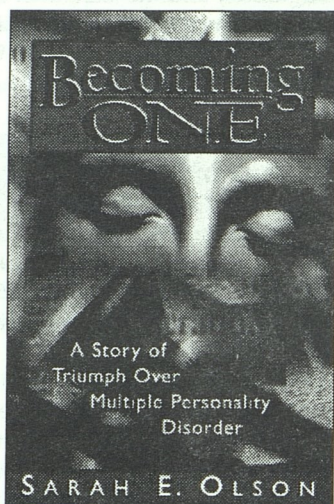
Miller is the editorial director, president and co-founder of Academy Chicago Publishers, which publishes literary fiction, mysteries, women's studies and neglected classics. Meleady is one of the founders of the Irish magazine *Big Issues*.

The Pandora Award, created in 1981, is bestowed upon a woman or organization in the publishing industry who has consistently made a significant and valuable contribution from which women have benefited. The other 1996 Pandora Award nominees were Daphne Brasell (New Zealand), for the first training course in publishing in New Zealand at the Whitirela Community Polytechnic; Carolyn Bennett (U.S.), founder of the literary press Gull Books; and Gill Davies of Free Association Press (U.K.), for Britain's first women's studies list and work for WIP.

The New Venture Award, created in 1987, is presented to women who embark on a new project that highlights the work and lives of under-represented groups in society. Its other 1996 nominees were Tessa Strickland and Nancy Traversy of Barefoot Books (U.K.) now in its fourth year producing children's picture books of multicultural and educational appeal; *Make* magazine (U.K.) published by Women's Art Library, promoting the work of women artists; and Longacre Press (New Zealand) publishers of fiction and nonfiction for children, young adults and working mothers since 1994.

For information on WIP contact Sheila Davies at WIP, 12 Dyott Street, London WC1A 1DF. —JT ○

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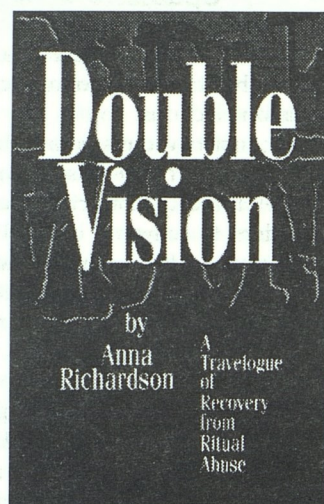
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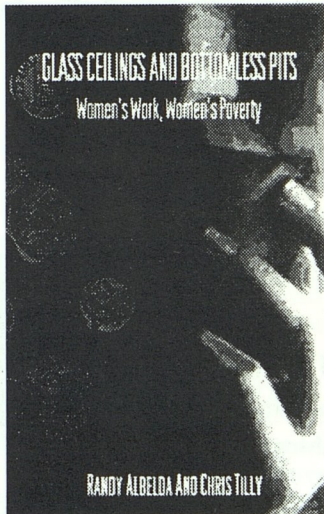
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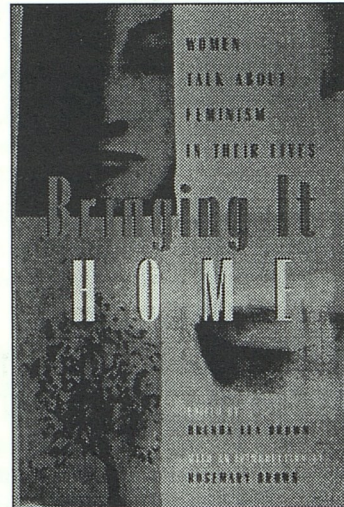
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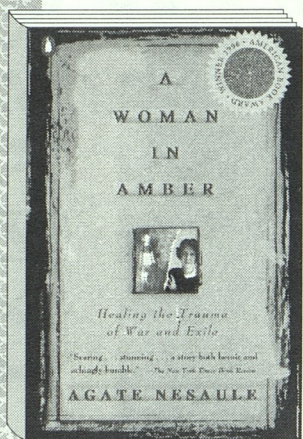
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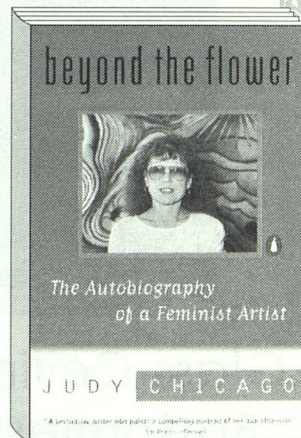
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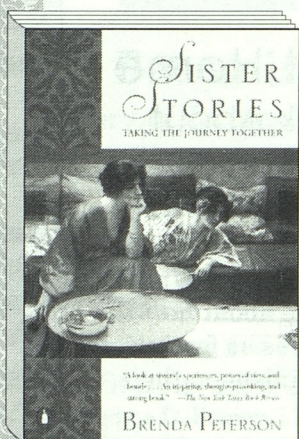
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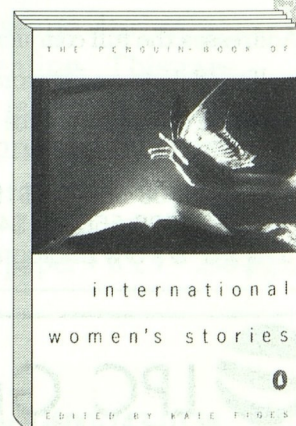



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News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Compiled by Carol Seajay

Charis Circle

Two years ago, while Charis' Linda Bryant was doing fundraising for Atlanta's gay youth programs, other women on the project turned to her and said, "We should be doing this kind of fundraising for Charis" — and the Charis Circle was born.

"We're about to go into gear for our second Charis Circle fund-raising letter," Linda writes. "The first letter, a year and a half ago, generated about \$23,000. The Circle has really saved our lives. We also raised another \$10,000 in events this year."

"We are looking at a dream budget of \$55,000 for the next year and our board thinks we can raise it with donations, grants, and a little from events. They (the Charis Circle board members) are amazing and wonderful. [The whole program] has been so wonderful that we are beginning to dream about grants for expanded programming...."

Charis Circle is a non-profit corporation, totally separate from Charis Books (which is *not* a non-profit). The Circle was formed to fund and support the kind of programming that the bookstore used to be able to fund. The Circle rents space from the bookstore for events, pays for staff time spent on programming, pays for program-related ads, etc., expenses that were, in more solvent times, underwritten by the bookstore.



"I wish everyone this infusion of energy and positive support," Linda's email continues. "It is a lot of work, a whole new group of folks to know and work with on a regular basis, but it is totally worth it. I believe [the Charis Circle] will keep the bookstore alive. If we can continue to hang onto even sales —

and I believe we can — we will survive. I, personally, am feeling peaceful and happy and energized — and thankful!"



Amber Xxene

Every now and then I put something in a stack of things to read "later" and unearth them months (or a year) later.... I just unearthed the January 1995 issue of Herland (Santa Cruz) News...and discovered that Drama and Kayla Rose had a baby, Amber Xxene Rose who celebrated her first birthday on December 15! Congratulations to Amber on her birthday and to the proud moms!

At about the same time (no coincidence?) Herland decided to move from their "support your local bookstore while you still have one" attitude to "do this wonderful thing for yourself: taking care of yourself means taking care of your local women's bookstore."

How to do that? By simply being a wonderful place: "And it is wonderful here at Herland — we have excellent books and an incredible selection of meaningful gifts for your friends, family, and self," the newsletter continues. "We have beautiful goddess figures, sacred art, alter items and are well supplied for your ritual needs.... Our video rentals keeps on growing, as does our music selection. Our cozy atmosphere keeps people coming. We have delicious specials in the café, and continue to serve scrumptious scrambles, decadent desserts, and outrageous nachos for your dining pleasure, as well as our famous coffees and mocha shakes. Our art shows change every two weeks, highlighting local women artists, and we are continuously putting on great events ranging from book signings to dances. So you see, it is what we do here and what we offer here that keeps our customers

loyal. At Herland you can curl up in a comfy chair with *Ms. Magazine* and a decaf chai while being surrounded by Goddesses, Amazons and Wise Women. You just can't get that at a chain. We pledge to continue serving the women of Santa Cruz, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support...."

You can't say it any better than that!

Herland also reports that textbook sales, which are crucial to their solvency, were the best ever last

semester...and sent special thanks "to the professors who make the choice to live their feminism by placing their orders through us, as well as the students who part with their dollars here. Know that you are doing a great service to the community. We also appreciate the high school teachers, librarians, and resource centers who have bought their materials through Herland and have made feminist and lesbian-positive materials accessible to youth in Santa Cruz."

Holiday Sales

Holiday and year-end sales in feminist bookstores seem to parallel sales in other parts of the independent bookselling industry: down where chains have over-saturated a community, steady in many communities, and up significantly where some extraordinary effort or change has occurred. In December, of course, the focus is on holiday sales. Weather and the number of shopping days have an impact, but even more important for the year-end totals were textbook and out-of-store sales.

In *PW's* year-end summaries, the estimate was that, given the increase in the chains' over-all market share, independents should be down an average of 8% — of course that would be more where chains have recently moved in, less where chain activity is stable, and non-relevant in those handful of bookselling communities without any chains at all.



Sisterhood Bookstore reports a 3% growth for the year, despite having Borders breathing down their neck. (Borders moved in across the street from Sisterhood two years ago.) Sisterhood has done excellent community education and cites strong textbook sales as part of their success.

December weather included a big storm a week before Christmas that left a waterway through their front window.... "We had to tear out the whole window in the midst of the holiday, but we only lost a couple hundred in books — it wasn't bad at all," Adele Wallace cheerfully told FBN. A leak in the win-

dow is nothing next to having a Borders across the street from your store everyday. "We're still here," she continued, "And we're going to be here for quite a while. The eighties are over, but sales have leveled out. Things don't seem to be getting worse anymore." Sisterhood turns 25 in November!

"New Words' year ended well — up 7%" with "strong December sales," Laura Zimmerman told FBN. "It feels like we've turned a corner of sorts and there's a solid sense of stability." Out-of-store sales are an important part of their success, as is a tighter inventory, careful buying, and returning books that don't sell.

At Charis (Atlanta), December sales were up a bit — about 2%, with the year's growth showing about the same. ("Just *slightly* up, but who can complain if you aren't going down!" Linda Bryant commented.) Charis is looking forward to Shay Youngblood's *Soul Kiss*, due in May from Riverhead. Beth Gundersen from Lodestar (Birmingham) had just been by, and Susan Keel, previously of Wild Iris (Gainesville) was on the way when I talked to Linda.

December sales at Chicago's Women and Children First held steady this year.

Retail sales were down across the board in storm-ridden Minneapolis. Storms meant low-customer days and early closings during the already-short holiday shopping season. "We're doing OK, though," Barb Wieser told FBN. "We could tell early on that it was going to be a slow season and we're scaling back on other things to compensate. We have some good

events lined up — 200 people turned out for Rita Mae Brown and Starhawk is coming soon. Ruby's (the lesbian coffeehouse next door) will be opening later this month and we'll extend our hours to match their weekend nights." Amazon and Ruby's have opened a door in the wall that separates the two establishments so that customers may wander back and forth between the two establishments without going outside in the Minneapolis winter. (Does this count as a mini-mall in the Mall of America's hometown?) Large events that exceed the seating space in the coffeehouse will be held in the bookstore.



A Room of One's Own also reports a drop in December sales. "I think people went to Barnes & Noble for the discount when they wanted a stack of books," Sandi Torkildson told FBN. "We did 10% off hardbacks for December, but that didn't seem to have much impact on the customers." But the excitement at ARO³ isn't about December sales — it's the lively conversation about moving the store a few doors up the street (closer to the main shopping street) and opening a coffeehouse to bring in traffic. "There isn't any women's space in Madison right now. Women want a place to meet their friends," Sandi elaborated. The new space is twice the size of ARO³'s current quarters and would give ARO³ room to expand operations in a non-book, gift-shop/art gallery direction.

Elsewhere in the midwest, Dreams and Swords' Harriet Claire noted, "The last week before Christmas was good — but that was it!" Why? "It wasn't the weather, we had good stock, but now there are three chainstores (two Borders, one B&N) in town, all within spitting distance of here. Our Mystery bookstore closed at the end of December. The one other independent here is for sale, and if we close, that's it! The first chainstore arrived five years ago, but they didn't have a concentration until last year when the third big store opened. It's insane. Indianapolis can't support three stores that size, they're just here trying to kill each other off." But they're taking all of the independents with them. [Note: The Indianapolis Media Play is scheduled to close early in 1997 — not soon enough!]

BLOODROOT

A Feminist Restaurant & Bookstore
85 Ferris St.
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Dear FBN,

In March 1977, Betsey Beavan, Noel Furie, and I, Selma Miriam, opened Bloodroot, and so we are celebrating our twentieth anniversary this March.

I know there are a few women's bookstores which are older than us, but perhaps we are the oldest collective with three of its originating members?

I don't think we could say we would still have a bookstore were it not for our vegetarian restaurant. It has helped feed our love of books when book sales do not.

As part of our celebration, we are compiling a list of our favorite books of the past twenty years — and also, as Sanguinaria Publishing, we are offering a 50% discount to bookstores who want our cookbooks: *The Political Palate*, *The Second Seasonal Political Palate* and *The Perennial Political Palate*, with no minimums.

Whatever changes have occurred in the last twenty years, we still love reading books, working with women, and the customers who are respectful of what we do.

Selma

○

Book • Women (Austin) reports the exact opposite of A Room of One's Own's traffic pattern — Book • Women was a shopping destination. "We saw a lot more Christmas shoppers than usual," Susan Post reported. Her big question is how to get those people in on a weekly basis! December sales were steady at -1%, despite the move to a larger location. Animal and animal-rights oriented books were the unexpected holiday sellers: *The Dog Who Rescues Cats* sold well as did *The Lost History of the Canine Race*. *Ex Utero* did well, as did *Early Embraces*, *Goddess of the Americas* (writings on the Virgin of Guadalupe are big in a store that celebrates Virgin Day every year...), *Paris Was a Woman* and, of course, Kay Turner's *Between Us*. Ladies Sewing

Circle and Terrorist Society is still the holiday t-shirt of choice. Cheerily, Susan pointed out that next year's holiday season will also be "short."

But there's a lot more happening at Book•Women than just book sales: Susan expects to have a homesite up and running on CitySearch by the time this issue reaches you. (One more way to invite all those X-mas shoppers into the store on a regular basis.) Book•Women's Third Friday music series is so popular that Susan is thinking about putting in coffee or trying to find someone to open a cafe next door.... The bottom line is that Austin's last women's bar closed three months ago and there's no good weekend place to go...except Book•Women. Susan declared the December Third Friday event a benefit for the store. There was music (of course), a buffet, a raffle, mingling rather than rows of chairs, and the donation was \$10 (more if...). Melissa Etheridge was playing else-

where in town that night, but 70 women had a wonderful time and the store netted \$900. (Let's hear it for girlz who just want to have fun and put their money where their good times are.)

A Different Drummer, which moved this year to a more central location, reports that monthly sales have doubled every month (except October) since they moved. "Our focus now is on creating a place where everyone feels welcome — gay and straight alike," Loretta Sraub told us. "We have lots of tourist traffic now and it's interesting to see people's reactions to the gay literature section. Some are very accepting and others just walk out. So we are offering workshops and events for everyone to enjoy... The Sunday Books and Brunch Club, [for example], is for all women. We have a mixture of lesbians and straight women who are really enjoying each other which is so great to see." ○

More News

Our Favorite Christmas Card

OK, so it was second-hand by the time it got to us — that just made it all the better.... It was a photocopy of the Writers Pledge from the Feminist Bookstores Catalog with a note typed on the back that read, "Dear Diane, Things are so crazed here I'm just gonna dispense with the Christmas card and get this in the mail. Loved the photo of your grandson. Here's [the address of] a feminist bookstore in Nevada & a reader's pledge that might interest you.... I'll do better later, I swear (but I lie a lot). Miss you...."

And sure enough, Diane (Fetters) signed the pledge and sent it to us, complete with the note on the back. Such a wonderful holiday gift to give to a friend and for her to give to all of us.

In Canada

Even without Borders, Barnes & Noble and Sams, the scenario in Calgary is much the same as in any city in the states: A Woman's Place now faces "competition" from one Chapters store (B&N owns 20% of Chapters), a Bollum's Books...and two more big stores are on the way for this 700,000 person metropolitan area. Bollum's seems to be "less" competition ("Their stock is worse and people don't like the store — it's like

a Coles, only bigger). Still, Christmas sales were up a bit from last year at A Woman's Place. "But this next year will be a very interesting year," Jacqueline Stutt told FBN, and added, "Baby boomers want service." And that's the key to the future.

In New Zealand

New Zealand produces a national women's book festival every other year. But that "off" year gets kind of dull, so this year, the Women's Bookshop in Auckland organized a Women's Book Weekend, full of events, readings and good cheer. We'd love to hear more about it!



And Elsewhere

Everyone in Minneapolis is excited about having a women's coffeehouse in town. The ads read, "Ruby's Cafe by day, Café Ruby by night." Amazon bought a new sound system, and the grand opening (just before press time) was a big success. Amazon is now staying open weekend nights to accommodate the coffeehouse schedule.

The hot news at Herland (Oklahoma City) is central heat and air conditioning — almost in time for Herland's annual New Year's Open House... Other non-traditional events at the Oklahoma City store include Herland Dinners. (It's Herland Chili for January. That will warm you up, central heat or no!)

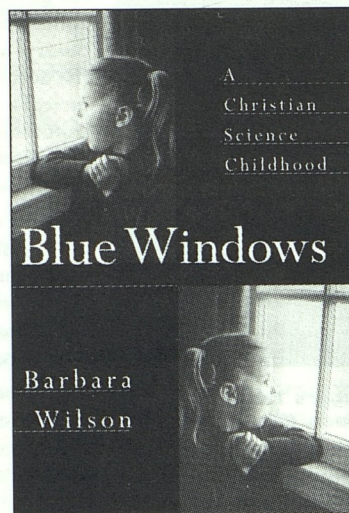
The Book Garden gets our prize for the most elegant Catalog mailing and insert.... The two-tone green, three-fold newsletter mailed with the Catalog featured a number of local favorites, a sign-up form for Book Garden's Membership program, a questionnaire about recipients' use of the bookstore and other feedback, and a front-page article about the state of independent bookselling. A matching envelope, possibly even more elegant than the newsletter, made it clear to Catalog recipients that this lovely Catalog came to them from The Book Garden!Book Garden's Membership Drive, by the way, netted \$6,000 after expenses.

Full Circle garnered some excellent publicity recently — a four-page spread in the pre-holiday issue of *Albuquerque Woman*, a 30-page, color bimonthly. Titled, "What's Happening to Feminist Bookstores: Will the mainstream destroy a carefully nurtured market?" the article provided an excellent review of the history of women's bookstores, of Full Circle and of their importance to the future....



And last, but not least, here's a special offer for booksellers who need a vacation. The owners of El Peñasco, a new women's guest house in New Mexico, would be pleased to trade two nights' lodging to any feminist bookstore that runs their ad or mentions their casita in the newsletter. The lodging can be used by an owner, by a staff person, used in a raffle or given as a gift. They will send a gift certificate for the free stay in return for a copy of the newsletter mentioning the guest house. El Peñasco is an historic adobe house nestled in the picturesque Sandia Mountains between Albuquerque and Sante Fe. It also features tent sights in the summer. "Very private and very safe." For more information, write to Gail or Stormie, El Peñasco, PO Box 846, Placitas NM 87043; 505-771-8909 or email <stormie p@aol.com>. ○

"[A] challenging and beautifully written memoir."*



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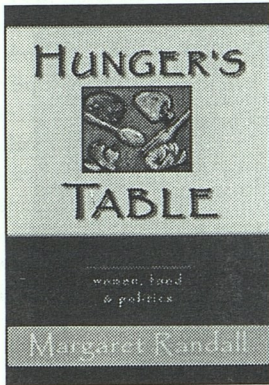
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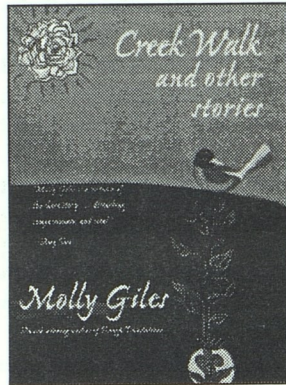
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—Joanne Woodward, from the Foreword

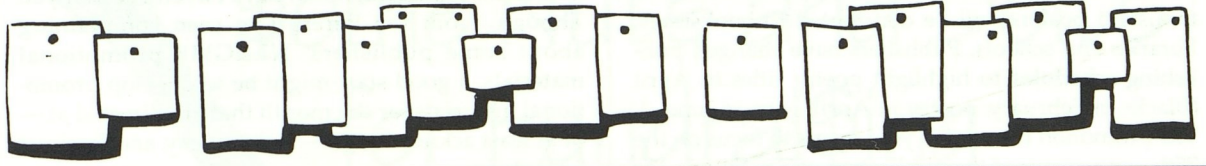


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ANNOUNCEMENTS



By Carol Seajay

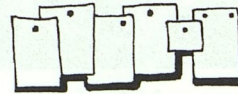
The Fifth Annual Take Our Daughters to Work Day will be Thursday, April 24. For organizer's kits, T-shirts, Action Guides for Girls, and other Take Our Daughters to Work products, or to receive information on organizing school, business, or community TODWD events, call 800-676-7780; write Ms. Foundation for Women, PO Box 890350, Charlotte NC 28289-0350; or check the Web site (<http://www.ms.foundation.org>).

OutWrite 1997 has been cancelled, but OutWrite 1998, the seventh national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered writer's conference is scheduled for February 21-23, 1998, at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers in Boston. The 1997 conference was canceled after sales representatives from the Park Plaza hotel in Boston, where the conference was held for the past four years, broke a verbal agreement by selling the reserved dates to another client. Last fall, following a change in management at the hotel, efforts to secure reserved dates for 1998 at the Park Paza were met with further difficulties when the hotel reneged again and demanded "strategic room blocking, prohibition of distribution of printed materials to guests rooms, right of approval on retail sales and conservative titling of all meetings posted." The OutWrite Committee is planning to produce a New England regional event for the fall of 1997. Details will be released as soon as the location and dates are confirmed.

WisCon, the feminist science fiction convention, will be held in Madison May 23-26 (the weekend before BEA and the Feminist Bookstore Meetings, if you can shake free a few days earlier). Melissa Scott will be

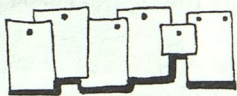
goh (guest of honor) and FBN's own Susanna J. Sturgis will be a Special Guest. Cost is \$40 if registered before May 1. For more info write to WisCon, PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701; 608-233-8850; email (wiscon.com@cs.wisc.edu); Web site (www.sf3.org/wiscon/).

Doubleday's new series of videos for book groups includes a 20-minute tape of a wonderfully wicked and dry-witted Margaret Atwood discussing *Alias Grace*. Fax requests (limit one per store) to Marly Rusoff at 212-782-8911. Word is that Dutton has a Readers Guide for Lisa Alther's novels but we haven't seen it. Ask Dutton/Signet's order department for copies (800-526-0275 or fax 800-227-9604).



Rare treats: *Dawtas Write Herstory*, a 36-page booklet showcasing Caribbean women writers published by Peepal Tree Press, is a great read in and of itself. Feminist booksellers will undoubtedly turn first to "Mother Jackman — Bookseller," a short story by Beryl Gilroy (published in *Sunlight on Sweet Water*). It's a fine tale of an itinerant bookseller and the children's confusion about (her) gender. The rest of the booklet is just as rich — full of short stories, excerpts from novels, and biographical bits that remind us why the work we do, why making books about all kinds of women available, is so vitally important. Write to Hannah Bannister, Peepal Tree Press, 17 King's Ave., Leeds LS6 1QS, England; fax 011-44-3-246-8368; or email (hanna@peepal.demon.co.uk) for copies for yourself and your customers. When it arrives, schedule yourself for a leisurely bath on a cold night — and a wonderful visit with old and new friends.

April is National Poetry Month.... Five thousand organizations teamed up to celebrate the first National Poetry Month last year. Sales of poetry books were reported to have increased 25% to 35% at independent and chain bookstores. Two hundred thousand posters will be distributed to bookstores, libraries and schools. Publishers have changed publishing schedules to highlight poetry titles in April (Blacks in February, poetry in April, gays in June...). The promotion theme this year seems to focus on the 75th anniversary of the publication of T.S. Elliot's *The Waste Land* — not a featured item in feminist bookstores so you may have to sidestep the official promo to make room for woman-related events. Academy of American Poets, 584 Broadway #1208, New York NY 10012; 212-274-0343.



June is, of course, National Lesbian & Gay Book Month.... We haven't seen any details yet, but plan on it! Like other special book month promotions,

NL&GBM gives your competitors a chance to scoop up a lot of credit for displaying lesbian and gay books for a month and distract your customers from the services you offer year around. There's gotta be a solution to this dilemma, but I haven't seen it yet. Though, from the letters I've seen complaining about some publishers' NL&GMB promotional materials, a good start might be to develop promotional materials for the month that are directed at — or at least acknowledge — lesbian, gay, and feminist bookstores.

April 24–30 will be National TV-Turnoff Week, a time to encourage friends, family, customers and ought-to-be-readers to assess the importance of television in their lives — and to do interesting and fascinating things with their free time, like read books. Sponsored by TV-Free America. Call 202-887-0436 for more information or for a copy of the 1997 TV-Turnoff Organizers Kit and a poster focused on literacy and reading that portrays the Statue of Liberty reading a book with smashed TV screens strewn around the statue's base. ○

Awakening to Disability: Nothing About Us Without Us

by Karen G. Stone

From her columns which appear in the Albuquerque Journal and the Miami Herald, disability activist Stone chronicles the journey from disability shame to disability pride.

"It is not that we, as persons with disabilities, want to be like the able-bodied anymore. Simply, we cannot revert to our former selves or change our bodies. We want, instead, to create a new consciousness and thinking for society. . .and invite the able-bodied to share with us."

Such heartwarming, insightful comments make this book a guide for discussion groups, for parents of children with disabilities, for newly disabled folks, or for the reader's growth. Part of the richness of the disability culture is the ability to celebrate a lifestyle that is perceived by many as a tragedy.

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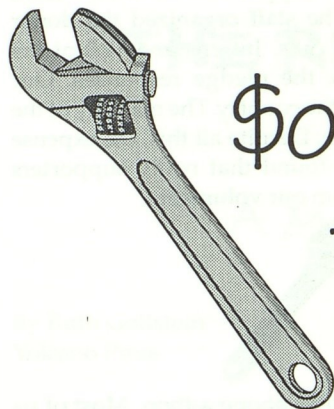


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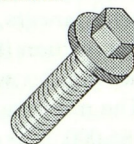
By Margarita Donnelly

For the past six years Calyx has worked hard to develop a donation base of individual supporters. Because we started the press without any funds of our own we have relied on sales revenue, grant support, and donations from individuals to help fund our organization. Carol Seajay asked for an article on fundraising for *FBN* in the hopes that it would be helpful for other feminist presses and bookstores during these difficult times. I am going to give you a quick preview of some of the basics we do to raise donation support from individuals. A good, informative book on fundraising that I recommend highly is *Fundraising for Social Change* by Kim Klein. Be aware that fundraising is a labor intensive endeavor and that it is easier to raise funds if an organization has non-profit status, as Calyx does.

*At Calyx, orchestrating fundraising
is part of our annual planning process
and we schedule it
into the year's work plan
along with production schedules.*

Fundraising at Calyx is now multifaceted. We do letters requesting donations. We do an annual fundraising event. In 1996 we inaugurated an annual phone-a-thon with volunteers calling supporters

directly for donations. The Board is also working to identify individuals who have the potential to become larger donors and does personal outreach to those individuals for support. We are also working to develop more corporate outreach. In 1996 Calyx Board members, staff and volunteers did a fundraising event, sent letters of solicitation out to supporters, conducted a phone-a-thon, and solicited large donations from individuals. We successfully raised over \$30,000 from individuals.



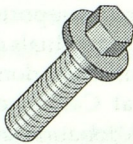
We send solicitations to our donor list (now over 700 strong) two to four times a year. We began sending the letters to our supporters and subscribers many years ago. As individuals donated to Calyx, we developed a computerized donor database. Volunteers and interns at Calyx help keep the donor database updated. A donation letter should be sent to your most likely list of supporters. It should include a well-written letter, a donor card, and a return envelope. As with all direct mailings, you should set up a system for tracking the responses.

When you receive a donation from an individual, acknowledge it with a thank-you card and a receipt (for tax records) as soon as possible. The donation should also be acknowledged in some other more permanent way by your organization. At Calyx we acknowledge donors in each issue of

Calyx, (some individuals do not want to have their names published and should only be acknowledged as "anonymous").

The donation response card should include appropriate categories for the individual donor to fill out. The Calyx card includes a space for the individual's name, address, phone, and email address. It also includes information on how to pledge or donate on a credit card. We include a space for donors to let us know if they want their name to be acknowledged or if they want to remain anonymous. We also have a space for making a gift in someone's memory or honor. We list individual donors by categories in the Journal. Categories include immortal (\$1,000+), demigoddess (\$500-\$999), heroine (\$250-\$499), matron (\$100-\$249), sister (\$35-\$99), and friend (up to \$35). All donation cards are filed in a permanent paper file and the information is also entered into the computer database.

Fundraising events are time- and labor-intensive and may not always justify the amount raised. But they are also important promotional tools and serve other functions than just raising funds. We do one large event annually that includes a fun party with entertainment and a silent auction. Everything is donated. The food (and its preparation), the entertainment (musicians, bellydancers, readings by local authors) and the silent auction items. The emcee for the event is someone well-known locally who also donates their time. The most we have ever raised at our annual event is \$6,000. The silent auction raises the largest part of the funds, though we also make money from ticket sales.



The 1996 phone-a-thon took place over two and a half months. Volunteers phoned twice weekly in the evenings from our offices for three hours each night (we have three lines with our fax machine and a fourth line was available in the building when needed). A volunteer oversaw the phone-a-thon's administration. She wrote the phone script, organized the calling packets and helped train the volunteers with the help of the staff. Board members volunteered the development of the phone-a-thon forms and gathered the

telephone numbers of supporters we didn't have phone numbers for. The staff organized the donor cards for tracking the calls. Interns and volunteers helped the staff track the pledge responses. Our supporters are all over the country. The majority of the calls were long distance. Despite all this, the expense was not high and we found that many supporters were happy to hear from our volunteers.



This was Calyx's first phone-a-thon. Most of us at Calyx have done phoning for other organizations. None of us ever thought we would do such a thing for a literary group. One of our Board members had told us years ago that we should collect phone numbers so we could do such a fundraising event in the future. She insisted that phoning supporters with a direct solicitation is one of the most effective ways to raise funds. She was right. The phone-a-thon ended up raising as much as our annual event, took much less time and energy, and was the most inexpensive fundraiser we have done. We believe we can improve on the phone-a-thon next year.

As we have become more organized in our fundraising efforts we have also begun to work harder at recognizing the contributions of our supporters. This year we held a number of smaller local parties for local supporters and a small party in Portland for Portland supporters. We hope to eventually be able to hold parties in other parts of the country to recognize a range of the many supporters who make it possible for Calyx to continue publishing.

Fundraising is a slow process. It takes time to build support, to develop lists and make contacts. To do effective fundraising it helps to have the commitment of a group working together on raising funds. And, to be successful, one needs to do fundraising regularly, on a planned schedule. At Calyx, orchestrating fundraising is part of our annual planning process and we schedule it into the year's work plan along with production schedules.

Margarita Donnelly is the Managing Editor at Calyx. See also "The Year from Heck," page 31. ○

THE RISE & FALL OF THE ABA

A Morality Tale, or a Greek Tragedy

By Ruth Gottstein
Volcano Press

Hubris (Gr. hybris) wanton insolence or arrogance resulting from excessive pride or from passion.

All the current discussions about the ABA/BEA Convention crisis seem to be centered solely around Chicago, an approach that both trivializes and distorts the basic and historic problems afflicting the organization.

As an independent publisher exhibiting at ABA since 1976, I am aware that the history of the last twenty years of the growth of the convention has already become lost and ignored.

So let's start with a look at 1976, San Francisco, when ABA was so small that the convention was held in Brooks Hall, an adjunct to Civic Center Auditorium. (Neither space is even in use today for exhibit services.)

Several small publishers applied to ABA for exhibit space. We were rather indignantly rejected, on the basis that since we were small, we were "vanity publishers," and therefore could not be included in a professional exhibit. We protested vigorously, and were finally permitted to have tables on the balcony, with a sandwich-board sign at the foot of the stairs stating, "Small presses upstairs."

However, from that year forward, the incredible growth of independent publishing in the United States, based on many factors including new printing technologies and desk-top publishing, provided ABA with a willing, excited, seemingly endless source of exhibit space seekers — and revenue.

Ironically, at about the same time that the independents were proliferating, the major publishers began to merge with each other and to take over smaller, prestigious houses, sometimes keeping the old name as an imprint, sometimes raiding the back list and closing the company completely.

What this meant in terms of exhibiting at ABA was that the consolidated giant publishers could show their wares in a much smaller area. The ratio of exhibit space between the major houses and the independents shifted markedly.

ABA was now being financed, significantly, by the independent publishers.

**ABA was
now being
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by the
independent
publishers.**

The money poured in — but the conditions for exhibiting became more unilateral as the years went by. Seemingly, ABA cared less and less about the concerns and issues raised by the independents. Exhibiting costs escalated. ABA was now billing for the following year's booth space even before the current exhibit convened. Responsiveness to exhibitor problems seems to have reached an all time low.

In the meantime, what was happening at ABA? Well, ABA had bought the Tarrytown estate, located an hour north of New York City, and moved away from the center of the book industry, putting staff who were not able to move or commute to the new location out of work. According to *Publishers Weekly* (1/13/97), the sale to Reed "...brought about \$40 million to the association...and helped to secure it a lavish new headquarters on a 10-acre site in Tarrytown." (What are they doing on 10 acres? Growing organic vegetables?)

But that was not enough. The convention was indeed a golden goose. So much so that ABA, presumably founded to serve the booksellers of the United States, was able to rationalize the sale of more than half the convention to a for-profit business. ABA's priority shifted from providing a venue for an annual gathering of the book industry to maximizing profits. Exhibit space that was affordable during good times has become prohibitive in these current difficult times, when publishers are struggling for survival, wondering how to deal with returns, among other escalating costs and lower sales.

Now the squeeze is really on. Chicago was chosen as a semi-permanent location — a one-sided decision-making process — for reasons that probably will never be really known to the rest of us.

McCormick Plaza was and is a bureaucratic horror. At no time in the ABA's history has food service and price, layout and staff attitude been more deplorable. (McCormick security personnel have so little understanding of what the book industry is about that they arrested an exhibitor at the 1995 convention for exercising First Amendment rights at a peaceful protest on the exhibit grounds.) Shuttles to and from the congested airports are unreliable, and the hotels are expensive. These problems, plus the same location year after year, apparently afflicted the booksellers as well, as they stayed away in droves the second year.

What is both fascinating and sad is the almost total denial by those who are in a position to get ABA back on track, as to what the problem really is.

I just received a mailing, signed by 77 independent booksellers to each other (but sent to me as a publisher), exhorting booksellers to "...re-affirm our strong support for BookExpo America (the renamed annual ABA Convention and Trade Exhibit)...in order to insure the survival of independent bookselling in America."

May I suggest to the group that they could better use their energies by meeting with independent publishers to define the critical problems afflicting the convention, and convey their demands for change to their own organization. Perhaps ABA voting rights should be extended to publishers who must pay for an "associate membership" in order to exhibit, but who have no other say in what happens.

Publishers Weekly (1/6/97) interviewed major publishers about whether or not they will attend ABA in 1997. Not one independent was even queried! An obvious oversight, given the percentage of the convention that independent publishers finance.

There are some deep-seated issues which I believe our feminist publishers and booksellers need to explore together, and I hope that in future articles we can gather some solid information.

For example: We need statistics. We need to know how large the independent publishing picture really is — perhaps a comparison study of ISBNs issued over the last twenty years, and the rate of growth.

Even if we halve or quarter the numbers, what conclusions can we draw? What impact will this information have on how we influence the ABA?

What percentage of the floor space at the last ABA was taken by independent publishers? What percentage was taken by the international biggies?

What is the likely trend? If the biggies leave, as they seem to be doing, how do we create empowerment and leverage?

What about the regionals? Could regionals ultimately supplant ABA? Should we be addressing them early on, stating that we will support them if they do not go the "ABA route" — if their events continue to serve the industry — not become an excuse to build their own financial empires on our backs.

What I am saying here is that we need to exercise our power — and I do believe we have power. More than fifty feminist publishers have been meeting, pre-ABA, for nine years. We could create a coalition with other concerned publishers and booksellers, and speak out on these issues.

Last, but not least, we need to demand that ABA decide who and what it is. What is its mission statement? Why was it formed? Is it serving its original purpose?

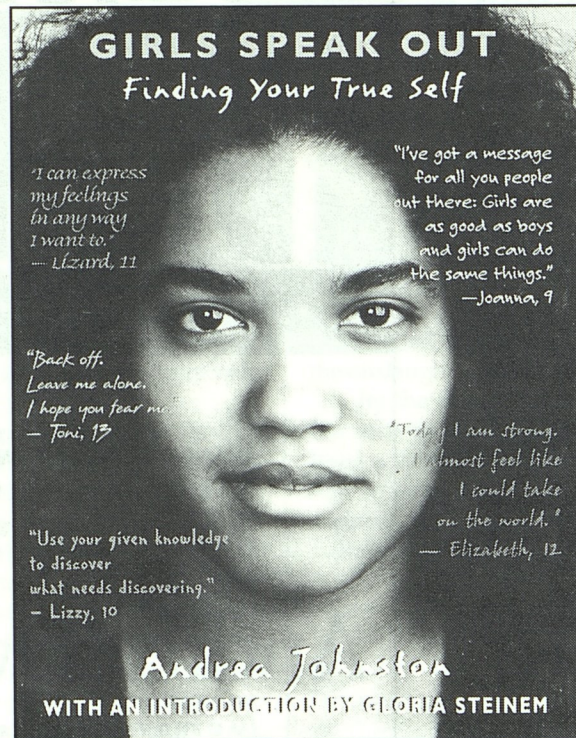
If the principal players stop denying the reality of what is happening, it may be possible to salvage the convention. If not, there's always the Internet....

Ruth Gottstein, Publisher
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you have to weaken
and destroy every
institution that is
part of how men
rule over women.**

**And don’t ask if you should.
The question is how, not if.”**

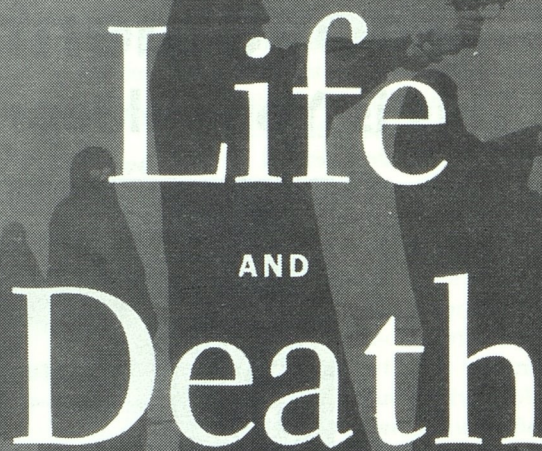
—From *Life and Death* by Andrea Dworkin

**“She is perhaps the most
misrepresented writer in
the Western world.”**

—John Berger, Author of
To the Wedding

**“We should all treat Andrea Dworkin
like a national treasure for caring
enough to engage our passions.”**

—Deirdre Bair, Author of *Simone de Beauvoir: A Biography*



Life AND Death

UNAPOLOGETIC WRITINGS
ON THE CONTINUING
WAR AGAINST WOMEN

Andrea Dworkin

AUTHOR OF *INTERCOURSE*

fp THE FREE PRESS
Celebrating 50 Years of Free Thought

The Year from Heck^{*}

By Margarita Donnelly

Calyx publishes three books and two issues of its literary journal annually. We are committed to publishing fine literature, including poetry, by developing writers and we read unsolicited manuscripts. During the past twenty years we have developed a reputation for discovering writers who have gone on to receive national recognition.

Nineteen ninety-six began with the news that Calyx would receive the Elizabeth Oregon Governors Arts Award in April, a wonderful beginning to the 20th anniversary year. Then in early January Micki Reaman (Calyx's Co-Editorial Coordinator) and I left for an editors' retreat at Cottages at Hedgebrook on Whidbey Island (WA) donated by Hedgebrook's founder, Nancy Nordhoff. Editors from Calyx, Sister Vision, Kitchen Table, Feminist Press, and Spinsters Ink stayed for a week of contemplation, writing, planning and discussion of feminist publishing. (A week later the editors of Aunt Lute, Eighth Mountain Press, Seal Press, Press Gang, and Third Side Press also met.) All the presses were experiencing declining revenues and increased returns, but not yet at the extremes we would all experience by the end of the year. We were hopeful that we would move forward with our publishing missions. We traded stories, tactics, and spent the treasured week in peace, away from work pressures and the incessant interruption of phones. On the last night (after a delightful dinner at Nancy Nordhoff's) we headed back to Cottages in a blizzard, a highly unusual event on Whidbey Island, and as we rounded a curve on a long hill in the snowy dark my

car slipped off the road into the ditch. Florence Howe (Feminist Press) was beside me, Micki Reaman in the back, and luckily all seat belts were in place. The car stopped in the ditch after smashing a mailbox. None of us was hurt. We made it back to Cottages without major damage and ended our week in feminist fairyland. It had been a week of solace and vision before the onslaught of the most difficult year in publishing.

By the time we returned to the office, the 1995 financial statement was completed. Calyx had suffered a drop in revenue of close to 20%, and book returns had risen to 29%. We had also lost major grant support, so we had to revise the 1996 budget and tighten our belts.



In February, the hundred-year flood struck Oregon, hitting Corvallis hard. The February Board meeting was on the morning of the flood. I made it to the 7:30 a.m. meeting on time despite the fact I had to clear my driveway of flood debris. I'd thought it was just *my* creek having a flooding problem, but by the end of the day the city was partially surrounded by water and blocked off. We could not get to our inventory storage facility for a week (luckily nothing was seriously damaged). The creek flooded my yard and went under my house, the foundation cracked, and the house tilted toward the creek, where only four feet of creek bank remained between the raging waters

and the house. Friends helped sandbag and trench to save the house.

During January and February, Micki Reaman and Teri Mae Rutledge (Promotion Coordinator) were working hard with the guest editorial collective on the 20th Anniversary Anthology, *Present Tense: Writing and Art by Young Women*. The editorial schedule was often set back due to landslides, flooding, and highway closures that forced them to cancel and reschedule Seattle editorial meetings.

By March the book returns were still rising, sales revenue continued falling and more rejections on 1996 grant requests were coming in. We struggled to trim the 1996 budget further, but more was needed. Our Board increased its energy on the 20–20 Vision Fundraising campaign for the 20th Anniversary, and four members committed to donations of \$1,000 each after we raised \$16,000. The staff still worked on production of the books and journals scheduled for 1996. The intense work *Present Tense* continued as the younger editorial collective read and made decisions on the more than 1,000 manuscripts they had received. By the end of March we knew that Calyx would be going into a deficit period from May to September. Book returns reached 43% — and we began discussing staff cutbacks. There was very little else left to trim from the budget.

Then came the news that Calyx would receive no grant support from the National Endowment for the Arts for the first time in 19 years. On April 9th, the day of the Governors Arts Award, the Calyx staff met and collectively implemented staffing cuts. Beginning May 1st hours for all staff positions were cut in half, but everyone agreed to stay on even when it meant taking second jobs elsewhere. After the meeting, we left for the gala awards ceremony in Eugene. The ceremony included a four minute video about each group given an award. We were stunned by Dorothy Velasco's marvelous video about Calyx — she had

blended images of covers, art, authors, editors, and staff with the voice overlays of the editors and volunteers speaking about Calyx. The video reflected the collectivity of Calyx's unique editorial process.

*I could not accept
the award for Calyx
without speaking about
the difficulties
and challenges
Calyx was experiencing.
The next day at a
statewide meeting
for the arts,
Calyx's plight was
a main topic of
conversation.*

I could not accept the award for Calyx without speaking about the difficulties and challenges Calyx was experiencing. Somehow, despite the lights, nervousness, and the hard day with the staff cuts, I managed to say something meaningful and quoted from Jeannette Winter-son's new book, *Art Objects*. Afterward at the reception we were deluged by directors of private foundations and arts organizations. All offered their assistance. None had been aware of the difficulties small publishers were experiencing. The next day at a statewide meeting for the arts (that Calyx could not attend), Calyx's plight was a main topic of conversation.

We continued writing grants and fundraising, and we released the two new books on schedule in July: *Into the Forest* (a novel by Jean Hegland) and *Another Spring*,

Darkness (poetry by Anuradha Mahapatra, translated by Carolyne Wright). The remarkable 20th Anniversary Issue of the Journal (*Present Tense: Writing and Art by Young Women*) was released in the Journal edition in August, a few months late. (The book edition has a January, 1997 release date.) The Board continued fundraising with a gala 20th Anniversary party and silent auction scheduled for October in Portland, and a phone-a-thon that began in September. Imprint Services generously donated all desktop production services for the year.

The new novel, *Into the Forest*, by Northern California author Jean Hegland, was receiving rave reviews and selling well. We reprinted the cloth edition three times between July and December. As part of our cost-controlling effort we had decided not to attend the ABA, and we used the savings for a book publicist and a small reading tour for Jean Hegland.

Consortium Distribution displayed our books at the ABA and handed out the free copies of *Into the Forest* intended for the canceled author signing.

We shifted our promotional emphasis to course adoption. We attended the Associated Writing Program convention, the National Women Studies conference, and the Modern Language Association convention. We had already decided to focus our trade promotion on the regional shows rather than ABA and attended the NCIBA (Northern California Independent Booksellers Association show) and the PNBA (Pacific NW Booksellers Association show). We also attended the Public Library Association convention in Portland and covered the cost of a booth through an exhibit service for other small presses. Through a loose association of Oregon presses, Ruth Gundle of Eighth Mountain and Dennis Stovall of Blue Heron received a grant from Oregon Literary Arts to promote Oregon literary presses at regional book shows. Calyx was able to participate and attend the Northwest Book Fest and the San Francisco Book Fair through that program.

