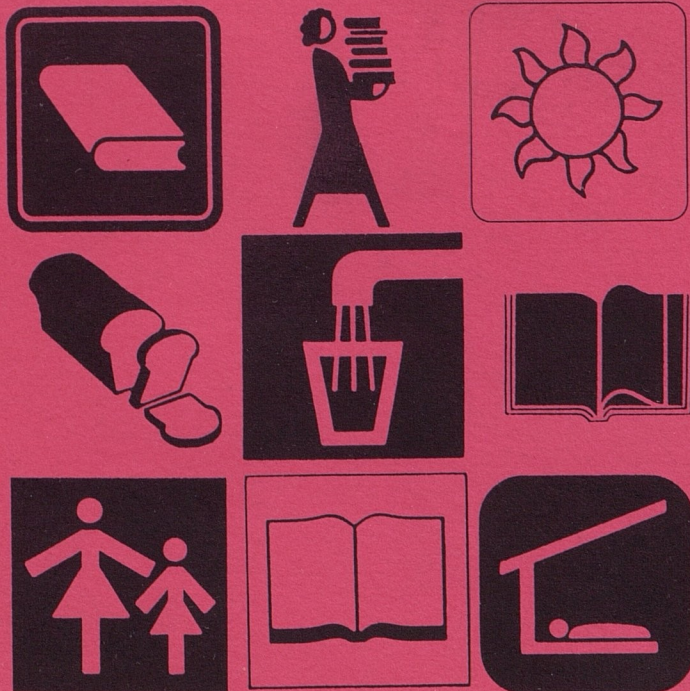

Feminist Bookstore News

International Symbols of the Necessities of Life

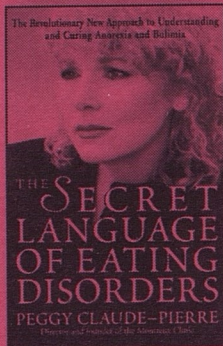


Volume 20 Number 4

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November/December 1997

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A Rich Variety of Women Authors

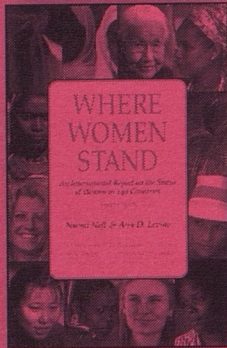


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As we go to press...

The big story as we go to press is the \$25 million Penguin is giving independent booksellers, the largest settlement — by a factor of 30 — ever awarded in an antitrust case. Penguin/Pearson was very forthcoming and cooperative and there's a strong sense of "making right" to this settlement, which is a landmark in and of itself. ABA is enormously pleased with itself and it has every right to be.

But it's also important to keep the context of this settlement in mind: This is the first time that *any* remuneration has been made to independent booksellers for the enormous damage done to independents nationwide by illegal and unfair trade practices that favor the chains and superchains. In just this one case, Penguin acknowledges that, over six years, it gave \$77M in discounts to a handful of accounts, presumably superchains. Independents will get a \$25M settlement. Superchains and independents did roughly the same amount of business during the period covered, but the chains got \$77M — three times as much as the indies.

That gives the superchains a discretionary income of \$50M above and beyond what independents made for selling the same amount of books. \$50M is a lot of full-page ads promoting independent stores. \$50M buys a lot of branding. A lot of author dinners. A lot of high-profile donations to charity. \$50M is \$10,000 *per independent store*. Think what you could do with \$10,000 to spend on promotion. Or re-fixturing the store. Or how much backlist you could add. Or what a nice dent it would make in your accounts payable...

Then multiply that by every publisher and distributor that has given preferential treatment to chainstores over the last six to ten years and you get some idea how much these deals have hurt independent stores. The book industry had received a

lot of media in these last few months, but this larger financial reality — and independent booksellers' everyday heroics in simply staying in business despite such phenomenal illicit dealings — that's next year's media story.

Be proud. Do the math, then be angry. Don't give up the fight and take time to cheer ABA and its lawyers. Renew your membership.