The commitment of the staff was incredible through these times. They stuck with the organization despite the cuts and personal sacrifices. This allowed *Present Tense* to go to press in late July. The week the bluelines were returned our beloved office mascot, Guinness, the black German Shepherd, became ill and died. This was a sad loss, almost a repeat of the previous office mascot's death on the last day of production of *Women and Aging*.

Over Labor Day we attended the Bumpershoot Book Fair, Seattle's weekend arts blow-out, and released the Journal edition of *Present Tense* with the first reading from the anthology — a remarkable and moving event. The anthology was awarded the Bumpershoot Book Fair 1996 Best Literary Journal award.

September was also pre-sales telephone conference time for Spring 1997 books. Teri Mae and Melissa Kreutz (our shipper) had taken temporary jobs at the Pendleton Roundup (the largest rodeo in the US) in Eastern Oregon working the port-a-potty concession. Teri Mae had diligently arranged to participate in the pre-sales phone conference from a roadside diner while working the Roundup. But due to a last minute time change, the phone conference found Teri Mae stuck in a pump truck miles from the nearest

telephone. Micki and I ended up handling the pre-sales phone conference from the office. Teri Mae and Melissa returned from the Roundup a little richer and full of hilarious tales which you can look for in Calyx's next newsletter.

By October our negative balance at Consortium had finally cleared and revenue was beginning to climb, but our cash flow was still too low to increase staffing levels. We celebrated the 20th Anniversary with a gala evening in Portland that included readings by prominent Oregon authors, bellydancing, a silent auction, champagne and delightful hors d'ouvres donated by gourmet hotel chefs. There was music and a giant birthday cake, and Portland's own female impersonator Darcelle to sing "Happy Birthday." Our new literary agent, Elizabeth Wales, attended and we met for the first time.

The day after the party, the contractors I had been negotiating with on the stabilization of the creek bank at my house began the work of riprapping the creek by clear cutting the bank to place 440 tons of rock. After major negotiations involving an ancient maple tree that had saved my house during the flood, Elizabeth Wales and I finally took off for Klamath Falls to teach at a writing conference in southern Oregon. During the long drive, we became good friends and Elizabeth received a crash-course on Calyx.



Meanwhile, our phone-a-thon fundraiser was in full swing with volunteers coming in twice a week from late September through early December to make calls. Production commenced on the 1997 books, and the winter issue of the Journal was rescheduled for January (instead of November) to prevent engendering another printing bill until 1996 production costs were cleared.

By early November we realized we would not be able to increase staff hours until December. We were also disappointed that a large grant request we had worked on for six months was sent back to be rewritten and resubmitted in 1997. The pressures of the year were taking a toll on our morale. Then we had a day of hard rain (the most ever recorded in one day) and

Corvallis flooded again. The new riprapped creek bank was severely tested as the creek roared over the banks and under my house. The bank held and when the water receded there was no new flood damage to the house.

Then Elizabeth Wales called wanting to know why someone in Albuquerque was referring *Into the Forest* to New York editors. Who was it and why didn't they know Calyx had a literary agent? We immediately thought of Susan Wasson of Bookworks in Albuquerque and called her. As New York publishers became interested in Jean Hegland's book, we found it hard to believe that a sale offer would make it worth our while to give up *Into the Forest*. We kept the possibility of a sale quiet: no sense in getting everyone excited only to have it come to nothing. We did not mention New York's interest at the November Board meeting. Elizabeth decided to work with a New York-based agent, Kim Witherspoon, and we shipped piles of books to the Witherspoon agency. By Thanksgiving the New York editors were not only interested, but excited.

When Elizabeth called from New York the day after we returned from Thanksgiving, I was surprised. "We have a deal! \$350,000 from Brian Tart at Bantam Books, and we keep movie and foreign rights. Do you have the fax offer yet?" As we spoke the fax came in from Kim Witherspoon's office. And there was more — another \$350,000 for Jean for her second unfinished novel. The staff came in as I whooped in amazement and read the fax — something concrete to make sure it was real. For the next few days we were still acclimatizing to the reality of the sale. Thank you's went to Jean Hegland and Susan Wasson, there was a buzz in Corvallis, and we made the front page of our local paper. (We even got a Friday "rose" in the *Roses and Raspberry* column — our first.) Not only were we out of debt, but the sale gave us breathing room for planning how to continue our mission in this volatile book market. Most importantly it

allowed us to put the staff back on regular hours, develop bonuses for the staff's remarkable commitment during 1996, and consider salary raises for 1997.

The last night of the phone-a-thon was December 4th. While the staff and the Board all knew about the sale, the grapevine was slow making it through to Calyx's 52 volunteers. John Ross and Tracy Mitzel, the intrepid last-night volunteer callers, were delighted to discover bottles of champagne and chocolates lined up by the phones. But true to the Calyx volunteer commitment, they called the last of our supportive donors whose generous response made it possible for Calyx to survive this difficult year.

We closed the offices for two weeks in December and left for the holidays knowing that the year's hard work and sacrifices had been met with a totally unanticipated reward. We are delighted that Jean Hegland's remarkable writing has brought her the attention she deserves and that the sale of her book will allow Calyx to continue our mission of discovering new, developing writers. We are grateful to the staff, our Board, and the volunteers who believed in Calyx and worked so hard to raise the funding that allowed us to produce the 1996 publications. And we began the new year with a celebration at State Representative Barbara Ross' house in Corvallis that included Jean Hegland, our agent Elizabeth Wales, John Berry of *Library Journal*, and many other friends celebrating women and the arts and Calyx's good fortune.

*We are delighted
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the attention she deserves
and that the sale
of her book
will allow Calyx
to continue our mission
of discovering new,
developing writers.*

*Note: This title was inspired by Emily Regan Wills story "The

Trip from HECK" in *Present Tense: Writing and Art by Young Women*.

Maragarita Donnelly

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BULK MAIL BASICS

US POSTAGE PAID

Because Our Blues Are Nothing Compared to the Horror Stories We've Heard!



By Vina Daniels
Boadecia's Books, Kensington/North Berkeley

Lots of things in life come down to a question of time versus money: you have one but not the other. Given sufficient reward (again, time or money), I believe most people can learn to do almost anything. Even Bulk Mail.

We began Bulk Mailing our bimonthly newsletter a couple of years ago because we had more time than money. First class stamps were going up to \$0.32. For the price of a little work sorting our mailing (and the cost of a Bulk Mail Permit) we were charged only \$0.188 per piece. Well worth our time. In July 1997, Bulk Mail rates went up and the rules changed a bit as part of the USPS's Classification Reform. I went to Bulk Mail Reform School. It made me want to smoke cigarettes in the bathroom and snap my chewing gum. Now we are doing barcodes to keep the costs down. And, I must confess, so that we don't really have to learn the new rules. We had to buy the software and address checker (a CD-ROM containing all the addresses in America, and doesn't that just make you stop and think!). We are now charged \$0.179 per piece instead of the new higher price for the 3/5 presort, \$0.209 per piece. Still the same service. We do less physical work bundling the mailing, but the savings are not so great since we save only \$0.03 per piece by doing the barcode sort rather than the "reformed" 3/5 presort. The jury is still out. Yes, it can get a little complicated — even to figure out if you would save money! But it's not hard. It can even be fun. And satisfying. Really. It's not like quantum physics, with hard concepts to understand; rather, it's lots of little details to master. It's like magic, a spell

you cast, an arcane ritual you perform: you study, learn the steps of the ritual, then perform them carefully and *abracadabra*, your mailing is out and gold fills your pockets! Well, almost.

So, the Bulk Mail ritual is all about sorting your mailing list. The most basic spell is called the "3/5 presort." This means you sort your addresses by zip code. When all 5 numbers in the zip match, you bundle the pieces together. Then, bundle all the pieces that match in the first 3 digits of the zip code. Put all the bundles that share the first 3 digits in the same tray. (Hey — this sounds like Lotto! You win!) The new rules add a small twist here: you need to bundle your zip code sorted pieces according to Area Distribution Center (ADC). My understanding of ADCs is that each state is divided into several areas with a distribution center in each area. So a range of zips would go to one ADC while a zip that is zip + 1 out of that range would go to another ADC. No, you don't need ESP for the ADC — the post office supplies a chart. I don't know exactly how this affects the bundling etc., because I've never done it. It is required only for the 3/5 presort and we switched to the barcode sort instead. Also, Third Class Mail is now called Standard A. What's in a name?



I finally found out where to get the trays (after we had been doing Bulk Mail for a year using the lids of cardboard boxes): the loading bay of the post office, sitting in bins right next to where we drop off our mailing. Who knew?! We never have been required to "strap" or "sleeve" our mailings. See below for notes on selecting a post office, your most important task.

The next level of mysteries involves using the barcode sort. This is major magic — just click on the barcode sort button in your mailing list software! You have to add the cost of software and address checker (see below) to the Bulk Mail Permit cost, but the rate per piece is lower. No bundling by hand, just plop them in the tray in the order they were printed. The scary part is that the barcode order looks random to humans. *Don't drop that tray!*



Regarding the software: We use MyProfessional-MailManager by MySoftware Company (800-325-3508). They produce several levels of mailing list programs. "Professional" is the one that prints barcodes and the necessary CASS reports for the post office. MyAddressChecker, from the same company, is a CD-ROM that is accessed by the mailing list program to check your address list. This procedure is mandatory to qualify for barcode mailing rates. The company releases a new CD-ROM bimonthly.

Carrier Route sorting is beyond barcodes and is for the Big Mailers but that is all I know.

The post office has minimum numbers of pieces for each of these levels. There is a magic minimum financially as well. Since you have to pay a one-time fee and a yearly Bulk Mail Permit fee, you have to deduct those amounts from the savings you get from the lower cost per piece. You also have to deduct other costs such as software and address checker costs. So the size of your mailing will determine if Bulk Mail will save you money and, if so, how much.

Other tips and words of advice:

● **Choosing your post office is the most important part of Bulk Mailing.** Your Bulk Mail Permit is issued from one particular post office. You must do all your mailings there once you are signed up. (It's a bit like marriage — it's forever, but you don't know if they squeeze the toothpaste from the middle before you say "I do.") Service varies from post office to post office. I have heard Bulk Mail horror stories — mailings that just disappear or take months to arrive. When we were getting started, we got advice from a friend who does Bulk Mailing as part of her living. She said, "Find a little post office in a little town. When you pick a post office, it must be a 'main' branch, but

it doesn't have to be in the main city of your metropolitan area. Pick a small post office where they have time to be friendly and have fewer Bulk Mailings cluttering up their workspace." We have had wonderful results from our little post office. When we switched to barcodes, our post office said they had never turned on their barcode reader before and were excited to try it out!

● **Prepare your mailing carefully, as best you can.** Make it neat and clearly labelled! Be polite. Tell them it's your first time. Ask them if you got it right. Throw yourself on their mercy. Remember, the Postal Goddesses in the Bulk Mail room of your post office have your life in their hands. Treat them well, and they will reward you.

We get good service and are not held to the strict reading of the rules. For example, we are not asked to "strap" or "sleeve." And though we do label our boxes carefully and clearly, we do not use the "official" format. I think this is due to three factors: it's a friendly little post office, we give them an easy-to-process Bulk Mailing, and we're nice to them! Okay, a fourth factor: major good luck!

● **I buy the old Avery labels on fan fold and tear the sheets apart** because when we switched to an inkjet printer and barcodes, we found the sheets of labels to be much more expensive (by a factor of 10!). In yet another example of time versus money, I stand there and feed the sheets into the printer one at a time so they don't catch on each other. Crazy, but it saves bunches! (Not recommended for laser printers.)



You can get your very own copy of the new rules from the post office. We got what we needed by going into our ever-so-friendly post office and asking. *The Max It! Guide* published by the USPS explains all about Classification Reform and its impact on Bulk Mailing. You can ask for it at your local main post office, you can call your local Bulk Mail Center, or you can call your local Postal Business Center. (Check your local phone book for phone numbers.) They are all willing to help you get started.

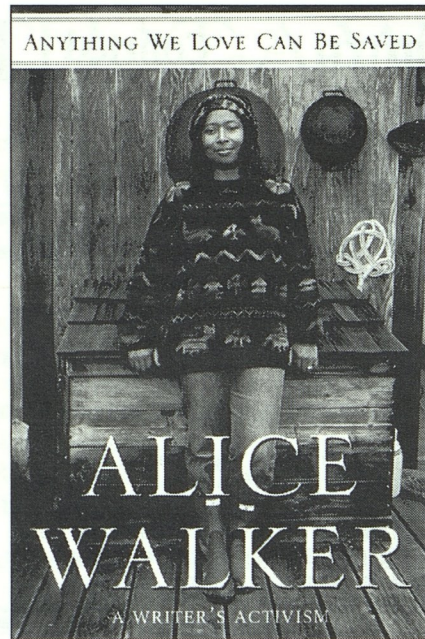
Once you pick a post office to mail from, go in and they will give you all the supplies you need when you apply for your Bulk Mail Permit. The post office can even help you find a certified software vendor if you decide not to use MySoftware Company. Call their

National Customer Support Center (800-238-3150). You can also get tips from the USPS Web site (www.usps.gov/clr/) and from MySoftware Company, makers of MyProfessionalMailManager (800-325-3508 or www.mymailist.com). MySoftware Company also has a "Tips for Small Business Owners" link on their Web site that gives a lot of good information on Bulk Mailing. ○

● **More experiences:** FBN paid \$59.95 (+tax & shipping of \$9.60) for the January-February edition of MyAddressChecker (MySoftware Co., 800-325-3508). (It's updated bimonthly at the same cost per update — we're assuming that we'll have to buy only the updates we need, i.e., every other set.) We had previously purchased MyMailList for \$20 through a special offer. We just discovered that, to print barcodes on our mailing labels, we needed to buy the more expensive 2-up labels instead of the 3-up labels. (Same price as the 3-up labels — \$24 per box of 2,000 laser-printer labels — but you only get two-thirds as many.)

Using this combination of software, we sent an 1,120-piece mailing (to potential advertisers for our ALA/BEA/20th Anniversary issue) bulk rate/barcoded for \$205. Had we sent it First Class, we would have paid \$358 in postage. In theory, we came out \$153 ahead by using the software. Well, make that \$50 if you deduct the cost of software and labels. But, we're way in the hole if you subtract the hours Lisa spent loading and learning the software, "correcting" the addresses on the list, and reading between the lines for the key to how to export/import the addresses from our old database. In theory, we saved time on the physical part of the mailing because the labels are sorted into the exact order needed, tray labels are printed automatically (and appear in the midst of the labels at exactly the point where a new tray/sack is needed), and bundling is no longer required. On the other hand, had the post office not changed the regulations, we'd have spent about the same amount on postage and incurred none of the above expenses. That's our small-business-friendly post office in action!

Note: The post office version of all the addresses in the U.S. does not recognize most of the university addresses we send to, nor does it recognize certain addresses without a street number, no matter how long these addresses have been in use. Anyone with insight or experience in these two areas, please give us a call!
—CS ○



ANYTHING WE LOVE CAN BE SAVED

A WRITER'S ACTIVISM by Alice Walker

“During my years of being close to people engaged in changing the world, I have seen fear turn into courage, sorrow into joy, funerals into celebrations. Because, whatever the consequences, people have expressed who they really are, and that ultimately they believe in the love of the world enough to be that — which is the foundation of activism.”

From politics and culture, to raising a daughter, feminism, race, writing and life, Alice Walker writes of the value of activism in our lives.

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Courted

Celia Cohen

What could be a better assignment for a lesbian cop than handling personal security for the hottest player on the women's tennis circuit? Officer Wendy Lynn Kotter can think of a million things. It seems that off the court, angel of Wimbledon Alie de Ville is spoiled, conceited, rude, and to make

matters worse, a thousand times more attractive and desirable than any of her *Sports Illustrated* covers can convey.

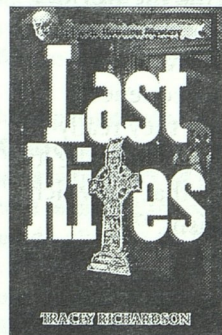
Tennis isn't the only game Alie excels at. Her winning streak extends to her bedroom — and she's got her sights set on a new trophy. Rich powerful, and on her home turf, the professional athlete appears to have the advantage. But former softball champ Kotter is no stranger to tough competition. Could the champion have met her match?

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Tracey Richardson

Auto-erotic strangulation is a rather unholy demise — especially for a beloved parish priest. When the grisly death turns out to be murder, newly promoted Detective Stevie Houston is determined to solve it.



Stevie's investigation into the victim's personal and professional life has turned up an old scandal, some powerful enemies, a ruthless rival, and a vengeful ex-lover — convincing her that her superior's conclusions just don't add up.

What Stevie doesn't know is that the investigation could be leading her on a one-way trip to the wrong side of a body bag.

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Saxon Bennett

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For the umpteenth time in their 20-year relationship, Cleo's lover has run off with another woman.

A Passion She Can't Deny . . .

Anyone in her right mind would know better than to get involved in Cleo's life right now. But Frankie hasn't been in her right mind since the day she walked into Cleo's cafe.

A Chance for True Happiness . . .

Maybe this time will be different. Maybe this time Cleo can finally free herself from the chains of the past and surrender to a passionate new love. Then again, old ties are the hardest to break . . .

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Embrace in Motion

Karin Kallmaker

Sarah MacNeil is about to put her heart in the hands of a beautiful woman who could be her salvation . . . or her ruin!

Surfing high on the wave of lesbian chic, author/screenwriter Melissa Hartley is deliciously dangerous. She knows all the right people, goes to all the right parties, says all the right things. When she meets the quiet, elegant Sarah MacNeil at a hotel bar, Melissa makes all the right moves to get Sarah into her bed, then makes all the right promises to convince the usually cautious young attorney to come live with her in San Francisco.

Totally captivated for the first time in her life, Sarah surrenders herself completely. Blinded by the glow of Melissa's white-hot sensuality, is Sarah setting herself up for a total meltdown?

ISBN 1-56280-165-1 \$11.95

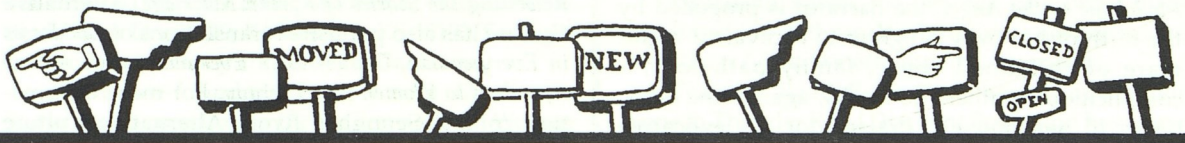


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THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Carol Seajay and Jenn Tust

New Stores

Ann Garvin is planning to open a feminist bookstore like "Women and Children First with extra stuff...classes in childbirth and breastfeeding, breast-pump rental, a place for women to gather, strong stress on women's health" this fall in downtown Plymouth, Michigan. Ann is a midwife and her two partners are frustrated nurses. For now you can reach Ann via email (Agarvin224@aol.com), phone 313-763-2311/313-663-4075, or mail 3579 Burbank Drive, Ann Arbor MI 48105.

Tina Yeamans and Eli Raindancer are currently running Whispering Wisdom, a lesbian and gay mail order business, and are planning to open a store in Salt Lake City later this year. They're at 141 Hawkes Court #D, Salt Lake City UT 84102-1105; 801-530-1488, fax 801-575-6054.

East End Book Company is a general independent bookstore with a leftist/alternative slant specializing in literary fiction, art books, and kids books. Jane McAslan worked in three bookstores before working as an administrator for nonprofit organizations, co-owner Randy Anderson is an artist. The store opened in December and is near People's Co-op in Vancouver. East End Book Company, 1470 Commercial Drive, Vancouver BC, Canada V5L 3X9; 604-251-5255, fax 604-251-5660.



New Owners

Bev White and Dotty Failbisy are the proud new owners of Wild Iris Books in Gainesville, Florida. It was a five-month discussion, but agreements were

reached and signed on December 3. Nothing like starting in the middle of holiday sales and leaping into textbook sales! No stranger to feminist bookselling, Bev worked at The Women's Eye in St. Louis from 1976 to 1985, and writes that she hasn't quit her day job. Address and phone stay the same. Wild Iris' new email address is (WildIrisBk@aol.com).

Congratulations to Kirk Clapper, Carrie Barnett's new partner at People Like Us in Chicago.

Stores Close

It's Your Pleasure (Muskegon, Michigan) will close on February 15. Owner Barb Thomas wishes to sell the store She will shift gears and turn her part-time stained-glass business into a full-time venture.



Stores Move

Sue Henry has moved Rising Moon Books & Beyond (Charlotte, North Carolina) to the up-and-coming arts neighborhood, which is also a significantly lesbian and gay neighborhood. The store reopened February 19. Although the new space is smaller, Sue is psyched at the yard the new space includes, the improved building maintenance, and the rent reduction of \$1,000/month. Gallery crawls, movies, yoga and self-defense workshops, and consciousness-raising groups are some of the activities being planned at the new location. Sue also has an option to buy the new building and will make that decision after settling in. New hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 12:00 - 8:00, and Sunday, 1:00 - 5:00. Rising Moon Books & Beyond, 510 East 35th Street, Charlotte NC 28205. The phone remains 704-332-7473.

Books Move, Too

Jacqueline Dumas' (Orlando Books, Edmonton) novels, published by Fifth House, are now "out-of-print" but are now available from the bookstore. In *Madeleine & the Angel*, the narrator is propelled by the birth of her own daughter to excavate a nightmare of childhood abuse, family pathology, a complicitous mother...to, finally, against the odds, begin to heal herself. Praised for its evocative French Canadian rhythms, range of emotion, and humor, it won the 1989 Alberta Best Novel Award and was shortlisted for the Books In Canada Award. *The Last Sigh*, published several years ahead of Salmon Rushdie's novel of a similar title and theme, follows a young Canadian woman to Granada in search of information about her lover, Tony, who apparently drowned there, but may have been murdered, and her exploration of his descent from Moorish and Jewish inhabitants of Granada, expelled in 1492.... Had the two books been published in reverse order, Martha Gould wrote in *Books in Canada*, there would have been many questions. Instead, Dumas' novel conveniently slipped out of print. Myself, I'm looking for a long, quiet weekend to indulge myself in both of Dumas' novels. Booksellers may order both from Orlando Books, 1640 Whyte Ave., Edmonton AB T6E 2A7: 403-432-7633. \$12.95 each, 50% discount, no minimum. Jackie is at work on a third novel.

MacMurray & Beck have left their distributor, the National Book Network. M&B titles are now available to the trade through major wholesalers and direct from MacMurray & Beck; 800-774-3777, fax 303-832-2158 or via their Web site: (www.macmurraybeck.com). NBN will accept returns through June 30. After that M&B will accept returns at: The Intrepid Group, Inc., 1331 Red Cedar Circle, Fort Collins CO 80524; 970-493-3793, fax 970-493-8781.



In Korea

This just in off the Internet: Alternative Culture is a Korean feminist network that has published annual anthologies for the last ten years. Titles include *Equal Parents*, *Liberal Children*; *Open Society*, *Autonomous Women*; *Feminist Literature*; *Dominant*

Culture/Male Culture; *Housewives: The Interruption and Liberation*; *Rewriting Romantic Love Stories*; *Rewriting the Stories of Korean Sexuality*; *Women Make Women in Words*; *The World that I Hope to Live In* and *Rewriting the Stories of Korean Marriage*. Alternative Culture has also published translations of *Goddesses in Everywoman*, *Goddesses in Everyman*, and *A New Approach to Women and Therapy*. For more information contact Seunghee Ryoo, Alternative Culture Publishing Company, 76-15, Yonhee-dong, Sodae-mun-gu, Seoul 120-110, Republic of Korea; 82-2-324-7486, fax -323-2934; email (ryoo@cos.mos.kaist.ac.kr).



Dust to Dust

Sheba, the much-loved, much-maligned feminist press from London, closed its doors in August 1994. Word is just in that, in the final accounting, Sheba was able to pay 50.46p on the £ to unsecured creditors, almost double what was expected, due to being able to sell their existing stock at a better price than first estimated. Go Girls! Sheba's current address is PO Box 10067, London SW8 1ZD. They expect to wrap up everything by the end of May. We miss their feisty and powerful publishing.

On Screen

Canadian booksellers are cheerfully selling the video edition of *When Night Is Falling*. Meanwhile, American booksellers are chafing at the fourth delay on the U.S. release date. Originally scheduled for July 96 release, the video is expected to ship for a September 97 release.

Missing Persons

FBN is looking for Canadian artist Carol Weaver. We'd like to reprint one of her graphics but can't find an address to request permission.

Help Needed

Friends and colleagues of lesbian writer Nancy Stockwell are calling for donations for a double lung transplant, due to Bronchiectasis/Cystic Fibrosis, a degenerative disease. Nancy's insurance will cover less than half the estimated \$250,000 cost of the

operation. She is listed as a transplant candidate at Oklahoma City's Baptist Medical Center but has been placed "on financial hold" until sufficient funds can be secured for the life-saving surgery. Send tax-exempt donations to Nancy's Transplant Fund, 4318 Rainbow Blvd., Bank Dept. 229, Kansas City KS 66103. Send get well wishes to Nancy at <Luckygrrl@aol.com>.

Nancy co-founded *Plexus*, wrote *The Kansas Stories*, was a coordinator for the first national Women In Print conference in 1976, managed Lambda Rising's DC store at one time and, more recently, read from her play *The Telling Kind* at OutWrite 1996.



Transitions

Completing the process that began a year ago, the Board of Trustees of the Lambda Literary Foundation signed a final agreement in December that completes the transfer of ownership of the *Lambda Book Report* from the magazine's founder, the Lambda Rising Bookstore chain, to the new non-profit foundation. As part of the transfer, Deacon Maccubbin will step down as publisher and become Publisher Emeritus. Jim Marks will assume the title of publisher. Magazine senior editor Kanani Kauka and Nicholas Apostol will join Maccubbin, Marks, and Lambda Rising Bookstore co-owner Jim Bennett on the board of the new foundation. LLF has, so far, raised \$12,500 in new funding and is launching a 21,000-piece mailing in January to build circulation, followed by a 3,000-piece mailing in February.

LBR started as a free tabloid and shifted to the current magazine format in 1991. Publication was suspended in November 1995 to restructure the organization and resumed in June 1996. *LBR* will celebrate its tenth anniversary in May at the 9th annual Lambda Literary Awards, which is being billed as a big corporate fundraiser for the foundation.

Their new address is PO Box 73910, Washington DC 20056-3910. Their phone remains the same; 202-462-7924, but the fax has changed to 202-462-5264.

Electronic News

Toronto Women's Bookstore has an email address <twb@web.net> and a Web site <http://web.net/~twb/>.

Charis Books and More has a new email address: <wbelkin@worldnet.att.net>.

Lammas has a new internet address: <jane.troxell@GLIB.com>.

Heartland Books, the feminist mail order business based in Winthrop, Washington, is now up on the Web: <http://www.methow.com/~heartlan>.

Thunder Road Book Club has changed their name to Thunder Road Discount Books and has a new Web site <http://www.world2u.com/~thunder> and email address <thunder@world2u.com>.

Volcano Press now has email: <info@volcano-press.com>.

Laugh Lines Press now has two Web pages, one American site and one Canadian. The American site: <http://www.outbooks.com/laughlines>; the Canadian site: <http://www.compumart.ab.ca/orlando/laughlines/htm>.

Astarte Shell Press has a new Web site and an email address: <www.astarteshell.com> and <ehaney@gwi.net> respectively.

HerBooks is now up on the Web: <http://www.igc.apc.org/herbooks/>.

Bibliophiles and booksellers looking for out-of-print women's, feminist, and lesbian titles are just a click away from the Dutch antiquarian feminist bookstore Vrouwenindruk if they're on the Internet: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~vind/>, email <vind@xsrall.nl>. Vrouwenindruk is Dutch for "Women in Print." The store stocks a wonderful variety of books in English as well as Dutch and other languages.

Ms. Magazine has a Web site.... Find it at <Womweb.com/msnet.html>. Their site includes two networking lists: pro-choice organizations and feminist bookstores. The feminist bookstores list is reprinted from "Feminist Bookstores Fight Back" from the May/June 1995 issue. If you've opened a feminist bookstore since then, find the Ms. site and register your store. FBN has also asked if we could send them an update for the list.

Corrections & Additions

Mary Daly's *Outercourse*, recently discontinued by HarperSF (see Letters, last issue), continues to be in print and available from Spinifex. If we learn of U.S. distribution arrangements for the book, we'll pass them along! (Thanks to Boadecia's Books for the update.)

○

University of Minnesota Press

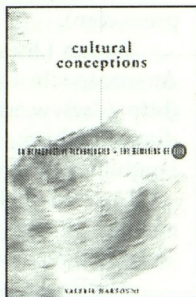
Cultural Conceptions

*On Reproductive Technologies
and the Remaking of Life*

VALERIE HARTOUNI

Hartouni tracks the circulation and communication of various myths, images, and stories pertaining to new reproductive technologies and their effects, both imagined and real, during the past two decades.

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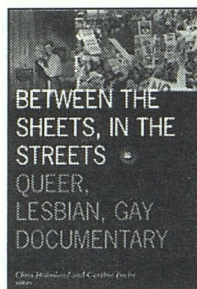
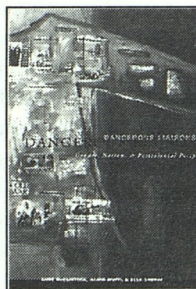
Dangerous Liaisons

*Gender, Nation, and
Postcolonial Perspectives*

ANNE MCCLINTOCK,
AAMIR MUFTI, AND
ELLA SHOHAT, EDITORS

Eminent contributors address the issues raised by the postcolonial condition, considering nationhood, history, gender, and identity from an interdisciplinary perspective.

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Cultural Politics Series, Volume 11



Between the Sheets, In the Streets

Queer, Lesbian, Gay Documentary
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The first book to focus on the connections between sexuality, activism, and documentary film.

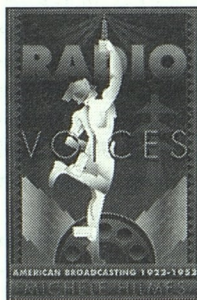
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Visible Evidence Series, Volume 1



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In this groundbreaking work of creative nonfiction, American Book Award winner Diane Glancy juxtaposes personal essays, Cherokee myths, and imaginative sketches to explore her experiences as a Native American mixed-blood coming to terms with identity.

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Radio Voices

American Broadcasting, 1922-1952
MICHELE HILMES

Among the topics she discusses are the first soap operas—arguing that these much-disparaged programs provided a space in which women could discuss conflicted issues of gender.

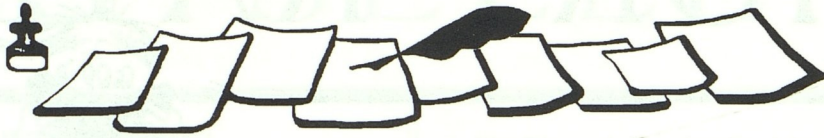
\$19.95 paper (2621-9)
320 pages April

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WRITING WANTED



By Jenn Tust

The Flight of the Mind: The Fourteenth Annual Summer Writing Workshops for Women are being held June 13–20 and June 22–29. Judith Barrington, Rosellen Brown, Toi Derricotte, Janice Gould, Lucinda Roy, Marjorie Sandor, Sarah Schulman, Charlotte Watson Sherman and Cathy Song are the workshop leaders. Application deadline: April 17. The Flight of the Mind, 622 Southeast 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214. Questions? Contact Judith Barrington, Coordinator: 503-236-9862, fax 503-233-0774, email <soapston@teleport.com>.



Photographer and writer Barbara Seyda is seeking lesbian families for a photo-book project entitled *From the Heart: Portraits of Lesbian Mothers & Their Families*. Seyda will be working on the East Coast in late spring. Some lesbian mothers already photographed for *From the Heart* include Beverly Little Thunder, a Lakota Sioux pipecarrier who lives in Arizona; Amana Johnson, an African American sculptor in California; Ku'umealoha Gomes, a leading activist for native Hawaiian sovereignty rights in Hawai'i; and *Essence* editor Linda Villarosa, now expecting her first child. Barbara Seyda, PO Box 10356, Sedona AZ 86339; 520-204-2940.

Arsenal Pulp Press is accepting stories for two international anthologies of queer sex/desire-driven short short fiction: *Hot & Bothered* (for women) and *Quickies* (for men), to be published in the Spring of 98. Stories must be 1,000 words or less and can be funny, sad, hot, complicated, poignant, tragic, ridiculous, hilarious, lyrical, sensual, romantic and/or steamy.

Deadline: April 30. For guidelines send SAE with an International Reply Coupon (IRC) to: *Hot & Bothered*, Attn: Karen X. Tulchinsky or *Quickies*, Attn: James C. Johnstone, PO Box 100, 1036 Odium Drive, Vancouver BC, Canada V5L 3L6. Or email Karen: <kxt@aol.com> or James: <rainbow@rainbow.descon.com>.

Each year thousands of people board planes or pile into cars and head home for the holidays. Papier-Mache is seeking family stories — humorous or tender, ditsy or maddening — and favorite recipes for leftovers: turkey a la king, turkey soup, turkey croquettes, turkey omelettes, turkey salad, turkey pasta. Deadline: March 15. Contact for extensions and guidelines, or send stories -via: email <papierma@aol.com>, fax 408-763-1421, or mail Home for the Holidays, Papier-Mache, PO 1304, Freedom CA 95019.

Alyson Publications is seeking contributions for three anthologies — two lesbian erotic (nonfiction) anthologies on the themes of sexual reunions and seducing virgins and, for an anthology of lesbian/gay fiction, parodies of inherently gay literature. Deadline: May 31. Send SASE for guidelines (specify which) to Anthology Guidelines, Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028.

InterMountain Woman is seeking art, photos, fiction, poetry, essays, profiles, interviews, articles, and reviews by women on topics including history, current events, politics, humor, art, environment, the outdoors, and others for their bimonthly magazine. They plan to add columns on health, economics, legal concerns and other topics. *InterMountain Woman*, PO Box 7487, Missoula MT 59807; 406-721-8420, email <imwoman@marsweb.com>. And on the Web: <http://www.marsweb.com/imwoman>. ○

SHORT RAVES



Compiled by Jenn Tust

[I] just finished reading Robyn Davidson's **Desert Places**. What a fantastic book! If I'd read it before I'd written my annual letter, it would've topped my list for best book of the year. It's such a pleasure to read something that truly alters your view of the world. —*Moonyean*

"What do you want for your birthday?" — I think I'd like to have **The Necessary Hunger**, a girls basketball novel due on an unspecified day in February, come out on my birthday. Someone at S&S had the good sense to send *FBN* a galley copy, but as far as I can see, that's about the only publicity this superb book is going to get. You're going to have to read it yourself and handsell it to customers who don't know that the book they're looking for is this \$23.00 hardback about a team of adolescent girls trying to get their game right, their lives together, and make it through high school. *Not* a coming-out novel, these girls know where their passions lie. It's life that's complicated: being at home in South Central LA as a six-foot tall Japanese American (girl) basketball player. It's the flack your Mom takes if she gets involved with a guy who isn't Black. It's the weirdness of your dad dating the mother of your major crush. Racism on the court and how it feels when your parent fucks up, when your friends fuck up, and life "in the zone" and those magical moments when you have "the necessary hunger" to be a *real* basketball player. This galley copy has been through more hands than a basketball on game night. For my birthday? I think maybe I'll take the day off and read it all over again. It's that good. Don't miss it and don't wait for the paperback. Simon & Schuster, 368 pg., \$23 cl, 0-684-83234-8. —*Carol Seajay*

Did you ever not get enough sleep because a good story just demanded your constant attention? Well, if

you like stories about life on the plains in the late 1800s then you'll really like **Grass Widow** by Nanci Little and it will keep you up until the wee hours. Strong women, farmers on the prairie — lesbians, gossiping townspeople and ruthless men, drought answered by ingenuity, suspense. It's all here. Nanci Little, author of *Thin Fire*, has once again woven a wonderful lesbian novel. The characters are vibrant and likable (well, most of them). I think there's room for a sequel! \$10.95 pb. —*Mev/Amazon Bookstore*

Mary Kay Blakely's **Red, White, and Oh So Blue** is a perfect read for folks who love political seasons, including those of us sometimes, or often, disheartened by current political practices. She and Molly Ivins would make a good pairing of writers. \$20 cl. —*Illene/Amazon Bookstore*

The Book of Ruth by Jane Hamilton is a beautifully written novel that will haunt you, an everyday story gone awry. You'll laugh, you'll cry and you'll swallow hard more than once. Jane Hamilton shows us the fragility of the human spirit and the strength with which it can, in the end, triumph over disaster and despair. \$9.95 pb. —*Susan/Amazon Bookstore*

I loved **Household Saints** by Francine Prose so much that I gave it to all my friends. This is the charming and moving tale of the Santangelos who struggle with ancient questions and modern cultures, family and community, and all manner of love. Warm, inventive and absolutely marvelous. Also a surprisingly great movie! Highly recommended. \$4.99 pb. —*Mary/Amazon Bookstore* ○

BESTSELLERS

JANUARY BESTSELLERS

Toronto Women's Bookstore Toronto

FICTION

1. **Alias Grace** by Margaret Atwood, C\$32.50 cl, 0-7710-0825-X, McClelland & Stewart
2. **Fugitive Pieces** by Anne Michaels, C\$19.99 pb, 0-7710-5883-7, McClelland & Stewart
3. **Fall on Your Knees** by Ann-Marie MacDonald, C\$29.95 cl, 0-374-28159-4, Knopf Canada
4. **Cereus Blooms at Night** by Shani Mootoo, C\$18.95 pb, 0-88974-064-X, Press Gang
5. **In Search of April Raintree** by Beatrice Culleton, C\$6.95 pb, 1-895411-46-7, Pemmican
6. **Tamarind Mem** by Anita Badami, C\$19.99 pb, 0-670-86916-3, Viking
7. **Eye Wuz Here** edited by Shannon Cooley, C\$19.95 pb, 1-55054-524-8, Douglas & McIntyre.
8. **Stupid Boys Are Good to Relax With** by Susan Swan, C\$24.95 cl, 1-895897-73-4, Thomas Allen
9. **In Another Place, Not Here** by Dionne Brand, C\$27.95 cl, 0-394-28158-6, Knopf Canada
10. **The Rain Ascends** by Joy Kogawa, C\$14.95 pb, 0-394-28143-8, Vintage

NONFICTION

1. **Early Embraces** edited by Lindsey Elder, C\$17.50 pb, 1-55583-354-3
2. **Life on the Line** by Faye Wattleton, C\$35 cl, 0-345-372-655, Ballantine
3. **New Our Bodies, Ourselves**, Boston Women's Health Collective, C\$27 pb, 0684-82352-7, Simon & Schuster
4. **Killing Rage** by bell hooks, C\$17.95 pb, 0-8050-5027-2, Owlcat
5. **Three Masquerades** by Marilyn Waring, C\$19.95 pb, 1-86940-133-6, Auckland University Press

6. **The Women's Comfort Book** by Jennifer Loudon, C\$22.50 pb, 0-06-250531-9, Harper.
7. **Bone Black** by bell hooks, C\$28 cl, 0-8050-4145-1, Henry Holt
8. **Art Objects** by Jeanette Winterson, C\$14.95 pb, 0-394-28170-5, Vintage
9. **Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures** by J. Alexander and C. Moharity, C\$31.95 pb, 0-415-91212-1, Routledge
10. **Reviving Ophelia** by Mary Pipher, C\$17.50 pb, 0-345-39282-5, Ballantine

We offer year-round 10% discounts on hardcovers and also sold **Life on the Line** at a reading. Universal staff raves for **Fugitive Pieces** by Anne Michaels and **Tamarind Mem** by Anita Badami. Also, we just got our email and Web page up.

Antigone Books Tucson AZ

NONFICTION

1. ***High Tide in Tucson** by Barbara Kingsolver, \$12.50 pb, 006-0927569, Harper
2. **My Point...and I Do Have One** by Ellen DeGeneres, \$6.50 pb, 0553-573616, Bantam
3. ***Waist High in the World: Life Among the Nondisabled** by Nancy Mairs, \$20 cl, 0807070866, Beacon
4. ***Take the Rich Off Welfare** by Mark Zapezauer, \$9 pb, 1-878825-313, Odonian
5. **Reel to Real** by bell hooks, \$16.95 pb, 0415-918243, Routledge
6. **Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul**, \$12.95 pb, 1-55874-415-0, Health Communications
7. **Early Embraces** edited by Lindsey Elder, \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-3542, Alyson
8. **Artist's Way** by Julia Cameron, \$14.95 pb, 0-87477-6945, Tarcher (Putnam)

9. **Menopausal Years** by Susan Weed, \$9.95 pb, 0-961462043, Ash Tree
10. **Reviving Ophelia** by Mary Pipher, \$12.50 pb, 0345-392825, Penguin

FICTION

1. ***Mother Tongue** by Demetria Martines, \$21 cl, 0345-406028, Ballantine
2. **Memory Mambo** by Achy Obejas, \$12.95 pb, 1573-440175, Cleis Press
3. ***El Milagro** by Patricia Martin, \$10.95 pb, 0816515484, University of Arizona Press
4. **Pay Dirt** by Rita Mae Brown, \$5.99 pb, 0553-572369, Bantam
5. ***Bean Trees** by Barbara Kingsolver, \$13 pb, 006-091554, Harper
6. **Beekeeper's Apprentice** by Laurie King, \$5.99 pb, 0553-571656, Bantam
7. **Hundred Secret Senses** by Amy Tan, \$6.99 pb, 08041-15028, Ivy
8. **Wise Child** by Monica Furlong, \$4.99 pb, 0394-825985, Random House
9. **My Sweet Untraceable You** by Sandra Scoppetone, \$5.99 pb, 0345-391624, Ballantine

10. **Law of Love** by Laura Esquivel, \$25 cl, 0517-706814, Random House

* = local author. Please note: We're not computerized; the list is a "collective judgement" and the order (i.e., 1 thru 10) is not meaningful.

**A Woman's Place
Salt Lake City**

1. **Bodywise Woman** by Judy Mahle Lutter and Lynn Jaffee, \$16.95 pb, 0-87322-606-2, Human Kinetics
2. **Celebrating Girls** by Virginia Beane Rutter, \$10.95 pb, 1-57324-053-2, PGW
3. **Divine Feminine** by Anne Baring and Andrew Harvey, \$17.95 cl, 1-57324-035-4, Conari
4. **Early Embraces: True Life Stories of Women Describing First Lesbian Encounters** edited by Lindsey Elder, \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-354-3, Alyson
5. **Ex Utero** by Laurie Foos, \$11 pb, 0-15-600464-X, Harcourt Brace
6. **Fruitful: A Real Mother in the Modern World**, Anne Roiphe, \$22.95 cl, 0-395-73531-9, Houghton Mifflin
7. **Homestead** by Annick Smith, \$13.95 pb, 1-57131-213-7, Milkweed Editions
8. **I Am Beautiful** edited by Dana Carpenter and Woody Winfree, \$27.50, 1-887166-11-4, Rose Communications
9. **Liberty Square** by Katherine Forrest, \$21.95 cl, 0-425-15467-X, Berkley
10. **Life on the Line** by Faye Wattleton, \$25 cl, 0-345-39265-5, Ballantine
11. **Mother Tongue** by Demetria Martines, \$21 cl, 0345-40602-8, Ballantine
12. **New Ourselves, Growing Older**, Doress, \$18 pb, 0-671-87297-4, Simon & Schuster
13. **Thinking in Pictures** by Temple Grandin, \$12 pb, 0-679-77289-8, Random House
14. **Travelers Tales Gutsy Women**, \$7.95 pb, 1-885211-15-5, Travelers Tales
15. **Who Cares If It's a Choice**, Ellen Orleans, \$7.50, 0-9632526-4-X, Laugh Lines Press
16. **Write From the Heart** by Anita Pace, \$13.95 pb, 0-9631666-4-6, Baby Steps Press
17. **Written by Herself Volume II**, Jill Ker Conway, \$16 pb, 0-679-75109-2, Random House

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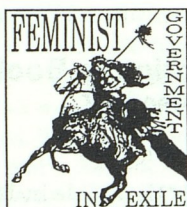
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Books in Canada:

BORDER CROSSING



By Suzanne Buffam
Women Print/Vancouver BC

Here's a look at some of this Winter's small press publications, starting with fiction.

Taken is west-coast phenomenon Daphne Marlatt's long-awaited second novel (although roughly her 20th published book!) and is, as was her first, well-worth the wait. Marlatt's innovative relationship with language has always been a pleasure to experience and participate in as a reader. In **Taken**, Marlatt continues to explore and expand on her haunting search for the elusive mother of her childhood — a recurrent theme in her writing. In this evocative novel, the Gulf War becomes a touchstone for a woman's meditation on her mother's life in World War II Australia during the Japanese invasion of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. Suffused with longing for a world without strife, it is a touching tribute to all women whose lives were taken over, or taken, by war. C\$17.95 pb, 0-88784-587-8. House of Anansi Press, 30 Lesmill Road, North York ONT, Canada M3B 2T6; 416-445-3333 ext. 616. Order through General in Canada; LPC/InBook in the U.S.



Miriam Toews' first novel, **Summer of My Amazing Luck**, approaches potentially heavy material with a light touch and a strong sense of humour, which allows her to weave a fast-paced narrative full of lively, idiosyncratic characters into some very socially relevant issues. It is a hilarious look at single motherhood through the eyes of Lucy and Lish, residents of the Have-A-Life welfare housing project where every Friday is "Dead Beat Dad" visiting day — but only for

those whose fathers' identities can be correctly ascertained, that is. Lucy still doesn't know who fathered her nine-month-old son, and the father of Lish's twin two-year-old girls — a fire-eating juggler in a traveling circus — skipped town after only one night in a hotel room together. With their children in tow, the two set out for Colorado in a borrowed van held together with coat hangers and electrical tape in search of Lish's fly-by-night fire-eater. Although Lucy, for one, knows from the start they'll never find him, she doesn't know this will turn out to be the "summer of their amazing luck." C\$16.95 pb, 0-88801-205-5. Turnstone Press, 607-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg MAN, Canada R3B 1H3; 204-947-1555/6, fax 204-942-1555. Order through General in Canada; LPC/InBook in the U.S.

Catherine Bennett's **Sub-Rosa & Other Fiction** is a wonderful hybrid of postmodern genre-bending and conventional narrative — a kind of Jane Eyre-meets-Kathy Acker in a 90s cappuccino dialectic. Each piece feels like an exploration of a state of mind rather than a chronological description of events, and deals with subjects as varied as memory; rewriting notions of history; erotic latitude; the blurred border between sleep, dream, and reality; isolation; loss; pleasure and change. The pieces range in length from the ultra-compressed postcard stories to extended narratives; and throughout all of them, Bennett perpetually foregrounds, interrogates, and ultimately revels in the possibilities of language. This book is a beautiful act of resistance to convention and a musically articulate challenge of assumptions. To quote one reviewer: "[Bennett writes]...in a tone reminiscent of Djuna Barnes," and it's true. C\$12.95/U.S.\$11.95 pb, 1-895636-11-6. Anvil Press, #204-A 175 East Broadway, Vancouver BC, Canada V5T 1W2; 604-876-8710, fax 604-879-2667. Order direct from the publisher, or through General in Canada; LPC/InBook in the U.S.

Nonfiction

For those with an academic mind and an interest in Canadian literary criticism, Lynette Hunter's collection of essays, **Outsider Notes: Feminist Approaches to Nation State Ideology, Writers/ Readers, and Publishing**, offers a thorough reappraisal of canonicity, modernism, post-modernism, marginality, and postcoloniality through readings of such diverse Canadian writers as Dionne Brand, Alice Munro, Jacqueline Dumas (Orlando Books), Daphne Marlatt, Frank Davey, Claire Harris, Michael Ondaatje, Margaret Atwood, and bpNichol, to name only a few. \$19.95 pb, 0-88922-363-7. Talonbooks, #104-3100 Production Way, Burnaby BC, Canada V5A4R4; 604-444-4889, fax 604-444-4119. Order direct from publisher, or through General in Canada and in the U.S. through General, 85 Rock River Drive #202, Buffalo NY 14207-2170; 800-805-1083, fax 416-445-5967.



In 1982 a Feminist Caucus was created within the League of Canadian Poets to explore issues of gender, politics, family, memory, violence, language, and poetry from a feminist perspective. Each year the Caucus convenes a panel discussion of a specific topic where writers such as Erin Moure, Bronwen Wallace, Di Brandt, Ayanna Black, Cathy Ford, and many others have been invited to speak. **Violence: Essays on Women, Violence, and Silence** edited by Susan McMaster is an anthology of the best papers, manifestos, rants and critical essays written and presented at these panels over the past 15 years. Passionate, inspiring, and consistently well-written, this is a great addition to any feminist's library. C\$19.95 pb, 1-55082-158-X. Quarry Press, PO Box 1061, Kingston ONT, Canada K7L 4Y5; 613-548-8429, fax 613-548-1556. In Canada order through Stoddart Publishing, 34 Lesmill Road, Don Mills ONT, Canada M3B 2T6; 800-387-0172, fax 416-445-5967; in the U.S. through LPC/InBook.

Drama

These are the facts: Hollywood diva Frances Farmer was an idealistic, raucous, and nonconforming movie star, pursued by the government for her alleged communist connections, and was finally

incarcerated with the "help" of her mother at Steila-coom, a Seattle psychiatric hospital, where she was lobotomized and released as "cured" in 1949. Award-winning playwright Sally Clark has taken Farmer's biography and transformed it into a mesmerizing and quintessential classical tragedy, **Saint Frances of Hollywood**. C\$14.95 pb, 0-88922366-5. Talonbooks, #104-3100 Production Way, Burnaby BC, Canada V5A 4R4; 604-444-4889, fax 604-444-4119.

Poetry

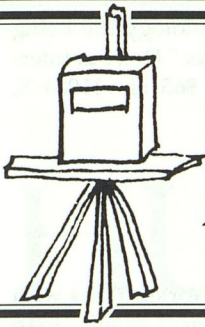
In her first collection of poetry, **A Really Good Brown Girl**, Marilyn Dumont (descendant of Gabriel Dumont) turns the challenges of her turbulent Metis heritage into source material for her exploration and transcendence of the multiple boundaries imposed on the self by society. Her voice is fierce and direct and at times slyly humorous as she "celebrates the person, clearly observing who defines her own life." C\$12.95 pb, 0-919626-76-9. Brick Books, 431 Boler Road, Box 20081, London ONT, Canada N6K 4G6; phone/fax 519-657-8579. Order through General in Canada; LPC/InBook in the U.S.

In her seventh book of poems, **Search Procedures**, Governor General Award-winning poet Erin Moure continues her radical exploration of the limits of our notions of language — right off the map of charted "meaning" into a landscape of ruptures and subversions where the instability of any search and any procedure is underscored by a perpetual shifting of reference frames. Written with her trademark irreverence to convention, tradition, and expectation, these poems can seem at first glance "impervious to explication," yet the wry and whimsical passion of her voice is unmistakable, as is her commitment to challenging the patriarchal hegemony implicitly reinforced by the language and institutions of the world we inhabit. C\$15.95 pb, 0-88784-5754. House of Anansi Press, 30 Lesmill Road, North York ONT, Canada M3B 2T6; 416-445-3333 ext. 616.

Distributors

General Distribution Services, 34 Lesmill Road, Don Mills ONT, Canada M3B 2T6; 800-387-0172, fax 416-445-5967.

LPC/InBook/WomenSource, 1436 West Randolph Street, Chicago IL 60607; 800-626-4330, fax 800-334-3892. ○



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

The prices of many art books this month are daunting. While I'm glad these books exist, I also hope publishers continue to bring out smaller, more accessibly priced books which build audiences for larger ones.

Sunnybrook: A True Story With Lies is the latest book from Persimmon Blackbridge whose collaborations on *Still Sane*, *Drawing the Line* and *Her Tongue on My Theory* are important markers in the history of feminist art. **Sunnybrook** is a story about working in an institution for the "mentally handicapped." Although there are compelling, full-color illustrations throughout, the book may sell better shelved in the recovery and lesbian sections than in art. \$21.95 cl, 0-88974-068-2, Press Gang. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

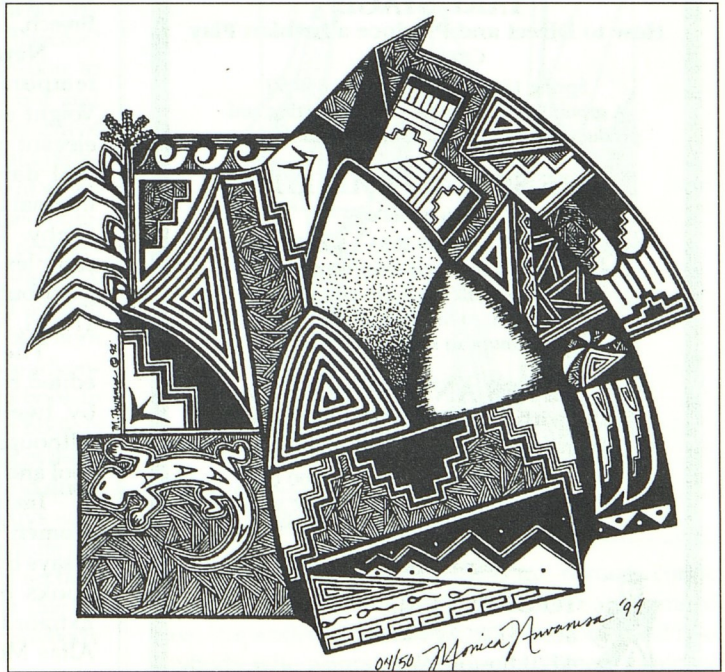
Present Tense: Writing and Art by Young Women edited by the Calyx Young Women's Editorial Collective just vibrates off the page with creative imagery and commentary. \$14.95 pb, 0-934971-53-6; \$26.95 cl, -54-4, Calyx. Distributed by Consortium.

Asian Women Artists edited by Dinah Dysart and Hannah Fink is a fascinating presentation of the lives and work of women artists living in China, Korea, Japan, India, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Taiwan and Indonesia. \$29.95 cl, 976-6410-77-1, Craftsman House. Distributed by Gordon and Breach, 2 Gateway Center 11th Fl, Newark NJ 07102.

A Song to the Creator: Traditional Arts of Native American Women of the

Plateau edited by Lillain A. Ackerman is a warm, rich collection of interviews combined with historical contemporary photographs. Covering storytelling, weaving, hideworking, music, and embroidery and ornamental arts, the personal tone of the stories and informative images draw the reader in. \$18.95 pb, 0-8061-2877-1; \$29.95 cl, -2876-3, University of Oklahoma Press.

New in paper: **Inuit Women Artists** edited by Odette Leroux, Marion E. Jackson and Minnie Aodla Freeman is an exceptional presentation of the sculpture, prints and drawings of nine living Inuit artists



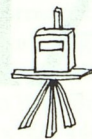
Artwork by Monica Nuvamsa, from *Present Tense: Writing and Art by Young Women* (Calyx Books)

from northern Canada. The images of animals, people and cultural activities are idealized, yet wonderfully immediate. (*Editor's note: The cloth edition was featured in the first FB-Net Catalog and sold very strongly.*) \$27.50 pb, 0-8118-1307-X, Chronicle Books.

Although **Body Alchemy: Transsexual Portraits** by Loren Cameron is not the type of book I usually review here, I think it may sell well in women's bookstores because it answers so many questions about female-to-male transsexuals. Beautifully done self-portraits and portraits alternate with a highly personal text. \$24.95 pb, 1-57344-062-0, Cleis Press. Distributed by PGW.

An Intimate Distance: Women, Artists and the Body by Rosemary Betterton is an academic study of "how the permeable boundaries between nature and

culture, the female body and technology are being crossed in the work of women artists." Dry, but interesting. \$18.95 pb, 0-415-11085-8; \$65 cl, -11084-X, Routledge.



The interviews in **Lives and Works: Talks with Women Artists, Volume 2** by Beryl Smith, Joan Arbeiter and Sally Shearer Swenson are so vivid that I wish an inexpensive paperback edition could be published. Priced as it is, with small format and black-and-white photographs, it is most likely to sell to librarians. \$58 cl, 0-8108-3153-8, Scarecrow Press. Distributed by University Press; 800-462-6420.

Modernism and Feminism: Australian Women Artists 1900-1940 by Helen Topliss is large, exuberant and filled with color illustrations. The very readable text hints, but doesn't quite state, that some of the artists were probably lesbians. Several illustrations have sapphic overtones that are delightful. \$65 cl, 976-6410-25-9, Craftsman House. Distributed by Gordon and Breach, 2 Gateway Center 11th Fl, Newark NJ 07102.

New Visions, New Perspectives: Voices of Contemporary Australian Women Artists by Anna Voight is, like *Modernism and Feminism* (above), an elegant coffee table volume. It makes a case for present day Australian women artists being part of international movements that are not bound by geography. The work is polished and intellectually complex. \$65 cl, 976-8097-92-2, Craftsman House. Distributed by Gordon and Breach, 2 Gateway Center 11th Fl, Newark NJ 07102.

The Architect Reconstructing Her Practice edited by Francesca Hughes is a collection of essays by twelve American and European architects. Although autobiographical, the writing is generally cool and distanced. \$35 cl, 0-262-08245-4, MIT Press.

Imazighen: The Vanishing Traditions of Berber Women, photographs by Margaret Courtney-Clarke, essays by Geraldine Brooks, is the third in a series of books by this award-winning photojournalist. Extraordinary images of women living in the High Atlas Mountains and desert plains of North Africa presented in an exquisitely designed book. \$55 cl, 0-517-59771-3, Clarkson N. Potter/Crown. ○

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Documents the lives and careers of America's first women directors and provides an introduction to the subject of women in the American silent-film industry.

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Beryl Smith, Joan Arbeiter, and Sally Shearer Swenson

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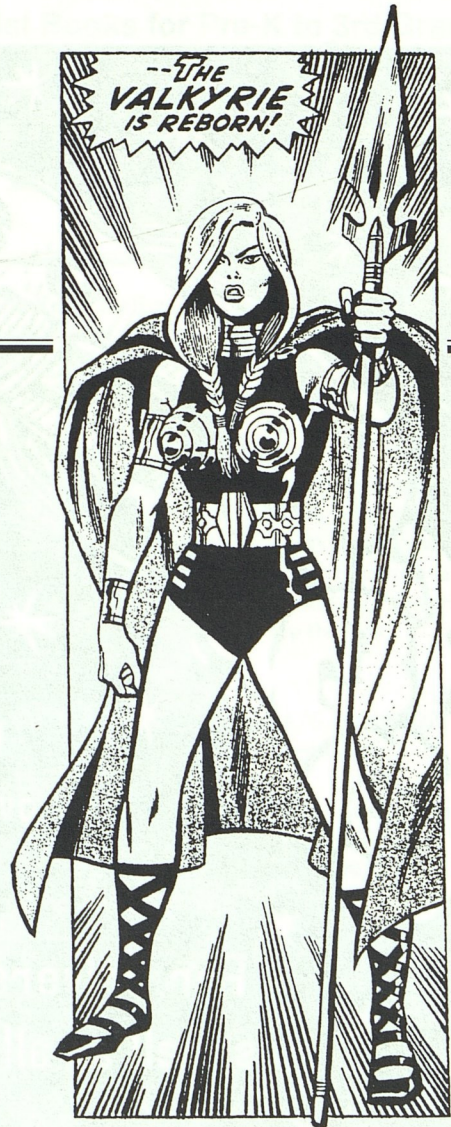
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HUMOR

By Roz Warren

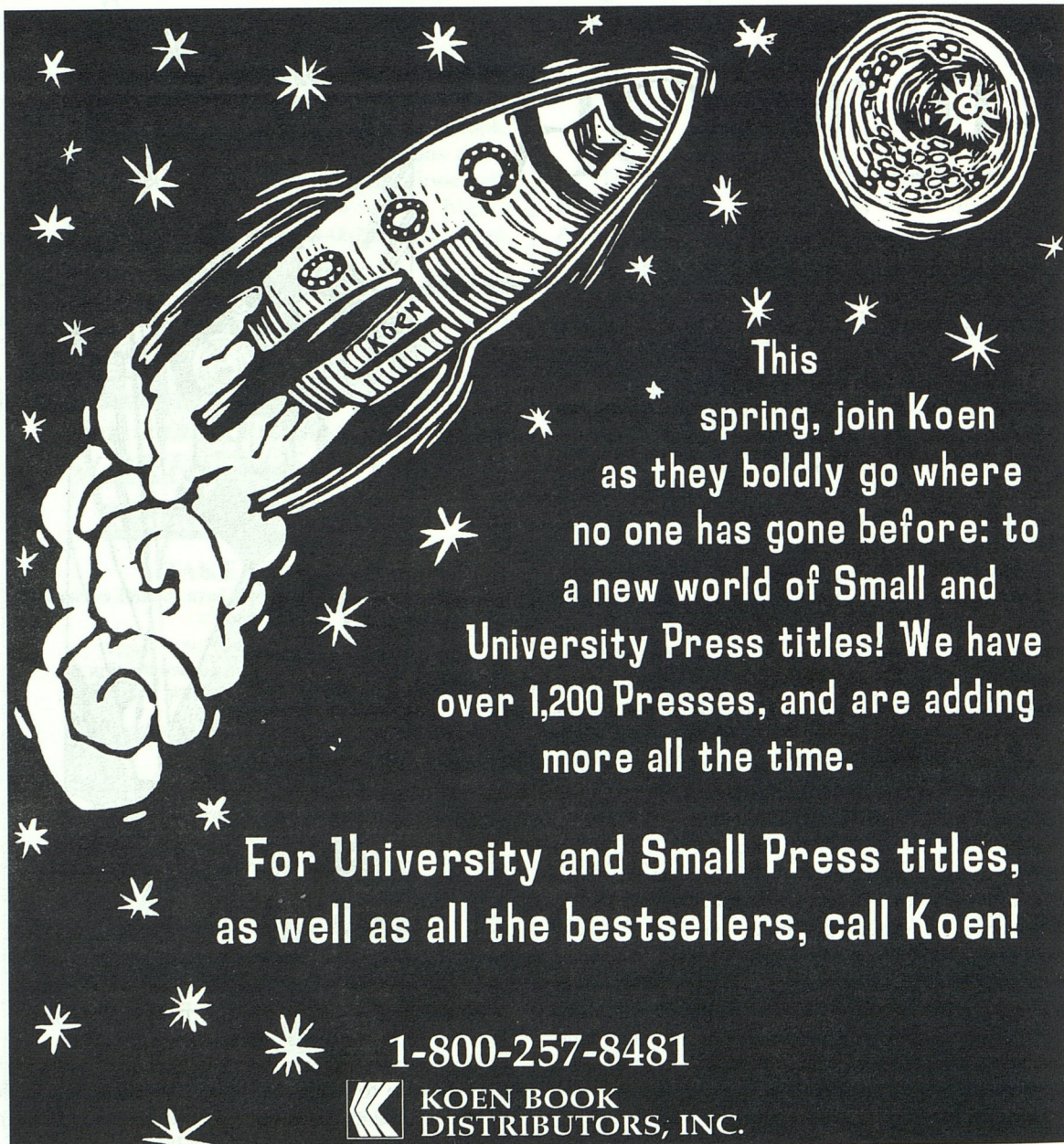
If you loved Wonder Woman when you were a girl, you'll be as excited as I am about Trina Robbins' terrific new book, **The Great Women Superheroes** (\$21.95 pb, 0-87816-481-2, Kitchen Sink). Beautifully written by a woman who is a feminist cartoonist herself, this book is a wealth of information about those flying, fighting, fabulous women. (For instance, did you know that psychologist Dr. William Moulton Marston, who created Wonder Woman, also invented the lie detector? Robbins records that Marston's initial suggestion to publishers that girls might want to "read about and identify with a strong heroine" was "met by a storm of mingled protests and guffaws.") There are great graphics on every page (my favorite being the moment when 70s superhero Valkyrie first realizes that she has somehow gained "fantastic strength! unbelievable power!" and cries out: "Male Chauvinist Pigs — Beware!"). Robbins tells the stories of a number of 40s-era women superheroes that I had been unaware of (many of whom were drawn by women), as well as many whose adventures I remember eagerly paying twelve cents a book to read about when I was a kid. Best of all, this book is grounded in a feminist worldview. Robbins places these characters in historical and political contexts, and questions many of the assumptions held by the guys who usually read this material. This book is an absolute joy, and a must for any complete cartoon/comics section. Robbins' **A Century of Women Cartoonists** (\$16.95, 0-87816-200-3, Kitchen Sink) is also a must for anybody who cares about comics.

Feminist cartoonist Roberta Gregory's popular comic book **Naughty Bits** (\$2.95, Fantagraphics) is



Valkyrie, from Marvel comics, in *The Great Women Superheroes* (Kitchen Sink Press)


currently up to 21 issues. This is my favorite comic book (particularly now that Hothead Paisan seems to have suspended publication) and I'd recommend it to anybody who wants to stock a pro-woman comic by a fine storyteller. **Naughty Bits** features a character
See Humor, page 131.



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KIDS' LIT



By Linda Bubon
Women and Children First/Chicago

Fiction: Pre-K to 1st Grade

The following are wonderful read-alouds in which girls and women are the main actors in the story and feminist values of self-reliance, determination, courage and connectedness are stressed for the even youngest of children.

- Adventures of Isabel** by Ogden Nash, \$5.95,
0316588836, Little, Brown.
- Amelia's Fantastic Flight** by Rose Bursik, \$5.95,
0805033866, Henry Holt.
- Anna Banana & Me** by Lenore Blegvad, \$3.95,
068971114X, Simon & Schuster.
- The Banza** by Diane Wolkstein, \$4.99, 0140546057,
Viking.
- Bimwili and the Zimwi** by Verna Aardema, \$4.99,
0140546081, Viking.
- I'll Do It Myself** by Jirina Marton, \$5.95,
1550370626, Firefly.
- Just Us Women** by Jeannette Caines, \$4.95,
0064430561, HarperCollins.
- Legend of the Bluebonnet** by Tomie de Paola,
\$5.95, 0698113594, Putnam.
- The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of
Anything** by Linda Williams, \$4.95, 0064431835,
HarperCollins.
- Nora & the Great Bear** by Ute Krause, \$3.99,
0140545654, Viking.
- The Old Ladies Who Liked Cats** by Carol Greene,
\$4.95, 0064433544, HarperCollins.
- The Paper Bag Princess** by Robert Munsch, \$5.95,
0920236162, Firefly.
- Really Rosie** by Maurice Sendak, \$10.95,
0060255374, HarperCollins.

- Sheila Rae The Brave** by Kevin Henkes, \$4.99,
0688147380, Morrow.
- The Very Worst Monster** by Pat Hutchins, \$3.95,
0688078168, Morrow.

Fiction: 1st to 3rd Grade

The following are longer picture books suitable for reading aloud or for beginning readers. Girls and women from a variety of cultures and communities are featured; strength and determination are key values. In many, community building, sharing, and bridging cultural differences are themes.

TALL TALES

- Brave Irene** by William Steig, \$4.95, 0374409277, FSG.
- The Tea Squall** by Ariane Dewey, \$4.95,
0688045820, Morrow.
- Three Strong Women: A Tall Tale from Japan** by
Claus Stamm, \$4.99, 0140545301, Viking.
- Swamp Angel** by Anne Isaacs, \$15.99, 0525452710,
Viking.

FAIRY TALES WITH A FEMINIST TWIST

- Cinder Edna** by Ellen Jackson, \$16, 0688123228,
Morrow.
- King's Equal** by Katherine Paterson, \$6.95,
006443396X, HarperCollins.
- The Princess and the Lord of Night** by Emma Bull,
\$14.95, 0152635432.
- Seven Ravens** by Laura Geringer, \$16, 0060235527,
HarperCollins.
- Sleeping Ugly** by Jane Yolen, \$7.95, 0698206177,
Putnam.
- Winning The Girl of the Sea** by Brenda Silsbe,
\$5.95, 1550373129, Firefly. ○

Graphic by Laura Irene Wayne, in *Journey to Feel* (Jora).

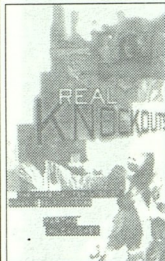
Spring Books from NYU Press

Women Transforming Politics

An Alternative Reader

Edited by Cathy J. Cohen,
Kathleen B. Jones,
and Joan C. Tronto

August / 0-8147-1558-3 / \$22.95 pa



Real Knockouts

The Physical Feminism of Women's Self-Defense

Martha McCaughey

July / 0-8147-5577-1 / \$18.95 pa

The Gender and Psychology Reader

Edited by Blythe McVicker Clinchy and Julie K. Norem

August / 0-8147-1547-8 / \$29.50 pa

Lifting the Taboo

Women, Death and Dying

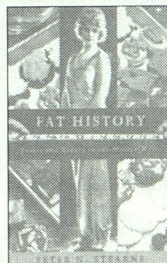
Sally Cline

March / 0-8147-1406-4 / \$18.95 pa

New Sexual Agendas

Edited by Lynne Segal

March / 0-8147-8075-X / \$17.95 pa



Fat History

Bodies and Beauty in the Modern West

Peter N. Stearns

June

0-8147-8069-5

\$25.95 cl

Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South

Edited by John Howard

August / 0-8147-3560-6 / \$18.95 pa

The Queer Renaissance

Contemporary American Literature and the Reinvention of Lesbian and Gay Identities

Robert McRuer

May / 0-8147-5555-0 / \$18.95 pa

Virginia Woolf

Lesbian Readings

Edited by Eileen Barrett and Patricia Cramer

August / 0-8147-1264-9 / \$18.95 pa

net.wars

Wendy M. Grossman

August / 0-8147-3103-1 / \$21.95 cl

Men and Women Adrift

The YMCA and the YWCA in the City

Edited by Nina Mjagkij and Margaret Spratt

With Prefaces by Clyde Griffen and Joanne Meyerowitz

August / 0-8147-5542-9 / \$19.50 pa

1996 Winner of the New York University Press Prize for Poetry

Flying Out with the Wounded

Anne Caston

May / 0-8147-1560-5 / \$12.95 pa



1996 Winner of the New York University Press Prize for Fiction

Bye-Bye

Jane Ransom

May
0-8147-7490-3

\$17.95 cl

Beyond the Home Front

Women's Autobiographical Writing of the Two World Wars

Edited by Yvonne M. Klein

March / 0-8147-4702-7 / \$17.95 pa

Queer Theory

An Introduction

Annamarie Jagose

March / 0-8147-4234-3 / \$14.95 pa

New from Berg Publishers

The Forgotten Generation

French Women Writers of the Inter-war Period

Jennifer Milligan

March / 1-85973-118-X / \$19.50 pa

Carnival Song & Society

Gossip, Sexuality and Creativity in Andalusia

Jerome R. Mintz

June / 1-85973-188-0 / \$19.50 pa

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GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstores

For the past couple of years, I've provided a snapshot of the sales at A Different Light Bookstores, collecting totals from our three walk-in locations, from our mail-order business and, this year, from Web site sales.

Besides the voyeur value — numbers are great fun to booksellers — I've also thought that the raw totals might help women's stores with limited space for gay male titles to select stock, using criteria less personal than my own book recommendations.

The following three lists show sales from January 1, 1996, to December 31, 1996, and this year with the help of Caroline Boyden, one of the buyers at A Different Light/SF and also the Web master for {www.adlbooks.com}, the data has been expanded a great deal — we've included a list of books which might generally be bought by both women and men, and since we had the numbers, we've listed the top 50 women's titles as well as men's titles — which demonstrates this year, as it has for as long as I've been with A Different Light (since 1979), that, at ADL, men's titles outsell lesbian titles generally by better than two-to-one.

For the most part, there were fewer books last year with great sales for us, compared to previous years — for example, our gay bestseller this year sold about one-third of last year's (the hardcover of Greg Louganis's autobiography, *Breaking the Surface*; the softcover did pretty well on its own this year).

Remember, too, that there are some books in the middle of the lists which sold really well in just the last two or three months of the year; if a book did well but was in stock only after August, I've noted the month it was received — an October title is followed by (10), for example. In several other cases,

a book is a perennial bestseller...books which outsell newer titles year after year. *Tales of the City*, *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Celluloid Closet* are examples; in such cases, I've added a (96) after the author's name to indicate a book which keeps on selling. (And note that Maupin's *Tales of the City* series is the most solid of perennials.)

Experienced booksellers will recognize, I hope, that some hardcovers are low on the list, but rank as bestsellers nonetheless by virtue of their higher price. In cases where we sold the hardcover for the first few months of the year, and trade or mass editions for the last months, totals were combined. We also excluded travel guides, as usual.



BOOKS BOUGHT MAINLY BY MEN

- 2809 *Finding True Love in a Man Eat Man World* by Craig Nelson
1781 *Like People in History* by Felice Picano
1447 *The Beauty of Men* by Andrew Holleran
954 *Iowa* by Patrick Moore
943 *Nightswimmer* by Joseph Olshan
863 *The Unofficial Gay Manual* by Kevin Dillalo & Jack Krumholtz (96)
810 *Men On Men* 6 ed. by David Bergman
754 *You Know You're Gay When* by Joseph Cohen (96)
751 *Love Between Men* by Rik Isensee
749 *My First Time* ed. by Jack Hart (96)
677 *Full Frontal Male Nudity Video Guide* by Steve Stewart
654 *Breaking the Surface* by Greg Louganis
651 *Wonderbread & Ecstasy* by Charles Isherwood (11)
639 *The Lord Won't Mind* by Gordon Merrick

- 594 *Young Man from the Provinces* by Alan Helm
 593 *2nd Time Around* by James Earl Hardy (10)
 582 *The President's Son* by Krandall Kraus
 578 *Flesh & Blood* by Michael Cunningham
 560 *Golden Age of Promiscuity* by Brad Gooch
 542 *Dancer from the Dance* by Andrew Holleran (96)
 493 *Sex Between Men* by Doug Sadownick
 485 *Shade* ed. by Bruce Morrow
 485 *Best Gay Erotica 1996* ed. by Michael Ford
 479 *And This Too Shall Pass* by E. Lynn Harris
 463 *Boys Like Us* ed. by Patrick Merla (10)
 444 *One for the Gods* by Gordon Merrick
 443 *Brutal* by Aidan Shaw
 437 *Stranger Among Friends* by David Mixner
 403 *Glamourpuss* by Christian McLaughlin
 392 *American Studies* by Mark Merlis
 386 *Intimate Friends* by Bel Ami Studios
 384 *Michael Jackson Was My Lover* by Victor Gutierrez (10)
 380 *Gay Love Signs* by Michael Jay (96)
 373 *Harlan's Race* by Patricia Nell Warren (96)
 370 *Palimpsest* by Gore Vidal
 367 *Mysterious Skin* by Scott Heim
 361 *Superstars 1996* by John Patrick (10)
 346 *B-Boy Blues* by James Earl Hardy (96)
 346 *Folding Star* by Allan Hollinghurst (96)
 345 *Mask for a Diva* by Grant Michaels
 340 *In Defense of Beauty* by Tom Bianchi (96)
 335 *Heaven's Coast* by Mark Doty
 334 *Man of the House* by Stephen McCauley
 332 *Male Supermodels* by George Wayne
 332 *Truth Serum* by Bernard Cooper
 329 *Hollywood Gays* by Boze Hadleigh
 329 *Death of Friends* by Michael Nava (10)
 317 *Flashpoint* ed. by Michael Bronski
 315 *Fairy Tales* by Peter Cashorali
 312 *Revoiving the Tribe* by Eric Rofes
 312 *Skinned Alive* by Edmund White



BOOKS BOUGHT MAINLY BY WOMEN

- 610 *So You Want to Be a Lesbian* by Liz Tracey & Sydney Pokorney
 442 *Best Lesbian Erotica 1996* ed. by Tristan Taormino
 397 *She Came by the Book* by Mary Wings

- 347 *Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For* by Allison Bechdel
 338 *The Girls Next Door* by Lindsay Van Gelder & Pamela Robin Brandt
 302 *Heat Wave* ed. by Lucy Jane Bledsoe
 300 *The History of Lesbian Hair* by Mary Dugger
 298 *Stone Butch Blues* by Leslie Feinberg (96)
 288 *Ghost in the Closet* by Mabel Maney
 271 *Women on Women 3* ed. by Joan Nestle & Naomi Holoch
 258 *Breaking Point* by Martina Navratilova



- 215 *Surface Tension* ed. by Meg Davy
 208 *Lesbianism Made Easy* by Helen Eisenbach
 205 *Nothing But the Girl* by Susie Bright & Jill Posener (10)
 203 *Liberty Square* by Katherine Forrest
 201 *Robert's Rules of Lesbian Living* by Shelly Roberts
 190 *Double Bluff* by Claire McNab
 188 *Second Coming* by Pat Califia
 184 *The Wild Good* ed. by Beatrice Gates (11)
 184 *Art & Lies* by Jeanette Winterson
 176 *Bastard Out of Carolina* by Dorothy Allison (96)
 172 *Push* by Sapphire
 162 *Inner Circle* by Claire McNab
 158 *My Point & I Do Have One* by Ellen DeGeneres
 152 *Paris Was a Woman* ed. by Andrea Weiss
 152 *Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown (96)
 151 *Ain't Gonna Be the Same Fool Twice* by April Sinclair
 151 *Revenge of Hothead Paisan* by Diane DiMassa
 151 *Venus Envy* by Rita Mae Brown (96)
 148 *Rat Bohemia* by Sarah Schulman
 146 *Some Girls* by Kristin McCloy
 144 *Case of the Good For Nothing Girlfriend* by Mabel Maney (96)
 134 *Let's Face the Music and Die* by Sandra Scoppetone
 132 *Five Minutes in Heaven* by Lisa Alther
 127 *Two or Three Things I Know for Sure* by Dorothy Allison
 125 *Wild Things* by Karin Kallmaker
 124 *Early Embraces* by Lindsey Elder
 123 *Arc of Love* by Clare Coss

- 122 *Coffee Will Make You Black* by April Sinclair (96)
 122 *Last of Her Lies* by Jean Taylor
 121 *Case of the Not So Nice Nurse* by Mabel Maney (96)
 121 *Lesbian Almanac*
 119 *The New Fuck You* ed. by Eileen Myles
 119 *Murder at Monticello* by Rita Mae Brown
 118 *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers* by Lillian Faderman (96)
 118 *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit* by Jeanette Winterson (96)
 115 *My Lover is a Woman* by Leslea Newman
 114 *Autobiography of a Family Photo* by Jacqueline Woodson
 114 *Hollywood Lesbians* by Boze Hadleigh
 112 *Toward Amnesia* by Sarah Van Arsdale
 111 *Memory Mambo* by Achy Obejas
 111 *Pay Dirt* by Rita Mae Brown



BOOKS BOUGHT GENERALLY BY WOMEN AND MEN

- 667 *Gay by the Bay* ed. by Susan Stryker & Jim Van Buskirk
 637 *Martha Stuart's Better than You...* by Tom Connor
 569 *What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality* by Daniel Helmniak (96)
 530 *Gay & Lesbian Online* by Jeff Dawson
 451 *The Celluloid Closet* by Vito Russo (96)
 422 *Tales of the City* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 370 *Now That You Know* by Betty Fairchild (96)
 312 *Nutrition and HIV* by Mary Romeyn
 276 *The HIV Drug Book* by Brian Kearney & Steven Petrow
 270 *Putting Out* by Edisol W. Dotson (96)
 263 *The Making of Evita* by Alan Parker (11)
 254 *Permanent Partners* by Betty Berzon (96)
 248 *Transgender Warriors* by Leslie Feinberg
 247 *Virtually Normal* by Andrew Sullivan
 236 *More Tales of the City* (96)
 232 *Virtual Equality* by Urvashi Vaid
 221 *The Good Book* by Peter Gomes (11)
 215 *Jerome: After the Pageant* by Thomas Avena & Adam Klein (10)
 213 *Servant of the Bones* by Anne Rice
 209 *New Gay Book of Lists* by Leigh Rutledge
 204 *Cracks in the Iron Closet* by David Tuller

- 198 *Do What I Say* by Meryl Cohn (96)
 186 *Coming Out of Shame* by Gershon Kaufman & Lev Raphael
 182 *Is It a Choice* by Eric Marcus (96)
 181 *Personal Financial Planning for Gays & Lesbians* by Peter M. Berkery
 180 *The Intimacy Dance* by Betty Berzon
 177 *Outing Yourself* by Michelangelo Signorile
 171 *The Case for Same-Sex Marriage* by William Eskridge
 170 *Further Tales of the City* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 164 *Setting Them Straight* by Betty Berzon
 158 *Switch Hitters* ed. by Carol Queen & Lawrence Schimel
 150 *Immune Power* by Dr. Jon Kaiser (96)
 147 *28 Barbary Lane* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 147 *Essential Guide to Lesbian & Gay Weddings* by Tess Ayers & Paul Brown
 142 *Queer Notions* by David Blanton
 140 *The Bible Tells Me So* by Jim Hill & Rand Cheadle
 140 *Sure of You* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 138 *Body Alchemy* by Loren Cameron (11)
 137 *Babycakes* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 133 *Beyond Acceptance* by Carolyn Welch Griffin et al.
 132 *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron
 131 *Significant Others* by Armistead Maupin (96)
 122 *Gender Outlaw* by Kate Bornstein
 119 *Ultimate Guide to Lesbian & Gay Film* by Jenni Olson
 118 *The Lesbian & Gay Parenting Handbook* by April Martin
 115 *Go the Way Your Blood Beats* ed. by Shawn Stewart Ruff
 115 *The Invention of Heterosexuality* by Jonathon Katz
 114 *Asian American Sexualities* ed. by Russell Leong
 112 *Coming Out: An Act of Love* by Rob Eichberg (96)
 112 *Gender Shock* by Phyllis Burke
 112 *Images in the Dark* by Steve Stewart

Next issue: a plethora of Spring announcements — from the catalogues I've seen so far, it's a rich start to 1997. ○



NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHER'S Provocative Spring Titles

ORLANDO'S SLEEP An Autobiography of Gender by Jennifer Spry

A profoundly personal, yet provocatively political discussion of one person's transformation: from growing up male, complete with marriage and fatherhood, to becoming a woman and a lesbian. This autobiography explores the complex issues of gender identity, beginning with John Spry's boyhood in Australia, and ultimately to her coming out as Jennifer, a transgendered lesbian. \$12.95 ISBN 0-934678-80-4 Available: April, 1997



NO DAUGHTER OF THE SOUTH A Mystery by Cynthia Webb

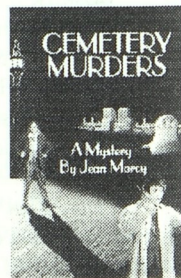
Brash, humorous and chilling... Laurie Coldwater, a New York journalist, returns to her Florida hometown and the white southern roots she has soundly rejected. Her black lover, Samantha, whose father died there mysteriously years before, has persuaded her to look into the truth surrounding his death. Laurie's investigation brings her into a confrontation with the local KKK and forces her to question how far will she go in implicating her own family with racist events long buried. \$10.95 ISBN 0-934678-82-0 Available: April 1997



CEMETERY MURDERS A Mystery by Jean Marcy

Meg Darcy, a single, working-class dyke PI has the hots for Sarah Linquist the attractive but aloof city police detective (nicknamed The Ice Queen). Meg's gay comrade-in-arms, Patrick, says she's a classic closet case, and definitely not one for Meg to crack. But the opportunity comes soon as their paths cross at a St. Louis cemetery where a serial killer has dumped the bodies of homeless women. Conflict and competition dominate their interactions, particularly their erotic entanglement, as both Meg and Sarah strive to be the first to find the killer.

\$10.95 ISBN 0-934678-83-9 Available: May, 1997



TORRID ZONE TORRID ZONE A Mystery Novel by ReBecca Béguin

Ida Muret reluctantly agrees to shelter Viv, a student of her lover's being harassed on campus. Viv shows little interest in farm chores, but soon turns her prodigious research skills to digging up Ida's past in a back-to-the-land lesbian separatist collective. What she uncovers is a long-buried love and an unsolved murder. A well-layered story of a country dyke reclaiming life, love and labors lost. ReBecca Béguin is the author of *Hers Was the Sky*, *In Unlikely Places* (Best of the Small Press) and *Runway at Eland Springs*. \$10.95 ISBN 0-934678-81-2 Available: May, 1997



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MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater
Cape & Dagger/Provincetown MA

Two mystery writers that no feminist bookstore can afford to be without are Nevada Barr and Dana Stabenow, and both have new hardcovers this Spring. These two have brought an amazing sense of place, feel for nature, nuanced characters, and progressive politics (especially environmentalism and feminism) to the genre in the 90s. And did I mention great writing? **Endangered Species** by Barr takes park ranger Anna Pigeon — still on fire detail — to the Cumberland Island National Seashore, off the coast of Georgia, where a suspicious plane crash raises questions of sabotage and murder. (\$22.95 cl, 0-399-14246-0, Putnam.) **Breakup** by Dana Stabenow takes place during the massive spring thaw in Alaska (hence the title) when Aleut Kate Shugak finds a body near her own homestead. As she investigates, Kate is challenged to assume the role of clan leader left empty by her grandmother. (\$21.95 cl, 0-399-14250-9, June, Putnam.)

Another don't-miss title this Spring is the mass market edition of **The Intersection of Law and Desire** by J.M. Redmann, which made it to paper with the gorgeous cover art of the cloth edition intact, and with the lesbian heroine still out. Redmann writes wonderfully atmospheric yet action-packed thrillers set in New Orleans, featuring bayou-bred lesbian P.I. Micky Knight. **Intersection** won a Lambda Literary Award in 1996 (and should have won something for the best title since

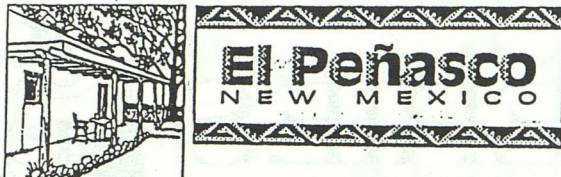


Illustrations by Yani Batteau from *The Dyke Detector*, Paradigm Publishing.

Tennessee Williams). This provides a wonderful opportunity to promote Redmann's previous Micky Knight mysteries, *Death by the Riverside* and *The Deaths of Jocasta*, published by New Victoria. \$5.99 pb, 0-380-72819-2, Avon.

Newly out in paper is **Bloody Waters** by Carolina Garcia-Aguilar, featuring the only Cuban-American woman detective in the literature. (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-15670-2, Berkley.) *Library Journal* said, "Adventurous, refreshing.... Young private investigator Lupe Solano struggles to find the birth mother of an illegally adopted baby who needs a transplant. But before her search yields any answers, a murder occurs." Garcia-Aguilar was herself a private investigator working in Miami, and the authenticity shines through, along with a fun-loving attitude and a breezy, conversational style. If there's enough interest, you may want to carry the hardcover sequel, **Bloody Shame**. (\$21.95 cl, 0-399-142256-8, Putnam.)

Historical mysteries are hot, at least in our store. In Dianne Day's Fremont Jones mysteries, feminist readers who love gaslight atmosphere will find a kindred spirit in a period setting. Introduced in **The Strange Files of Fremont Jones**, the eponymous heroine is a remarkably spunky working woman who seeks her fortune in turn-of-the-century San Francisco. There she discovers strange and somewhat spooky doings among the clients who use her secretarial services. (\$4.99 pb, 0-553-56921-X, Bantam.) In the sequel, **Fire and Fog**, Fremont makes her way through the 1906 earthquake and ensuing fires, learns to drive, falls in love, and solves a deadly mystery. (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-56922-8, April, Bantam.) In Day's new hardcover, **The Bohemian Murders**, Fremont Jones becomes a lighthouse keeper at bohemian Carmel Beach, and learns a lot more about both love and liberation. (\$21.95 cl, 0-385-47923-9, July, Doubleday.)



Historic adobe guest house nestled in the Sandia Mtns. between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Enjoy the quiet charm of this women-owned casita.

- kiva fireplace in bedroom, kitchen stocked with breakfast foods, private patio
- sleeps 1-4, \$75-95, weekly rates available

Former romance writers like Day seem to have a gift for creating fiercely independent, heterosexual women characters who appeal to women readers. (Janet Evanovich and Elizabeth Peters also come to mind.) But these concoctions are by nature lighter than air; the slightest change in mood can make this soufflé seem flatter than a pancake.

The Southwest is hot, too — as a setting for mysteries, that is. **The Cowboy Rides Away**, Beth Thornton's debut novel set in Arizona, was praised for its evocative sense of place. It features a heroine who works as an advocate for crime victims, which is a fresh approach, and critical quotes look good. (\$5.50 pb, 0-440-22327-X, May, Dell.) Bantam is re-issuing Edgar Award winner Mary Willis Walker's first novel set in Texas, **Zero at the Bone**, which should have an eager audience now. The heroine, dog trainer Katherine Driscoll, becomes suspicious when her zookeeper father is mauled to death by one of his big cats. (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57505-8, April, Bantam.)

Although we've missed the holiday, you may still want to stock **The Valentine's Day Murder** by Lee Harris. I find that Harris' impeccable plotting and soothing narrative style make these ex-nun mysteries addictive, and appropriate to any season. (\$5.99 pb, 0-449-14964-1, Fawcett.) Still on the nun beat — Veronica Black's mysteries featuring Sister Joan of the fictional Daughters of



Compassion sell pretty well in our store, but I hesitate to recommend them. As a recovering Catholic, I have trouble with the main character's unquestioning orthodoxy; the solution to the mystery often turns on a point of Catholic dogma, some of it positively medieval. The latest of these in paperback is **A Vow of Devotion**. (\$5.50 pb, 0-312-96005-0, St. Martin's.)

There are a growing number of fictional women attorneys for courtroom-drama fans to choose from, and a couple of the better ones are represented in new paperbacks. Chicago corporate lawyer Kate Millholland has established a nice track record in the mystery series by Gini Hartzmark. The latest in paper is **Bitter Business**, in which Kate delves into the dark and twisted history of a family she's representing. (\$5.99 pb, 0-8041-1241-X, Ivy.) Also outstanding in the field is Carolyn Wheat's Brooklyn public defender Cass Jameson, who goes private in **Mean Streak** to defend her ex-lover, a Mafia lawyer. (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-15577-3, Berkeley.) An unknown that looks good is **No Defense** by Rangeley Wallace, in which the heroine defends her father, an Alabama politician, against a charge of racially motivated murder. (\$5.99 pb, 0-312-96169-3, April, St. Martin's.)



Personally I was appalled when they started publishing mysteries attributed to Jessica Fletcher, the Angela Lansbury character on "Murder She Wrote," but when we stocked a few in our store last summer they were snapped up. Without completely losing your credibility, you could justify stocking **Murder They Wrote**, which is really just an anthology of cozy whodunits by women writers, edited by Marin Greenberg and Beth Foxwell. (The cover does say "Jessica Fletcher presents..." and includes Lansbury's picture, like others in the series.) Contributors include a number of well-known names, such as Nancy Pickard, Ellen Hart, and Cape Cod's own Sally Gunning. \$6.99 pb, 1-57297-194-0, BKBD.

Author Chassie West adds two mysteries with African American women protagonists to the genre. In last year's *Sunrise*, nominated for an Edgar Award for paperback original, West introduced Leigh Ann Warren, an ex-cop who goes home to North Carolina

only to uncover murderous secrets. In her new novel, **Loss of Innocence**, West returns to the same theme with a different heroine, who discovers family feuds, lies, and evil in the seemingly idyllic town of Innocence, South Carolina. \$5.50 pb, 0-06-108111-6, Harper.

New paperback entries in reliable series include **The Broken Promise Land** by Marcia Muller, in which veteran P.I. Sharon McCone tries to end a bizarre campaign of terror against a country-western singer (\$6.50 pb, 0-446-60410-0, June, Warner); **Full Stop** by Joan Smith, England's answer to Amanda Cross, in which feminist professor Loretta Lawson encounters danger while staying in a friend's New York apartment (\$5.99 pb, 0-449-22300-0, Fawcett); and **Stud Rites** by Susan Conant, the dog lovers' answer to all those cozy cat mysteries. Seriously, Conant knows her dogs, and especially the dog-breeding and show world. In this entry, heroine Holly Winter looks into the murder of a dog show judge. (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57300-4, Bantam.)