This issue sees the return of the publisher's column in full force: Aunt Lute Books' Joan Pinkvoss and yours truly arm wrestle a series of conversations about book distribution and the effects of the industry crisis on feminist publishers into a mere ten pages. (See "Distribution: Does It Work" and "The Mathematics of Distribution and Wholesaling.") Now Joan and I enjoy talking to each other, but what we're really interested in is a community-wide discussion. There are questions aplenty for both publishers and booksellers. Take notes as you read and tell us what



Crampzine editor (and *FBN* intern) Kickass Karen Mitchell outlining projects with *FBN* Assistant Editor Jenn Tust.

you think — printable or otherwise, on the record or off.

This issue also sees the launch of our long-dreamed-of Publishers' News column, a sister-column to Bookstore News, to help bookstores and publishers stay abreast of what's happening on the publishers' side of the tracks and to recall the ideas that motivate and empower feminist publishing.

Our January issue will be a very special issue to encourage booksellers — feminist, Black, gay — to celebrate both Black and Women's History Months. Living in California, where anti-affirmative action Proposition 209 was recently passed, we are acutely aware of the right-wing attempts to re-segregate society via their attack on affirmative action. We want to encourage booksellers to use their displays and promotions during these two months to remind their communities that we all sink together or swim together. Cross-community support and building solidarity between Black and feminist bookstores will be at the heart of this issue. Special features will include:

- Round-ups of books for Black History and Women's History Months. (Publishers, please send

frontlist title announcements and outstanding backlist titles.)

- A compilation of booksellers' favorite and best-selling titles in both areas.
- Sidelines for ethnically focused bookstores.
- Black History and Women's History Month display resources.

Please send us your suggestions, ideas, favorite-book raves, and your best resources for celebrating either — or both — months. We're very excited about this issue and welcome your input.

Last but not least, please join me in thanking Jacqueline Dumas for taking on the Canadian Books column and in welcoming our new video reviewer, Liz Wermcrantz and our new science fiction columnists, Laura Quilter and Heather Whipple, and all of our new Pubs Row reviewers to these pages. And also our intern Karen Mitchell, who joined us in September. We'll have an opening for a second intern in January, when Karen's term ends.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN DUE DATES

	Black Hist. Month, Women's Hist. Mo. Jan/Feb	Spring Announcements March/April	ABA, BEA, TLC Advance Info May/June
Articles	November 7	January 2	March 6
Ad Reservations	November 14	January 9	March 13
Ad Mechanicals	November 21	January 16	March 20
News Column Items	November 21	January 16	March 20
Letters	November 26	January 21	March 25

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

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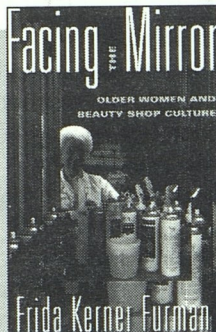
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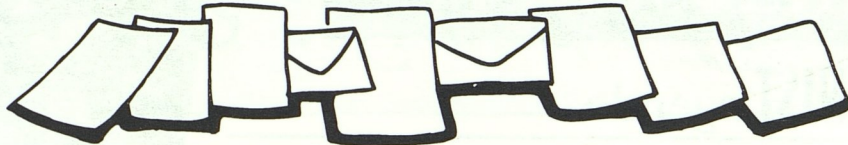
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LETTERS



1846 Richmond Avenue
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Dear FBN,

Enclosed are a couple of photos from our author appearance for *Does Your Mama Know: An Anthology of Black Lesbian Coming Out Stories* (\$19.95), edited and published by Lisa C. Moore. Lisa visited a number of our stores across the continent — Amazon, Lammas, Bookwoman, to name a few.

Lisa self-published this book because she felt it needed to exist. She had no advances, no marketing studies, no international rights contracts, and, at the outset, no idea where she would get the money to pay the printer. But she had a passion, and a journalism/business background, and came out with a beautiful book on her first try.

It's people like Lisa who make feminist book-sellers necessary and possible, and vice versa. When Lisa visited Inklings, she said no other store in Houston (which is 20% African American) was carrying her book. She's working on her next book now, stories of African American families, and how they deal with their gay/lesbian members.

Stores who haven't picked up this book — consider it. Call Lisa at Redbone Press (Decatur GA); 404-815-8391. 40%, minimum 3, free freight.