One of my current favorite crime writers is British award winner Val McDermid, who is poised to break through on this side of the Atlantic. McDermid won Britain's highest mystery award, the Golden Dagger, for **The Mermaids Singing**, featuring the very competent, contemporary private investigator Kate Brannigan. **Mermaids** concerns a serial killer with particularly grisly methods, which is strikingly unlike the rest of McDermid's work. (Nor are we surprised that an author's bloodiest book would win the top award; extreme violence seems to be equated with seriousness in crime writing these days.) But the award should bring well-deserved attention to McDermid, whose Brannigan adventures are great fun: fast, complex, psychologically astute, and strong on attitude. \$22 cl, 0-06-101174-6, Harper.

The canny women at Spinsters Ink are publishing the U.S. editions of McDermid's other series, about lesbian reporter Lindsay Gordon. Lindsay, it seems, is quite unlucky in love, and her ex-lovers are legion. In **Deadline for Murder**, Lindsay travels to Glasgow in search of her estranged lover Cordelia, only to find that Cordelia has begun a new affair; and, even more sobering, a fellow journalist has been convicted of murdering one of Lindsay's ex's in a lesbian *crime passionnel*. Looking into the murder, Lindsay finds any number of other motives, involving blackmail, prostitution, and classified State papers. (\$10.95 pb,

1-8833523-17-6, April.) **Deadline** was published in England by the Women's Press, Ltd., as *Final Edition*. It is billed as the third Lindsay Gordon mystery, but there is only one other in print in the U.S., **Common Murder**, also from Spinsters Ink. (\$10.95 pb, 1-883523-08-7.)



Multi-award winner Minette Walters, Britain's mistress of creepy psychological suspense, has a new hardcover due in March called **The Echo**. Unlike her gothic sisters under the skin, P.D. James and Ruth Rendell, Walters does not write a series about recurring characters. In **The Echo**, a homeless alcoholic named Billy Blake is found dead in the garage of a suspiciously wealthy widow; and a journalist doing a story on homelessness becomes obsessed with his death. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14251-7, Putnam.

I never thought I would write a negative word about Laurie R. King, who burst upon the mystery world in 1993 with two amazing novels in one year: *A Grave Talent* and *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*. But I was disappointed in **A Letter of Mary**, her latest entry in the series begun with *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*, featuring Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes. Reviving Sherlock Holmes is a tricky business, often attempted, seldom successful. The great thing about King's books is that Holmes becomes secondary to an even more intriguing character, Mary Russell. It's like reading the Holmes canon with the focus on Watson, and a formidable female Watson at that! Russell is such a great character that the book appeals to readers who have no interest in Holmes, as well as Sherlockians. Sad to say, in **A Letter of Mary** Holmes and Russell are married, a misstep so untrue to both the characters that I'm afraid King may never recover her form. The plot taunts us with enticing premises (a letter written by Mary Magdalene herself, proving that she was one of the original apostles; a murder seemingly motivated solely by misogyny; a nasty case of sexual harassment by both father and son), which sputter out and go nowhere. There are a few wonderful scenes, but not enough to sustain a whole book. We can only hope that the next Russell/Holmes adventure will find the couple divorced! \$23.95 cl, 0-312-14670-1, St. Martin's Press. ○



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SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY



By Julie Mitchell
Sisterhood Bookstore/Los Angeles

Let me get right to the point: There is, quite simply, a deluge of noteworthy books in the sf/f genre this Spring. I suppose this is apropos for the season. After all, it is the time of rains and growth (both metaphorically and actually). So clear out those dusty, static titles, rearrange your shelves to feature the sf/f section, and make room for the innovative and the unusual.

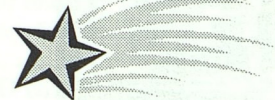
To look back a season or two, the 1996 World Fantasy Awards have been announced: for Best Anthology, *The Penguin Book of Modern Fantasy by Women* edited by A. Susan Williams and Richard Glyn Jones; and for Best Short Fiction, "The Grass Princess," which also appeared in Best Collection *Seven Tales and a Fable*, both by Gwyneth Jones (*White Queen*, *North Wind*, and *Flowerdust*).

Two sf novels of particular note from previous columns are **Shadow Man** by Melissa Scott and **Black Wine** by Candas Jane Dorsey, in which I finally had a chance to indulge. **Shadow Man** (\$13.95 tp, 0-312-86206-7, Tor) is the first Scott book I've read that is *not* cyber-filled, making this fine author's recent work finally accessible to the computer illiterate. This well-crafted piece of sf is certain to appeal to all manner of queer folk, with a future universe that recognizes no less than five genders and nine sexual preferences. **Black Wine** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-86181-8, Tor), a complicated novel in both structure and story, definitely kept me off kilter. (I like that in a book!) A free-flowing exploration of character, timethings, technology, place, and memory, **Black Wine** is set in a fantasy world with many locales...from egalitarian, polygamous, same-gender accepting ones to slave-trading, brutal, oppressive

ones. Both books are unabashedly feminist and queer-positive in scope and vision and both are undeniably worth stocking, selling, reading, and re-reading.

ACADEMY CHICAGO

The Notorious Abbess (\$20 cl, 0-89733-387-X, April) by Vera Chapman received a most favorable review in the December issue of *Locus*: "The Abbess' willful, feminist nature can be charming...it is pleasant to imagine this forceful, feminist do-gooder being a driving force in an Age which was more likely to rein in powerful women, than accept their rule." Set in the time of the Crusades, this historical fantasy is a series of vignettes about the adventures of Abbess Hodierna of Shaston Convent. Again, from *Locus*: "This spunky dame beats her opponents using book-learned wisdom, magic, a battery of divine and earthly protections, and lots of hearty common-sense." Sounds like my kind of gal! 363 W. Erie Street, Chicago IL 60610; 800-248-7323. Distributed by B&T, Ingram.



ACE (BERKLEY)

Anne Logston, creatrix of the delightful "Shadow" and "Dagger" elf series, has a new stand-alone fantasy novel. Like the others, **Firewalk** (\$6.50 pb, 0-441-00427-X) features a strong female protagonist in Kayli, a novice in the Order of the Inner Flame turned High Lady (via an arranged marriage). Kayli, new to an unwelcoming land and her awakening passion, must fight treason and treachery with fire.

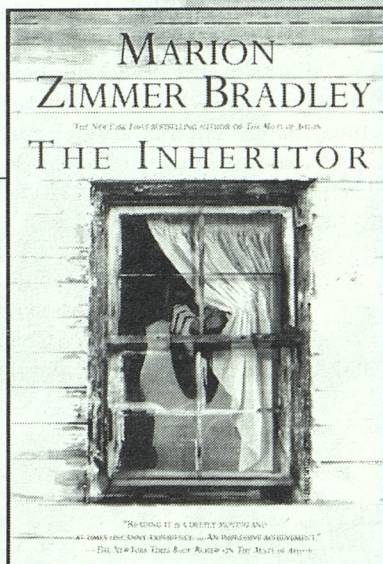
Out in mass market is Sharon Shinn's "divine" sf novel **Archangel** (\$6.50 pb, 0-441-00432-6, April), winner of the William Crawford Award for Achievement in Fantasy. In the many lands of Samaria, an age of

corruption is at hand, led by the current Archangel Raphael. But his 20-year stint is coming to an end, and his successor Gabriel (of course also an angel) is ready to make some changes. The oracle has identified Gabriel's angelica (his human wife-to-be) but Rachel, it seems, has her own ideas. Here is an atypical and distinctive story that examines issues of class, culture, and capitalism, family, faith, and friendship. Mixing a large dose of fantasy with a mere drop of sf, Shinn (somewhat strangely) never reveals the book's premise anywhere in the text. Only by reading the blurb on the back cover of the trade edition did I understand the context for such things as the Kiss (a computer chip that is implanted in the wrists of dedicated infants), the oracle's direct communication (via computer console) with the god (the ship's computer),

and the threat of lightening (a blast from the space cruiser) if the various peoples of Samaria fail to confirm their peaceful coexistence once a year at a specified hour and site by singing together. If the reader never sees the short but vital paragraph on the back, the narrative may take on an entirely different framework for interpretation. Nevertheless, I stayed up until 4:00 A.M. to finish it.

ASPECT (WARNER)

Joan D. Vinge returns to the violent, cyberpunk world of *Psion* (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60354-6) and *Catspaw* (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60372-4) in *Dreamfall* (\$6.50 pb, 0-446-60401-1), her third sf novel featuring the character Cat. According to Vinge, Cat represents "the personification of...[her] social conscience" and she



THE INHERITOR

Marion Zimmer Bradley

"An entertaining tale of contemporary 'magick' and self-discovery. With a strong heroine and a sophisticated treatment of magick, this novel offers intelligent diversion."

—*Publishers Weekly*

STENKIEWICZ

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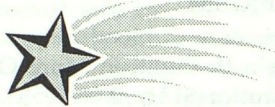


plans on writing more books about him, "including the one in which he finally comes to the happy ending in his life" (from the December issue of *Locus*).

From the author of the fabulous first sf novel *Reclamation* (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60292-2) comes **Fool's War** (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60293-0, April), a book about which I know nothing...except that it's by Sarah Zettel and, if her debut was any indication, that should be enough.

AVON (MORROW)

Ursula K. Le Guin, winner of the Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, Tiptree, and National Book Awards, wrote in 1971 a haunting, disturbing sf tale. Set in 2002, a man named George Orr learns that his dreams *can* become reality, quite literally...in fact, they alter his entire planet. **The Lathe of Heaven** (\$12 tp, 0-380-79185-4, April) is now available in a trade edition.



BAEN (SIMON & SCHUSTER)

Changespell (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-87765-8) by Doranna Durgin is the fantasy sequel to *Dun Lady's Jess* (\$4.99 pb, 0-671-87617-1). "Jess wasn't always a lady. Once she was the Dun Lady's Jess [a horse], until a malfunctioning spell not only transformed her from her world to Earth, but into human form in the bargain. Now back in her own world of Camolen, she has strangely mixed feelings toward her rider Corey, a man she has loved since she was a foal, and now loves as a woman — but other changes are afoot in Jess's world!"

Cadence Drake, professional finder of lost things, has been hired by a starship manufacturer to find the stolen ship, *Corrigan's Blood*. Holly Lisle's **Hunting The Corrigan's Blood** (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-87768-2) leads heroine Cadence from being stuffed unconscious in a sealed space station locker with an unknown dead woman to "the one place in the universe that she doesn't dare go."

One I missed in December (so it may be a tad late to order in cloth) is Anne McCaffrey and Jody Lynn Nye's sf collaboration on **The Ship Errant** (\$21 cl, 0-671-87754-2). This novel is preceded by, in order of publication, *The Ship Who Sang* (\$5.99 pb, 0-345-

33431-0, Del Rey), *The Ship Who Searched* (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-72129-1), and *The Ship Who Won* (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-87657-0).

BANTAM

Yvonne Navarro's **Final Impact** (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-56360-2) is set in an extremely catastrophic and near future. On January 1, 2000, a rogue planet that is hurled into Earth's solar system changes the Earth forever. A group of survivors must create a future for what remains of the planet.

Though not a futuristic novel like *The Fifth Sacred Thing* (\$12.95 tp, 0-553-37380-3), Starhawk's **Walking to Mercury** (\$23.95 cl, 0-553-10233-8) will attract an sf readership, due to its tie-in to the first book, plus a contemporary fiction readership. Starhawk's second book traces the 98-year-old rebel Maya Greenwood, featured in *Fifth*, back to her early years. Set alternately in California and Nepal in the 60s and the 80s, this prequel is told in many voices, from Maya's to her friend/lovers Rio and Johanna Weaver's, using letters, journal entries, and the third person. Interracial relationships, bisexuality, polyfidelity, Jewish identity, spiritual longing, death, success, self-sacrifice, non-violence, activism, family estrangement, midlife musings — all these themes (and more) — are explored. Though a good read, I must admit to liking the first book better (being the loyal sf/f devotee that I am). In fact, *Fifth* is far and away one of the best near-future works of sf I've encountered. The visionary in me would love to see another novel tying these two together or one that shows what happens after *Fifth*. Write faster, Starhawk!

BOULEVARD (BERKLEY)

"She's bad...She's beautiful...She's Boulevard's Queen of Adventure." Indeed! Xena, that well-known TV amazon featured in *Ms.* and admired by feminists, now has her very own serialized book line by Ru Emerson: **Xena: Warrior Princess: The Empty Throne** (\$5.99 pb, 1-57297-200-9), **Xena: Warrior Princess: The Huntress and the Sphinx** (\$5.99 pb, 1-57297-215-7), and **Xena: Warrior Princess: The Thief of Hermes** (\$5.99 pb, 1-57297-232-7).

CROWN (RANDOM)

Am I the only one to have just noticed that Laura Esquivel's **The Law of Love** (\$25 cl, 0-517-

70681-4), already out for months, is set some 200 years in the future and so qualifies as sf? Not only that, but it's being billed as "the first multimedia novel" since it comes with a CD to be played at specific intervals during the novel, plus a series of haunting, color illustrations by Miguelanxo Prado placed at precise locations in the text. Set mostly in Mexico City, this is the story of ultimate karma, of Azucena and Rodrigo's many lives from the 1500s to the 2200s. Since humanity has learned that we each go through 14,000 reincarnations to reach life's ultimate goal — perfect fusion with our twin soul — things on earth (and off) have changed. Way, way too complicated to recount the plot's reincarnation rigamarole, suffice it to say this tale is liberally peppered with guardian angels, demons, past life regressions, soul transplants, televirtuals, auragraphs, and even a cybernetic Ouija board. Both terminally hetero and uncompromisingly dualistic, Esquivel's second offering is a grin-inducing, nimbly paced, profusely romantic blend of magical realism, fantasy, and sf. And, let me tell you, it works.



DAW (PENGUIN)

Nothing need be said about the virtual institution **Sword & Sorceress XIV** (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-741-0) edited by Marion Zimmer Bradley save that the next volume is here.

In the third fantasy novel of "The Twelve Treasures," Rosemary Edghill once again mixes the contemporary with the fantastic. **The Night of Cloak and Daggers** (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-724-0) begins with three women — one a librarian, one a writer, and one a nurse, EMT, and SCA warrior — at an sf con in the World of Iron (or Earth, to us mortals). There they encounter an amnesiac elf, who has just escaped from a mental institution and is now being hunted down. He is searching for both the legendary Book of Airts, which reveals all about The Twelve Treasures of Chandrakar, and the Cloak of Night and Daggers, one of the missing Treasures. Meanwhile, in the land of the elves, Ruth Marlowe and two other librarians go on a rescue mission to free Rohannon Melior, imprisoned by the High King Elect.

The Silver Gryphon (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-685-6) by Mercedes Lackey and Larry Dixon concludes "The

Mage Wars" trilogy, which started with *The Black Gryphon* (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-643-0) and followed with *The White Gryphon* (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-682-1). Far less grandiose in scope than the first two installments (or the extremely cluttered and overly climactic finale of "The Mage Storms" series), **The Silver Gryphon** moves a generation into the fairly stable and peaceful future of the city White Gryphon. Partners Tad (son of gryphons Zhaneel and Skan) and Blade (daughter of humans Winterhart and Amberdrake) are sent on their first away mission as Silvers, which of course doesn't turn out at all as expected. It was refreshing to meet characters who weren't always in earth-shattering circumstances, pivotal to the future of their entire worlds, which has been Lackey's trend as of late. At the same time, however, this novel seems more like a tacked on side story than the completion of a trilogy.

HARPERPRISM

Connoisseurs of blood may want to sip from **Love in Vein II: Eighteen More Original Tales of Vampiric Erotica** (\$12 tp, 0-06-105333-3), the companion volume to *Love in Vein: Twenty Tales of Vampiric Erotica* (\$5.99 pb, 0-06-105490-9). Editor Poppy Z. Brite has selected 18 new horror stories by men and (some) women (e.g., Pat Califia). "Be warned. If you found *Love in Vein* too disturbingly dark, too exquisitely explicit, too deliciously erotic in the secrets it revealed — you're going to *adore Love In Vein II!*"

Volume III of the "Tales of Arthur," **The Hedge of Mist** (\$5.99 pb, 0-06-105604-9) by Patricia Kennealy-Morrison is the sixth in the Keltiad series.

ORB (ST. MARTIN'S)

The previously out-of-print feminist fantasy classics *Sister Light*, *Sister Dark* and *White Jenna* are now back in one volume: **The Books of Great Alta** (\$16.95 tp, 0-312-86258-X, April) by Jane Yolen.

PRIDE PUBLICATIONS

The *Wind* trilogy first appeared when lesbian author Jennifer DiMarco was 19. It was launched with *Escape to the Wind* (\$11.95 tp, 0-9628621-5-0, Castillo International; 212-941-5800). Now, it recommences, four years later, with **Fall Through the Sky** (\$12.95 tp, 1-886383-16-2). Set many centuries hence in a metamorphosed Earth's postapocalypse, far future, **Fall**

picks up exactly where *Escape* left off. Tyger, one of the wild creatures known as the Windborn, leads her gang of Windriders (Originals and one Windchanged Clone) to the Land of Sky, where they discover much they could not have previously imagined, including the long-believed dead Humans. The second book reveals the entire history of Earth from the 21st century on, and makes monumental strides towards integrating multiple story lines (both of which can be somewhat tedious and overwritten at times). DiMarco's vision is not a typical lesbian feminist utopian one: Hierarchy is not unequivocally evil, for Tyger is positively *the* charismatic leader, invoking unquestioned loyalty and devotion; violence (including revenge) is more than acceptable to the so-called "good" protagonists, it's a way of life, being necessary to survive and seen as a valid means to overthrow the patriarchy; males and females can be equally diabolic, strong, vapid, brilliant; same-sex and opposite-sex relationships coexist side by side and children are conceived from both types of couplings; and so on. The concepts for this future Earth, though sometimes almost too hard to even fathom, are fascinating, disturbing, and highly creative. PO Box 148, Radnor OH 43066-0148; 603-225-5651. 50% discount, free freight, nonreturnable, net 60. Distributed by BP.



ROC (PENGUIN)

This column I know what Gael Baudino is up to in **Spires of Spirit** (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45568-1)...six novellas set in the medieval fantasy world originating in the quite wonderful *Strands of Starlight* (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-45316-6) and continuing with her others (good, but not quite so wonderful) in the series. These tales start in Adria and end up in modern day Colorado, "where the descendants of the Elvish line rediscover their long-dormant powers."

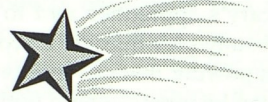
For Arthurian zealots comes yet another slant on the legend, from the vantage point of Niviene, daughter of the Lady of the Lake and Merlin's apprentice: **Merlin's Harp** (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45583-5) by Anne Eliot Crompton.

The Kronos Condition (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45554-1) is the newest sf from Emily Devenport, who wrote *Egghead* (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45517-7).

SPECTRA (BANTAM)

Sf author of *Tech-Heaven* (\$4.99 pb, 0-553-56926-0), Linda Nagata is back with **Deception Well** (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57629-1). "After the Chanzeme laid waste to the galaxy, the humans of the Hallowed Vasties erected impenetrable barriers for protection. Now, the Hallowed Vasties are failing, and the only bastion left is the planet known as Deception Well. Once, the planet cured a man dying from a Chanzeme plague. Now, 100 years later, he is back, leading his followers into the heart of a mystery that could signal the end of humanity — and only his son may hold the key."

Paula Volsky's **The Gates of Twilight** (\$6.50 pb, 0-553-57269-5) is a fantasy novel about struggle, between two opposing cultures — one craving conquest and the other freedom — and against an "ancient and bloody" religion and malevolent god.



TACHYON

Two interesting-looking limited edition chapbooks are available from this publisher. The first, **Neat Sheets: The Poetry of James Tiptree, Jr.** (\$6.50 tp, no ISBN) is by James Tiptree (aka Alice Sheldon), many-time winner of the Hugo and Nebula Awards for her brilliant short fiction. The second, **The Mortal Immortal: The Complete Supernatural Short Fiction** (\$10 tp/\$30 cl, no ISBN) contains five stories by Mary Shelley, whose *Frankenstein* is oft considered the original sf novel. 1459 18th Street #139, San Francisco CA 94107; 415-285-5615. 40% discount, 2 copy minimum, \$2 shipping.

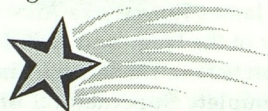
TESSERACT (THE BOOKS COLLECTIVE)

"Every year, two new editors choose the best new writing from Canada's new and established SF writers, from all over the country and from both the anglophone and francophone traditions." 1996s **Tesseract's**: **The Anthology of New Canadian Speculative Fiction** (\$8.95 pb, 1-895836-25-5) is edited by Robert Runte and Yves Meynard and one-third of the contributors are women, including Eileen Kernaghan, Francine Pelletier, and Elisabeth Vonarburg. 214-21 10405 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton Alberta, Canada T5J 3S2; 403-448-0590. Distributed in Canada by H.B. Fenn; 800-267-3366, available in the U.S. from Koen.

TOR (ST. MARTIN'S)

The Inheritor (\$14.95 tp, 0-312-86293-8), another magick-filled contemporary fantasy by Marion Zimmer Bradley, is back in print in a trade edition. Leslie Barnes, first-time homeowner and reluctant psychic; Claire Moffat, medium; and Colin MacLaren, Claire's mentor and psychic investigator, team up to "make a stand against evil and enable Leslie to fully claim her inheritance."

Kara Dalkey's *Goa: Blood of the Goddess, Volume 1* (\$21.95 cl, 0-312-86000-5) isn't even out in paper yet (probably due this Fall) and already **Bijapur: Blood of the Goddess, Volume 2** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-86001-3, April) is being released. If *Goa* is any indication, book two of this well-researched historical fantasy trilogy set in 16th-century India should prove an intriguing enterprise. Thomas Chinnery, the young Englishman and apothecary's apprentice sent to India to gather rare herbs, resumes his quest to discover the secret of a mysterious powder that can restore life to the dead. Along the way he must contend with the inquisition and its minions, a chameleonlike Scotsman as his alleged protector, an Indian woman of material and spiritual power and great allure, and various other marvelously wrought characters.

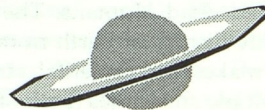


Winner of the American Book Award, Lisa Goldstein has gathered her short sf and fantasy in one complete volume. **Travellers in Magic** (\$14.95 tp, 0-312-86301-2) includes Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Award-nominated stories.

Nancy Kress, of "Beggars" trilogy fame, has a new one entitled **Oaths and Miracles** (\$6.99 pb, 0-8125-4473-0, April). (Alas, my knowledge goes not an inch further than that.)

Two by Shariann Lewitt — her first novel in paper, her second in cloth — are simultaneously being released. **Memento Mori** (\$14.95 tp, 0-312-86294-6) is set on the colony Reis where artificial intelligence has infected the world and the minds of its inhabitants, decimating the previously rich culture. "As anarchy, cynicism, and suspicion spread, a handful of the planet's young artists struggle to keep hope alive." **Interface Masque** (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85627-X), another cyber-related, hard sf offering, is set in a baroque

future Venice. Cecile, a senior apprentice in data systems, is about to face the biggest challenge of her life: the test that will end her apprenticeship and begin her adult career in data manipulation. Little does she know what that test will be or where it will lead....




A new "Solar Queen" space adventure is afoot, kicking off a new series aboard the infamous interstellar trading ship first introduced to readers in 1955. **Derelict for Trade** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-85919-8) is the joint effort of originator Andre Norton (winner of the World Fantasy Convention's Life Achievement Award and the Science Fiction Writers of America's Grand Master Nebula Award) and Sherwood Smith. The "continuing exploits of the independent, feisty crew" begin when, coming out of hyper, the Solar Queen nearly crashes into an abandoned ship. Claiming the ship for salvage, the captain, crew, and ship become targets of a secret alien hijacking ring.

I overlooked this one last column, but its cover of a striking Asian woman sword fighter caught my eye. **Ladylord** (\$5.99 pb, 0-8125-4949-X) is Sasha Miller's debut about "a young woman's struggle to wield the power of rank, while learning the lessons of life and death in a society where politics and intrigue are more fatal than the sword." Reviewed favorably in *Publishers Weekly*.

Katya Reimann's **Wind from a Foreign Sky** (\$6.99 pb, 0-8125-4933-3, April), reviewed in the September/October 1996 column, is out in a mass market edition.

Set in Renaissance Florence, **The Stars Dispose** (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85754-3, April) is an historical fantasy of Catherine de Medici by Michaela Roessner, winner of the John W. Campbell and Crawford Awards.

A collaboration between Melissa Scott and Lisa A. Barnett, **Point of Hopes** (\$6.99 pb, 0-8125-5099-4) is being advertised as a "fantasy of necromancy and astromancy, gunpowder and swordplay, politics and crime." Nicholas Rathe, a pointsman and watchman in the capital city of the Kingdom of Chenedolle, is intent upon finding the city's recently kidnapped children amidst the increasingly xenophobic climate of the annual trade fair. ○



MUSIC NEWS

Compiled by Barb Smalley/Ladyslipper Music
Original reviews by Laurie Fuchs
and Beth Ann Koelsch

The music industry is in crisis because (as I learned today from our local newspaper's tap on the AP wire) too many new recordings are coming out all at once, and their sales are only considered *good* if they are good in the first few months. But then I looked at our catalog sales at the end of 1996, and I found *The Changer and the Changed* at #16 — firmly ensconced in our top 40, just as it has been year in and year out for a long, long time. And I wonder what we supporters and sellers of independent artists have to do with the Industry at all. While only a small segment of the Ladyslipper catalog finds its way into bookstores (and far less into chainstores), we find that buyers are often willing to try out a few titles simply out of curiosity, and perhaps, curious allegiances.

This season brings us an abundance of Comedy, Twang (I found this word used a surprising number of times by our reviewers, below!) and other hard/fun to file recordings.



MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Albita/Dicen Que.... Albita was a commissioned singer for the Cuban government but defected to Mexico. Then, perhaps after a brief nap, she and her band walked across the border into the U.S., where she eventually made her way to Miami and the music clubs of Little Havana. Her stage presence, her deep, resonant voice, the percolating mambo rhythms of her music, her penchant for wearing "men's" suits, all helped make her a local sensation and attracted the

enthusiasm of the famous, including Madonna. This 1996 release, translated as "Rumour Has It," will definitely start your hips a-swivelling! Epic 67757.

Musica De La Puebla De Los Angeles/Ars Femina Ensemble. Subtitled *Music by Women of the Mexican, Cuban and European Baroque*, this 1996 release collects both vocal and instrumental compositions by women from the 16th and 17th centuries. The liner notes detail the musical intermingling of cultures and religions of the "old" and "new" worlds, representing a variety of nationalities (Mexican, Cuban, Spanish, Italian, German, Dutch), which gives us an opportunity to compare and contrast. Most of the composers did their work from the relative freedom of a convent, and their music is religious in nature. The exception is Teodora Gines, who was born into slavery in Cuba, and is credited with being the "mother of Cuban folkloric music." Nannerl 004.

Voice of the Xtabay/Yma Sumac. The rediscovery of Yma Sumac is a wonderful thing; but the English language is an inadequate tool to describe her music and the eternally exciting experience of listening to her. Her identity is shrouded in mystery: Either she was born in the village of Ichocan, Peru, a direct descendent of the last of the Incan Kings, or she was not. The songs she sings are either traditional Incan hymns and ceremonial songs or they are not. The only certainty is that she amazes! Her voice swoops through four or five octaves; she sings operatically one moment and then makes guttural or piercing otherworldly noises the next. This album combines two different classic records of the 50s: *Voice of the Xtabay*, conducted with dramatic orchestral overkill by Les Baxter, and *Inca Taquil* conducted with not much less drama by her then-husband Moses Vivanco. It has not, does not, and conceivably

will not get any better than Yma. She breathes life and color and excitement into the most humdrum of days! The Right Stuff 91217.

Mambo!/Yma Sumac. This time we're on the dance floor; the horns blow and the rhythms move your hips, working little-used muscles. The floor is parquet, perfume and smoke fill your nostrils, the only light comes from torches whose flames cast heat and the dark shadows that crawl across your partner's face. On this reissue from her (and mambo music's) heyday, the 50s, Yma sizzles and sears on songs written and arranged by South American composer Moses Vivanco and famous arranger Billy May. More fun and exciting than should be legal! Warning: Yma fever will grab hold and never let go; you have been warned. The Right Stuff 80863.

Devi/Chloe Goodchild. An acclaimed voice teacher in England, the artist writes, "**Devi**, Divine Feminine or Goddess, brings together many of my favourite devotional chants spanning the Hindu, Christian, Buddhist and Sufi traditions. I have sung these unison and multi-part chants with voice groups in Europe and America. Such chanting is

vibrational medicine, a simple yet profound means of awakening the singing heart while sidestepping the everyday mind. Whether we choose to listen to **Devi** during a massage session or in preparation for meditation, it will restore equilibrium and harmony to every cell in the body." This 1996 release, full of grace and power, includes the "Chant to Devi, the Kyrie," the Indian "Jaya Bhagaban" enfolded with "The Lord's Prayer," an improvised "Ave Maria," the Armenian "Taron," and "Gone Gone Far Beyond," an English translation of the Buddhist "Heart Sutra." Raven 1961.



Her Song/Various Artists. Subtitled **Exotic Voices of Women from Around the World**, this mesmerizing 1996 collection brings together a specially selected group of hypnotic, ethereal, often spiritual recordings, carefully sequenced to create a seamless, continuously inviting/exciting musical experience. Some of our favorite artists are here: Ofra Haza, Pura Fe, Joanne Shenandoah, Talitha MacKenzie...some are new to us: Etti Ankri, Kiersten Braten Berg...and also female-led recordings by Jai Uttal and the Celtic music sensation Solas — twelve artists in all. Shanachie 64077.

Divas of Mali/Various Artists. The West African country of Mali boasts an incredibly rich, diverse and influential array of musical styles, both traditional and popular. The most impressive Malian artists are female vocalists, and this 1996 collection brings together great performances from most of the biggest singing stars in Malian music from the past 20 years. Twelve artists are featured, including legendary names like Fanta Damba, Amy Koita, Tata Bambo Kouyate, Sanougue Kouyate, and Nahawa Doumbia. We think this is some of the finest and most powerful music on earth; it's an outstanding listening experience. Shanachie 64078.

Radiant Warmth/Mari Boine. Mari is considered the most eloquent and exciting voice of the Sa'mi (more commonly known as "Laplanders," a term considered derogatory by the Sa'mi), a people native to what is now known as northern Norway, Finland, Sweden and Russia. Boine's powerful sound is a unique celebration of her culture and

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heritage. This 1996 release is a compilation of songs from her previous albums *Eagle Brother* and *Unfolding*; she combines ancient and modern textures, integrating her poetic imagery with relentless groove, incorporating elements of rock, ambient, folk, and "joik" — the native chant of the Sa'mi people. Antilles 533520.

Sisters: Women's Music from...Celestial Harmonies/Various Artists. A 1996 anthology of 14 diverse and wonderful female artists/groups, the common thread is that the women are all musical alchemists with a deep sense of history; they blend ancient song with a modern production, or they are actively involved in extending the boundary of possibilities for their chosen instrument. It opens with a West African percussion piece by Francine Martel from the group Takadja...then we hear Tomoko Sunazaki on koto; Nancy Hennings on Tibetan bells; soprano Anna Mailian sings a haunting medieval Armenian chant; sitar player Krishna Chakravarty combines ragas with talas; Ida Wadawat performs classical Sundanese music of ancient lyrical court poetry; Sylvan Grey demonstrates her mastery of the kantele, Finland's national zither-like instrument; the trio Sinfonye pays tribute to Hildegard von Bingen; the Hue Traditional Art Troupe honors Vietnamese sisters Trung Trac and Trug Njh; Therese Schroeder-Sheker offers a delicate tune for harp and voice; violinist Claes Pearce from the Australian ensemble Coolangubra thrills with her virtuosity. And I didn't even list them all. Celestial Harmonies 131.



Kokko/Varttina. From Finland's leading folk/pop group, world-famous Varttina's 1996 release once again highlights their distinct, voice-driven sound, which combines crystal-clear harmonies with pulsating rhythms — and then cranks it up. Their ten-piece band (including four female vocalists) hints at Celtic, Scandinavian, and Russian influences while retaining a distinctive traditional-yet-modern character, a sort of whirling power-folk...with complex harmonies and rhythms that are, once again, very close to being too exquisite for words. As this reviewer can attest after seeing them live, "Varttina rocks!" Nonesuch 79429.

THE BELOVED TWANG

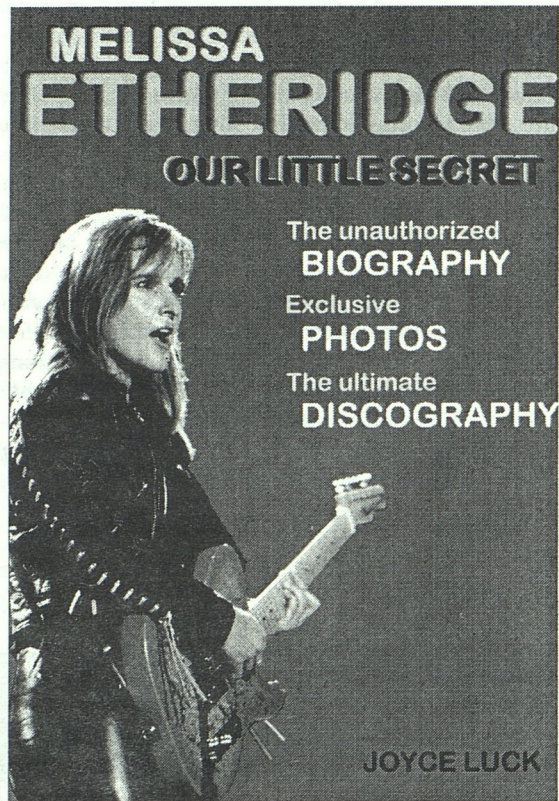
Red Cross Woman/Bejae Fleming. This North Carolina native cut her musical teeth in Texas, but now homesteads on the prairies of Iowa (for more information, check out the song "Iowa"). Her 1996 debut release can be found at the corner where folk meets the blues. My favorite is the first song, "Let's Drive On (Jackie Says);" it's like a queer take on John Mellencamp's "Jack and Diane." "Red Cross" mines the traditional southern blues vein with the all-important blustery sexual metaphors "I can feed your famine honey, I can stem your flood...." "Mainstream" is a rollicking indictment about an acquaintance who reverted back to the middle class "she lost her taste for the forbidden fruit." "Those Summer Nights" chronicles another woman who regrets her safe respectable choices. Perhaps the narrator was one of the "dangerous" roads not taken? Hmmm? A mighty satisfying album that won't leave you hungry again in an hour. Trailer 08.



Revival/Gillian Welch. I cannot understand how, but Gillian manages to convey the entire weight of the sadness in Appalachian/Deep Southern poor, rural lives on this 1996 release. Wrung from her young heart, ageless tales of crushed hopes, death, bad luck and lives that never stood a chance are leavened only by steadfast faith in a fair shake when they "cross over." Simple arrangements, direct lyrics, and a delicately plain, but not overly plaintive singing style make this an album that has grabbed us here at *Lady Slipper* and won't let us go. The easy-to-take twang of "Orphan Girl," "Tear My Stillhouse Down," "Barroom Girls" and "By the Mark" seem like timeless classics gathered in the back mountain hollers, but they are all her originals! Essential listening to realign your perspective on the important things. Almo 0006.

Age of Innocence/Kate MacKenzie. The trill of a mandolin, the whine of a fiddle, the jingle of a banjo, and the "high, lonesome sound" of good bluegrass singing...ahhhhh. Kate's a rising star in bluegrass, and this 1996 release should move her up another notch. She plays guitar and sings on her originals like "Carolina" and "Epitaph" and traditional tunes like "Single Girls/Sally Ann" and "What's the Matter with the

THE FIRST BIOGRAPHY



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Mill?" Her voice is sweet, more folksy than sharply twangy, and she'd be just right to listen to as you rock away the sunset on the porch of your mountain home. Red House Records 91.

Lynzi Wildheart and the Amazon Range Riders/Lynzi Wildheart and the Amazon Range Riders. Imagine: Lights up on two women driving across the horizonless flat highways of Texas in one of those gas-guzzling convertibles that I think only exist in movies. They're dusty and sunburnt and thirsty and they pull off into the crunching gravel parking lot of a neon-adorned bar. In the next scene, the women walk in, their boot heels echoing off of the wooden floorboards. They hesitate until their eyes adjust, and the camera pans over a room full of dykes sitting around tables and leaning against walls listening to a band. That band is Lynzi Wildheart and the Amazon Range Riders. In real life they play women's music festivals and have earned their lesbian musician's honor badge by opening for The Indigo Girls and Melissa Etheridge. They do folksy rock with some dirty horns, harmonica and guitar flavoring to spice it up. "Out" lyrics booklet photos make their allegiances clear. Out of the Norm 1.

The Way I Should/Iris DeMent. On this 1996 release, Iris looks out at the world and is not really thrilled about what she sees. Her voice, beautifully twangy, speaks for those who do not have a protective coating. "Wasteland of the Free" declaims "We got preachers dealin' in politics and diamond mines and their speech is growing increasingly unkind." "Letter to Mom" lances the shame of a woman who finally reveals that she was sexually molested by her mother's boyfriend. "There's a Wall in Washington" is a rageful cry at the unhealed wounds of the Vietnam War. In a more personal vein, there is the self-explanatory "I'll Take My Sorrow Straight, When My Morning Comes Around," which instigated a serious bout of soul searching on my end, and a respite of cheerfulness in the Merle Haggard co-written "This Kind of Happy." The final cut, "Trouble," is a road house blues, devil-may-care duet with Delbert McClinton that warms us up before sending us out into the chilly night. I'll have another round of this, please. Warner Bros 46188.

Singing With the Red Wolves/Wishing Chair. This duo is guitarist/singer/songwriter Kiya Heartwood, an alum of the band Stealin' Horses, and singer/multi-instrumentalist Miriam Davidson.

They chose their name from a postcard picture of two elderly, Irish Gypsy women sitting on a rock formation in Ulster County known as The Wishing Chair; legend has it that if you sit there, your dreams will come true. On the band's 1996 debut release, they pattern themselves after Celtic bands such as Altan, but with a definitely American, acoustic flavor. The title track (and cover art by feminist and Native artist, Dana Tiger) draws inspiration from lessons they learned from this nearly extinct species. (Part of the proceeds of this album go towards the Red Wolf Recovery Program in Kentucky). "Victoria" recounts the enduring power of a teenage romantic encounter with another cowgirl. On "Traveler," Kiya uses symbols from the tarot to paint a picture of a modern gypsy. It's a little bit country, a little bit southwestern, quite musically engaging, and very "out" lyrically. Terrakin1.



NEWLY COMPOSED CLASSICAL

Rapid Fire/Jennifer Higdon. A modern classical composer and performer, flautist Jennifer Higdon's debut release is an innovative album of great range and depth. At times passionate and fiery (as in the three-part composition "Voices," with its frenzied violin and cello accompaniments by members of the Windham Hill String Quartet) and in other pieces delicate (the flute/piano piece "Autumn Reflections"), this 1996 album is thoroughly modern. The Kronos Quartet is interested in recording her work, so here is your chance to say "I knew her when..." I Virtuosi 501.

Of Rage & Remembrance/John Corigliano. Originally commissioned by the Seattle, New York, and San Francisco's Men's Choruses, John Corigliano's cantata is a passionate elegy for those who are lost to AIDS. The piece combines a harshly stunning poem by William M. Hoffman with a fragment of the Hebrew 23rd Psalm and a recitation of names of men who have died of AIDS (this changes with every performance to honor the friends lost by members of each particular chorus). Mezzo soprano, men's choruses, boy soprano, low strings, timpani and chimes blend together to create a very powerful performance. Corigliano's second piece, Symphony

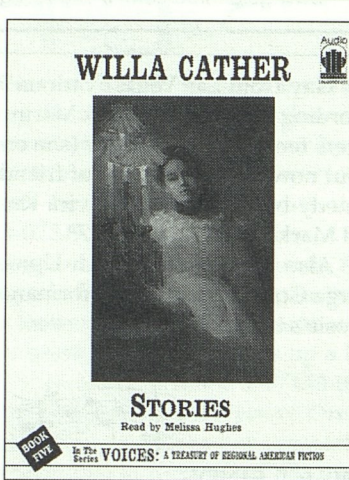
No.1, surges and ebbs with the inspiration from another of the composers' friends "lost in the toxic sweep." Recorded at the JFK Center in DC with Leonard Slatkin conducting the National Symphony Orchestra, this 1996 release is a fundraiser for Classical Action and The Names Project. RCA 68450.

COMEDY

Way Out!/Karen Williams. Recorded live at the Madison, Wisconsin, Women's Apple Island Festival (a very lively venue), this 1996 release includes Karen's riffs on menopause, sex, butches, Cleveland, and other thoughtful but ultimately very funny takes on most issues that concern today's aware lesbian. Arches 3.

Nothing in My Closet But My Clothes/Suzanne Westenhofer. There's nothing so splendid, really when you think about it, as laughing in a sea of women 'til every side hurts. This has always been my experience at Suzanne's performances. And lately, my love and I have been listening to comedy at bedtime. This disk defies the public/private split, while, ironically, splitting sides. Upoar 3772.

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Gay from Las Vegas/Various Artists. This lively recording is hosted by Frank Marino, the famous Joan Rivers female impersonator (she once sued him over it but now they're the best of friends...), and features comedy by Susie Berger, Elvira Kurt, Scott Kennedy, and Mark Davis. Uproar 3773.

Also coming soon from Uproar, a recording of Marga Gomez from her performance January 4, 1997, at Josie's in San Francisco.



SWEET FINDS

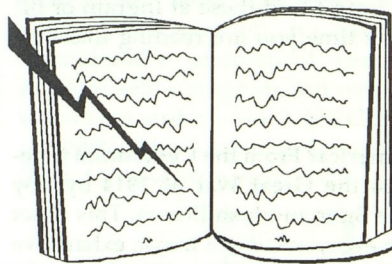
Miss Calypso/Maya Angelou. Well, most of us know her as a powerful, majestic writer, poet and Presidential inauguration speaker, but in 1956, at the height of her nightclub singing career, Maya Angelou recorded this calypso record! (The story goes that she really wanted to be a cabaret dancer, and could only get to dance if she sang too.) With only a gentle bongo/congo

and electric guitar backing, Maya mixes jazz, gospel, and blues with Caribbean sounds. As part of the big Harry Belafonte-inspired calypso craze, she channels Trinidad on her originals like "Tamo," "Neighbor, Neighbor," "Scandal in the Family," the Louis Jordan covers "Run Joe" and "Push Ka Pici Pi" and the always odd lighthearted murder-of-the-wife-beating-husband tale "Stone Cold Dead in the Market." This is a very cool and retro-funky album! Scamp 9705.

A Moon Note/Miraj. Miraj is an acronym of the names of the members of this Philadelphia-based Jewish feminist vocal trio: Margot Stein Azen, Juliet Irene Spitzer, and Geela Rayzel Raphael. Their voices weave in and out as they sing their original gender-sensitive songs, some in English and some in Hebrew. "Minyan of Women" and "Love Until It Please" are empowering songs about "earthly" matters. Some songs are about Jewish culture and beliefs: "Gather In" and "Neshama Yetayra," with references to Shechinah, the divine feminine presence, celebrate Shabbos, and "Rock to the Rock" incorporates Psalm 95 with the African American Gospel tradition. From ballads to klezmer to rounds, Miraj pleasingly blends many seemingly disparate elements on this 1995 release. Red Thread 1.

Card Carryin'/The Third Sex. A direct infusion of dyke rock angst from Portland, Oregon, The Third Sex's 1996 debut disc was produced by Team Dresch's Donna Dresch. The simple guitar/bass/drums lineup and jagged vocal ministrations make for a raw punk sound sweetened by "new wave" influences. Includes "Crazy Glue," "Love in the Basement" ("they won't let me talk to her 'cause I am the lesbian freak"), "Time Bomb" and "Un Deux Trois CAT" about the futility of expecting your cat's loyalty. Chainsaw 15.

Walk the Worm Out Floor/Julie Wolf. We were thrilled to get hold of this new CD directly from Julie when she performed with Theresa Trull at the Lady-slipper 20th Anniversary shindig in December 96. Julie treats us to a range of jazz compositions with lots of her Seattle area musician friends sitting in. Among others, it includes Laura Love (vocals), Jami Sieber (cello) and Hans Teuber (saxophone). The album is dedicated to Hans, and this reviewer is personally glad to see his emergence as an excellent musician (for as a child, he was mercilessly picked on by his siblings, my brother and me, while our parents were at choir practice, and I am very sorry). Enough name-dropping; this is a beautiful and enduring recording. Improvisor 1. ○



NEW MEDIA

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ELECTRONIC BOOKS

By Dorothy Holland

AUDIO

Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood, performance by Elizabeth McGovern. Atwood once again mines the convoluted relationships between men and women, between the affluent and those without position. Satisfying. (\$24.95, 4 cassettes, 6 hours, abridged, 0-553-47772-2, BDD.) **The Hand I Fan With** by Tina McElroy Ansa, performance by Sheryl Lee Ralph, is a romantic, magical and sexy tale from the author of *Ugly Ways*. (\$23.95, 4 cassettes, 6 hours, abridged, 0-553-47804-4, BDD.)

Gertrude Stein Reads offers a sampling of Stein's work, selected and read by the author. \$12, 1 cassette, 19 minutes, 0-694-51761-5, Caedmon Audio.

Errands by Judith Guest, read by Cherry Jones. If you did well with Guest's *Ordinary People* — give this a try. (\$18, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-679-45926-X, Random House.) **Law of Love** by Laura Esquivel, read by Yareli Arizmendi. How to top *Like Water for Chocolate*? Try this one. Also includes music. (\$24, 4 cassettes, 4 hours, abridged, 0-679-45611-2, Random House.)

To Build the Life You Want, Create the Work You Love: The Spiritual Dimension of Entrepreneurship by Marsha Sinetar, read by the author. Easy listening, sound advice. (\$16.95, 2 cassettes, 2½ hours, abridged, 0-945353-99-5, Audio Editions.) **Marian Seldes as Willa Cather** performed by Marian Seldes, recorded live at Merkin Concert Hall at Abraham Goodman House in New York City, introduced by Nancy Lindemeyer, editor-in-chief of *Victoria* magazine. (\$11.95, 1 cassette, 1½ hours, 1-57270-012-2, Audio Editions.)

Dead to Rights: A Joanna Brady Mystery by J.A. Jance, read by Sharon Williams. A feisty

widowed sheriff and her escapades make the drive go faster. (\$16.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-56100-958-X, Sounds True.) **Vein of Gold: The Kingdom of Story** by Julia Cameron, music by Tim Wheeler. This is Cameron's step-by-step exploration into the deeper dimensions of creativity. An extension of *The Artist's Way*. (\$18.95, 2 cassettes, 1-56455-467-8, Sounds True.) **Anatomy of the Spirit: The Seven Stages of Power and Healing** by Caroline Myss. A view of how divine energy flows through the body. (\$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-56455-407-4, Sounds True.)



You Can Prevent Breast Cancer! by Harvey Diamond, read by the author. Diamond believes that women can prevent and treat breast cancer by concentrating on diet, exercise and the power of the mind to facilitate healing. (\$17.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-57453-073-9, from Alternative Audio, distributed by Audio Literature.) **The Lynda Barry Experience** by Lynda Barry. Cartoonist, painter and writer Barry lets loose a fusillade of stories about her childhood — her brothers say she makes up a lot of things! (\$11.95, 1 cassette, 1 hour, 1-57453-083-6, Audio Literature.) **Bound Feet and Western Dress** by Pang-Mei Natasha Chang is the saga of a remarkable woman born in Shanghai at the turn of the century. (\$17.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-57453-093-3, abridged, Audio Literature, April.)

All of these titles are available from Ingram, and most of them from BP.

Several Mary Summer Rain titles are being released this Spring, all read by Nancy Fish and all

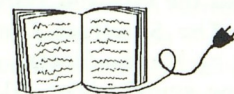
\$17.95 for 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, from Audio Literature. In **Spirit Song: The Introduction of No-Eyes** (1-57453-173-5) Mary Summer Rain meets No-Eyes, a blind-from-birth Chippewa visionary. **Phoenix Rising: No-Eyes' Vision of the Changes to Come** (1-57453-172-7) continues the story of Rain's relationship with the Chippewa shaman, telling about the relationship between Earth Mother and the creatures who inhabit her domain. In **Dream-walker: The Path of Sacred Power** (1-57453-167-0) a student of No-Eyes teaches Rain the magic and power of the Dreamwalker. And in **Phantoms Afoot** (1-57453-171-9) Rain reluctantly begins to use the power in a series of confrontations with earthbound

wayward spirits. I can't find these at Ingram or BP, but perhaps by the time you are reading this they will be.

NEW MEDIA

Who Built America? From the Centennial Celebration of 1876 to the Great War of 1914 by Roy Rosenzweig, Steve Brier and Josh Brown. This is not a title to captivate everyone; it is a major, exhaustive history of America from 1876 to 1914. I looked at the disk specifically for inclusion of women and people of color. Yes, we're in there — although I did have to do some looking. There's archival film footage, several hours of oral history on audio, more maps than I could digest, and more. Seems like anything about the history of those times is included. It's not in an easy to digest form, probably more useful for folks doing serious looking and research — but Voyager surely will get hurrahs for their inclusion. \$49.95 CD-ROM Windows, 1-55940-688-7, Voyager New Media. Not currently at Ingram, BP.

Amazon Trail II is another one of those titles that I plugged in (just to review) only to end up resurfacing several hours later, having been completely engrossed in playing! This is not about the Amazons that feminists know and love; rather, it is concerned with the people and countryside around the Amazon River. Perhaps I'm a bit biased, being a Brazilian and all, but I really did have a good time with this CD. As I was enjoying myself I noticed that the characters are inclusive — many ages, sizes, sexes and cultures. \$49.95 CD-ROM for both Mac and Win, 0-7630-0890-7, ages 9 and up. MECC, 6160 Summit Drive North, Minneapolis MN 55430-4003; 612-569-1500, (<http://www.mecc.com/>).



Ultimate Writing & Creativity Center is a program to provide kids ages 6–10 the tools, inspiration and confidence to write and to develop a love of writing. Includes a word processor, a dictionary and thesaurus, a painting program and ways to present, in multimedia, what you produce. I installed and messed around with the program — and spent about half an hour on it. During that time I not only installed the program and went through the tutorial,

new CD-ROM

for ages **10** to **adult**

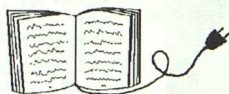
CD-ROM runs on both PC Windows & Macintosh

Discover the compelling stories of 8 women scientists and their exciting work through interviews, personal photos, interactive experiments and multimedia field trips. **More than 3 hours of audio and video.** A separate text/photo database highlights 130 women scientists, past and present.

ISBN 1-883115-20-5 \$49.95

Telling Our Stories:™ Women in Science
 available from **McLean Media**
 80 Liberty Ship Way #3, Sausalito, CA, 94965
 tel **1-888-4-A-STORY**
 fax 415-332-6388 www.storyline.com

I produced a newsletter (albeit not my normal Full Circle News variety!). It's extremely easy to get around and to understand. There were also lots of ideas to help me get started writing and to explore when I got writer's block. \$50 CD-ROM Win or Mac, no ISBN. The Learning Company; 800-227-5609, (<http://www.learningco.com>).



VIDEO

Ladies First: Women in Music Videos by Robin Roberts shows that there actually are some feminist political statements in music videos, and that strong females have assumed larger roles in the industry both on and off screen. The accompanying video

presents several numbers, including Queen Latifah's "Ladies First" and Julie Brown's "Homecoming Queen's Got a Gun." \$22.50 trade paper and video, 0-87805-934-2, University Press of Mississippi; 601-982-6205. Available from Ingram.

Gentle Birth Choices: A Guide to Making Informed Decisions About Birthing Centers, Birth Attendants, Water Birth, Home Birth and Hospital Birth by Barbara Harper, RN, presents current and helpful information for women about the birthing process. The video contains wonderful footage of births, allowing women to really see what each choice entails. The book also contains lots of resources and support ideas. \$39.95 trade paper and 47-minute video, 0-89281-528-0, from Healing Arts Press, a division of Inner Traditions, 800-246-8648. Available from Ingram, BP. ○

By Jennifer Hinchey
Full Circle Books/Albuquerque

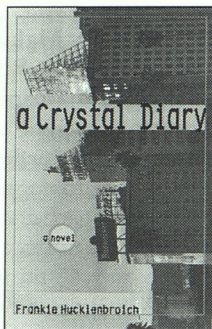
Welcome back to my video column! This issue I had the chance to review **The Midwife's Tale** and Dos Fallopia's **Pretty Girls, Not Too Bright**. Both are sure to be welcome additions to any store. I think they will do better as rentals.

The first one I watched was Dos Fallopia's **Pretty Girls, Not Too Bright**. This is a sketch comedy team from the Seattle area. Their schtick is that they use a guitar and their songs are just hilarious. And it seems that no one is safe, whether it is the mother-daughter country duo where the mother can't accept the daughter's lesbianism (read the Judds) or the "I-have-more-crystals-than-you duo" mud on the women's festival circuit. Because your humble reviewer has more than a few talents in the sarcasm department, I love it. **Pretty Girls, Not Too Bright** is not for those who take themselves too seriously. Unfortunately, the problems with the video quality inhibit otherwise wonderful performances. The sound quality is in the toilet. There were parts that I could not hear over the crowd (it was filmed live). Also, the camera direction left a little to be desired — it was all over the place. At one point, Dos Fallopia was singing, and the director decided to take in a crowd shot. Why? I have no idea. I had

to practice my lip reading because every time they panned away from the performers I lost any idea I had of what was going on. What I did hear was extremely funny, and I enjoyed it immensely, but I want to be able to hear all of it. \$19.95, 1-884190-14-6, 60 minutes, Togueinchi Productions. Distributed by Wolfe Video.

Now the **Midwife's Tale** was completely different; there were no production problems with this one. Sound, music, acting and direction were much better quality than you normally see in an independent lesbian film. This made me very happy, since one of my pet peeves about lesbian films is that the production usually resembles a high school project. Kudos to Naiad and Pacific Rim for an excellent job. This is sure to be a hot rental. I had just hoped that the story would have engaged me more. I had a hard time getting into it because the pace imitated that of a snail. There was a twist at the end, but for me it was a little late. I am not saying that you should give up on this one altogether. Some people who have seen it loved it; I just wasn't one of them. Not great, not bad, just somewhere in that vast void of the middle. All the actresses were incredibly beautiful, so it was extremely easy on the eyes. So if you define yourself as a lookist, this one is for you. \$49.95, 75 minutes. Distributed by Naiad. ○

FIREBRAND BOOKS



A CRYSTAL DIARY

A Novel by
Frankie Hucklenbroich

The lessons of the street are hard fought and hard earned, full of hard knocks, and very few know or describe them better than the butch narrator of this stunning, autobiographical first novel.

Frankie Hucklenbroich's razor-edged, compelling, often wryly humorous story hustles us from the blood-and-beer-

drenched corners of her St. Louis meat-packing district '50s youth, through the dark sex-soaked Hollywood alleys of her '60s baby butch years, into the druggy metropolis of '70s San Francisco. Moving relentlessly from one woman to another until faces and bodies blur, scamming her existence, Frankie learns what the street has to teach: how to make a buck, how to make it with a woman, how to survive.

Not always a pretty story, but strong and handsomely written, *A Crystal Diary* exposes the author's precarious physical and emotional outlaw world.

\$12.95 paper
\$26.95 cloth
February

ISBN 1-56341-082-6
ISBN 1-56341-083-4
240 pages



THE ESCAPE ARTIST

A Novel by Judith Katz

Sex, deception, magic, and love are the main ingredients of this tour de force second novel by Lambda Literary Award winner (*Running Fiercely Toward A High Thin Sound/Lesbian Fiction*) Judith Katz.

Set in the brothels and gangster dens of Jewish Buenos Aires at the beginning of the twentieth century, *The Escape Artist* catapults us into the lives of Sofia

Teitelbaum (tricked into prostitution and away from the gentility of her Eastern European family), and a handsome, mysterious magician, Hankus Lubarsky (enjoying the freedom of South America after the pogroms of Poland), as they somersault, tumble, and spin their way into an imagined future together.

Traveling in a world of small-scale criminals and large emotions, our two lesbian heroes rub elbows with—and up against—a bevy of unblushing racketeers, hypocrites, and whores. *The Escape Artist* is a breathtaking, delightful tale, full of spills, chills, and lush language, written with the bent notes and dizzying rhythms of a Klezmer tune.

\$12.95 paper
\$26.95 cloth
March

ISBN 1-56341-084-2
ISBN 1-56341-085-0
288 pages



HOT, THROBING DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR

Cartoons by Alison Bechdel

Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For is Alison Bechdel's seventh sensuous cartoon collection, her libidinous commen-

tary on the tsunami of lesbian erotica surging through the culture.

While Mo—our lesbian-feminist everywoman—looks on askance, sexy babe Lois and postmodern femme-top Sydney spearhead the thrust into sex toys and higher sales at Madwimmin Books.

In these days of girls writing erotica about boys, and boys writing erotica about girls (so what's new?), Alison Bechdel's exposure of

her familiar cast of characters' carnal mores can't help but turn you on and keep you enthralled.

In a lusty episode written as the climax for the book, cartoon dominatrix Alison asks the penetrating question: Where is Mo on the butch-femme scale? It remains to be seen whether the answer will pass your "wet test," but it certainly will make you laugh.

What more could you desire?

\$10.95 paper
\$22.95 cloth
May

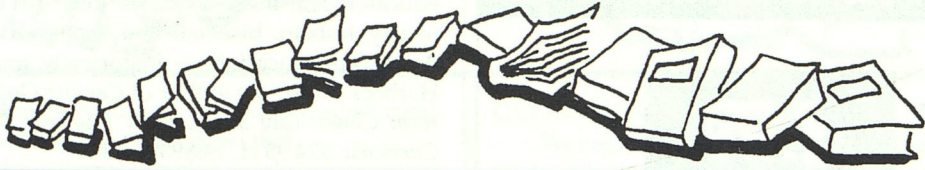
ISBN 1-56341-086-9
ISBN 1-56341-087-7
144 pages



SPRING 1997: HEATING UP!

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FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Jenn Tust

A & M BOOKS

We are now two years old and we have published three books under our own imprint.

Amantha by Sarah Aldridge, published in 1995 as A & M Books' first publication, is a historical novel set in Baltimore, Paris and London at the end of the nineteenth century. It portrays two women surrounded by wealth, privilege and tradition in an impregnable patriarchal society, who nevertheless succeed in achieving an intimate life together. \$10.95 pb, 0-9646648-0-1.

Magdalena by Sarah Aldridge was originally published in 1987 and was reissued in 1995. Here, Aldridge has used the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice to portray a love that lasts beyond the grave. Brought to the depths of degradation as a homeless street woman by the loss of her heart's love, a great diva is rescued by four younger friends. Set in New York in the 80s. \$9.95 pb, 0-9646648-10-X.

Misfortune's Friend by Sarah Aldridge was originally published in 1985 and was reissued in 1996. It is primarily the portrait of a woman whose life is dedicated to the rescue of those who are in spiritual and physical need. Set in Baltimore and London in the late 30s, on the eve of World War II, it tells the story of how Mrs. Henshaw learns from two younger women how in the stress of her active life she has lost sight of the most important thing in it, the love of her friend Margorie. \$8.95 pb, 0-9646648-2-8.

These three novels — with which we have embarked on our publishing career — illustrate an essential characteristic tenet of

the Sarah Aldridge novels i.e., that regardless of the period in history, adverse material circumstances, social barriers and the hostility of traditional attitudes, women-oriented women have always sought and will always seek one another, to give each other the love and nurture that are usually portrayed in literature as the prerogative of heterosexual lovers.

For orders and free catalog: A & M Books, PO Box 283, Rehoboth Beach DE 19971; 800-489-7662.

—A & M Books

AMETHYST PRESS

Amethyst Press is a lesbian-owned press specializing in books, videotapes and audiotapes pertaining to GLBT concerns in education from preschool through graduate school levels — about both students and educators.

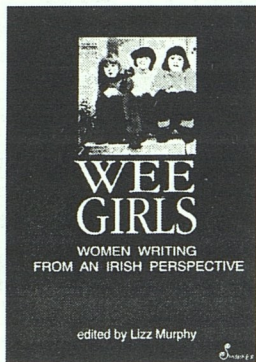


"A New Garden for a Feminist Gothic"

Photograph by Lynnne Johnston from *The Women's Daybook 1988*
(Second Story Press)

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Gay and Lesbian Educators: Personal Freedoms, Public Constraints by Karen Harbeck. How can we create just and compassionate schools when educators fear the loss of their jobs? An examination of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues in American education — historically and currently. Harbeck is also the author of *Coming Out of the Classroom Closet: Gay and Lesbian Students, Teachers, and Curricula*. \$24.95 cl, 1-889393-48-7.

Amethyst Press, Attn: Carol Barnes, Box 249-H, Malden MA 02148; 617-321-3569, fax 617-321-9901.

—Dorothy Holland



ASH TREE PUBLISHING

The pub dates for *Nature's Children* and *Common Herbs for Natural Health*, both by Juliette de Bairacli Levy, previously announced for November, and advertised in the FB-Net Catalog, have been changed to January. (See *FBN* Vol 19 #3, pg 73.) Ash Tree Publishing, PO Box 64, Woodstock NY 12498; 914-246-8081. Distributed by, B&T, New Leaf, Nutri-books, Weiser's, Moving Books, Summit Beacon, Quality Books, and in Canada by Alive, Biocosmic, Dempsey.

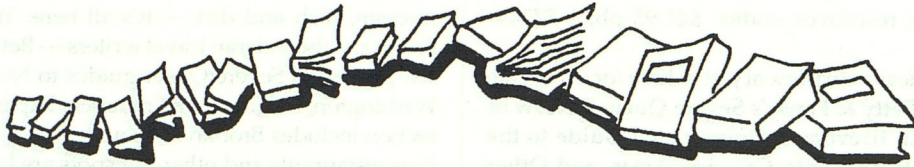
—Ash Tree Publishing

ASTARTE SHELL PRESS

Exploring intuition as a realization of wholeness is what our new book, **From the Listening Place: Languages of Intuition**, is all about. Margaret Blanchard, author of *The Rest of the Deer*, has gathered 37 poets, artists, psychologists and activists to share their perspectives on creativity through stories, visual arts, poetry and explorations of the use of intuition in a range of activities from counseling to problem solving and justice actions. The cover mandala by Gail Wheeler will also be the cover for the next Women-Source catalog. \$19.95, 1-885349-05-X.

Celebrating Ourselves, the crone ritual book, has had great media coverage and has become so popular that we have decided to expand and revise it, adding crone stories, a resource section and information about an African crone ritual. \$10.95, 1-885349-07-6, September.

We now have a Web site with updates on our books and information about feminist spirituality. We are also seeking information that we can share. Our



Web site address is <http://www.astarteshell.com>.
Our email address is ehaney@gwi.net.

About the collective: Debbie, marketing manager, was honored by the Maine Women's Fund for her work with and for old women "crones." Sapphire is completing her training in healing touch. Sylvia is reducing her hours at a local hospital to spend more time with the Press and her graphics business. Elly is completing a book on feminist theology.

Astarte Shell Press, PO Box 3648, Portland ME 04104; 207-828-1992, 800-329-0941. Distributed by Koen, LPC/InBook. —Astarte Shell Press



BABY STEPS PRESS

Write from the Heart: Lesbians Healing from Heartache edited by Anita L. Pace is a revised edition of this Lambda Award finalist containing several extraordinary new stories by women whose partners have died and women who have experienced break-ups. These stories, along with answers to pertinent questions by qualified psychologists, assist the reader in dealing with grief and the unique difficulties lesbians face in a society where such pain is often not acknowledged. \$13.95 pb, 0-9631666-4-6.

Life Isn't Just a Panic: Stories of Hope by Recovering Agoraphobics edited by Anita L. Pace is an anthology that offers hope and suggestions to sufferers of panic disorder and/or agoraphobia. Contributors share their experiences, including what they've done or are doing to recover. Included is vital information from the National Institute of Mental Health, which estimates that three million Americans suffer from panic disorder. Although agoraphobia affects both women and men, the preponderance of sufferers are female. \$13.95 pb, 0-9631666-3-8.

40%, Baby Steps Press, PO Box 1917, Beaverton OR 97075; 503-641-1361, fax 503-526-0709, email Lucky1951@aol.com. Should be available from Koen, BP, Ingram. —Baby Steps Press

CLEIS PRESS

We begin the Spring season with **Real Live Nude Girls: Chronicles of Sex-Positive Culture**, Carol Queen's long-awaited collected writings on sex work, pornography, bisexuality and erotic pleasure. Writing about the new generation of "sexperts," *Ms.* magazine profiled Carol Queen along with Isadora Alman, Susie Bright and Carol Vance saying, "In the old days, experts on sexuality tended to be Ph.D.s who handed down advice in the cool, passionless voice of the academy. Today there is a new breed of advice-givers. These 'sexperts' practice what they preach; frankly describe their own preferences, problems, politics, triumphs, and disasters; and analyze as they go...." San Francisco-based writer, educator, speaker, activist and sex worker, Carol Queen is the author of *Exhibitionism For the Shy* and co-editor of *Switch Hitters* (Cleis, 1996). Cleis plans an eleven-city author tour: Boston, Northampton, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, DC, Chicago, Minneapolis, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland, as well as an ABA/BEA author signing, author interviews and reviews in national media, and promotion on the author's Web site. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-073-6, April.

Our lead title for Spring 1997 is a completely revised edition of our bestselling self-help book, **The New Good Vibrations Guide to Sex: How to have Fun, Safe Sex — Tips and techniques from the folks who run America's favorite sex toy store**. Authors Cathy Winks and Anne Semans are veteran sex toy saleswomen from San Francisco's Good Vibrations, the "clean well-lighted place to shop for sex toys." The new edition includes information on the latest sex toys and supplies, as well as new information on "high-tech" sex and a new section on how to talk about sex with your doctor. The first edition, published in June 1994, has sold 30,000 copies. Cleis plans a 15,000-copy first printing for the second edition. Promo plans include extensive radio and print interviews and excerpts, as well as promotion on the Good Vibrations Web site. Illustrations, bibliography,

videography, resources, index. \$21.95 pb, 1-57344-069-8, April.

We are pleased to present just in time for Gay Pride travel plans, **Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review of New York: An Irreverent, Opinionated Guide to the Bars, Clubs, Restaurants, Cruising Areas, and Other Attractions of Lesbian and Gay New York**, Second Edition. Like **Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review of San Francisco**, which we published in the Fall of 96, **Severe Queer Review of New York** is a convenient, pocket-sized edition of the popular, unabashedly campy travel guide. From the historic gay landmarks of the West Village and the gym queens of Chelsea to the cruising venues of Times Square and the lesbian hot spots of Park Slope, Betty and Pansy are as trashy and opinionated as only two queens can be. Cattiness,

sarcasm, dish and dirt — it's all here. Yet Betty and Pansy are also veteran travel writers — Betty wrote and self-published **Severe Queer** guides to New York City, Washington, DC, and San Francisco. Expanded lesbian section includes Brooklyn resources since as many lesbian restaurants and other hot spots are located across the bridge. (\$10.95 pb, 1-57344-070-1, May.) Also available: **Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review of San Francisco**, (\$10.95 pb, 1-57344-056-6).

Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221; 412-937-1555, fax 412-937-1567, email (pghcleis@aol.com). Cleis Press books are distributed to the trade by Publishers Group West and are also available from BP, Ingram, Koen, Bookazine, B&T and other wholesalers. Best discounts are available from PGW. PGW frontlist orders ship from warehouses in both Hayward, California and Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

—Cleis Press

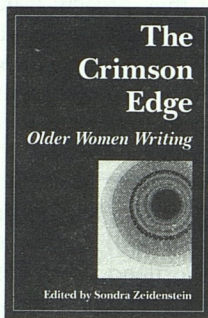


DOWN THERE PRESS

In **I Am My Lover: Women Pleasure Themselves** editor Joani Blank presents a loving and respectful look at twelve women as they practice our society's first love and last taboo in a brand-new edition of the 1978 *I Am My Lover* (whose printer ran off to Mexico with the film). Joani has again assembled an artful portfolio of sexual expression, this time from six renowned photographers of the sexual experience: Phyllis Christopher, Victoria Heilweil, Craig Morey, Ron Raffaelli, Michael Rosen and Annie Sprinkle. Their striking black-and-white photos, in a richly designed, oversize format, capture a powerful range of aspect and emotion. In the accompanying text the models explore their thoughts, fantasies and feelings as they masturbate. **I Am My Lover** will reassure women of the validity of their own self-pleasuring practices and will give others new ideas. \$25 pb, 0-940208-18-0. Down There Press, 938 Howard Street #101, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-974-8985 ext. 105. Also available from BP, LPC/WomenSource, Alamo, Koen, Bookazine, Marginal (Canada). —Down There Press

EIGHTH MOUNTAIN PRESS

Finally, a travel book for the sisters! **Go Girl: The Black Woman's Guide to Travel and Adventure** edited by Elaine Lee is an anthology of travel stories



The Crimson Edge: Older Women Writing

Edited by Sondra Zeidenstein

An anthology of fiction, memoir and poetry by seven women whose average age is 73. Each author's creative writing is followed by an Afterword in which she talks about what is on her mind as an older woman writing.

Not only are these seven women wonderful writers and poets, their accounts of coming to truth at this vital stage in life are mesmerizing... A revolutionary book! Carolyn Heilbrun

\$16.95 1-887344-01-2

Distributed by Koen Book Distributors



spiced with information and advice, written by and for women of African descent. Issues addressed include going back to Africa, exploring the Black diaspora, overcoming fears, claiming entitlement, traveling alone, dealing with racism and creating a travel fund. Authors include Alice Walker, Maya Angelou, Jill Nelson, Gwendolyn Brooks, Linda Villarosa and Evelyn C. White. \$16.95 pb, 0-933377-42-8, August. The Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214; 503-233-3936, fax 503-233-0774, email (soapston@teleport.com). Distributed by Consortium, BP, SPD, Airlift (UK and Europe).

—*Eighth Mountain Press*



FEMINIST PRESS

The Women's Guide to the Wired World: A User-Friendly Handbook and Resource Guide by Shanna Penn is a practical and comprehensive reference book that takes women step-by-step into the wired world of electronic communications. It also provides an extensive and intelligently annotated directory of online resources of special interest and use to women. Informative and user-friendly, this guide invites women of all backgrounds and computer literacy levels to join — or expand their opportunities — in the online revolution. Shanna Penn is director of electronic communications at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. She designed and oversaw the building of the first women's electronic network in the former Eastern Bloc. \$16.95 pb, 1-55861-167-3, July.

The Maimie Papers: Letters from an Ex-Prostitute by Maimie Pinzer. In her correspondence from 1910 to 1922 with a Boston philanthropist, Maimie, a prostitute and former heroin addict recounts her journey through reformatories, jails and hospitals, which bring her into contact with people living on the edge — she depicts their miseries and hopes with a true writer's gift. Maimie manages to leave prostitution and eventually

becomes a social worker. The final letters in 1922 find Maimie happily married and on the verge of publishing her writing — and as indefatigable as ever. "An astonishing book.... Maimie wrote like a dream, with a witty, sage understanding of the chasm of class." —*New York Times Book Review*. \$9.95 pb, 1-55861-143-6.

Unpunished: A Mystery by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Written in the 1920s but never published, this first feminist mystery by the author of *The Yellow Wallpaper* features a husband-and-wife detective team that must solve the murder of well-known attorney Wade Vaughn. In the clever and fearless Bess and her good-natured husband Jim, Gilman presents a model of true partnership between a woman and a man. But in the story of vicious Wade Vaughn, she offers just the opposite: poignant evidence of the injustice that powerless women can suffer at the hands of a brutal man. Gilman manages to weave her case for women's freedom and empowerment into a plot rich in unexpected turns, colorful characters, red herrings and wry humor. \$18.95 cl, 1-55861-170-3, July.

Two Dreams: New and Selected Stories by Shirley Geok-lin Lim. Eighteen stories from three decades of writing by Lim explore the imaginative landscape between America and Asia. Lim's fiction shifts from the war-torn, tradition-bound Malaysia of her childhood to the liberating, but confusing and often harsh United States of her adulthood. Lim captures, as few writers have, the poignant and perplexing experience of immigrant women, who, torn between two cultures, must build their own values and their own homelands from within. Lim is the author of *Among the White Moon Faces: An Asian-American Memoir of Homelands* and the editor of the American Book Award-winning anthology *The Forbidden Stitch*. \$10.95 pb, 1-55861-168-1, April.

As women's studies approaches the 30-year mark, it is an ideal moment to consider the development of the field, assess its current position and contemplate its future. *Women's Studies Quarterly: The History and Future of Women's Studies, 1997: 1 & 2* edited by

Dorothy Helly and Nancy Porter combines essays from *Women's Studies Quarterly's* 25-year history with original contributions on the current position and future of women's studies. This issue is not only for those wishing to relive the founding and development of women's studies, but also for those working to sustain, expand, challenge and shape women's studies in the transition to the 21st century. \$18 pb, 1-55861-171-1, June.

The Feminist Press at CUNY, 311 East 94th Street, New York NY 10128; 212-360-5790, fax 212-348-1241. Distributed by Consortium. —*Feminist Press*



FERRARI GUIDES

Ferrari Guides' Gay Travel A to Z edited by Marianne Ferrari is a formidable reference for gay and lesbian travelers; it's a 100+ page round-up of gay and lesbian tours, cruises, charters and excursions for 1997, presented in a clear, easy-to-read format. It features city-by-city listings of hotels, entertainment, retail, organizations, etc. for the entire world, including "FYI" features about individual destinations, and a calendar of events. Excellent indexes. \$16 pb, 0-942586-59-X.

Ferrari Guides' Women's Travel in Your Pocket edited by Marianne Ferrari is still the most comprehensive resource for women's worldwide adventure travel, resort vacations, conferences, music festivals,

hotels, bars, discos, restaurants, bookstores, craft stores, organizations, mail-order companies, events and trip departures. The care that goes into the updating is evident when you browse this book and when you travel with it! The cover features color photos of women engaged in travel activities. \$14 pb, 0-942586-61-1.

Ferrari Guides' Inn Places edited by Marianne Ferrari provides more details about each inn than any other accommodations guide, straight or gay! Thirty-two separate categories cover everything from rates and amenities to available parking. Detailed descriptions of decor, ambiance, history and locale help guests choose the inn they'll like best. Covers gay and lesbian accommodations worldwide. No symbols to figure out — just clear information in plain English. Report forms invite readers to submit their own comments. \$16 pb, 0-942586-57-3.

Ferrari Guides, PO Box 37887, Phoenix AZ 85069; 602-863-2408, fax 602-439-3952, email <ferrari@q-net.com>. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram, Koen, Bookazine. —*Ferrari Guides*

FIREBRAND BOOKS

Frankie Hucklenbroich's **A Crystal Diary** is a stunning autobiographical novel, the story of 20 years (60s and 70s) in the life of a street butch — a woman with a survivor's instinct rather than politics to guide her. It is a handsome but not a pretty book, the writing absolutely riveting, often gifted. The author's first



Sarah Aldridge's

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The story of two women caught in the web of the opulent patriarchal society of Baltimore, Paris and London in the 1880s and 90s, who nevertheless reach intimate love with each other. ISBN: 0-9646648-0-1 \$10.95

Magdalena

The story of a great diva, brought by the loss of her heart's love to the depth of despair as a homeless streetwoman, and of the devoted friendship of four younger women who rescue her. ISBN: 0-9646648-1-X \$9.95

For more than twenty years Sarah Aldridge's novels have enthralled and inspired many women. Critics have called them "superlative writing", "delightful", "fast-moving, romantic, highly enjoyable", "a joy to read". All twelve of the novels are now available only from their new publisher, A&M Books: *The Latecomer*, *Tottie*, *Cythrea's Breath*, *All True Lovers*, *The Nesting Place*, *Madame Aurora*, *Misfortune's Friend*, *Magdalena*, *Keep to Me Stranger*, *A Flight of Angels*, *Michaela*, *Amantha*. Send for our free catalog: **A&M Books**, P.O. Box 283, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971; 1-800-489-7662. Booksellers are offered a 50% discount. We do not have a minimum on orders.



lover was Lillian Faderman, a fact not only of gossipy interest, but because of the friendship that helped pull the author away from the life that almost destroyed her. \$12.95 pb, 1-56341-082-6; \$26.95 cl, -083-4.

Judith Katz's work makes me understand just why I could never be a novelist; she creates characters and plots so believable and alive, yet so far removed from anything I have ever thought about that I am taken over by her sleight of hand. **The Escape Artist** is a sensational second book by the Lambda Literary Award-winning author of *Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound*. Set in Poland and Buenos Aires in the first part of this century, **The Escape Artist** reads like the rhythms of a Klezmer tune: breathless, dazzling — a page-turner. \$12.95 pb, 1-56341-084-2; \$26.95 cl, -085-0.

What is there to say about Alison Bechdel that hasn't already been said? First, she's a pleasure to work with. Second, she's been creating her cartoon chronicles of the lesbian community for more than ten years and still stays fresh and in touch. Third, the cover of **Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**, for us women's bookstore aficionados, is worth the price of the book. \$10.95 pb, 1-56341-086-9; \$22.95 cl, -087-7, May.

Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850; 607-272-0000. Firebrand's titles are available from LPC/InBook and all leading wholesalers.

—Firebrand Books

GYNERGY BOOKS/RAGWEED PRESS

The grand finale to the Harriet Hubbleby mystery series by Jackie Manthorne, **Sudden Death**, delivers the best in turmoil, intrigue and murder and, in the end, leaves the reader satisfied. **Sudden Death**, the fifth in the series, concludes this popular series of mysteries featuring a lesbian sleuth, a healthy dose of sly humour and plenty of relationship turmoil. Entertaining and fun, this series has found a dedicated readership who will look for this latest installment. \$10.95 pb, 0-921881-43-6, April, gynergy books.

Lee Fleming, author of *Hot Licks*, *By Word of Mouth* and *To Sappho, My Sister*, has collected stories of 47 of the brightest stars Atlantic Canada has to offer the world in **Rock, Rhythm and Reels: Canada's East Coast Musicians on Stage**. From internationally acclaimed superstar Anne Murray to fiddling sensation Ashley MacIsaac (recently featured in *The Advocate*), from up-and-coming alternative band Sloan to velvet-voiced Sarah McLachlan, musicians from Canada's east coast have stepped into the lime-light in Canada, the U.S. and Europe. Explore this unparalleled phenomenon with this beautifully designed gift book. C\$28.95/US\$22.95, 0-921556-65-9, February in Canada/May in the U.S., Ragweed Press.

gynergy books/Ragweed Press, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI C1A 7N7, Canada; 902-566-5750, fax 902-566-4473, email (gb@gynergy.com) or (rp@ragweed.com). Distributed by LPC/WomenSource, Koen and BP among others.

—gynergybooks/Ragweed Press



LAVENDER CRYSTAL PRESS

Lesbian theatre! Even as the 21st century approaches, lesbian art and drama remains an untapped national resource. **Torch to the Heart: Anthology of Lesbian Art and Drama** edited by Sue McConnell-Celi, allows a kaleidoscopic view of lesbian experience. Encompassing the works of seven dramatists, it includes the wisdom of age, captured by Pam Simones, the ironies of life depicted by Anne Harris (Founder of Lesbian Exchange New Drama, Int) and Janice Astor Del Valle — also, surviving incest, finding romance, and community living. Poetry, photos and exquisitely beautiful artwork illuminate each setting. Inclusive, diverse, this 250-page volume will complement every library. 50% plus shipping, \$10 pb, no ISBN. Lavender Crystal Press, PO Box 8932, Red Bank NJ 07701; 908-224-0161.

—Lavender Crystal Press

I Am My Lover

Women Pleasure Themselves

Joani Blank, editor

Photographs by
Phyllis Christopher
Victoria Heilweil
Craig Morey
Ron Raffaelli
Michael Rosen
Annie Sprinkle



Six respected photographers of the sexual image present a loving and reverent look at twelve women as they practice our society's first love — and last taboo. In a richly-designed, oversize format, the women explore their thoughts, fantasies and feelings about masturbation in accompanying text. Powerful, permission-giving, thought-provoking, and arousing.

\$25.00, paper, 108 pages, ISBN 0-940208-18-0

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www.goodvibes.com/dtp/dtp.html

Also available from Bookpeople, Alamo Square, LPC/WomenSource, Bookazine, Koen, Marginal

NAIAD PRESS

Embrace in Motion is another sizzling read by the undisputed "Mistress of Lesbian Romance," Karin Kallmaker (*Wild Things*, *Car Pool*, *In Every Port*, *Touchwood*, *Paperback Romance* and *Painted Moon*). Against her better judgement, the quiet, elegant Sarah finds herself falling for the deliciously dangerous Melissa. Blinded by the woman's white-hot sensuality, could Sarah be setting herself up for a total meltdown? (Nah!) \$10.95 pb, 56280-165-1, April.

Last Rites, the first Stevie Houston mystery, is the debut of a compelling new series by Tracey Richardson (*Northern Blue*). Autoerotic suffocation is a rather unholy demise — especially for a beloved parish priest. When the grisly death turns out to be murder, newly promoted Canadian police detective Stevie

Houston is unaware that the investigation could be leading her on a one-way trip to the wrong side of a body bag. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-164-3, April.

What could be a better assignment for a lesbian cop than handling personal security for the hottest player on the women's tennis circuit? In Celia Cohen's steamy new romance, **Courted**, the court blazes when the pampered tennis pro challenges the streetwise cop to a love match. The game is on...but who's playing whom? Celia Cohen is the author of Naiad bestsellers *Smokey O* and *Payback*. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-166-X, May.



A police chief in a small Kansas town, newcomer Janet McClellan offers your mystery lovers a high-powered mix of suspense and romance in **Kansas City Bomber**. Detective Tru North is having a rotten year. Her lover has walked out, her new boss hates her, and her future on the police force depends on cracking a case so difficult that even the FBI is stumped. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-157-0, May.

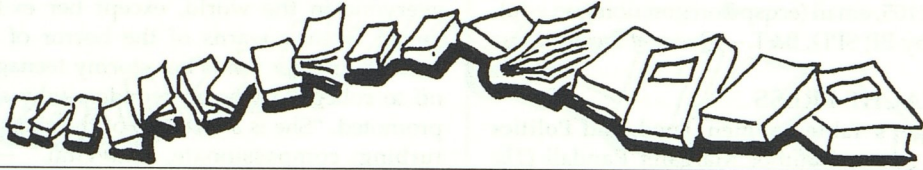
Romance readers will be enthralled by Jackie Calhoun's **Seasons of the Heart**, another captivating account of the trauma and drama that occurs when couples are faced with issues that can make or break a relationship. One of the bestselling lesbian writers of all time, Jackie Calhoun is the author of *Sticks and Stones*, *Lifestyles*, *Triple Exposure*, *Second Chance*, *Friends and Lovers*, *Changes* and *Love or Money*. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-167-8, May.

NAIAD VIDEO

Our video releases include **Losing Chase**, the sensitive and highly romantic made for Showtime video movie starring Kyra Sedgewick and Helen Mirren. Written by Anne Meredith. Mirren won a Golden Globe for this performance. \$89.95, usual discounts. Ships May.

A less certain success, but one bound to be asked for, **Bound**, starring Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon is lesbian love on the fringes of the Mob. \$94.98, discount not yet seen.

And for the fun of it, **The Birdcage**, starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane. This is in sell-through, price is \$19.95. Expect a lot of demand; we've had calls for months. This politically irresponsible



modernization of *La Cage Aux Folles* (Both One and Two) is funny despite its distorted message.

Our imprint, Naiad Press/Northern Arts, will release a new video compilation, this time an extremely long (nearly 90 minutes) selection of the best foreign lesbian video and short movie material, titled **Around the World the Lesbian Way** with at least two major stars in the various selections. More next issue. \$29.95.

50% discount. The Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 904-539-5965. Naiad titles are available from the publisher and from BP, LPC/Inbook, Ingram, et al. —Naiad Press



NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS

Jennifer Spry, the author of **Orlando's Sleep: An Autobiography of Gender**, originally sent us a collection of poems about her life as a transgendered person. We asked for the whole story — so here it is, from sneaking into his mother's closet to try on her clothes, to marriage and fatherhood, and eventually an operation and her return home to Australia. Her story is insightful and absorbing as she tracks the painful, often confusing journey toward gender transformation followed by her attempts at acceptance in the lesbian community. It certainly opened our minds about this issue and, we hope, will do the same for others. \$12.95 pb, 0-934678-80-4, April.

In **No Daughter of the South: A Mystery** by Cynthia Webb, a slow chill builds along your spine when a brash white New York reporter returns to her Florida hometown to investigate the mysterious death of a Black man there years before. As the lover of that man's daughter, she must not only confront the homophobia of her ex-husband and family again, but also the racist underpinnings of her childhood, now catapulting her into deadly conflicts. It reminded us of the movie *Nasty Girl*, but it is set in the South. \$10.95 pb, 0-934678-82-0, April.

In **Cemetery Murders: A Mystery** by Jean Marcy the nuts-and-bolts plot stands out not only because the working-class lesbian PI investigates the murders of homeless women, but also because she has the hots for a beautiful but aloof city police detective. Their paths cross over the case, which they approach from different angles. Each seeks to champion the cause while antagonism dominates their erotic dance with exquisite tension. *Mystery and sex always sell.* \$10.95 pb, 0-934678-83-9, May.

Torrid Zone: A Mystery by Rebecca Beguin is set in Vermont where a tough and independent country dyke finds herself harboring a troubled college student. As each faces up to concealed truths in her past, they come to rely on each other. Playful in tone yet serious about relationships, community and violence against women, this tale contrasts coming of age in the 90s with coming of age in the 70s in the era of lesbian separatist land collectives. \$10.95 pb, 0-934678-81-2, May.

New Victoria Publishers, Inc. PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055. Distributed by LPC/InBook, Koen, BP, Ingram. —New Victoria Publishers

QUEEN OF SWORDS PRESS

Hard Love: Writings on Violence and Intimacy edited by Elizabeth Claman is a collection on domestic violence that weaves together 78 voices of survivors, observers, counselors, poets, essayists and fiction writers. In addition to offering powerful insights into the nature of abuse, it also exposes associated aspects of cultural violence and offers avenues for healing. It is a valuable tool for education, advocacy and therapeutic intervention. Contributors include Sharon Doubiago, Dorianne Laux, Kim Addonizio, Ellyn Bache, Laure-Anne Bosselaar, Robin Jacobson, Barbara Selfridge, Sue Doro and Jayne Relaford Brown. Enthusiastically supported by Eugene, Oregon's Sexual Assault Support Services and Womenspace Shelter for Women and Their Children. \$17.50 pb, 0-9638992-3-6. 40% for 5+. Queen of Swords Press, PO Box 3646, Eugene OR 97403; 541-344-0509,

fax 541-344-2105, email <ecqsp@oregon.uoregon.edu>. Distributed by BP, SPD, B&T. —*Queen of Swords Press*

PAPIER-MACHE PRESS

In **Hunger's Table: Women, Food, and Politics** well-known political author Margaret Randall (*The Price You Pay: The Hidden Cost of Women's Relationship to Money*) juxtaposes her unique acerbic yet lyrical social commentary with actual recipes. This collection embraces cooking, eating, anguishing and rejoicing in the sustenance food gives. "Randall is an essential writer whose work must be read to more fully understand life in these Americas."—Alice Walker. "The extent to which cooking, collecting recipes, thinking about our world and our lives are intertwined are explored and laid bare in this brilliant volume." —Paula Gunn Allen. \$10 pb, 1-57601-000-7.

In **Creek Walk: And Other Stories** Pulitzer Prize-nominee Molly Giles artfully weaves uncannily observant stories — touching, sometimes alarming, and often funny — of women struggling to emerge into their truest natures as they reach out, change their lives and save themselves. A pacifist ironically loves

everyone in the world, except her ex-husband; a young woman warns of the horror of violence; a nervous mother sends her stormy teenage daughter off to college; a woman wonders why she was not promoted. "She is a virtuoso of the short story... disturbing, compassionate, and vital." —Amy Tan. "Giles has a genius for showing the interface of the comic and the tragic...these beautifully accomplished stories offer rare gifts of insight and redemptive laughter." —Charlotte Painter (*Gifts of Age, Conjuring Tibet*). \$23 cl, 1-57601-023-6.

Sandy Dennis: A Personal Memoir by Sandy Dennis reflects a true poet's soul in the face of life and death. Touching only lightly on the theater and glamour, she instead spins highly personal tales from her childhood and her adult life, with moments that move from laughter to tears. Her memories reveal a tender, vulnerable and brave woman unfazed by the adoration of the world or the illness that finally took her life. "Those of you who knew Sandy Dennis primarily as an actress may share my amazement and delight in discovering that she also had a highly original, exceptional talent as a writer...expressed in what I would

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call an almost Emily Dickensonian sensibility.”
—Joanne Woodward. \$14.95 cl, 1-57601-001-5, April.

Papier-Mache Press, PO Box 1304, Freedom CA 95019; 800-927-5913. Distributed by LPC/InBook and available from BP, Ingram, B&T, Koen and others.

—*Papier-Mache Press*

POST-APOLLO PRESS

There: “In the light and darkness of the self and of the other” by Etel Adnan is a prose poem that becomes a long and poignant interrogation. In it Adnan asks whether or not there is an other out there, or if it is all a matter of being alone in the world. And, to what degree can we know the other and what exactly do we know? **There** also investigates the conflicts that arise “as soon as we are two.” “A conversation,” she writes, “is the beginning of civilizations.” “**There** is a poem of hidden seams, fissures that we cross unsuspecting. A smooth surface conceals a universe of sudden shifts and transitions from one level to another — a philosophical level which pursues the mysteries of consciousness and place, a second level which asks the same questions (‘do I have to have a nationality in order to be human?’) in a committed social and political vision, a passionate and engaged post-modernism.” —Michael Beard. \$13, 0-942996-28-3.

“Love Poems,” a series of eight poems, which appear in **The Indian Never Had A Horse and other poems**, has been put to music by the British composer Gavin Bryars and given in concert, at the Almeida Theatre in London last July, and Vancouver CBC’s Studio 2. They were sung by the wonderful soprano Valdine Anderson. A CD including these songs, entitled **Adnan’s Songbook** is due out in March. More information next issue. Adnan is the first woman in Arab literary history who has addressed her love poetry to a woman, first in “Fives Senses For One Death” and then in “Love Poems,” both in **The Indian Never Had A Horse and other Poems**, Second Edition. \$12, 0-942996-046.

The Post-Apollo Press, 35 Marie Street, Sausalito CA 94965; 415-332-1458, fax 415-332-8045. Also available from SPD.

—Post-Apollo Press

PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

Elana Dykewomon is well-known and loved for *Riverfinger Women*, one of the first lesbian novels published by a women’s press in the mid-70s. Elana continues to break ground with **Beyond the Pale**, an epic story of Russian Jewish women who emigrated to New York at the turn of the 20th Century. This landmark novel weaves together the personal and political and the delights and tragedies in the lives of working-class Jewish lesbians in North America. **Beyond the Pale** is a remarkable and unforgettable chronicle told with wisdom, passion and clarity by one of our community’s foremost storytellers. \$15.95/C\$19.95 pb, 0-88974-074-7, May.

A second *Kiss & Tell* collaborator goes solo — Lizard Jones debuts with **Two Ends of Sleep**, a hilarious novel exploring the trials and entanglements of Rusty, a thirty-something lesbian recently diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. As interest in feminist activism and writing wanes, Rusty’s degrees of lethargy, self pity and sexual fantasies intensify. While the novel addresses the issues of lesbian aging, health, sex, and living with a disability, Lizard lightens the load with her acerbic wit, quirky style and an uncompromising sensibility. \$12.95/C\$15.95 pb, 0-88974-072-0, April.



Call Me Crazy: Stories from the Mad Movement by Irit Shimrat is a unique and inspirational compilation of stories from the Mad Movement — psychiatric survivors and their allies who oppose abuses such as forced drugging, solitary confinement and electroshock, inflicted in the name of psychiatry. **Call Me Crazy** combines personal stories from Shimrat and others about their experiences with psychiatry,

powerful arguments against the mental illness industry, and their search for humane and creative alternatives. The result is an eloquent testament to the human spirit. Includes a detailed bibliography, and back-cover praise by Kate Millett. \$14.95/C\$16.95 pb, 0-88974-070-4, May.