Best to all,
Pokey Anderson/Inklings

PO Box 3648
Portland ME 04104

Dear FBN,

Nine years of Astarte Shell Press publishing books on feminist spirituality and social justice will come to a close at the end of this year. What has happened to us is not new to anyone who reads *FBN*.

We began with a vision, a great deal of enthusiasm, a little experience and not much money. We ebbed and flowed and have ultimately drowned in a sea of returns and megastore dictates.

In addition to the hardships (oh, but there have been joys as well), our individual lives have changed and we've agreed that the collective effort needs to be disbanded. We'll find new causes, new ways to make a difference.

In the afterword to *Keep Simple Ceremonies*, our bestselling publication, Mary Daly (*Gyn/Ecology*) spoke of "our rough Voyage, which has proved — for those who have persisted — strange, difficult, unpredictable, terrifying, enraging, energizing, transforming, encouraging...[t]here is no turning back." We're not turning back, we're moving on. Our thanks to *FBN* and the feminist bookstores and feminist publishers who have helped to make it a worthwhile ride.

Sapphire/Astarte Shell Press



Publisher Lisa Moore beside Inklings' sign asking the entire city of Houston *Does Your Mama Know?*

University of
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FEMINIST agenda

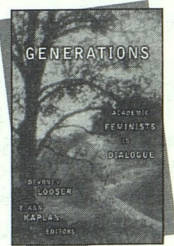
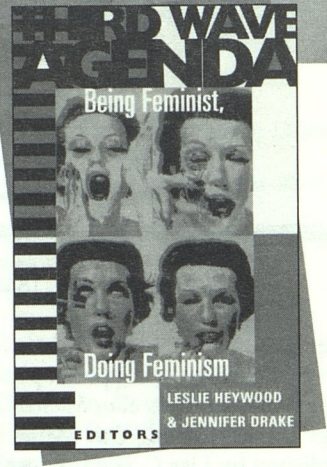
Leslie Heywood and Jennifer Drake, editors

Third Wave Agenda

Being Feminist, Doing Feminism

Feminists born between the years 1964 and 1973 have grown up with a plethora of cultural choices and images. Here they discuss the things that matter *now*, both in looking back at the accomplishments and failures of the past and in planning for the challenges of the future.

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Devoney Looser and E. Ann Kaplan, editors

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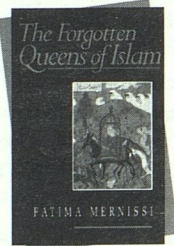
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News News News

Penguin to Pay Independents \$25M to Compensate for Illegal Discounts

While not agreeing that the consent order was violated, Penguin has agreed to pay ABA an unprecedented \$25 million, plus \$2 million in legal fees, in what is the largest antitrust settlement in U.S. history. After 17 years of FTC investigations, two lawsuits filed by NCIBA and four years of litigation by ABA, this is the first time any publishers have been held financially accountable for illegal trade practices that have jeopardized independent book-selling in the U.S.

Half of the settlement will be distributed as quickly as possible to ABA member stores based on a formula still under development as *FBN* went to press. Further, all bookstores will now be permitted to deduct returns from accounts payable as soon as the books are shipped and earned co-op when taken, instead of waiting for approvals and credit memos.

Penguin further agreed to modify the consent order to ensure the equal availability of pricing, credit, and promotional reimbursement terms to all booksellers as well as agreeing to an unprecedented annual review (through the year 2000) of its operations by an outside antitrust expert. The review will ensure that Penguin is complying with the modified consent order and federal antitrust discrimination laws. A confidential report of findings will be sent to ABA which can then pursue any problems. If resulting discussions with Penguin are not satisfactory, ABA may take these problems to the court. ABA may also ask the court to extend the review period beyond the year 2000 if problems warrant. The new consent order also outlines a very stringent definition for the "meeting the competition" defense that publishers have used to justify special financial advantages for chainstores in the past. This new

agreement is subject to approval by the same court that approved the 1995 consent order. The new consent order will also apply to Putnam, as the two publishers merged last year.