Press Gang Publishers, 101-225 East 17th Avenue, Vancouver BC V5V 1A6, Canada; 604-876-7787, fax 604-876-7892, email (pgangpub@portal.ca). Distributed by LPC/InBook in the U.S. and by General in Canada.

—Press Gang Publishers



RISING TIDE PRESS

Many of you have been calling to find out when **Tropical Storm** (\$11.99 pb, 1883061148) by Linda Kay Silva would be out. **Tropical Storm** is the fifth in the Delta Stevens Storm series. This title along with **Deadly Gamble** (\$11.99 pb, 1883061121) by Diane Davidson should be off press in February. If any of you would like to have Linda Kay Silva do a reading at your store, let us know. She lives in San Francisco and is currently making reading appointments. If you haven't placed your back orders for these titles, just give us a call. We are still offering our generous 50% discount. Rising Tide Press, 5 Kivy Street, Huntington Station NY 11746; 800-648-5333, (RTPress@aol.com). Distributed by Alamo Square, B&T, Bookazine, BP, Ingram, Koen, Login.

—Rising Tide Press

SEAL PRESS

Working Parts: A Novel by Lucy Jane Bledsoe is the first novel by the author of *Sweat*, a Lambda Award finalist. Lesbian cyclist Lori Taylor is a top-notch bicycle mechanic and a smart, charming woman...who cannot read. Her best friend Mickey can read, but he trails Lori in matters of love. The friends enter into a pact that leads them into dangerous emotional territory. \$12 pb, 1-878067-94-X, April.

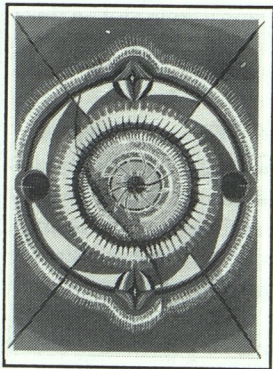
The newest novel from the author of *Alma Rose* and *Nowle's Passing*, **Exit to Reality: A Novel** by Edith Forbes, looks at life and love circa a.d. 3000. After a chance online meeting leads to romance, Merle teaches Lydian to "morph"—change bodily forms—and the two set out on an outlaw adventure. Rick Simonson of Elliott Bay Book Company calls **Exit to Reality** "an amazing story...an absorbing, fully limned world that chills, provokes, and poses unsettling questions." \$24 cl, 1-878067-93-1, May.

Seal Press, 3131 Western Avenue #410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844, 800-754-0271 (orders only), fax 206-285-9410, email (sealprss@scn.org), Web site (<http://www.sealpress.com>). Distributed by PGW and available from Koen, BP, Ingram, B&T. —Seal Press

SECOND STORY PRESS

We're having one of our most exciting Spring seasons ever. Leading the list is the newest and final Helen Keremos mystery by Eve Zarembo, **White Noise**. Twenty-five years after she introduced this

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or from LPC: 1-800-626-4330. Visit our WEB site:<http://www.astarteshell.com>



highly-popular lesbian detective, the series is coming to an end. Find out what finally happens to Helen after she gets mixed up in a dangerously chaotic set of crimes and a community of women who help her out. Combining mystery, intrigue and romance, this is Zaremba at her best. \$9.95 pb, 0-929005-97-X, April.

Interior Passages: Obesity and Transformation by Francine Saillant made the major bestseller lists when it was first released in French — it is unlike any book on eating disorders currently available. Telling her own story, Saillant, who was a nurse and is now a professor of anthropology writes, “All kinds of people talk about obesity while obese women themselves keep quiet. So I decided to speak out and revisit 20 years of obesity and dieting, and describe the process that transformed my life and body.” \$16.95, 0-929005-04-X.

Focusing on “Women, Gardening and the Earth,” **The Women’s Daybook 1998** visually explores women’s passion and joy in working the earth. Gorgeous contemporary photographs accompanied by text supplement the weekly spreads, note and address space. A bright, engaging cover will make this appointment calendar jump off the shelves. \$12.95 spiral, 0-929005-96-1, July.

A princess story any feminist would be happy to buy! **The Princess Who Danced With Cranes** is a spectacular looking, full-color picturebook about a beautiful land that is almost destroyed until a young girl takes action to save her environment. Ideal for readers under nine who will learn that each of us has a role in keeping nature safe and secure. \$5.95 pb, 0-929005-87-2; \$12.95 cl -88-0, May.

With cover endorsements by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and activist/actor Julie Christie, **The Spices of Life: Piquant Recipes from Africa, Asia and Latin America for Western Kitchens** provides a rich overview of the people and cultures where the recipes originate. Over three hundred color photographs, illustrations and maps — this cookbook is in a class of its own. \$17.95 cl, 0-92900502-3.

Second Story Press, 720 Bathurst Street #301, Toronto ONT, Canada M5S 2R4; 416-537-7850, fax 416-537-0588. Distributed by LPC/WomenSource.

—*Second Story Press*



SISTER VISION: BLACK WOMEN AND WOMEN OF COLOUR PRESS

There Were Times I Thought I Was CRAZY: A Black Woman’s Story of Incest by Vanessa Alleyne is a painfully honest account of a young Black woman’s experiences of sexual and physical abuse by her stepfather. Vanessa Alleyne’s courageous memoir confronts brutality, hostility and denial — and breaks through the silence shrouding her abuse. You will be profoundly moved by this tenacious and brave woman’s story, one of the first nonfiction books to confront the issue of incest in African-Caribbean communities. \$13.95/C\$16.95, 1-896705-08-1.

My Mother’s Last Dance by Honor Ford-Smith is a powerful, humorous and deeply moving collection of poetry and stories from the founding director of the popular Jamaican theater company *Sistren*. Ford-Smith celebrates and honors the legacy of three generations of Caribbean women with a work that is both a magical voyage from reality to fantasy, and a graceful meditation on memory, loss and hope. \$11.95/C\$14.95, 1-896705-12-X.

Defiant, rebellious, gentle and irresistibly sensual, Kaushalya Bannerji invites readers on a myriad of journeys in this collection of passionate and beautiful poems. **The Faces of Five O’Clock** travels by airplane and by foot to Lima, to Amsterdam, to the other side of town, and to erotic journeys over the intimately familiar, yet often surprising, territory of a lover’s body. Bannerji’s poetry dares to venture into war zones both personal and political with a proud consciousness of her own identity as a lesbian of color. \$9.95/C\$12.95, 1-896705-10-3.

Deliciously political and radically erotic, this is an

expansive anthology of writing by women and men who live with many shifting identities — social, cultural and sexual. **Má-Ka: Diasporic Juks, Contemporary Writing by Queers of African Descent** edited by Debbie Douglas, Courtney McFarlane, Makeda Silvera and Douglas Stewart doesn't duck the critical issues facing the queer community, yet it's an incredibly upbeat and entertaining read. It includes prose, poetry, essays and personal testimonies from contributors who range in age from twenty-something to fifty-something, and are just as varied in their class backgrounds and places of birth. \$14.95/C\$16.95 1-896705-14-6, May.

Sister Vision: *Black Women and Women of Colour Press*, PO Box 217, Station E, Toronto ONT, Canada M6H 4E2; 416-533-9353, fax 416-533-9676, email (sisvis@web.net). Sister Vision books are distributed by LPC/InBook in the U.S. and by General in Canada. —*Sister Vision: Black Women and Women of Colour Press*

SPINSTERS INK

Award-winning author Ellyn Bache's third novel, **The Activist's Daughter**, is the moving account of a

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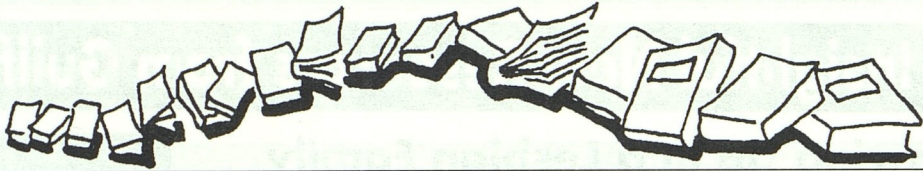
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young woman's journey of self-discovery. The year is 1963, the height of the U.S. civil rights movement, and 250,000 people have just marched on Washington, DC, where they have been galvanized by Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech. In rebellion against her radical Jewish mother's passionate involvement in the movement, 18-year-old Beryl Rosinsky enrolls at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Here in the heart of the segregated South, Beryl enters a strange world of paradoxes, a culture in which Southern gentility masks blatant prejudice, a place where protesters quietly march in front of "whites-only" businesses. Though Beryl strives to blend in, to conform, to reject her mother's unconventional values, her encounters with racism, bigotry, and anti-Semitism cause her to come to terms with her family's values — and teach her who she really is. \$10.95 pb, 1-883523-18-4, May.

From the critically acclaimed author of the popular Kate Brannigan series comes **Deadline for Murder**, another Lindsay Gordon lesbian-feminist mystery! When ace reporter and reluctant sleuth Lindsay Gordon travels to Glasgow in search of her estranged lover, Cordelia Brown, there are some surprises in store for her: Cordelia is partnered with someone else; Lindsay's ex-lover, journalist Alison Maxwell, has been murdered; and reporter Jackie Mitchell has just been tried and convicted of the crime. At the request of Cordelia's current lover and in a bid to clear Jackie's name, Lindsay investigates Alison's death. As Lindsay is drawn deeper and deeper into the tangled web of lies, secrets and deceit surrounding Alison's colorful life and untimely death, she uncovers blackmail, prostitution, betrayal of trust, the theft of classified papers, and a long list of suspects who wanted Alison Maxwell dead. **Deadline for Murder** was originally published as *Final Edition* in England by The Women's Press Ltd. \$10.95 pb, 1-883523-17-6, April.

Shelly Roberts, syndicated humor columnist (the "Lesbian Erma Bombeck") and author of last year's bestselling *Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living*, now turns her gimlet eye and wicked wit to splitting up, dyke style. **Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Break-Ups** is a handy little guide that leads the way through the painful, intense, time-consuming, yet inescapable rite of passage in every lesbian's life: breaking up. **Roberts' Rules** is full of biting, ironic, and, yes, ultimately side-splitting nuggets of wisdom about the



end of coupledness as lesbians know it, such as: "She's sure to get the one thing you really wanted" or "Finally, your therapist will earn her money." This book makes a great gift for anyone who has survived a breakup, lesbian or otherwise. \$5.95 pb, 1-883523-19-2; \$27.95 five-copy pre-pack, 1-883523-20-6, May.

Spinsters Ink, 32 East First Street #330, Duluth MN 55802; 218-727-3222, email (spinsters@aol.com), Web site (<http://www.lesbian.org/spinsters-ink/>). Distributed by LPC/InBook. —*Spinsters Ink*

THIRD SIDE PRESS

After twelve consecutive seasons of publishing feminist books we will be taking a break during the Spring 1997 season. Our sales for 1996 were reasonably strong (down only about 15% from 1995) but our returns were even stronger (more than 225% of 1995 returns). We are hoping to see a dip in the returns in the first half of 1997, and in the meantime, we're going to try to pay down our debt.

We plan to be back for Fall 1997 with *The Mayor of Heaven*, a wonderful literary novel by Lynn Kanter (*On Lill Street*). In the meantime, all of our titles are still stocked by Consortium (and generally available from Ingram, B&T, BP, Koen, and Bookazine) — *Speaking in Whispers* seems to be selling particularly well. I put catalog-request postcards in this title, and I've been getting back 1-3 per day since the middle of November. We'll be exhibiting at BEA in Small Press booth SP110.

Third Side Press, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago IL 60625-1802; 773-271-3029, fax 773-271-0459, email: (ThirdSide@compuserve.com). —*Third Side Press*

WOMEN GOING PLACES

Women Going Places 1996/1997: A Woman's Complete Guide to International Travel is a great resource of organizations, cafes, magazines, restaurants, hotels, bars, clubs, meeting places, travel agents, bookstores and tons more — all the must-see women-related places and things around the world. Provides addresses, phone numbers and brief descriptions.

Black and white newsprint pages include space for notes and doodles. Some ads. Lots of cute graphics and photos. Well-worth the price. \$14, 0-9519630-1-5. Women Going Places Productions, 141 Praed Street, London England, W2 1RL; fax 0171-402-1652. —*JT*



WOMEN IN TRANSLATION

Wayfarer: New Fiction by Korean Women edited and translated by Bruce and Ju-Chan Fulton is a collection of short fiction by eight of South Korea's most important women writers. Haunting and otherworldly, boldly feminist, these stories from the almost unknown literature of Korea offer a tantalizing glimpse of Asian women's lives. The editors previously published *Words of Farewell: Stories by Korean Women Writers* (Seal Press, 1990), which won the Korean Literature Translation Award. \$14.95 pb, 1-879679-09-4. Women in Translation, 523 N. 84th Street, Seattle WA 98103; 206-781-9612. Distributed by Consortium and Airlift. —*Women in Translation*

WOMEN'S PRESS

Countering The Myths: Lesbians Write About The Men In Their Lives edited by Rosamund Elwin is 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. And they share tales of trust honoured and abused, loves lost and found, sorrow and joy. C\$17.95/US\$15.95 pb, 0-88961-219-6. Women's Press, 517 College Street #233, Toronto ONT, Canada M6G 4A2; 416-921-2425, fax 416-921-4428. Distributed by LPC/WomenSource.

—*Women's Press* ○

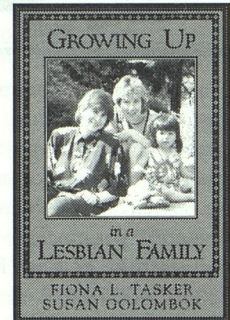
Two Insightful New Resources from Guilford

Growing Up in a Lesbian Family **Fiona L. Tasker and Susan Golombok**

"The authors effectively challenge assumptions about the ways in which parents of any sexuality influence their children's development....If evidence has any effect on prejudice, this book should go a long way toward ending discrimination against lesbian mothers and reassuring those who need it that the children raised by lesbians are in no way disadvantaged or harmed by their upbringing. In fact, the book points to several benefits for children growing up in a lesbian-led family."

—Lisa Saffron, author of *What About the Children?*

Approx. 187 Pages, 1997, ISBN 1-57230-170-8, \$26.95



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Approx. 328 Pages, 1997, Paper, ISBN 1-57230-206-2, \$18.95 (tent.)

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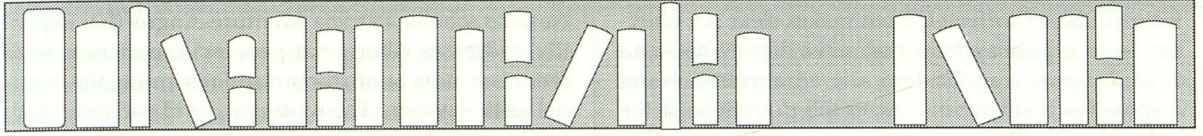
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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



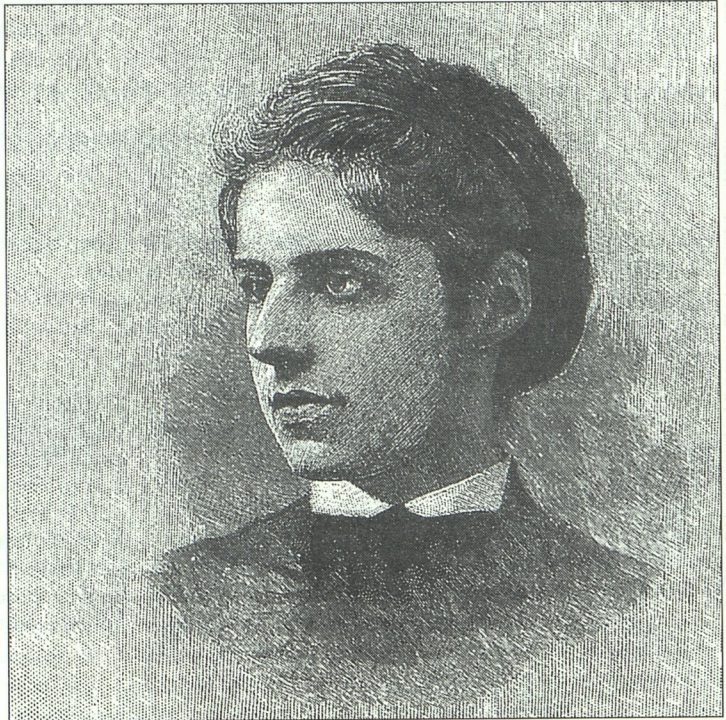
By Lisa McGowan

Urging women to “hold a grudge, cherish our anger, cultivate our rage, to mind other people’s business when that business is the business of oppressing others, to hold on and hold out instead of letting go,” **Live Like There’s No Tomorrow: Meditations for Women Leaving Patriarchy** by Carolyn Gage is a far cry from most meditation books, which direct the reader to find contentment through contemplation.

The quotes that open each meditation are from women from throughout history and from different backgrounds and cultures, including Fannie Lou Hamer, Chrystos, George Sand, Nawal El Saadawi, Gloria Steinem and others, not all so well known. These are followed by brief essays by Gage that discuss in more detail the theme of the meditation. A meditation book for radical feminists and activists intended to inspire and invigorate women — and to help them focus their vision — rather than to lull them into a peaceful passivity. \$14.95 pb, 1-56751-104-X.

Poverty and other forms of social inequality, including gender-based discrimination, play a role in the funding of research on health issues, how the information gleaned from this research is made available, and who has access to the advances this research has brought about. Until now, little has been done to give voice to these inequities. The Health and Social Justice series, launched by Common Courage Press and the Institute for Health and Social Justice is intended to address the politics of poverty and health. **Women,**

Poverty and AIDS: Sex, Drugs and Structural Violence edited by Paul Farmer, Margaret Connors and Janie Simmons is their inaugural volume. “Lucid, smart, passionate, and compassionate, **Women, Poverty and AIDS** puts the class back into class analysis. Through a diversity of voices, experiences, geographies and disciplines, the contributors argue that poverty as a factor in the global HIV epidemic is pervasive, neglected and urgent. Poverty is inescapably linked to gender. A call to arms on behalf of health and



Emma Lazarus, an American poet, in *Remarkable Jewish Women* (Jewish Publication Society)

social justice for poor women, its impact is searing.” —Paula Treichler, editor of *The Feminist Dictionary*. \$19.95 pb, 1-56751-074-4; \$49.95 cl, -075-2.

In the first chapter of **Breast Cancer: Poisons, Profits and Prevention**, journalist and community activist Liane Clorfene-Casten makes clear her objective — to expose systems that serve those who stand to profit from the application, sale, administration and disposal of toxic substances to the detriment of the public health. Pulling together government studies, reports from different media and personal accounts of people whose lives have been affected by the breast cancer epidemic, she shows how companies are creating the poisons and peddling the cures; why the EPA refuses to ban toxic outlets like commercial incinerators that are clearly implicated in the cancer epidemic; how health became irrelevant in the greed for profits in the breast implant scandal that preyed upon vulnerable women; how the FDA has cooperated with big business to allow poisonous treatments that don't prolong lives; and how corporate PR works with the media to lock in a toxic conventional wisdom. \$18.95 pb, 1-56751-094-9; \$29.95 cl, -095-7.

Common Courage Press, Box 702, Monroe ME 04951; 207-525-0900. Distributed by Koen, Ingram.

Thunder in My Soul: A Mohawk Woman Speaks is a collection of essays and papers by First Nations scholar Patricia Monture-Angus that explicitly addresses Aboriginal peoples' experiences with feminism, education, racism and reforming the criminal justice system. The writing is vivid and clear, and, as Monture-Angus often draws from her own experiences to illustrate these issues, also immediate and fascinating. \$19.95 pb, 1-895686-46-6. Fernwood Publishing, Box 9409, Station A, Halifax Nova Scotia B3K 5S3, Canada; 902-422-3302. Distributed in the U.S. by Eiron, Inc., PO Box 40072, Washington DC 20016; 202-966-3240.

Bringing It Home: Women Talk about Feminism in Their Lives edited by Brenda Lea Brown is a rich and often moving collection of essays by women on feminism: how it affects their lives, how they came to see themselves as feminists, and how the concept of feminism has evolved. The women who offer their



Consortium Welcomes Innisfree Press

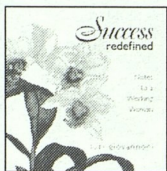
(FORMERLY LURAMEDIA)

Success Redefined

Notes to a Working Woman

by Lori Giovannoni

1-880913-26-7 PB \$12.95 APRIL



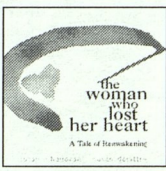
Business consultant Giovannoni clarifies the difference between making a living and creating one, and shows women how to redefine success on their own terms.

The Woman Who Lost Her Heart

A Tale of Reawakening

by Susan O'Halloran and Susan Delattre

1-880913-27-5 PB \$12.95 APRIL



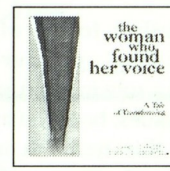
This fable, set in the “not too distant” future, tells of a woman's encounter with a series of mystical creatures who lead her to find healing for her wounded heart.

The Woman Who Found Her Voice

A Tale of Transforming

by Susan O'Halloran and Susan Delattre

1-880913-18-6 PB \$12.95 APRIL

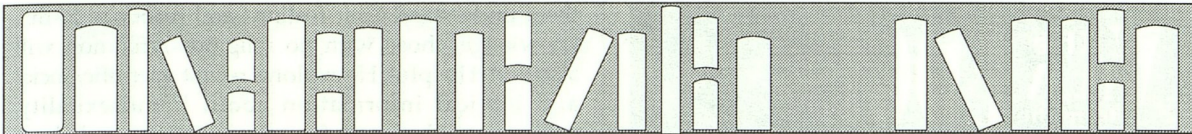


In this mythical tale for modern adults, a despairing woman is visited by a magical hawk who guides her search for inner wisdom and strength to “howl with the enemy.”

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stories here are not regular spokespeople for feminism; they come from different generations, different walks of life, different geographical, ethnic and religious communities. The diversity of thoughts and feelings expressed here belies the myth of a monolithic definition of feminism. \$16.95 pb, 1-55152-034-6.

Queer View Mirror, published in 1996, was the first international lesbian and gay anthology of short short fiction (1000 words or less). **Queer View Mirror 2: Lesbian & Gay Short Short Fiction** edited by James C. Johnstone and Karen X. Tulchinsky is a follow-up volume featuring 101 selections from writers living in eight different countries. The stories vary in style and mood, and cover a wide scope of topics and themes: lesbian creation myths, humor in the face of AIDS, the childhood trials of the tomboy and the sissy, the abyss between political correctness and sexual desire. Diverse and imaginative, they offer snapshots and flashes of queer life that articulate different ways of the world. \$17.95 pb, 1-55152-039-7.

Arsenal Pulp Press, 103, 1014 Homer St., Vancouver BC V6B 2W9, Canada; 604-687-4233. Distributed in Canada by General Distribution Services. Distributed in the U.S. by LPC/InBook.

We Are the Ones We Are Waiting For: Women of Color Organizing for Transformation written and edited by Rinku Sen is a collection of reflections of 22 women of color who are engaged in community organizing. The book is divided into five sections: Origins, which discusses the relationship between organizer and community; The Picture, which puts the work of the organizers in the context of current political and economic climates; Building a New Culture, a recognition of the need to both affirm cultures as a form of resistance as well as transform them; and Organizing for Transformation, in which the unique challenges and complexities of women of color organizing are addressed. The substance of the book, though, is the profiles of the women (African Americans, Latinas, Asians and Native Americans who range in age from 25 to 60) that follow each

section. Here the women share their stories and experiences, and talk about their commitment to working for social transformation. **We Are the Ones We Are Waiting For** is a project of the U.S. Urban-Rural Mission, an organization made up of people of various faiths who participate in the struggles for justice, empowerment and social transformation. It was established to insure representation for people of color, women, and poor and marginalized communities. An inspiring and important book. \$8.00 for 1-9 copies plus \$1.00 shipping; \$5.00 for 10+ copies plus \$1.00 shipping, saddle-stitched; no ISBN. U.S. Urban-Rural Missions of the World Council of Churches, PO Box 240, Durham NC 27702; 919-683-3145, fax 919-683-3428.



The Beloved and 'Bent': Families Learning to Accept Lesbians and Gays is a compilation of interviews with the two extended families of lesbian couple Di Allen-Thompson, LPCC, and Dr. Pam Allen-Thompson, who are also the editors of this book. **The Beloved and 'Bent'** aims to correct some of the common misunderstandings about homosexuality that exist in most any family and examines the subtle biases that even accepting people sometimes have. Other books have made important contributions in encouraging the full social acceptance of lesbians, gays and bisexuals by presenting stories of various individuals who have worked through this issue. This book, however, is singular in that it shows a whole family in this process, along with the conflict, support and cooperation that are an integral part of family patterns. The format of the book — interviews and letters from the parents, siblings, children and extended family of the editors — makes it much more immediate and engaging than a "study" of this subject would be. Fascinating and compelling reading, this book will facilitate much-needed dialogue on this subject for anyone who desires a better understanding

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of the process of acceptance. \$12.95 pb, no ISBN. Diversity Press. Distributed by PFLAG-Todedo, PO Box 4619, Toledo OH 43620; 419-241-7614. 40% for 2+ returnable / 50% non-returnable.

Anne Jensen's **God's Self-Confident Daughters: Early Christianity and the Liberation of Women** is a comprehensive study of the many roles women played in the early church and their subsequent marginalization by the later church. "Through rigorous research and painstaking historical analysis, Jensen creates a complete picture of the participation of women in all phases of early Christianity, as preachers, martyrs, ascetics and missionaries, and rescues the names of many from undeserved oblivion." —Gail Corrington Streete, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Rhodes College. \$34 pb, 0-664-25672-4.

David K. Switzer's **Coming Out as Parents: You and Your Homosexual Child** is a slim book written for parents just learning of their child's homosexuality. Switzer, a Professor Emeritus of Theology at Southern Methodist University, states that while the book is written primarily for Christian parents to help

them understand their feelings and reactions to this knowledge, those with no religious affiliation will also find it helpful. He explores recent scientific, social and biblical information about homosexuality, emphasizes the need for reconciliation, and deals with common parental responses to a child's disclosure. He also provides a listing of additional resources for further assistance. \$12 pb, 0-66425636-8.

Westminster John Knox Press, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville KY 40202; 800-395-5599. Distributed by Spring Arbor.



Afraid to Eat: Children and Teens in Weight Crisis by nutritionist and editor/publisher (*Healthy Weight Journal*) Frances Berg is an in-depth discussion of four major health problems plaguing American children: dysfunctional eating, eating disorders, overweight, and size prejudice. Berg outlines the forces that have contributed to these problems — declining activity, fast food, early puberty, dieting parents, the impact of advertising, the sexism in modern society — and then examines the steps educators, parents, health professionals and society need to take to help kids who struggle with these problems. The book also addresses the unique problems of boys and minority children. \$21.95 pb, 0-918532-51-5. *Healthy Weight Journal*, 402 South 14th St., Hettinger ND 58639; 701-567-2646. Distributed by B&T, The Bookmen, Midwest Library Services.

Sexual Abuse Prevention: A Course of Study for Teenagers by Rebecca Voelkel-Haugen and Marie M. Fortune is a workbook containing six one to one-and-a-half hour sessions intended for use by those educating adolescents about sexual violence toward children and adolescents. The curriculum is designed to be built around discussion rather than a lecture-style format, and provides the leader of the course with succinct outlines for each session. The outlines include a list of objectives for the particular session, resources needed for conducting the session, background information for the leader, and topics for discussion as well as exercises for the participants. This course was designed to be used in a church setting and the first and last sessions frame the



conversation with theological and ethical issues. The other sessions address sexual harassment, sexual violence, and pornography and abusive images found in some popular media. This workbook is revised and updated from the original 1984 edition. \$8.95 pb, 0-8298-1082-X. United Church Press, 700 Prospect Ave. East, Cleveland OH 44115; 216-736-3717. 40% for 5+. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.

Seven percent of all homicide victims in this country each year are killed by men who claim to love them. That's approximately 1,500 women annually. It is estimated that 1.8 million to 3.6 million women annually are battered by their intimate partners, and yet, until recently, researchers have seen fit to emphasize the behavioral and psychological dynamics of the woman who is being battered rather than the man who is the batterer. **The Battering Syndrome: Why Men Beat Women and the Professional's Guide to Intervention** by Michael Groetsch switches the focus to the abuser. Groetsch examines and details the characteristics of the batterer, providing human service professionals with a model for understanding the different types of abusers, assessing their danger, and distinguishing men who are non-lethal and treatable from those who are capable of killing their partners. The author, who has been an advocate for abused women for 20 years, is the founder of the first court-based program in Louisiana to specialize in domestic violence cases. This book is based on interviews he conducted with more than 20,000 men charged with violent attacks against women. This is a book written for professionals, but the publisher will be coming out with a trade version in July 1997 (\$12.95 pb). An important work and an invaluable resource. \$79 cl, 0-9651733-6-4. CPI Publishing, 3315-K N. 124th St., Brookfield WI 53005. Available direct only. 30%, no minimum order.

I enjoyed wandering through **Gutsy Women: Travel Tips and Wisdom for the Road** by Marybeth Bond (*Travelers' Tales: A Woman's World.*) Lots of short, easily digestible bits and pieces, comments from

other women travelers, quotes from women, hints and ideas, and such. Even my Mom, a well-seasoned traveler, added some tricks to her traveling knowledge. \$7.95 trade, 1-885211-15-5, *Travelers' Tales*. Available from Ingram, B&T, PP. —*Dorothy Holland*

Teresa tsimmu Martina is a teacher and trainer of horses who is also a freelance rescue worker, taking in and caring for wolves and other wild animals. **The Wolf, the Woman and the Wilderness: A True Story of Returning Home** is the story of her journey to the northern mountains of the Pacific Northwest to help a young gray wolf return to her homeland. On the journey, which took months to accomplish, Martina underwent her own personal transformation, discovering the richness and strength of her mixed-blood ancestry — Native American (Osage) and Italian. The text is interspersed with photographs, line drawings and poetry by the author. Like all of New Sage's publications, this is a beautiful book. \$14.95 pb, 0-939165-29-5. New Sage Press, PO Box 607, Troutdale OR 97060; 503-695-2211. Distributed by PGW. Also available at BP, Ingram.



In Barbara Wilson's family, being raised as a Christian Scientist meant always being told to look through the blissful, rose windows and never through the blue windows. **Blue Windows: A Christian Science Childhood** is Wilson's memoir of growing up in this religion, one of the few founded by a woman (Mary Baker Eddy). Christian Science has always had women readers and practitioners, and its membership has always been predominately female. In this book, Wilson relates her mother's crisis in faith and consequent suicide attempt when Wilson was ten. The following two years of her mother's physical and mental illness wreaked havoc in the family. Unable to talk about what she had seen and experienced for many years, here Wilson charts the course of her pain

and her healing. This memoir is the story of a religion created by a woman and of the empowering and disastrous affect it had on the author and her mother. Barbara Wilson, a co-founder of Seal Press and now publisher at Women in Translation, is better known in our community for her award-winning Cassandra Reilly mystery series (*Trouble in Transylvania*, *Gaudi Afternoon*). \$25, cl, 0-312-15066-0. Picador USA (a division of St. Martin's Press), 175 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10010; 800-221-7945.

Melissa Etheridge: Our Little Secret, an unauthorized biography by Joyce Luck, is the first full-length biography of Etheridge. Key events of Etheridge's life, including her growing up in Leavenworth, Kansas, her discovery while performing in a California women's bar, her rise to international stardom, and her announcement with partner Julie Cypher of the imminent birth of their child, are covered in this tribute to Etheridge and her music. Includes over 50 photographs, 22 in full color and many never before published; anecdotes from fans, friends, and colleagues; a comprehensive discography and a bibliography.

\$16.95, 1-55022-298-8. ECW (stands for *Essays on Canadian Writing*, a journal that focused on Canadian culture) previously published a very successful kd lang biography (sold 30,000 copies in the U.S. with very little advertising). Look for forthcoming bios of Shania Twain (Fall), Margaret Atwood (1998), Maya Angelou, (1998-99) and *A Guide to Gay Parenting*. ECW Press, 3483 Peel Street #23, Montreal Quebec, Canada H3A 1W8; 514-398-8326, fax 514-398-6562, email (hpotter@peterson.lan.mcgill.ca). Available through Login in the U.S., General in Canada, and Turnaround in the U.K. —JT



The View from the Edge: Life and Landscapes of Beverly Johnson by Gabriela Zim is a biography of this world-class rockclimber and adventurer who died in a helicopter crash in 1994. Still in her twenties, Johnson was already something of a legend in the rockclimbing world when she became the first woman to solo climb the nearly vertical face of El Capitan in Yosemite in 1978. Her life was an adventure: exploring the heart of the Amazon rain forest to the Antarctic ice cap, cross-country skiing across Greenland, and working on various search and rescue teams and fire crews in the Tetons and Yosemite. With her husband, she also worked as a cinematographer, filming, among other things, sharks in the Red Sea and the Afghanistan-Russian war from both sides of the conflict. \$17 pb, 1-879415-16-X. Mountain N' Air Books, PO Box 12540, La Crescenta CA 91224; 800-446-9696. 40%, no minimum order. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.

In often gripping, ironic, funny — and sometimes sordid — anecdotes, Tekla Dennison Miller describes prison life as she relates her 20-year career in corrections in **The Warden Wore Pink**. Although she was fully qualified for the position of probation officer, Miller's boss let her know she was being hired under duress to fulfill affirmative action mandates. In 1971 she was the first woman officer in Oakland County (Michigan) Circuit Court. She experienced countless incidents of sexual discrimination, professional isolation and intentional set-ups for failure on her way to becoming the warden of a men's maximum security prison. A memoir that reads more like a novel, this



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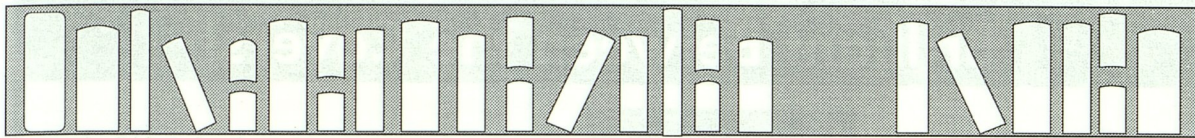
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book provides a dramatic first-hand account of one woman's success in a (still very) male-dominated profession. \$11.95 pb, 1-879418-24-X. Biddle Publishing Company, PO Box 1305 #103, Brunswick ME 04011. 40% for 5+ copies. Distributed by B&T.

The friendship between Ursula Le Guin and Argentinean poet and fiction writer Diana Bellessi was formed through letters the two of them wrote to each other about their writing. In **The Twins, The Dream/Las Gemelas, El Sueño** Bellessi and Le Guin have translated each other's poems as a means of bridging geographical distances and fostering cross-cultural dialogue. A unique collaboration between two distinguished literary voices of the Americas that offers a heartfelt meditation on language, love, personal identity, and the transforming power of friendship. \$8.95 pb, 1-55885-179-8. Arte Público Press, University of Houston, 4800 Calhoun, Houston TX 77204; 800-633-2783. Distributed by Ingram, B&T, BP.

Lucille Clifton, Ursula Le Guin, Faye Moskowitz, Alice Walker and Janice Mirikitani are just a few of the writers whose work appears in **An Intricate Weave: Women Write about Girls and Girlhood** edited by Marlene Miller. Organized to reflect the chronology of growing up, these stories, essays and poems honor girlhood and reveal the complexity and importance of girls' experiences. \$15.95 pb, 0-945372-15-9. Iris Editions, 1278 Gleneyre, Suite 138, Laguna Beach CA 92651; 714-497-2101. 40% for 2+ copies. Distributed by B&T.

Sisters of Caliban: Contemporary Women Poets of the Caribbean edited by MJ Fenwick is a multilingual anthology which brings together for the first time the writings of 93 women poets of the French, Spanish, Dutch, Creole and English-speaking Caribbean. The women come from diverse cultural, linguistic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, but all, in their unique voices, confront the cultural hegemony of colonialism. An erudite introduction

offers a political context for the reader of these poems that are sometimes angry, sometimes humorous, sometimes gentle and generally powerful. Essential reading for all interested in Caribbean literature, women's studies and contemporary poetry. *Black Venus*, the beautiful painting by Rufino Tamayo featured on the cover, will help sell this book. \$18.95 pb, 1-885214-09-X. Azul Editions, 7804 Sycamore Dr., Falls Church VA 22042; 703-573-7866. Distributed by LPC/Inbook. Available at BP.

Sonia Sanchez's impressive literary career has spanned more than two decades and been filled with critically acclaimed works such as *I've Been a Woman* and *Wounded in the House of a Friend*, but until now there has not been a full-length study of her work. With **Ijala: Sonia Sanchez and the African Poetic Tradition** author Dr. Joyce Anne Joyce corrects this omission. Connecting Sanchez to the African oral tradition and simultaneously enumerating four major aspects of African American poetry (language, politics, music and religion), Joyce introduces a new, African centered paradigm through which Black poetry can be more fully understood. \$14.95 pb, 0-88378-189-1; \$24.95 cl, -190-5. Third World Press, PO Box 19730, Chicago IL 60619; 773-651-0700. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.



The Flood by Carol Ascher, a novel first published in 1987 and long out of print, has been republished by Curbstone Press. Nine-year-old Eva Hoffman is the daughter of Austrian Jewish refugees who have found a precarious safety among a small community of European exiles in Topeka, Kansas in 1951, the year of the landmark desegregation case, *Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education*. When the rising river inundates the town, the Hoffmans open their home to refugees from the flood, and Eva learns the complexities of prejudice — and courage — both within and outside her family. "Finding a balance between assimilation and main-

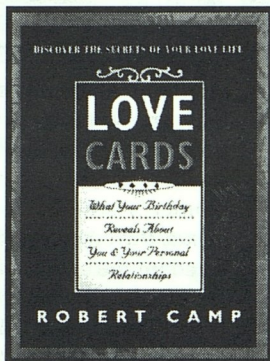
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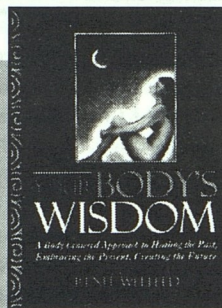
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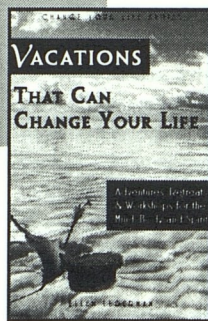


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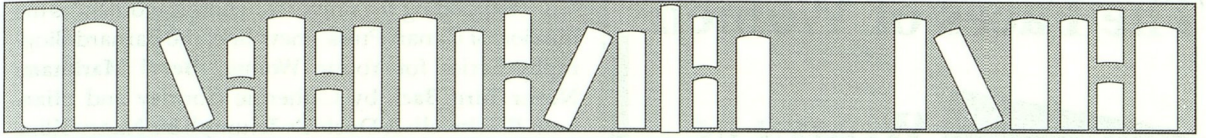
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taining her own ethnic identity is central for Eva, as is the issue of racial hatred, whatever its target." —The North Country American Conversation Project (a program which involves author readings, author visits to schools, and discussion groups in libraries and bookstores). \$11.95 pb, 1-880684-43-8. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson St., Willimantic CT 06226; 203-423-5110. Distributed by Consortium.

By *Salt Water* is the first collection of short stories from Angela Bourke, a lecturer in Modern Irish at University College Dublin and winner of the 1992 Frank O'Connor Award for short fiction. The women narrators in these stories encounter various lessons in a variety of landscapes — shadows of cruelty (and mortality) in the back lanes of a 60s Dublin to affairs

of the heart in America, Europe and the west of Ireland in the 90s. Subtle, delicate stories of women struggling to find their way — and themselves — in a world they cannot always comprehend. \$12.95 pb, 1-874597-39-1. New Island Books, Dublin, Ireland. Distributed by Dufour Editions, PO Box 7, Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005.

Eugenia by Lorae Parry is a play script which tells two stories, one past and one present. Eugenia Martelli is an Italian immigrant living in New Zealand at the beginning of the century. A charming con artist, womanizer and outsider, she lives as a man and marries a woman without revealing her true gender. Eugenia is arrested for murder — but is this the transgression for which she is really on trial?



In the present, Iris, a drama teacher, is creating a school play based on Eugenia's life. This causes great consternation to the conservative board of trustees and impels the deputy principal to examine her own sexuality. \$14.95 pb, 0-86473-304-6. Victoria University Press, Box 600, Wellington New Zealand. Distributed by Lubrecht & Cramer, 18 E. Main St., Port Jervis NY 12771; 914-856-5990. Note: Distributor orders books from New Zealand; expect 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Traditional fairy tales are commonly intended to convey moral truths. And traditionally, for young women these "truths" involve preparation for the responsibilities of marriage and family life. In **Once Upon a Time: Erotic Fairy Tales for Women** edited by Michael Ford, the contributors (Dorothy Allison, Red Jordan Arobateau, Jenifer Levin, Lee Lynch, Pat Califia, Kitty Tsui and others) retell their favorite fairy tales, making them more relevant to contemporary lesbians. Classic characters such as Sleeping Beauty, Rapunzel and Goldilocks are transformed when the authors unleash the hidden power of these archetypal figures. In addition to exploding the stereotype of imperiled beauty, several authors appropriate the power of the traditionally male hero by recasting their tales entirely with women. \$12.95 pb, 1-56333-449-6.

Virgin Territory edited by Shar Rednour is a collection of true stories, written by women, about their first-time erotic experiences with other women. While this is the same premise behind *Early Embraces* from Alyson Press, the tone of these stories is often quite different. "A real mix of the literary and the raunchy." —*The San Francisco Bay Guardian*. \$12.95 pb, 1-56333-457-7. Masquerade Books/Richard Kasak Books, 801 Second Ave., New York NY 10017; 212-661-7878. Distributed by BP, Alamo Square.

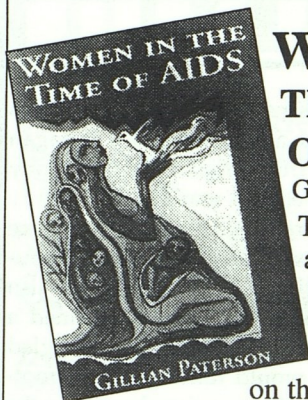
Brigid's Charge is a retelling of the legend of the Jersey Devil by Cynthia Lamb, a direct descendant of the woman accused of giving birth to the devil child.

Imbued with a feminist sensibility, the story follows the life of Deborah Leeds, a young woman of pagan heritage who emigrated from England to the colony of New Jersey in 1704. Deborah married, bore many children and, although careful not to reveal the source of her knowledge and powers, acquired a strong reputation as a healer. With Erin, an Irish woman who also possessed powerful knowledge, Deborah formed a loving and dangerous relationship. As they struggled to raise daughters who would follow in their footsteps, all were threatened by a society hostile to the unknown. "Full of information about magic, **Brigid's Charge** is an engaging and imaginative story of the life of an extraordinary woman in a difficult time — and a good read!" —Starhawk, author of *The Spiral Dance* and *The Fifth Sacred Thing*. \$14 pb, 0-9654694-1-7. \$22 cl, -0-9; Bay Island Books, PO Box 485, Corte Madera CA 94976; 415-924-9026. 40%, no minimum order. Distributed by BP, Koen, B&T.



Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun: An Athabaskan Indian Legend from Alaska by Velma Wallis (*Two Old Women*) is the story of two Native American rebels who break the strict taboos of their communal culture in their quests for freedom and adventure in the unknown. For Bird Girl, a headstrong young woman, this means both defying her family's expectations to brave life on her own and facing the horrors of war and racial hatred. For Dagoo, a curious young man, this means forsaking the safety of his homeland to discover what lies beyond the horizon. Bird Girl and Dagoo wander far from their culture's deeply held traditions and eventually must find a way to come home again. The story is based on two classic Athabaskan legends. \$19.95 cl, 0-945397-34-8. Epicenter Press, PO Box 82368, Kenmore WA 98028; 206-485-6822. Distributed by Graphic Arts Center, PO Box 10306, Portland OR 97210; 800-452-3032. Available at Ingram, BP.

The Faces of Women



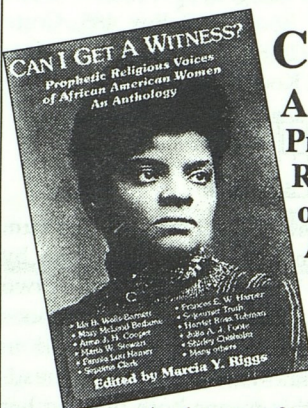
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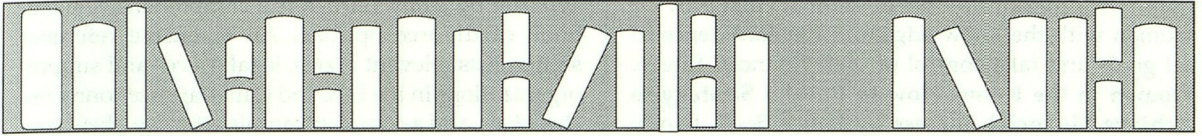
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"Expanding the universe of heroic women" is the mission of Conari Press's new line, the Barnard Biography Series for Young Women. **Beryl Markham: Never Turn Back** by Catherine Gourley and **Elizabeth Blackwell: A Doctor's Triumph** by Nancy Kline introduce the series, which is aimed at readers twelve and up. In **Beryl Markham** (foreword by Rosellen Brown) Gourley depicts key events in Markham's childhood that shaped her into the risk-taker and free spirit she became as an adult. \$6.95 pb, 1-57324-073-7. Ages 12 and up. Focusing the obstacles she encountered and triumphantly overcame, **Elizabeth Blackwell** illustrates the life and many accomplishments of the first woman physician in the U.S. — a social pioneer who also helped secure health care for women and children of all ages. \$6.95 pb, 1-57324-057-5. Ages 12 and up. Conari Press, 2550 Ninth St., Suite 101, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-649-7182. Distributed by PGW.



The lives and accomplishments of 81 Jewish women from the ancient world of the Bible to modern times are portrayed in **Remarkable Jewish Women: Rebels, Rabbis and Other Women from Biblical Times to the Present** by Emily Taitz and Sondra Henry. The book is arranged chronologically, and each chapter begins with a brief essay that provides a historical, social and cultural context for the era in which the profiled women lived. This informative and widely illustrated (b & w photos and drawings) book is written for the YA audience. \$29.95 cl, 0-8276-0573-0. In **Biblical Women Unbound: Counter-Tales**, acclaimed novelist and essayist Norma Rosen gives new voice to more than a dozen women of the Bible with her innovative midrash (creative storytelling). "Norma Rosen's sumptuous and daring imagination takes one's breath away.... Rosen fills in the blanks of rabbinical storytelling, placing biblical women where they belong — at dead center of the action." —Francine Klagsbrun, author of *Voices of Wisdom: Jewish Ideals and Ethics for Everyday Living* and *Jewish Days: A Book of Jewish Life and Culture Around the Year*. \$29.95 cl, 0-8276-0580-3. The Jewish Publication Society, 1930 Chestnut St., Philadelphia PA 19103; 800-234-3151. 40% for 4+ copies. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.



The premiere issue of **Get Real Comics** features three stories with substantive issues underlying the plots: with the encouragement of her friends, a young woman finds the strength to believe in herself and her dreams; established male/female roles are reversed at a high school dance; a young man shows that one can be an accomplished athlete as well as a sensitive caregiver. The comic features young men and women from various ethnic backgrounds that challenge traditionally assumed gender roles, in a graphic format that is inviting to reluctant readers. Because of size and format, this will be best displayed next to register. \$1.95 staple bound, no ISBN. **COLLAGE**, 709 Mt. Airy Ave., Philadelphia PA 19119; 215-242-3211. Available direct only, 35% for 20+ copies.

Sheila Rowbotham's **Hidden From History: 300 Years of Women's Oppression and the Fight Against It**, originally published in 1973, is available again in the U.S. In this classic study of women in Britain from the Puritan revolution to the 30s, Rowbotham shows how class and sex, work and family, and personal life and social pressures have shaped and hindered women's struggles for equality. Essential feminist history. \$16.95 pb. 0-904383-56-3. **Unmanageable Revolutionaries: Women and Irish Nationalism** by Margaret Ward, a study of the role the women's movement in modern Irish history, is also newly available (originally published in 1989). \$17.95 pb, 0-7453-1084-2. Pluto Press, 345 Archway Rd., London N6 5AA, England. Distributed by LPC Group/InBook.

Offering insights culled from women's studies scholarship with the intent of exploring society, **Controlling Reproduction: An American History** edited by Andrea Tone and **American Women in a World at War: Contemporary Accounts from World War II** edited by Judy Barrett Litoff and David C. Smith are the first two books in the Worlds of Women series from SR Books. **Controlling Reproduction** is an informative, comprehensive account that provides insight and

perspective on the historical path of reproduction control, which is viewed in the contexts of politics, law, medicine, sexuality, business and social change. \$16.95 pb, 0-8420-2575-8; \$45.00 cl, -2574-X.

Bringing together writings by 25 women who share their rich and varied World War II experiences, **American Women in a World at War** provides abundant materials (many of which have been out of print) on gender, class and race during World War II. \$16.95 pb, 0-8420-2571-5; \$45.00 cl, -2570-7. SR Books, an imprint of Scholarly Resources, 104 Greenhill Ave., Wilmington DE 19805; 800-772-8937. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.



Grassroots Grants: An Activist's Guide to Proposal Writing by Andy Robinson is a well-written, helpful and concise book that will help organizers with that unpleasant, nerve racking yet necessary activity: fundraising. Robinson was a community organizer and grassroots fundraiser for 16 years, and during that time he wrote 100 successful grant proposals. His book describes what it takes to win grants, including: How grants fit into a complete fundraising program; using your grant proposal as an organizing plan; designing fundable projects and building your proposal piece by piece. It also includes four complete proposals, plus suggestions from 40 foundation staff who fund groups working for social, economic and environmental justice. From the publisher of Kim Klein's *Fundraising for Social Justice*. \$25 pb, 0-9620222-5-X. Chardon Press, PO Box 11607, Berkeley CA 94712; 510-704-8714. Available direct only. 40% for 5+ copies.

Women live longer than men, earn less, and are far more likely to head single-parent households. They are also, traditionally, less likely to be educated about financial planning and investment. Recognizing the need to address these concerns, The Toronto-Dominion Bank developed the Women in

the Know program, a series of seminars that provide women with the knowledge and the confidence to set goals and take control of their financial future.

Women in the Know: How to Build a Strategy to Achieve Financial Success by Janice Book, Sandy Cimoroni and Susan Swayze is the book that came out of this program. Based on a three-phase strategy (Setting the Groundwork, Mapping it Out, Turning Dreams into Reality), **Women in the Know** takes women, step-by-step, through a process that will help them understand their own, and their family's, personal finances. The book is Canadian, but the information and guidance offered here is not exclusive to the Canadian financial system. \$19.95 pb; 1-55013-800-6. Key Porter Books, 70 The Esplanade, Toronto ONT, Canada M5E 1R2. Distributed in the U.S. by General; 800-805-1083 and in Canada by General; 800-387-0172.

Based on 200 interviews with divorced women and men, as well as first-person accounts of divorce experiences from lawyers and mediators, **The (Almost) Painless Divorce: What Your Lawyer Won't**

Tell You by Jenny Garden is a comprehensive handbook of divorce options. An extensive reference section lists relevant books, legal offices and support organizations in the U.S. and Canada; questionnaires, checklists, and a complete sample attorney-client contract are also provided. \$12.95 pb, 1-879260-39-5. Evanston Publishing, Inc., 1571 Sherman Ave., Annex C, Evanston IL 60201; 847-492-1911. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group. Available at Ingram.



Pussycat Fever by Kathy Acker is a brief graphic novel illustrated by Diane DiMassa and Freddie Baer. (The text is excerpted from Acker's *Pussy, King of the Pirates*.) As tough and provocative as one would expect a joint effort by these three artists to be. 75 pages, \$7 pb, 1-873176-63-5.

"Life in this society being, at best, an utter bore and no aspect of society being at all relevant to women, there remains to civic-minded, responsible, thrill-seeking females only to overthrow the government, eliminate the money system, institute complete automation and destroy the male sex." —from **SCUM Manifesto** by Valerie Solanas. The movie "I Shot Andy Warhol" renewed interest in the life of this woman who was hailed as one of the most important spokeswomen of the feminist movement by some and vehemently hated by others. This new edition of **SCUM Manifesto** (Society for Cutting Up Men) includes a brief essay that offers the bare details of Solanas' life. 60 pages, \$5 pb, 1-873176-44-9.

AK Press, PO Box 40682, San Francisco CA 94140; 415-864-0892. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

Screaming Hyena is a bimonthly literary magazine with a focus on gay, lesbian and queer writing. The magazine is produced in Australia, and while there is an emphasis on Australian books, the contents are also reflective of the wide range of titles being released in other English-speaking areas, especially Britain, the U.S. and Canada. Recent issues cover books by Katherine V. Forrest, Achy Obejas, April Sinclair, Sarah Schulman and others, and feature interviews and articles which reflect the diversity of same-sex desire across the world today. This is an attractive, well-designed magazine with

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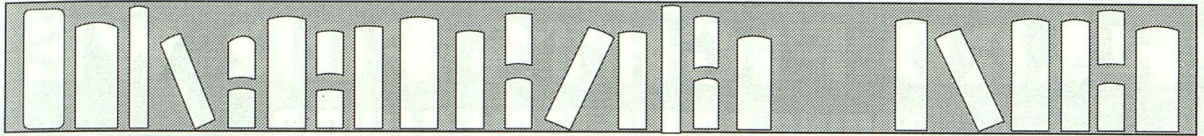
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good cover graphics. \$5.50/issue, ISSN 1325-0841. Screaming Hyena, 135 Commercial Road, South Yarra 3141, Australia. Distributed in the U.S. by Bookazine, Fineline Distributors; in Canada by Door-mouse Distribution.



The Rebellious Body: Reclaim Your Life from Environmental Illness or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome is written by Janice Strubbe Wittenberg, a registered nurse and health educator, and someone who suffered from both illnesses at once. In this book, she combines personal experience and scientific research into a comprehensive guide that will help the reader identify these conditions that are so difficult to diagnose and traditionally even more difficult to treat. Wittenberg shares the most effective ways she discovered for coping with and treating EI and CFS, with the goal of reaching complete recovery. A practical, self-help book that engages the reader in her own recovery and assists her in customizing healing options. \$18.95 pb, 0-306-45402-5. Insight Books/Plenum Publishing, 233 Spring St., New York NY 10013; 800-221-9369. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.

Forthcoming from The Crossing Press: **The Language of Dreams** by Patricia Telesco is an encyclopedia of more than 800 symbols commonly appearing in people's dreams throughout the world. Each interpretation incorporates multicultural elements along with psychological, religious, folk and historical meanings so the imagery of every entry speaks to a broad and diverse range of individuals. \$16.95 pb, 0-89594-836-2. (May)

Diane Stein, a natural healer and teacher of women's spirituality, has two new books this season. **Healing with Flower and Gemstone Essences** provides a guide to healing the body, mind and spirit with the aid of flower and gemstone essences. \$14.95 pb, 0-89594-856-7. (April) Stein's **A Woman's I Ching**

offers a feminist rendering of the popular ancient text for divining the character of events. Modeled after the traditional I Ching, this new interpretation reclaims the feminine content of the ancient work and removes all oppressive language and imagery. \$16.95 pb, 0-89594-857-5. (May)

Written for the woman who wants to take a creative, proactive role in her prenatal care, **The Natural Pregnancy Book: Herbs, Nutrition and Other Holistic Choices** by Aviva Jill Romm describes effective natural techniques, herbal remedies and nutritional aids to support a healthy pregnancy. \$19.95 pb, 0-89594-819-2. (April)

The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019; 800-777-1048. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T. ○

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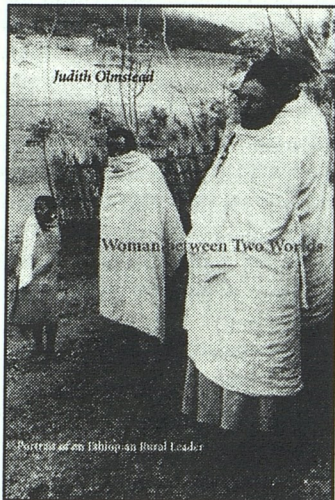
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FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller

I'd like to introduce two presses whose books I've not previously reviewed, and welcome them to this column.

CANADIAN CONGRESS FOR LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

This first press I learned about through the literacy work I'm doing at Amazon Bookstore. The CLOW is a national, feminist organization dedicated to addressing education and training issues for girls and women. They have several publications including the following two.

Listen to Women in Literacy: The Power of Woman-Positive Literacy Work by Tannis Atkinson, with Frances Ennis and Betty-Ann Lloyd, portrays the work of twelve adult-literacy programs across Canada that initiated other programs specifically for women. I found the book interesting and useful. In accessible language, it describes the various strategies used by the programs and outlines what was learned about women's lives. It also discusses how programs can be women-positive and what roles feminism plays in literacy work with women. C\$5 pb, 1-895686-38-5, 1994.

Making Connections: Literacy and EAL Curriculum from a Feminist Perspective produced by CLOW is a wonderful resource for educators looking for literacy materials from a feminist perspective. It includes suggestions for activities, writings by women learners, writing exercises, resource lists and sample stories — all collected in a handsome spiral-bound volume. Additionally, there are articles on how to use the materials as well as discussion on what constitutes a feminist curriculum. The chapters organize the materials by subject — gender roles, cultural awareness, role models, work, self-esteem, safer sex, and so

on. The book also includes songs and is packaged with a tape-recording of the songs so women can read and sing along! I'm looking forward to using these materials in our Women Leading Through Reading book groups! By the way, EAL means English-as-an-additional language. \$24.95 pb, 0-921283-18-0, 1996.

Add \$5 shipping and GST for those in Canada. Discounts by volume. No returns. Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women, 47 Main Street, Toronto ONT, Canada M4E 2V6; 416-699-1909, fax 416-699-2145, email (cclow@web.apc.org).



INTERCULTURAL PRESS

I contacted Intercultural Press after seeing one of their flyers. Though what they publish and distribute is interesting, most of it would be outside the range of what feminist bookstores generally select. But they do have one book that I felt we should know about. **Women's Guide to Overseas Living**, Second Edition by Nancy Piet-Pelon and Barbara Hornby offers specific and useful information for women who decide to live — on their own or with their families — overseas. These two authors have many years of experience living in Indonesia, Nepal, India, Britain and Bangladesh. They offer advice on culture shock, handling stress and loneliness, helping children to adjust, staying healthy and more. Whether moving for enjoyment, for employment, or to accompany a partner, this book will prove helpful in understanding what needs to be considered when planning to live overseas. \$15.95 trade, 1-877864-05-6, 1992.

Also of interest: **Women on the Move: A Christian Perspective on Cross-Cultural Adaptation** by Gretchen Janssen (\$15.95 trade, 1-877864-09-9, 1989);

WOMEN Society

More Than Victims

Battered Women, the Syndrome Society, and the Law
Donald Alexander Downs

"Downs considers the ability of [Battered Women Syndrome] defenses to increase society's awareness of the special fears of individuals 'subjected to violence and related forms of abuse on a sustained basis.' But he also discusses their failings. . . . Based on interviews with battered women, experts in the field and prodigious research, Downs concludes that Battered Women Syndrome-based defenses are unable to help women who kill in nonconfrontational situations."—*Publishers Weekly*

Cloth \$27.50 320 pages
Morality and Society series

Autobiography of an Aspiring Saint

Cecilia Ferrazzi
 Edited and translated by Anne Jacobson Schutte

"Fascinating. . . . Readers interested in the 'other voice' that began to emerge in early modern Europe after 3,000 years of misogynist tradition will find this an invaluable resource."—*Booklist*

Paper \$14.95 136 pages
The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe

History and Theory

Feminist Research, Debates, Contestations
 Edited by **Barbara Laslett, Ruth-Ellen B. Joeres, Mary Jo Maynes, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, and Jean Barker-Nunn**

Illustrating the uses of theories in recent feminist historical research and the often contentious arguments that surround them, the articles speak to a number of discussions, including the importance of class relations for understanding historical events and social relationships and the expansion of concepts from political economy to include race.

Paper \$19.95 400 pages

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Intercultural Sourcebook: Cross-Cultural Training Methods, Volume 1 edited by Sandra Fowler (\$20.95 text, 1-877864-29-3, 1995); and **Experiential Activities for Intercultural Learning, Volume 1** edited by Ned Seelye (\$20.95 text, 1-87764-33-1, 1996).

Discounts. Trade: 10% for one, prepaid only; 20% for 2-4; 40% for 5+. Text: 10% for 1-4; 20% for 5-49. Intercultural Press, 16 U.S. Route One, PO Box 700, Yarmouth ME 04096; 207-846-5168, fax 207-846-5181.

And now, back to our cast of regulars....

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

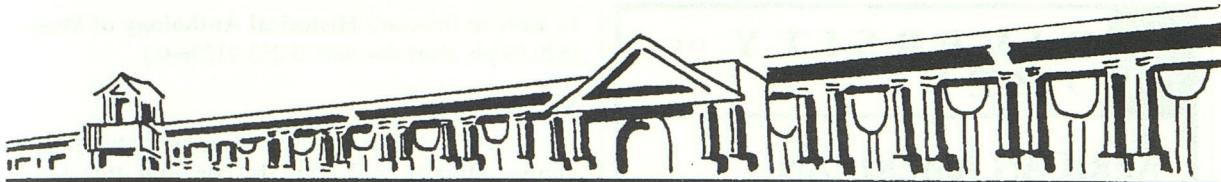
In **Legally Wed: Same-Sex Marriage and the Constitution**, Mark Strasser examines the issue of same-sex marriage in light of contemporary constitutional and domestic relations law, showing why the usual arguments against recognizing such unions are either weak or irrelevant. \$25 cl, 0-8014-3406-8, April.

I successfully avoided taking home economics in high school — I knew that it was a trap designed to snare me into being a housewife and a mother. Apparently I'm not the only one who figured this out, as historians have tended to ignore home economics for similar reasons. **Rethinking Home Economics: Women and the History of a Profession** edited by Sarah Stage and Virginia Vincenti presents an alternative analysis as it documents the evolution of this profession. The essays include significant new work that places home economics in the 20th century within the context of the development of women's professions — dietetics, parenting, teaching and cooperative extension work, test kitchens and product development. It explores the ways in which gender, race, and class influenced women's options in universities, hospitals, business, industry and government. But I'm still glad I didn't take home ec — and I've fared well without it! \$18.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8014-8175-9, May.

Also of interest: **Disorderly Women: Sexual Politics and Evangelicalism in Revolutionary New England** by Susan Juster. \$14.95 pb, 0-814-8388-3.

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY PRESS

For many personal reasons, I've always had an interest in deaf culture and experience. I was quite excited, then, to receive a new book from Gallaudet called **The Silents** by Charlotte Abrams. It's Abrams'



memoir of growing up as one of two hearing daughters of deaf parents. Reflecting the complexities present in many families, Abrams recounts growing up during the Depression in this Jewish family living in Chicago. Their experiences reflect common workaday problems and typical discord between parents and children combined with the uniqueness of deaf culture, bilingual communication (sign language and English), and living as "The Silents" among hearing people. As her mother loses her eyesight, the family rallies through the devastating implications it has for them. **The Silents** is fascinating and engaging. \$24.95 cl, 1-56368-055-6.



HAWORTH PRESS

Tired of those therapy books that address couples as simply heterosexual and white? **Couples Therapy: Feminist Perspectives** edited by Marcia Hill and Esther Rothblum reveals the inadequacies of that viewpoint and examines the importance of race and ethnicity as well as sexual orientation. The contributors offer perspectives grounded in an appreciation of cultural context, the effects of privilege, and the centrality of a respectful stance on the part of the therapist. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-094-0.

Unlike most books that focus on the decision-making process related to having an abortion, **Experiencing Abortion: A Weaving of Women's Words** by Eve Kushner focuses on women's post-abortion feelings and experiences. These interviews reveal that though women come from many different backgrounds (race and ethnicity, age, religion and number of abortions) they have similar emotions and concerns. \$29.95 cl, 1-56023-902-6, May.

Sexualities edited by Marny Hall transcends the common notion of a homogenous or uniform sexuality. These essays by psychologists, sociologists and sexologists explore diverse topics covering the range

of sexual experiences, sexual longings, sexual preferences and sexual identities that characterize women's lives. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-095-9, April.

Haworth has two new titles of specific interest for the lesbian and gay community. **Social Services for Senior Gay Men and Lesbians** edited by Jean Quam provides practical information on how to work with the older gay and lesbian populations — especially suited for those in the helping professions. (\$12.95 pb, 1-56023-084-3.) **Two Spirit People: American Indian Lesbian Women and Gay Men** edited by Lester Brown will be of help to educators, social workers, and providers of mental health and social services who want to understand sexual roles and identities within American Indian cultures. (\$12.95 pb, 1-56023-089-4.)

Also of interest: **Relationships Between Women in Later Life** edited by Karen Roberto. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-091-6.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Reinventing the Sexes: The Biomedical Construction of Femininity and Masculinity by Marianne van den Wijngaard traces the history of scientific thought about sex differences. Feminist intellectual thought generated new vision — calling into question the binary model for masculinity and femininity. This book demonstrates the impact of these radical ideals on models for scientific practice. \$12.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21087-9; \$29.95 cl, -33250-8, May.

At last, we can hear the music as well as read about it! **Historical Anthology of Music by Women: Companion Compact Discs**, (2 CDs, \$29.95, *short discount*, 0-253-33281-8, May) compiled by James Briscoe, presents three dozen selections spanning all periods and genres of Western music. These are the recordings of most of the music discussed and printed

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LaVerne McCain Gill

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Women's Oral Narratives in Tunis
Monia Hejaiej

"Hejaiej opens a window on female Muslim life. . . . She examines the age-old tradition of storytelling as a medium of self-expression for Beldi women—the elite, highly civilized city-dwellers. . . . An outsider is given a glimpse of what Beldi women's lives are like behind closed doors."—*Christian Science Monitor*
 369 pp. Paper, \$17.95; Cloth, \$50.00

GUILTY WITHOUT TRIAL

Women in the Sex Trade in Calcutta
Carolyn Sleightholme and Indrani Sinha

Through interviews, surveys, and case studies, the authors interrogate the double standards of sexual morality that govern the lucrative sex trade in India, and make visible the more than twenty thousand women whose voices have been silenced.
 160 pp. Paper, \$17.95; Cloth, \$48.00

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Karla F. C. Holloway
 210 pp. 9 b & w illus. Paper, \$16.95; Cloth, \$24.95

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Race, Parenting, and Culture
Maureen T. Reddy
 215 pp. Paper, \$16.95; Cloth, \$22.95



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS
 Available in bookstores

in score in Briscoe's **Historical Anthology of Music**. (\$29.95 pb, short discount, 0-253-21296-0.)

MIT PRESS

Stores with strong sections in art criticism and gender studies will want to consider this long-awaited collection of essays by Mary Kelly. **Imagining Desire** asks fundamental questions about the analysis of current practices in art and makes rigorous arguments for a criticism informed by semiotics, psychoanalysis and feminism. Probably not suited for the casual reader, serious art students will enjoy this book: Kelly continues to push the boundaries of the visual, the textual, the sexual and the political in her writing and art. \$30 cl, 0-262-11214-0.

Now available in paper from Zone Books: **The Invention of Pornography: Obscenity and the Origins of Modernity, 1500–1800** edited by Lynn Hunt places the modern debate over the censorship of pornography into historical context. This collection of essays traces the history and uses of pornography in early modern Europe. \$18 pb, 0-942299-69-8. Zone Books is an imprint of MIT Press.



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

In Defense of Single-Parent Families by Nancy E. Dowd explodes the myths that single-parent families are dysfunctional, unsuccessful and/or poor. Using sociological data, legal analysis and personal experience, Dowd examines issues of welfare and poverty, unconventional family constellations, the reality that two-parent families actually function as single-parent families, conflicts in work and family responsibilities, and various forms of social stigmatization. She explores differences as they relate to gender, class, and race as well as those that arise from being divorced or never-married. \$26.95 cl, 0-8147-1869-8.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Part memoir, part self-analysis, **Bequest and Betrayal: Memoirs of a Parent's Death** by Nancy K. Miller recreates a common experience — the death of a parent — and exposes the often tortuous paths of



mourning and attachment that follow in the wake of the loss. Miller uses literature, autobiography and dialog with the reader to delve into the ways we rethink our lives, look for missing clues, and come to understand how enmeshed in family plot we have been. \$23 cl, 0-19-509130-2.

Holding My Own in No Man's Land: Women and Men and Film and Feminism by Molly Haskell shows how different actresses have changed the appearance, and therefore the political meaning, of particular characters and films. Through interviews, portraits and ruminations, Haskell challenges the assumption that the classic films of the 30s, 40s and 50s were made by an industry that was controlled by men and that victimized women. \$25 cl, 0-19-505309-5.



RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION

With the effects of welfare reforms yet to be seen and the certain increase in poverty for women and their children on the horizon, I suspect there will be an increase in the number of economic and social studies books on these topics published by academic presses. The lead Spring title for Russell Sage will be an important contribution to this growing list. More than one in five children in the U.S. lives below the poverty level, a proportion that exceeds that of any other advanced nation. **Saving Our Children from Poverty: What the United States Can Learn from France** by Barbara Bergmann describes one of the most successful European systems of assistance for families, and, through comparison with American programs, offers a valuable guide to improving the safety net for children and reforming the dysfunctional welfare system. For those who say that the federal government can't take care of these problems and should be decentralized, this book will provide some valuable evidence to the contrary. \$34.95 cl, 0-87154-114-9.

SAGE PUBLICATIONS

These are titles from 1996 that somehow got lost in the shuffle. I will do the 1997 titles in the next issue.

The Women of Ideas series from Sage introduces readers to the life, times and work of key "women of ideas" whose work influenced people and helped change the times in which they lived. In 1996, Sage initiated the series with the following three titles. **Simone de Beauvoir** by Mary Evans considers the themes and tensions contained in the work of de Beauvoir — the "mother" of contemporary feminism. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8039-8867-2.) **Eleanor Rathbone** by Johanna Alberti examines the work of a prominent figure in British politics, both as a suffragist and an MP. Rathbone is perhaps best known as the leading proponent for the introduction of family allowances. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8039-8876-1.) **Christine Delphy** by Stevi Jackson argues that Delphy is a "true" French feminist and a major architect of materialist feminism — a radical feminist perspective that she developed in the context of the French women's movement of the late 60s and early 70s. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8039-8870-2.) I'm excited about this series. I enjoyed learning about the works of two women with whom I was not familiar, intersected by an in-depth study of theories that are usually glossed over. They're intellectually stimulating yet still accessible. My only hope is that the series will also examine, with the same seriousness, the works of women not based in Western European thought.

Race, Class, and Gender: Common Bonds, Different Voices edited by Esther Ngan-Ling Chow, Doris Wilkinson and Maxine Baca Zinn examines how race, class, and gender interrelate; how this relationship forms patterns of social relations and hierarchical orders; and how feminist scholarship based on the complex understanding of the interlocking nature of race, class, and gender transform knowledge and social life. The contributors gathered for this volume come from a wide range of backgrounds — sociology, African American studies, Chicano studies, ethnic

Elizabeth Abel, Barbara Christian, and Helene Moglen, Editors
Female Subjects in Black and White
Race, Psychoanalysis, Feminism
May, 20630-4, \$17.95 paper

David Kinsley
Tantric Visions of the Divine Feminine
The Ten Mahavidyas
June, 20499-9, \$16.95 paper

Esther Madriz
Nothing Bad Happens to Good Girls
Fear of Crime in Women's Lives
July, 20855-2, \$14.95 paper

California

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Sara Davidson
Loose Change
Three Women of the Sixties
Available Again—April, 20910-9,
\$13.95 paper

Lea Jacobs
The Wages of Sin
Censorship and the Fallen Woman Film, 1928–1942
With a New Preface
Available Again—March, 20790-4,
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Elaine Bell Kaplan
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Unravelling the Myths of Black Teenage Motherhood
Preface by Arlie R. Hochschild
July, 20858-7, \$15.95 paper

Amia Lieblich
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June, 08541-8, \$16.95 paper

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Arlene Stein
Sex and Sensibility
Stories of a Lesbian Generation
April, 20674-6, \$16.95 paper

Rae Yang
Spider Eaters
A Memoir
April, 20480-8, \$27.50 cloth

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS



studies and gender studies. The issues move beyond the sociological stratification into the wider context of the sociological world. The emphasis is interdisciplinary. \$24.95 pb, 0-8039-7057-9.

In 1996, there were two additions to the Sage Violence Against Women series. **Wife Rape: Understanding the Response of Survivors and Service Providers** by Raquel Kennedy Bergen addresses the deep pain and humiliation of sexual assault suffered by countless numbers of women at the hands of their partners. Not only does it include the voices of these women, it offers hope and insight to the survivors, critical information for service providers — including legal information — and lists of organizations and resources. (\$18.95 pb, 0-8039-78241-5.) **I Am Not Your Victim: Anatomy of Domestic Violence** by Beth Sipe and Evelyn Hall details the evolution of domestic violence during the 16-year marriage of one of its authors, Beth Sipe. Written with the assistance of her therapist (Hall), this book explores Beth's desperation and her mishandling by supposedly helpful social institutions (police, mental health, welfare, etc.), which resulted in her revictimization. Commentaries by professionals in the field round out the book. Beth's story adds to the understanding of spousal abuse, why battered women stay in abusive relationships, and the explosive consequences of domestic violence. (\$23.95 pb, 0-7619-0146-9.)

Also of interest: **Counseling to End Violence Against Women: A Subversive Model**, Mollie Whalen (\$16.95 pb, 0-8039-7380-2); **The Multiracial Experience: Racial Borders as the New Frontier** edited by Maria P. Root (\$26.95 pb, 0-8039-7059-5); and **The Masque of Femininity**, Efrat Tseïlon (\$19.95 pb, 0-8039-8807-9).

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Legal questions affecting HIV-positive people have grown tremendously complex, cutting across multiple areas of life and law. **The Rights of People Who Are HIV Positive** by William Rubenstein, Ruth Eisenberg and Lawrence Gostin uses a simple

question-and-answer format to focus on the day-to-day legal questions most likely to arise concerning the rights of people living with HIV. This book from the ACLU makes clear how to take advantage of the laws designed to secure the rights that are at stake in the HIV crisis. \$13.95 pb, 0-8093-1992-6; \$34.95 cl, -1991-8.

TEACHER'S COLLEGE PRESS

Just Girls: Hidden Literacies and Life in Junior High by Margaret Finders provides a rich portrait of adolescent girls in middle school. Her study shows that adolescent girls have many "hidden literacies" — signing yearbooks, writing notes, bathroom graffiti and teen zines. Through interacting with and interviewing girls in and out of the classroom, Finders discovers that literacy plays an important role in the construction of the self and in maintaining friendship groups. \$17.95 pb, 0-8077-3560-4; \$38 cl, -3561-2.



TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESS

If you went to college between the 60s and the 80s, did you know which of your professors was lesbian or gay? Were they out? Could they act as a role model for you as a Future Dyke of America? **Poisoned Ivy: Lesbian and Gay Academics Confronting Homophobia** by Toni A. H. McNaron addresses these and other issues from inside academia. Her book is part narrative and part synthesis of 340 questionnaires received from gay and lesbian professors with more than 15 years of experience in academia. McNaron addresses issues of coming out to colleagues and students, administration policies and politics, tenure and promotion, scholarship, and campus debate. She discusses the changes and gains made over the years, but cautions that all is still not safe in the halls of the academy. I found this book accessible, historically interesting and enlightening. \$19.95 pb, 1-56639-488-0; \$54.95 cl, -487-2.

CORNELL

Illus. from *Rethinking Home Economics*

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*Same-Sex Marriage
and the Constitution*

MARK STRASSER

Mark Strasser examines the issue of same-sex marriage in light of contemporary constitutional and domestic relations law, showing why the usual arguments against recognizing such unions are either weak or irrelevant. 0-8014-3406-8 \$25.00 cloth April

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of a Profession*

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UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA PRESS

Mexican Cinema/Mexican Woman, 1940-1960 by Joanne Hershfield examines a singular moment in the history of Mexican film to investigate the ways in which the cinematic figures of women functioned to mediate narrative and social debates. \$16.95 pb, 0-8165-1637-5.

The Desert Is No Lady: Southwestern Landscapes in Women's Writing and Art edited by Vera Norwood and Janice Monk provides a cross-cultural perspective on women by examining Anglo, Hispanic and Native American women's artistic expressions and the role of their art in the definition of southwestern landscape. \$19.95 pb, 0-8165-1649-9.

Also of interest: The journal, *Perspectives in Mexican American Studies*, has published a special issue called **Mexican American Women: Changing Images** (\$15 pb, 0-939363-05-4, Volume 5, 1995); **Breathing Between the Lines: Poems**, Demetria Martinez (\$12.95 pb, 0-8165-1798-3; \$24.95 cl, -1796-7); and **Mary Austin: Song of a Maverick**, Esther Lanigan (\$19.95 pb, 0-8165-1714-2).



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

For those interested in the Cultural Revolution in China, **Spider Eaters: A Memoir** by Rae Yang promises to be a solid addition to this growing body of literature. Yang's memoir includes personal stories mixed with family history and a chronicle of political upheaval. Additionally and uniquely, she invokes myths, legends and local customs that surrounded her, bringing to life the many people instrumental in her development. \$27.50 cl, 0-250-20480-8, April.

Happily — at least in the circles I travel in — there seems to be some resurgence of feminist lesbian viewpoints and theory. **Sex and Sensibility: Stories of a Lesbian Generation** by Arlene Stein illustrates the lasting and profound effects that the lesbian feminist movement had, and continues to have, on contemporary women's definitions of sexuality. Her study traces various aspects of feminist lesbian experiences, reactions, and cultures from the 70s to the 90s. \$16.95 pb, 0-520-20674-6, April.

Mother Without Child: Contemporary Fiction and the Crisis of Motherhood by Elaine Tuttle



Hansen reveals the maternal not as a core identity but as a site of profound psychic and social division. She illuminates decades of feminist thought and explores novels by Jane Rule, Alice Walker, Louise Erdrich, Marge Piercy, Margaret Atwood, and Fay Weldon, thus producing a portrayal of motherhood re-imagined. (\$16.95 pb, short discount, 0-520-20578-2.) Also in the field of literary criticism, **Writing Tricksters: Mythic Gambols in American Ethnic Fiction** by Jeanne Rosier Smith examines the remarkable resurgence of tricksters — ubiquitous shape-shifters who dwell on borders, at crossroads and between worlds — on the contemporary cultural and literary scene. The writers who use these techniques as studied by Smith include Maxine Hong Kingston, Louise Erdrich and Toni Morrison. Smith weaves together current critical discourses on marginality, ethnicity, feminism and folklore, illuminating a “trickster aesthetic” central to non-Western storytelling traditions and powerfully informing American literature today. (\$15.95 pb, short discount, 0-520-20656-8, April.)

Also of interest: **Women in the Metropolis: Gender and Modernity in Weimar Culture** edited by Katharina von Ankum (\$15.95 pb, short discount, 0-520-20465-4); and **The Wages of Sin: Censorship and the Fallen Woman Film, 1928–1942**, Lea Jacobs, with a new preface (\$15.95 pb, 0-520-20790-4).

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

I have to admit, the title of this next book is a bit stunning — **Charming Cadavers: Horrific Figurations of the Feminine in Indian Buddhist Hagiographic Literature** by Liz Wislon. This study investigates first-millennium Buddhist notions of spirituality. In narratives used for the edification of Buddhist monks, women’s bodies in decay (diseased, dying, and after death) served as central objects for meditation, inspiring a salutary sense of revulsion and a deepened commitment to chastity. Wislon makes persuasive use of recent historical work on the relig-

ious lives of women in medieval Christianity, finding common emphasis on disfiguration in Buddhist and Christian hagiography. What can I say — “I’m not surprised” and “Not for the squeamish” come to mind! \$19.95 pb, 0-226-90054-1.

Autobiography of an Aspiring Saint edited and translated by Anne Jacobson Schutte is the life story of Cecilia Ferrazzi (1609–1684). Financially unable to enter the convent, she refused to marry and, as a single laywoman, set out in pursuit of holiness. She improvised a vocation by running houses of refuge for young women at risk of being lured into prostitution. \$14.95 pb, 0-226-24447-4.

Now available in a new design: **Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality: Gay People in Western Europe**, John Boswell. \$19.95 pb, 0-226-06711-4.



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS PRESS

Justyna’s Narrative by Gusta Davidson Draenger is a compelling account of the Krakow Jewish resistance. From February through April 1943, Gusta Davidson Draenger (aka Justyna) composed this narrative on scraps of paper smuggled into her prison cell. Between sessions of torture and interrogation at the hands of the Gestapo, she recorded the activities and spiritual aspirations of a clandestine group of young Jewish idealists who forged and acquired weapons and committed acts of defiance against the Nazis. \$13.95 pb, 1-55849-038-8; \$40 cl, -037-X.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

Between the Sheets, In the Streets: Queer, Lesbian, Gay Documentary edited by Chris Holmlund and Cynthia Fuchs considers the films and documentaries testifying to the connections between sexuality (the sheets) and activism (the streets) for those who identify as gay, lesbian, or queer in the 90s. This huge anthology covers a broad

New Spring Titles

from TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Memory Bird
SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE
 Edited by Caroline Malone, Linda Farthing, and Lorraine Marce
 MARCH \$16.95*

* For sale only in the U.S. and its dependencies and the Philippine Islands.

Lesbian and Bisexual Identities
CONSTRUCTING COMMUNITIES, CONSTRUCTING SELVES
 Kristin G. Esterberg
 MARCH \$18.95

The Gender Knot
UNRAVELING OUR PATRIARCHAL LEGACY
 Allan G. Johnson
 APRIL \$19.95

Unzipped Genes
TAKING CHARGE OF BABY-MAKING IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM
 Martine Rothblatt
 MAY \$18.95

Women's Activism in Contemporary Russia
 Linda Racioppi and Katherine O'Sullivan See
 JUNE \$22.95

Women's Political Voice
HOW WOMEN ARE TRANSFORMING THE PRACTICE AND STUDY OF POLITICS
 Janet A. Flammang
 JUNE \$24.95

NEW IN PAPERBACK
 Women, International Development, and Politics
THE BUREAUCRATIC MIRE
 Updated and Expanded Edition
 Edited by Kathleen Staudt
 JUNE \$24.95

How I Got Over
CLARA WARD AND THE WORLD-FAMOUS WARD SINGERS
 Willa Ward-Royster, as told to Toni Rose
 JUNE \$29.95 hard cover

We Can't Eat
 Prestige
THE WOMEN WHO ORGANIZED HARVARD
 John Hoerr
 JUNE \$29.95 hard cover

range of topics and contributors. \$21.95 pb, 0-8166-2775-4; \$54.95 cl, -2774-6, April.

Diane Glancy fans will be excited to know about her newest work, **The West Pole**, which from the catalog copy, looks quite interesting. **The West Pole** is about storymaking. Glancy explores the ways the structure of Native American storytelling reflects and shapes her own sense of identity. Through words, she creates and recreates herself, her world, and the traditions of the Cherokee people from whom she is descended. \$17.95 cl, 0-8166-2894-7.

If you like utopian theories, science fiction and feminist thought — especially when considered together — you'll want to have a look at **Notes on Nowhere: Feminism, Utopian Logic, and Social Transformation** by Jennifer Burwell. Using contemporary feminist science fiction by writers such as Marge Piercy, Sally Gearhart, Joanna Russ, Octavia Butler, and Monique Wittig, Burwell examines the political and literary meaning of utopian writing and thought. \$19.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8166-2639-1; \$49.95 cl, -2638-3.

Also of interest: **Cultural Conceptions: On Reproductive Technologies and the Remaking of Life** by Valerie Hartouni. \$16.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8166-2623-5; \$39.95 cl, -2622-7, May.



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI PRESS

Victorian Ghosts in the Noontide: Women Writers and the Supernatural by Vanessa Dickerson analyzes women's spirituality in a materialistic age by examining the supernatural fiction of Charlotte and Emily Brontë, Elizabeth Gaskell and George Eliot; she provides interpretive readings of familiar texts such as *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*. \$34.95 cl, *short discount*, 0-8262-1081-3.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS

The nice thing about university presses is that they often produce biographies of women we'd never know about otherwise. This one may be of particular interest to all us feminist and independent bookstore owners. **The Very Rich Hours of Adrienne Monnier** by Adrienne Monnier, translated by Richard McDougall, is the autobiography

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of a woman greatly involved in the artistic and literary life on the Left Bank of Paris in the 20s. (She also owned a vibrant bookstore on the Rue de l'Odéon called La Maison des Amis des Livres "The House of the Friends of Books.") Monnier delighted in language, books, art, music, nature, friendship and food. She was lovers with Sylvia Beach who, inspired by Monnier, opened Shakespeare and Company, the English-language bookstore in Paris, and knew all of the literary greats of the day — Djuna Barnes, Natalie Barney, H.D., Anaïs Nin, Gertrude and Alice, Colette, T.S. Eliot, James Joyce, André Breton, André Gide and others. Monnier and Beach published the first French- and English-language editions of James Joyce's *Ulysses*. \$23 pb, 0-8032-8227-3.

Also of interest: **Women in German Yearbook: 12** edited by Sara Friedrichsmeyer and Patricia Herminghouse. \$18 pb, 08032-9791-2.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

Margaret Dickie examines the poetry of three pre-eminent women writers — Gertrude Stein, Elizabeth Bishop and Adrienne Rich — investigating the ways in which each attempts to forge a poetic voice capable of expressing both public concerns and private interests. **Stein, Bishop, and Rich: Lyrics of Love, War, and Place** presents three lesbian voices fueled by creativity in the face of cultural constraint. \$16.95 pb, 0-8078-4622-8; \$45 cl, -2308-2, April.

Now available in paper: **Women of the Republic: Intellect and Ideology in Revolutionary America**, Linda Kerber (\$12.95 pb, 0-8078-4632-5; \$37.50 cl, -1440-7); and **The Secret History of Gender: Women, Men, and Power in Late Colonial Mexico**, Steve Stern (\$18.95 pb, 0-8078-4643-0).

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

Women in the American Welfare Trap by Catherine Péliissier Kingfisher contributes to the growing body of work on the welfare state and its effect on

women. Unlike other books in this field, though, Kingfisher includes everyday conversations of women caught in the spiraling welfare trap. She addresses issues ranging from policy formation and implementation and the role of men in women's economic lives to low-income women's beliefs and aspirations and the possibilities of women cooperatively working to change the welfare system. This is an academic study. \$17.50 pb, 0-8122-1515-X; \$37.50 cl, -3287-9.

Ellen Terry: Player in Her Time by Nina Auerbach is the biography of Ellen Terry — an important and beloved actress during the second part of the 1800s. She held a place in the pantheon of actresses such as Sarah Bernhardt and Eleonora Duse. \$22.50 pb, 0-8022-1613-X.



UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

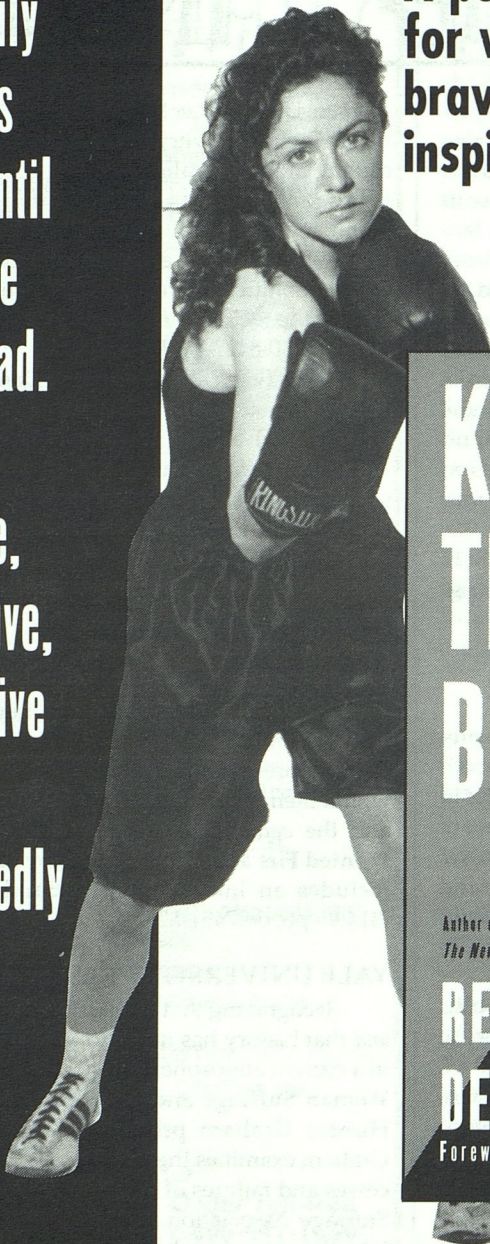
This Spring, there are two new novels in the Hardscrabble series: **Professor Romero** by Anne Bernays presents an academic Don Juan who collides with contemporary feminism (\$14.95 pb, 0-87451-809-1); and the centennial edition of **The Country of the Pointed Firs and Other Stories** by Sarah Orne Jewett includes an introduction by Sarah Way Sherman (\$14.95 pb, 0-87451-826-1).

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Recognizing that we can learn from our mistakes *and* that history has much to teach us *and* that we are in a current atmosphere of backlash against feminism, **Woman Suffrage and the New Democracy** by Sara Hunter Graham provides analysis we can use. Graham examines the work, goals, organization, successes and failures of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Especially useful is the insight into the ways in which small, fledgling groups can become formidable social change organizations. \$27.50 cl, 0-300-06346-6. ○

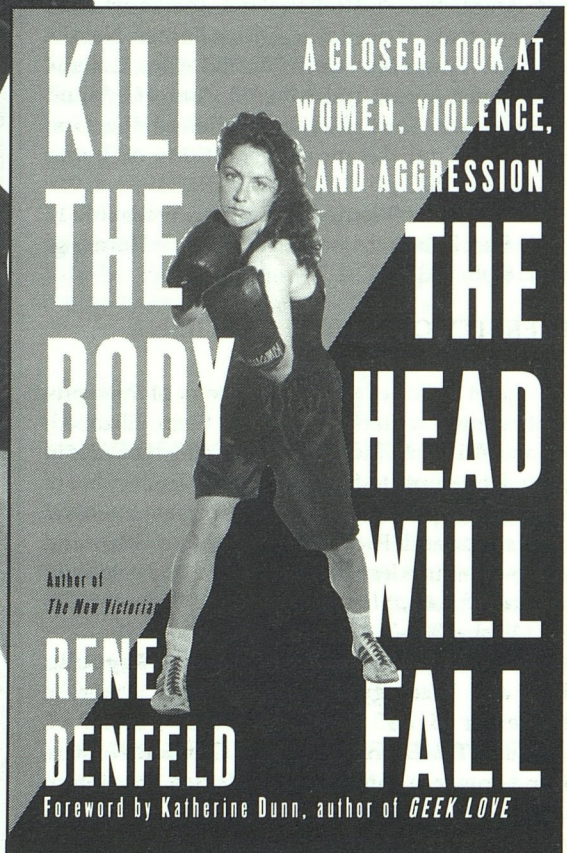
“Women will never truly be equals to men until we can be just as bad. Just as assertive, aggressive, competitive and unabashedly mean.... Just as violent.”

—Rene Denfeld



“A powerful call to arms for women....The author’s bravery and passion will inspire most readers.”

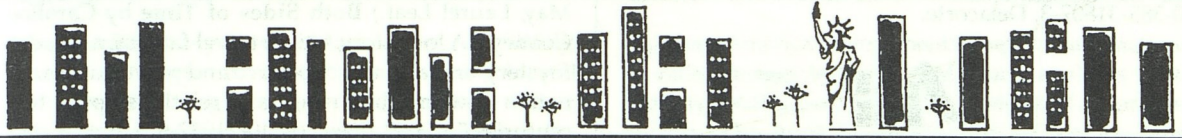
—The New York Times Book Review on The New Victorians, also by Rene Denfeld



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AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



ADDISON-WESLEY

In **The Feminine Economy and Economic Man: Reviving the Role of Family in the Postindustrial Age** Shirley Burggraf argues that the family should be regarded as an economic entity amenable to incentives and investment. She wants those who invest the most in producing our economy's human capital — parents, teachers, nurturers — to be rewarded with real economic incentives. Burggraf backs up her ideas with many facts, figures and anecdotes. Fascinating reading. \$24 cl, 0-201-47961-3.

Natural Menopause: The Complete Guide, Revised Edition by Susan Perry and Kate O'Hanlan, M.D. A new revision of one of the better books on menopause, with the steadfast belief that menopause is a natural passage in life, not a disease. \$14 trade, 0-201-47987-7. —Dorothy Holland

BALLANTINE

Faint Praise by Ellen Hart is the mass market release of the sixth mystery in this series featuring lesbian sleuth Jane Lawless. Wonderful, wonderful, wonderful. \$5.99, 0-345-40493-9, April. —DH



BANTAM DOUBLEDAY DELL

Walking to Mercury: A Novel by Starhawk. This is the prequel to *Fifth Sacred Thing*, presenting the story of Maya's life. Judging by sales made of *Fifth*, this one will run off your shelves. I can't wait. \$23.95 cl, 0-553-10233-8, Bantam.

Notes From an Incomplete Revolution: Real Life Since Feminism by Meredith Maran. Her previous title, *What It's Like to Live Now*, won my heart. This one looks just as good. Whether she's reminiscing

about "free love" in the 60s or talking shoe styles with a transvestite, this is writing to celebrate. \$22.95 cl, 0-553-09952-3, May, Bantam.

If I Should Die by Grace Edwards is another one that sounds good. Set in Harlem, the female protagonist is a grad student, ex-cop and a stubborn sleuth. \$21.95 cl, 0-385-48523-9, May, Doubleday.

In **The Hidden Writer: Diaries and the Creative Life** Alexandra Johnson focuses on the ways different women writers have used the diary to negotiate the obstacle course of a woman writer's life. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-47829-1, May, Doubleday.

The Lipstick Proviso: Women, Sex, and Power in the Real World by Karen Lehrman argues that feminists should allow women to live their lives as they choose, and that feminism is not an immutable set of rules, beliefs and objectives. Hello? \$23.95 cl, 0-385-47481-4, Anchor.

In **The Country of Men: My Travels** by Jan Waldron is an "exploration of the meaning of gender, male-female relationships, and manhood...written with tenderness, humor and great empathy for males." \$23.95 cl, 0-385-48564-6, May, Anchor.

To Dance With the Devil: The New War on Breast Cancer: Patients, Politics, Science, Strategy by Karen Stabiner. An investigative journalist's account of the key players and developments in the campaign against breast cancer, and of the patients who are so desperately searching for a cure. \$25.95 cl, 0-385-31284-9, April, Delacorte.

In **The Last Gift of Time: Life Beyond Sixty** by Carolyn Heilbrun, this distinguished author tells why she had always resolved to take her own life at the age of 70, and the reasons that led her to negotiate, day by day, the choice to live instead. Heilbrun's writing is always wonderful — wise, humorous and serious. A must. \$19.95 trade, 0-385-31325-X.

Evening Class by Maeve Binchy is a novel about the lives of eight Dubliners who come together in an Introduction to Italian class, which changes their lives forever. I'm sure this will be as wonderful as her previous *Glass Lake* and *Circle of Friends*. \$24.95 cl, 0-385-31807-3, Delacorte.



The Wise Woman's Guide to Erotic Videos: 300 Sexy Videos for Every Woman — and Her Lover by Angela Cohen and Sara Fox. Very inclusive — I think women of all ages and preferences will find something they'd like here. \$15 trade, 0-553-06784-2.

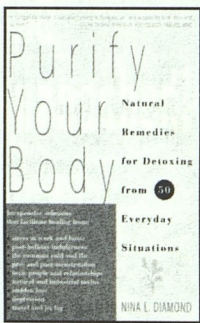
Several young adult titles I saw in this catalog appear to be worth checking out: **Keeping the Good Light** by Katherine Kirkpatrick has excellent historical information about the turn-of-the-century in New York State, woven in with the story of a 17-year-old girl's forced move to a real city from the small island and lighthouse her family had tended. (\$3.99 mass, 0-440-22040-8, Laurel Leaf.) **Under the Mermaid Angel** by Martha Moore. A girl's life is brushed by the

magic of friendship in this funny, bittersweet novel about 13-year-old Jessie and her new friendship with 30-year-old Roxanne who sweeps into the trailer next door, complete with wild red hair and a liberty bell tattooed on her chest. (\$3.99 mass, 0-440-22682-1, May, Laurel Leaf.) **Both Sides of Time** by Caroline Cooney. "A love story, a time travel fantasy, a murder mystery, and also a provocative and powerful examination of women, marriage and relationships in two centuries." (\$4.50 mass, 0-440-21932-9, Laurel-Leaf.) **Words By Heart** by Ouida Sebestyen is about a Black family, strong in their love and pride, and the daughter whose actions bring violence to the ones she loves most dearly. (\$3.99 mass, 0-440-41346-X, Yearling.)

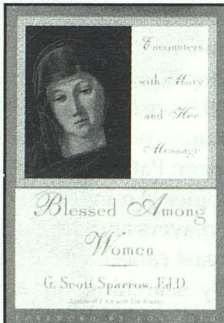
A couple mysteries to know about: **Cop Out: A Jill Smith Mystery** by Susan Dunlap is another engaging mystery from the author of *Sudden Exposure*. This one finds Smith on the outs with the Berkeley police department. (\$20.95 cl, 0-385-31600-3, May, Delacorte.) **Cold Case: A Carlotta Carlyle Novel** by Linda Barnes is an engrossing mystery and an atmospheric, contemporary novel about old money, family secrets and the ultimate price of fame. (\$20.95 cl, 0-385-30614-8, April, Delacorte.) **Survival Instincts: A**



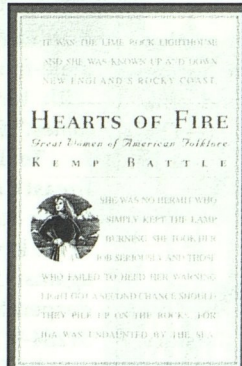
THE CROWN PUBLISHING GROUP



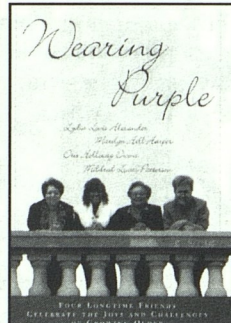
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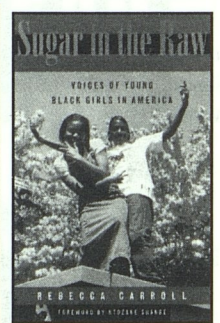
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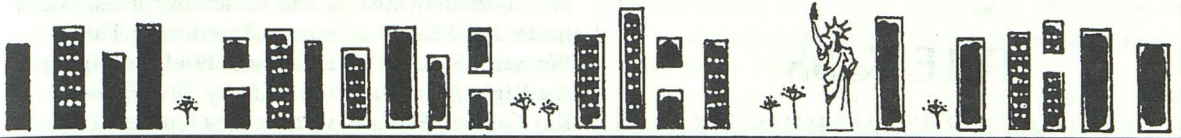


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By Rebecca Carroll
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Nina Fischman Mystery by Marissa Piesman. "Witty, neurotic NY lawyer Nina Fischman is nearing 40, still on a diet, still single, and — with the help of her irrepressible mother — doggedly investigating the murder of a scientist." (\$20.95 cl, 0-385-31358-6.)

Now in paper: **Zenzele: A Letter for My Daughter** by J. Nozipo Maraire. A letter from a mother in Zimbabwe to her daughter on the way to America, reflects on her life and explores what it means to be an African woman. (\$9.95 trade, 0-385-31822-7, May, Delta.) **Natural Medicine for Menopause and Beyond** by Paula Maas, Susan Brown and Nancy Bruning. A safe, natural, multidisciplinary guide to menopause and aging. (\$13.95 trade, 0-440-50703-0.) —DH



BEACON

Rena's Promise: A Story of Sisters in Auschwitz by Rena Kornreich Gelissen, with Heather Dune Macadam. Sent to Auschwitz on the first Jewish transport, Rena Kornreich and her younger sister survived the Nazi death camps for more than three years. In this memoir, Rena recounts her daily struggles to fulfill the promise she made to her mother when the family was forced to split apart, a promise to take care of her sister. Amazing and engrossing. \$12 trade, 0-8070-7071-8.

Waist-High In The World: A Life Among the Nondisabled by Nancy Mairs. In these ten essays, Mairs, the author of *Ordinary Time* and *Voice Lessons*, pulls us, both disabled and nondisabled, into her space, where severe multiple sclerosis has confined her to a wheelchair "consigned to gazing at navels other than my own." Very thought provoking. \$20 cl, 0-8070-7086-6.

Where Is Your Body? And Other Essays on Race, Gender and the Law by Mari Matsuda looks at race, gender and politics from the perspective of an Asian American legal scholar. Matsuda is a member of the *Ms.* Magazine Board of Scholars, and a prominent legal advocate of banning hate speech. From stories of the

Japanese American internment camps to her reactions to racist images in movies, Matsuda explores what identity politics can contribute to a vision of a more just society. The book is a collection of lectures and speeches she has given. \$24 cl, 0-8070-6780-6. —DH

BERKLEY

Do As I Say, Not As I Did: Perfect Advice From An Imperfect Mother by Wendy Crisp. If Crisp's *100 Things I'm Not Going to Do Now That I'm Over 50* did well for you, grab this one. If not, you probably want to get one of each and look through them — there's laughter and truth. Crisp is the director of the National Association for Female Executives. \$15 cl, 0-399-52334-0, May, Perigee.

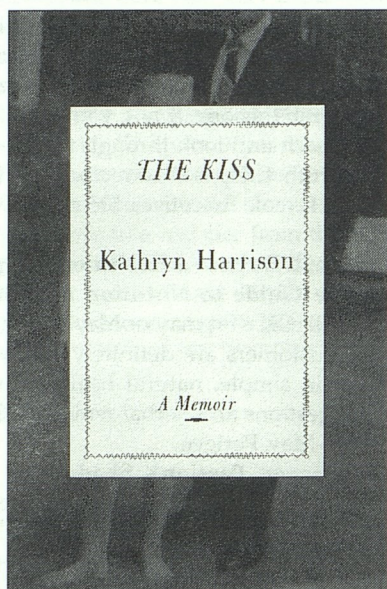
Dr. Jane's 30 Days to a Healthier, Happier Cat: The Complete Guide to Nutrition and Health by Jane Bicks. Well, OK — it may or may not be feminist — but your customers are definitely cat lovers! Dr. Jane believes in simple, natural healing for cats — with diet suggestions and herbal remedies. \$21.95 cl, 0-399-52317-0, May, Perigee.

Now in paper: **Passion's Shadow** by Nichole Conn (*Claire of the Moon*). A hot lesbian love story in mass market — get it! (\$5.99 mass, 0-425-15664-8.) **Getting Over Getting Older: An Intimate Journey** by Letty Cottin Pogrebin is an honest, humorous, and personal exploration of the perils and pleasures of aging. Come on all you baby boomers, we might as well enjoy it! (\$13 trade, 0-425-15793-8, May.) **Mama's Girl** by Veronica Chambers. "A memoir for daughters who have loved and blamed Mama in the same anguished breath." (\$12 trade, 1-57322-599-1, May, Riverhead.) **Mangos, Bananas and Coconuts: A Cuban Love Story** by Himilce Novas. A satirical tale of a Caribbean Tristan and Isolde. (\$12 trade, 1-57322-613-0, June, Riverhead.) **Kitchen Table Wisdom: Stories That Heal** by Rachel Naomi Remen, who shares her unique perspective on healing rooted in her background as a physician, professor, therapist and long-term survivor of chronic illness. Reminds us that the things we cannot measure may be the things

THE KISS

BY KATHRYN HARRISON

Kathryn Harrison was 20 years old when she met her father for the second time. *The Kiss* is the story of his seduction of her — a story both of taboo and of family complicity in breaking taboo.



“The bravery in Harrison’s raw, clear voice will stay with me a long time. I couldn’t stop reading this. I’ll never stop remembering it.”

—Mary Karr, author of *The Liars Club*

“I am in awe — no other word will do — of the courage it took to write this book, and of the art.”

—Tobias Wolff, author of *This Boy’s Life*

RANDOM HOUSE

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that ultimately sustain and enrich our lives. (\$12.50 trade, 1-57322-610-6, August, Riverhead.) **The Savvy Woman’s Success Bible: How to Find the Right Job, the Right Man, the Right Life** by Tina Flaherty and Kay Gilman. Flaherty was the first female V.P. of several of America’s largest corporations and Gilman was the first female sportswriter for a major metropolitan newspaper — you’d think they could have left the man out of the title! Ignoring that part, there’s lots of good info in here. (\$13 trade, 0-399-52299-9, May, Perigee.) **The Maria Paradox: How Latinas Can Merge Old World Traditions with New World Self-Esteem** by Rosa Maria and Carmen Vazquez. Very helpful and empowering guide. (\$14 trade, 0-399-52309-X, July, Perigee.) —DH



DOVE KIDS

Daddy Day, Daughter Day by Larry King and Chaia King. A true story of divorce and parenting told from both a child’s and a father’s point of view. Larry King and his daughter, Chaia, share poignant memories of Chaia’s childhood, in stream-of-consciousness style. I really liked this book — perhaps because of my own experiences of visiting days with my father. \$12.95 cl, 0-7871-0490-6. —DH

HARCOURT BRACE

I don’t quite know why, but the catalogue copy grabbed me on **Wild Meat and the Bully Burgers** by Lois-Ann Yamanaka. It sounds witty and weird, and fun. A Japanese American family, with a spunky girl child, living in Hawaii. \$12 pb, 0156004836.

Sometimes My Heart Goes Numb: Love and Caregiving in a Time of AIDS by Charles Garfield includes individual stories interwoven with commentary — sounds like a very comforting book. \$13 pb, 015600495X.

—Linda Bryant
Charis Books & More

HARPERBASIC

Focusing on the hottest political issues today, **In Defense of Affirmative Action** by Barbara Bergmann presents overwhelming evidence that continuing discrimination against Blacks and women determines who gets ahead and who doesn’t in this country.

Bergmann shows how 50 large corporations differ radically in how much integration they have achieved and presents abundant evidence that affirmative action, where systematically applied, has undone injustice and provided real economic benefit. \$13 pb, 0465098347, April.

The Batterer: A Psychological Profile by Donald Dutton with Susan Golant is a study of 700 abusive men. The authors paint a dramatic and startling portrait of the man who assaults his intimate partner. This book focuses on the personality of the abuser, rather than that of the victim, and shows how men can become batterers and how we can begin to put an end to this violence. \$13 pb, 0465033881, April.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

HARPERCANADA

Upstream by Canadian author Sharon Butala is the story of a woman searching for reconciliation with her husband, her family, and herself through an impassioned journey into her French Canadian roots. \$12 pb, 0006481132. —ST

HARPERCHILDREN'S

From Cover To Cover: Evaluating and Reviewing Children's Books by Kathleen Horning is a definitive guide to reviewing children's books for parents, teachers, librarians and children's literature students. Horning provides practical guidelines for reading critically, evaluating an initial response, answering questions raised during the first reading, putting a response into words, balancing description with criticism and writing reviews for a particular audience. Horning reviewed children's books for *FBN* for several years, has served on many ALA award committees and chaired the 1995 John Newbery Committee. \$12.95 pb, 006446167X. —ST

HARPERPERENNIAL

Pawpaw Patch by Janice Daugharty is a powerful novel that deals with racial prejudice in a small Georgia town. Chanell, a sassy, independent beautician and proprietor of a popular salon and meeting place, suddenly finds her lifelong friends and customers avoiding her. At first devastated by her friends' icy behavior and threatened with the loss of her business, Chanell decides once again to fight the

racial hatred that is the cause of it. She forces the townsfolk to confront their racism and themselves as they really are. \$12 pb, 0060927984.

A haunting historical narrative about a rebellious 16th-century woman, **The Burgermeister's Daughter** by Steven Ozment is an examination of the politics of sexuality, gender and the family. Anna Buschler defied 16th-century mores with her immodest dress and flirtatious behavior. When her wealthy father discovered that she was having secret, simultaneous affairs with a young nobleman and a cavalryman, he turned her out of the house, but she sued him for financial support. Her bitter legal battle lasted 30 years and ended only upon her death. \$12.50 pb, 0060977213.

Love, Again, Doris Lessing's latest novel, tells the story of a 65-year-old woman who falls in love and struggles to maintain her sanity. Sarah is a writer, widowed with grown children, when she begins a love affair with a young actor during the production of her play. Sarah is compelled to explore her own personal history of love and deal with longings and desires she thought were for younger women. \$13 pb, 0060927968, April.

Roustabout by Michelle Chalfoun is an original first novel about a female circus roustabout. Mat, abandoned by her mother when she was five and adopted into a traveling circus, finds solace in her work and the odd menagerie of circus hands that make up a family to her. At 15-years-old, Mat dreams of escaping this world filled with drugs, booze and sex. \$12.50 pb, 0060927992, April. —ST



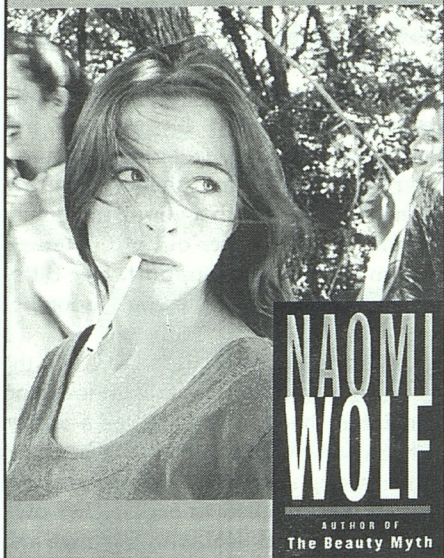
HARPERSAN FRANCISCO

A hot title for February will be **On My Own at 107: Reflections on Life Without Bessie** by Sarah Delaney with Amy Hill Heath. In the latest saga of the indomitable Delaney sisters, Sarah Delaney shares her memories of her sister who died in 1995. The book is illustrated with paintings of flowers from Bessie's garden. Other titles by the Delaney sisters are *Having Our Say* and *The Delaney Sisters' Book of Everyday Wisdom*. \$18/C\$25 cl, 0-06-251485-7.

Another February release is Susan Gordon Lydon's **The Knitting Sutra: Craft as a Spiritual Practice**. This

Promiscuities

The Secret Struggle for Womanhood



Promiscuities

The Secret Struggle Toward Womanhood

by Naomi Wolf

What is the nature of women's desire and pleasure? How do girls learn from their own culture what it means to "become a woman" through what happens to them sexually?

In her bravest, most thoroughly argued, and most important book to date, Naomi Wolf (*The Beauty Myth*) offers an exceptionally frank sexual memoir — her own, as well as that of her generation. A call to women not only to claim, but to celebrate their own sexual experiences, desires, and histories.

RANDOM HOUSE
0-679-41603-X, \$23.00

book explores an intriguing topic — the spiritual aspects of knitting and other handicrafts (usually women's). According to Lydon, "The hands of knitters and craftspeople spin tales of creation, life, death, genealogy, and history; they connect us to the heavens, the ages and the earth itself at once. To knit is to be freed from time and the constraints of everyday life, to take our place at the table of the ancients, to claim citizenship of the entire planetary culture and relationship with the widest community of people from the present to the past." \$18/C\$25 cl, 0-06-251202-1.

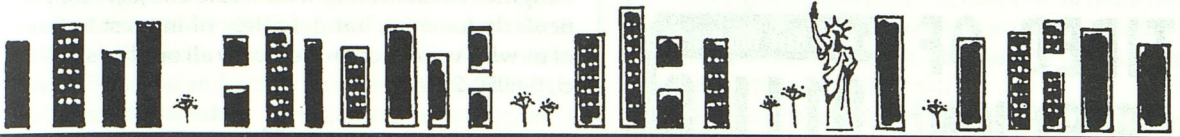
March brings a new paperback edition of the comprehensive Marija Gimbutas book, *The Civilization of the Goddess: The World of Old Europe* (\$22/C\$31, 0-06-251450-4) and *Sophia: Goddess of Wisdom* (\$17/C\$18.95, 1-85538-275-X) by Caitlin Matthews, advertised as "an epic survey of the Goddess of Wisdom throughout human history."

March also heralds a paperback edition of *Fairy Tales: Traditional Stories Retold for Gay Men* (\$11/C\$15.50, 0-06-251309-5) by Peter Cashorali and the paperback of Matthew Fox's latest, *Confessions: The Making of a Post-Denominational Priest* (\$14/C\$19.50, 0-06-062965-7).

The Essential Gay Mystics edited by Andrew Harvey includes mystics whose homosexuality has long been suppressed or ignored and contemporary lesbian and gay writers, artists and philosophers whose work explores spiritual themes. Sounds interesting, but I wish there was a list of contributors since the only ones mentioned were male.... \$21/C\$29.50 cl, 0-06-250905-5.

Belleruth Naparstek's *Your Sixth Sense: Activating Your Psychic Potential* (\$22/C\$31 cl, 0-06-251359-1, April) builds on her earlier book, *Staying Well With Guided Imagery*, to enable readers to explore and develop their psychic skills. *Innerspace: The Art of Inner Learning* (\$12/C\$14.95 pb, 1-86371-591-6) by Maureen Garth is a book of 25 creative visualizations. Has a great cover — might be fun to use with the Naparstek books or *Soul Cards* or *The Woman's Book of Creativity*.

In January, Jean Houston's autobiography *A Mythic Life: Learning to Live Our Greater Story* (\$14/C\$19.50 pb, 0-06-250282-4) came out in paperback. In this book, Houston explores the mythic themes in her own life and encourages readers to do the same. **Live Large! Ideas, Affirmations, and**



Actions for Sane Living in a Larger Body by Cheri Erdman (\$11/C\$15.50 pb, 0-06-251345-1) looks to be a great resource, with advertising planned in *Radiance* and *Big Beautiful Woman*. Erdman is also the author of *Nothing to Lose*.

Other Spring paperbacks include **The Enneagram of Parenting: The Nine Types of Children and How to Raise Them Successfully** (\$14/C\$19.50 pb, 0-06-251455-5) by Elizabeth Wagele, co-author of *The Enneagram Made Easy* and *Are You My Type, Am I Yours?* **Feminist Fairy Tales** by the encyclopedist Barbara Walker (\$12/C\$16.75 pb, 0-06-251320-6), the reissue of **The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of the Legendary Catholic Social Activist** by Dorothy Day (\$14/C\$19.50 pb, 0-06-061751-9), Marilyn Barrett's **Creating Eden: The Garden as a Healing Space** (\$10/C\$14, 0-06-250091-0), and **Totems: The Transformative Power of Your Personal Animal Totem** by Brad Steiger (\$16/C\$22.50 pb, 0-06-251425-3). **Tree Wisdom** (\$20/C\$24.95 pb, 0-7225-3408-6) is an illustrated guide to the myth, magic and healing properties of trees by Jacqueline Memory Paterson, an Arch-Druidess and co-founder of the Glastonbury Order of Druids.

Cancer: Through the Eyes of Ten Women is another collection of women's personal experiences with the epidemic that holds us in its grasp. (\$15/C\$16.95 pb, 0-04-440980-X.) **Women World Leaders: Fifteen Great Politicians Tell Their Stories** by Laura Liswood (\$16/C\$16.95 pb, 0-04-440905-2) also came out in January — title says it all. **No Angels: Women Who Commit Violence** edited by Alice Myers and Sarah Wright (\$16/C\$16.95 pb, 0-04-440957-5) is advertised as a "fascinating study of our obsession with stories of violent women and how that obsession reflects social anxiety about women's roles and the abandonment of traditional femininity."

Also, HSF is initiating a new imprint, HarperEdge, which will "explore the convergence of technology, bridging the apparent gap between our everyday lives and the dynamic realm of cyberspace." —*Audrey May Meristem*

HARPERWESTVIEW

In Faces of Feminism: An Activist's Reflections on the Women's Movement Sheila Tobias offers her recollections of the women's movement over the past 35 years. Tobias is at once inside and outside the issues of sexual preference, pornography, the "mommy track," affirmative action, reproductive rights, and the challenges of "equality" versus "difference." \$24 cl, 081332842X.



The Other Within Us: Feminist Perspectives On Women and Aging edited by Marilyn Pearsall explores and celebrates the art of aging. This book confronts the issues unique to older women in our culture and society. The contributors seek to redress the neglect and isolation women have experienced within contemporary feminism and gerontology. \$18 pb, 0813381630.

Ana's Land: Sisterhood In Eastern Europe edited by Tanya Renne gives voice to women throughout this region, from activists and scholars to high-school students as they struggle to establish their human rights and solidify the shaky social gains that were made under state-sponsored socialism. Scholarly essays, interviews and autobiographies address abortion, forced unemployment, rape, domestic violence, lesbianism, motherhood, ethnicity, war, media and religion. \$19.95, 0813328322.

Rosemarie Tong's new book **Feminist Approaches to Bioethics** looks at issues related to procreation-contraception, sterilization, abortion, artificial insemination, in-vitro fertilization, surrogate motherhood and genetic screening. She offers an approach to feminist bioethics that serves as a catalyst, bringing together the varied perspectives on choice, control and connection. \$15.95 pb, 0813319552.

The Feminist Standpoint Revisited and Other Essays by Nancy Hartsock collects her most important writings, and includes her current thinking about

TIRED OF DECEPTION?

- #33. "I'd never hurt you."
- #46. "We'll split childcare and household chores fifty-fifty."
- #56. "I promise you I'll change."


How Many Have YOU Heard?

101 LIES MEN TELL WOMEN and Why Women Believe Them

DORY HOLLANDER, Ph.D.

From first-date deception to marital dishonesty, *101 Lies Men Tell Women* exposes the diverse prevarications that can invade relationships and destroy trust. How and why do men lie? What makes women believe them? And how can you learn to become more savvy in confronting the liar? *101 Lies Men Tell Women* puts you on the fast track to honesty with your partner—and yourself.

NOW IN PAPERBACK!

 HarperPerennial

this period in the development of feminist political economy. Her central themes are the relationships between theory and activism, between feminism and Marxism, and between postmodernism and politics. \$16.95 pb, 0813315581.

African Women: A Modern History by Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch is a history of women in Sub-Saharan Africa from the eve of the colonial period to the present. This book sheds light on issues ranging from gender to economy, politics, society, and culture. \$21.95 pb, 0813323614. —ST

HOLT

Stand Facing The Stove: The Story of the Women Who Gave America *The Joy of Cooking* by Anne Mendelson is a biography of the mother-

daughter collaborators who wrote *The Joy*. Not particularly feminist, but definitely of interest to those of us who've cooked from *The Joy* all our lives. \$29.95 cl, 0-8050-2904-4. —DH



RANDOM HOUSE

The Rolling Stone Book of Women in Rock edited by Barbara O'Dair singles out the most important and influential musicians from blues to punk to rap, from Bessie Smith to Courtney Love. Written and photographed entirely by women, the book includes profiles of such artists as Bonnie Raitt, Tina Turner, Carol King, Nico, Sinéad O'Connor and Madonna by some of the best music critics today, including Ann Powers, Donna Gaines and Amy Linden. \$23 pb, 0679768742. —ST

RH-Crown

Sugar in the Raw: Voices of Young Black Girls in America edited by Rebecca Carroll with a foreword by Ntozake Shange presents Carroll's interviews with 15 Black girls between the ages of 11 and 18 talking about their lives in America today. From places as diverse as Brooklyn and Seattle, Alabama and Vermont, these young women speak out about identity, self-esteem, the role of race in their perceptions and treatment, and their hopes for the future. \$12 pb, 0517884976.

Only Twice I've Wished For Heaven is a debut novel by Dawn Turner Trice, an editor at the *Chicago Tribune*. It is a story of love and loss told by the residents of an apartment tower where elite Black professionals live in privilege and are secure behind a ten-foot-tall ivy-covered wrought-iron fence. Young Tempestt Saville, however, is drawn to the world outside the fence to 35th Street, a place colorful and dangerous. Before a month has passed at her new home, Tempestt will witness the death of a friend, cause the arrest of a preacher, and start a chain of events that will send 35th Street up in flames. \$23 cl, 0517704285.

Award-winning reporter Patrice Gaines offers her own life story and the personal testimonies of others of various ages, races, and religions in her new book **Moments of Grace: Meeting the Challenge to Change**. This book is about the process of personal

change, especially about the pivotal moments when we become aware of the grace within our lives. Gaines, a former heroin user and an abuse survivor, reveals how she and others have redeemed their lives and used the wisdom they gained to accomplish a transformation they once would have thought impossible. \$24 cl, 0517704331.

Hearts of Fire: Great Women of American Folklore and Legend by Kemp Battle is a collection of hundreds of fascinating stories and legends that celebrate the inner life and outer dynamism of women. These stories are about inclusion, equality, rediscovery and celebration. Some of these stories are about women's long march toward freedom, others illustrate the barriers and prejudices that made women's lives harder, but they are all about women trying to find identity, independence and self-creation. Many of these stories have been transcribed for the first time from oral tradition. \$25 cl, 0517703971. —ST



RH-Knopf

Fugitive Pieces by Anne Michaels was a bestseller in Canada. It is a story of WWII as remembered and imagined by Jakob Beer, a poet and one of its survivors. He was traumatically orphaned as a young child, smuggled out of Poland, first to a Greek island and later to Toronto. As an adult, Jakob learns the power of language to destroy, to omit, to obliterate, but also to restore and to conjure, to witness and to tell as he comes to understand his past. \$23 cl, 067945439X.

May Sarton by Margot Peters is the first biography of the much-admired poet and novelist. Peters shows the reader the young child in pre-World War I Belgium, growing up in America, choosing a life in the theater at 19, beginning to write poetry and novels, and making friends with Elizabeth Bowen and Virginia Woolf. We see the Sarton she created in her spiritual journals, a strong, independent woman who lived peacefully with solitude and the reality of her loneliness, neediness and isolation as she pushed away loved ones with her demands and betrayals. \$30 cl, 0679415211. —ST

The catalogue calls **Gut Symmetries** by Jeanette Winterson a complex love story, which I believe is usually the case for Winterson. She is an amazing writer. \$22 cl, 0679454756.

The Aguero Sisters by Cristina Garcia is the new novel from the author of *Dreaming in Cuban*. This is the story of two middle-aged Cuban sisters — it sounds wonderful. \$23 cl, 0679452904.

The Sharp Teeth of Love by Doris Betts is a novel of adventure — both inner and outer. \$24 cl, 0679450726.

Virginia Woolf: A Biography by Hermione Lee is expensive, but sounds very thorough and seems to really explore her relationships with women. Though we have other bios of her, I wouldn't skip this. \$39.95 cl, 0679447075.

Leave It To Me by Bharati Mukherjee. We sell a decent number of her paperbacks, *Holder of the World*, *Jasmine*, etc. This is the story of an adopted daughter's search for her roots and her belief that life owes her something. \$23 cl, 0679402853.

The catalogue says **Terminal Velocity** by Blanche McCrary Boyd is a novel about reinventing yourself, but doesn't indicate if it includes lesbian content. We all love her *Revolution of Little Girls*. \$23 cl, 0679430083.

It seems as though everyone wants more of Toni Morrison, so **The Dancing Mind** is an inexpensive way to hear some of her wise words. \$12 cl, 037540032X; \$6 audio, 0679460268. —LB



RH-Pantheon

Crooked Little Heart by Anne Lamott. I love Anne Lamott — especially *Operating Instructions* and *Bird by Bird*. She is funny and interesting in her non-fiction and this novel seems to lose none of that. Sounds like a coming-of-age kind of story with a mystery twist. \$24 cl, 0679435212. —LB

A debut novel by a young writer, **What Girls Learn** by Karin Cook, centers on two young sisters: Tilden, watchful and wise, and Elizabeth, rebellious and risk-taking. When their mother discovers a lump in her breast, a world of doctors and diagnoses, hope and despair, unfolds and transforms the family forever. \$23 cl, 0679448284. —ST

RH-Villard

Estrogen the Natural Way by Nina Shandler includes recipes and information for women who

need estrogen but who don't want to get it through taking pills. \$24.95 cl, 067945585X.

Killer Instinct by Martina Navratilova and Liz Nickles will be the final Jordan Myles mystery — combines sports, merchandising and murder this time. These do much better in paper, but I will certainly get this in. \$24 cl, 0679433929. —LB



RH-Vintage

I Was Amelia Earhart by Jane Mendelsohn is a haunting novel in which Earhart speaks to the reader from beyond the sky. Mendelsohn takes us from Earhart's haunted childhood to her sudden, burdensome celebrity to the grueling round-the-world flight that ended with her disappearance. \$10 pb, 0679776362.

The Trials of Maria Barbella by Idanna Pucci is the true story of Maria Barbella who was accused of killing the man who had raped her, promised to marry her, and now was about to abandon her in New York in 1895. Pucci, who is Barbella's great-granddaughter, explores an earlier generation's attitudes toward immigrants, capital punishment, and a woman's right to reject the role of victim. \$13 pb, 0679776044.

Plays For Actresses edited by Nina Shengold and Eric Lane collects 17 plays with all-female casts. \$18 pb, 0679772812. —ST

For Better or Worse? Same Sex Marriage Pro and Con by Andrew Sullivan. I personally don't know about Andrew Sullivan, but.... This is an edited volume with arguments through the ages — I think it is something we need to have in our stores, but I am not sure I would recommend it? \$14 pb, 0679776370.

I still haven't read **Mona in the Promised Land** by Gish Jen, but I remember that Linda Bubon liked it a lot! \$12 pb, 0679776508.

Others now in paper that we should have: **Push** by Sapphire (\$12, 0679767991); **The Shadow Man: A Daughter's Search for Her Father** by Mary Gordon (\$13, 0679749314); **The Wonder Book of the Air** by Cynthia Shearer (\$12, 0679758364); **First Comes Love** by Marion Winik (\$12, 0679765557); **Babel Tower** by A.S. Byatt (\$14, 0679736808). —LB

SIMON & SCHUSTER

Fall on Your Knees by Ann-Marie MacDonald is a tale spanning five generations of racial strife, guilt, miracles and secrets. \$23 cl, 0-684-83324-0, April.—DH

ST. MARTIN'S

Nadya: The Wolf Chronicles by Pat Murphy is the story of Nadya Rybak, a young woman growing up on the edge of the American wilderness in the 1840s. When the moon is full, Nadya changes into a wolf and roams the forest in her altered form. Forced to leave her home, she sets off on the Oregon Trail disguised as a young man, who falls in love with a woman, of course. Murphy's description of Nadya's monthly changes could change your ideas about werewolves. Lovely. Murphy's *Falling Woman* is one of my all time favorite books. \$23.95 cl, 0-312-86226-1, Tor. —DH

WARNER

Searching for Everado: A Story of Love, War and the CIA in Guatemala by Jennifer Harbury, tells Harbury's story of love and marriage to a Guatemalan guerrilla leader, Commander Everado, a Mayan. After Everado vanished in 1992, Jennifer sold all she owned and began a long, dogged search for the truth behind her husband's "disappearance." The governmental (ours, the USA) corruption she encountered stunned even this die-hard protestor, and her strength and determination are astounding. \$24 cl, 0-446-52036-5.

Now in paper: **The Futures of Women: Scenarios for the 21st Century** by Pamela McCorduck and Nancy Ramsey. Informative, amusing and also disturbing, this book projects four possible alternatives for our future. (\$14.99 trade, 0-446-67337-4, May.) **The Broken Promise Land** by Marcia Muller. "Someone is bent on getting revenge on Ricky Savage, Sharon McCone's brother-in-law and a two-time Grammy Award-winning country singer. The danger escalates as Sharon realizes that more than one person has been playing underhanded games, and that the music industry is truly a broken promise land." (\$6.50 mass, 0-446-60410-00, June.) **Out In All Directions: A Treasury of Gay and Lesbian America** edited by Lynn Witt, Sherry Thomas and Eric Marcus. A monumental compendium of gayness across the U.S. (\$16.99 trade, 0-466-67237-8, June.) —DH O

Index of Advertisers

A&M Books	84	On The Issues	46
Arte Público Press	100	Orbis	104
Astarte Shell Press	90	Papier-Mache Press	22
Audio Bookshelf	73	Penguin	16
Bantam	4	Press Gang Publishers	7
Bookpeople/Words Distributing	8	Queen of Swords Press	10
Chicory Blue Press	82	Random House	37, 124, 126
Consortium	96	Rising Tide Press	88
Cornell University Press	116	Running Press/Courage Books	6
Crown Publishing Group	122	Rutgers University Press	112
Down There Press	86	St. Martin's Press/Picador	21
ECW Press Advertising	72	Scarecrow Press	50
Firebrand Books	78	Scholastic Press	29
Goldenrod Distribution	74	Seal Press	2
Guilford Publications	94	Simon & Schuster/Free Press	30
HarperCollins	128	Sourcebooks	102
ism Press	C1	Spinifex Press	80
Koen Book Distributors	52	Spinsters Ink	C3
LPC Group/InBook	14-15	Temple University Press	118
Ladyslipper	70	Tor Books	64
McLean Media	76	University of California Press	114
Mountain N' Air Books	98	University of Chicago Press	110
Naiad Press	38	University of Illinois Press	108
New Directions	106	University of Minnesota Press	42
New Harbinger Publications	C2	Volcano Press	24
New Victoria Publishers	58	Warner Books	120
New York University Press	54	White Wolf Publishing	62

Humor, continued from page 51.

named Bitchy Bitch, whose lesbian alter ego, Bitchy Butch, is featured, along with a lot of other good work, in **Gay Comics #23**. (\$3.50, Bob Ross, Publisher, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103.)

The Noisy Passage: Baby Boomers Do Menopause (\$8.95, 1-887166-09-2, Hysteria) by Marie Evans and Ann Shakeshaft is a humor book written for "all those women who went to Woodstock, kept their names and almost forgot to have families." The best part is the eye-pleasing cover art by Nicole Hollander (creator of the cartoon character "Sylvia") in which an irate menopausal babe is protesting, "This is some kind of joke, right?"

Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Break-Ups (\$5.95 pb, 1-883523-19-2, Spinster's Ink, May) is yet another

funny, smart and irresistibly-priced little tome by the gal who brought us the bestselling *Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living*, Shelly Roberts. The revenge fantasy sections were my favorites (why *not* fill her piano with Cool Whip when she says she's leaving you?), but the book is full of sound advice as well as silly moments, my favorite being, "If you keep looking back, you'll miss all the women in front of you."

Finally, I would like to mention that not only have Rina Piccolo's cartoons appeared in the last two issues of *Ms.*, but a segment about Rina and her latest book, **Kicking the Habit: Cartoons About the Catholic Church** (\$7.95 pb, 0-9632526-7-4, Laugh Lines Press) aired recently on national Canadian television. If you don't stock Rina's books, maybe you should. ○

CLASSIFIED ADS & LITERARY PERSONALS

HELP NEEDED

Lesbian Writer Nancy Stockwell needs your help to raise \$70K for a lung transplant. This is an urgent matter. Send \$\$ to Nancy's Transplant Fund, 4318 Rainbow Blvd. #229, Kansas City KS 66103. For more information email <Luckygrrl@aol.com>. Send cards of support to 2011 W. 46th Ave., Kansas City KS 66103.

BOOKSTORE FOR SALE

Established lesbian/feminist bookstore for sale. Enjoy mild winters in a diverse, forward-looking metropolitan city. Inklings Bookshop is eight years old, with a customer list over 2,200. Inklings needs additional capital and energy to compete and grow to the next level. Call Pokey at 713-521-3369, or 713-526-7828.

SIDELINES

Box lot of 80 lesbian and feminist titles. Used, most are out-of-print. Many softbound, some with dust jackets. All in very good or better condition. \$145 postage paid. Payment by check with order. Janet Miller/An Uncommon Vision, 1425 Greywall Lane, Wynnewood PA 19096-3811; 610-658-0953.

The Thinking Woman's **Safer Sex Tool Kit.** Current, clear, concise, attractive, informative brochure by a feminist sex educator. Great handout if you sell sex toys. Reprint it yourself. For lesbians, bisexuals, heterosexuals — everywoman. 3/\$1, 25/\$7, 100/\$24 postpaid. M. Munson, PO Box 40666, San Francisco CA 94140.

Slitherings Goddesses are healing and empowering. Many new goddesses: Goddess Fountains, Goddess Bird Feeder, Goddess Bird Bath. Hand-made, womyn-

made Garden Goddesses, Goddess Figurines, and Wall-mounted goddesses. Affordable signed artworks. Retail price range \$9-120, Sample available. Free wholesale catalog. Slitherings, 733 Ormewood Avenue, Atlanta GA 30312; 404-627-2328.

The Mighty Queer Pack — it's back! Playing cards with a lesbian bent, drawn by Paula Clayton. Now available to bookstores. (Suggested retail: \$6.00. 1-24 gets 40% discount. 25+ gets 50% discount. Plus postage. Non-returnable.) Contact Mev Miller, 612-646-0097, fax 612-646-1153 or e-mail <mev@winternet.com>.

Celebrate Woman! Hand-crafted porcelain jewelry with fun, inspiring designs. Best-selling "Sisterhood" pin available in six beautiful glaze colors, wholesale \$6, and with colorful gemstones \$8. Wonderful gifts, easy to display, no minimum order for CODs. Free sample with wholesale catalog. Celebrate Woman, 3237 SE 14th, Portland OR 97202; 503-239-7015.

SERVICES

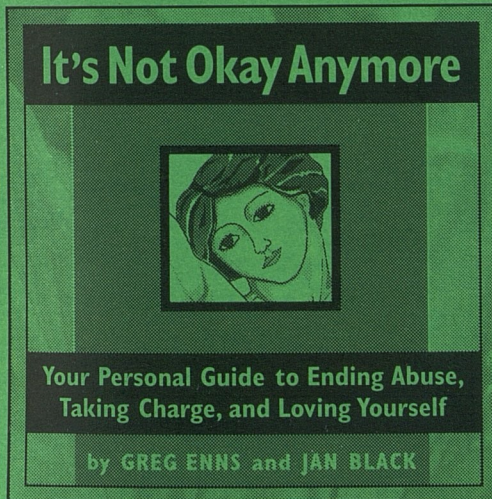
Inventory Specialist for Feminist Bookstores. Hire me to review your catalogs and make recommendations to you based on your store's inventory and sales. Services available on an hourly basis or monthly contract. Inventory recommendations can be made to fit your style. Dorothy Holland: 505-867-9077; 53 Perdiz Canyon Road, Box 943, Placitas NM 87043.

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New Harbinger Books for Women...

Identifying Strengths & Encouraging Change

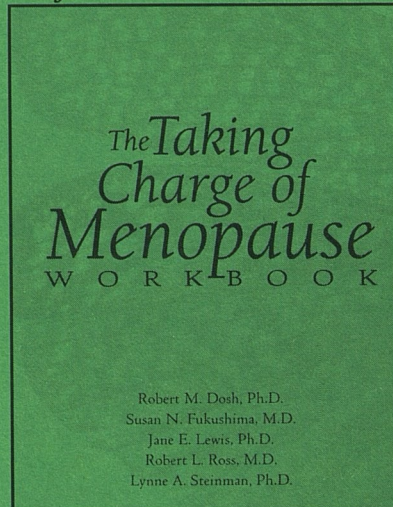
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Women Writing a Feminist Future!

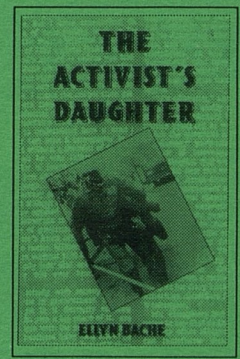


The Activist's Daughter

Ellyn Bache

ISBN 1-883523-18-4 \$10.95 (Pub. date: May 1997)

The moving account of a young woman's rebellion against her unconventional mother's involvement in the '60s civil rights movement by enrolling at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in the heart of the segregated South. "Ellyn Bache has written a wonderful coming of age book. She beautifully delineates a young woman's rebellious nature in conflict with itself. In showing us Beryl Rosinsky's serious intentions and giddy impulses, her cowardice and her bravery, she reminds us how we've all made irreversible life choices before we were old enough to know what life is." — *Margaret Maron, author of the Edgar Award-winning Deborah Knott mysteries*

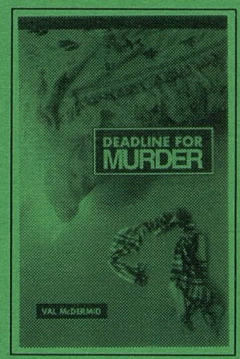


Deadline for Murder

Val McDermid

ISBN 1-883523-17-6 \$10.95 (Pub. date: April 1997)

From the critically acclaimed author of the Kate Brannigan series! When ace reporter Lindsay Gordon travels to Glasgow in search of her estranged lover Cordelia Brown, there are some surprises in store for her: Cordelia is partnered with someone else; Lindsay's ex-lover, journalist Alison Maxwell, has been murdered; and Lindsay's friend Jackie Mitchell has been tried and convicted of the crime. As Lindsay investigates, she is drawn into a tangled web of lies, secrets, and intrigue surrounding Alison's colorful life and untimely demise. Along the way, she uncovers blackmail, prostitution, betrayal of trust, the theft of classified State papers — and a long list of suspects who wanted Alison Maxwell dead.

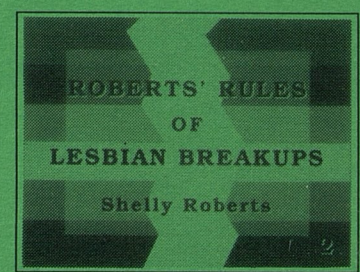


Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Break-Ups

Shelly Roberts

ISBN 1-883523-19-2 / five-copy pre-pack ISBN 1-883523-20-6 \$5.95 (Pub. date: May 1997)

Shelly Roberts, syndicated humor columnist (the "Lesbian Erma Bombeck") and author of last year's bestselling *Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living*, now turns her gimlet eye and wicked wit to splitting up, dyke style. This handy little guide leads the way through the intense, time-consuming, yet *inescapable* rite of passage in every lesbian's life: breaking up. *Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Break-Ups* contains biting, ironic, *side-splitting* nuggets of wisdom about the end of coupledom as lesbians know it. The perfect gift for anyone who has survived a break-up, lesbian or otherwise.



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