The settlement stems from Pearson's disclosure of accounting irregularities discovered when Pearson bought Penguin earlier this year and an examination of Penguin's books revealed a \$77 million discrepancy. It seemed at the time that Penguin's accounts receivable department had given discounts of 10% to 28 retailers in exchange for early payment. These discounts were not offered to all accounts and spanned a six-year period. Instead of being written off, the discounts were buried in the company's books. Pearson advised its stockholders that it would take a one-time charge or \$165M to cover the discounts, a then-unarrived at settlement with stores that did not receive the discounts, and anticipated legal expense and brought the matter to ABA's attention.

The source of the bookkeeping "irregularities" is still in dispute, with Penguin maintaining that the discounts were generated by one employee as part of an embezzlement scam. Those who are more cynical suspect that these discounts were simply "business as usual" in the book trade, which happened to be caught at an auspicious moment for booksellers — after the lawsuits were concluded and the consent order with Penguin was signed.

The Impact of the Settlement

"This is the biggest thing that has happened in the publishing industry this century," ABA interim executive director Avin Domnitz stated. "Our victory should be a rallying cry for the independent bookseller. It means that publishers will no longer be able to play fast and loose with their customers, disregarding antitrust laws. The message should be clear —

everyone must follow the rules or be prepared to answer for their choices."

ABA President Barbara Bonds Thomas called the settlement "an enormous breakthrough in ABA's long-standing efforts to achieve equity and fairness See **Settlement**, page 36.

Distribution of the \$25M Settlement

Half of the \$25 million will go directly to book-sellers who were "regular members" of ABA at any time between November 28, 1995 (the date of the original consent order) and September 29, 1997 (the date the settlement was filed) and purchased books from Penguin and/or its distributed lines in 1996 either directly or through wholesalers. Bookstores that were ABA members during this time, but who have closed their stores in the interim, will also qualify for these damage awards.

ABA expects to develop two procedures for distributing the funds: 1) a "short form" for booksellers who want to apply for the basic award by submitting

minimal paperwork, and 2) a longer form requiring fuller documentation (invoices, check stubs, and wholesaler co-op reports) for stores that did above average amounts of business with Penguin. Given that \$12.5 million, divided by ABA's 5,000 members comes to an average of \$2,500 per store, it is expected that the minimum payment will be significant (in the neighborhood of \$1,000?) as a way of recognizing every member's participation in the lawsuit, although some sources have projected that minimum payments may be as low as \$500.

Members will receive certified letters advising them of application procedures.

Members who received discounts or who have filed suit against Penguin over the issue are not eligible for this part of the payment.

Most of the second half of the settlement (\$7.5 million) will be held in escrow against other claims related to the cash discounts and will be paid to ABA over the next three years. ABA's legal expenses also come out of the remaining \$3.5 million and the ABA Board of Directors will determine how to use the funds as they are received.

CALYX — GIVE THE GIFT OF WOMEN'S VOICES

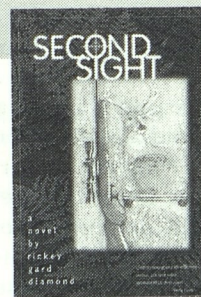
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(Books-A-Million, a chain that did not receive discounts, has filed an independent claim.)

As part of the settlement, the five bookstore co-plaintiffs (Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops, Milwaukee; The Tattered Cover, Denver; Zion Bookstore, Salt Lake City; BR Books/Little Professor, Charlotte, N.C.; and Olsson's Books & Records, Washington, D.C.) in the case will receive treble damages. Specific amounts were not released.

BEA Moves to L.A. for 1999
— May 1 to 3 —
RH, HC Return

BEA seems to have come to understand (from declining attendance? from the show of hands at this year's Town Meeting?) that booksellers and publishers are unhappy with show after show being in Chicago and has moved the 1999 show to Los Angeles.

Dates for the 1999 show have been changed (again) to May 1-3. (May 14-17 was previously announced.) The show will then return to Chicago. The 2001 show is rumored to return to L.A. FBN, however, fervently hopes that the BEA will truly return to being a road show and schedule shows in two or three other parts of the country before returning to Chicago. Such a commitment is long overdue.

In related news, HarperCollins and Random House have decided to exhibit at the 1998 BEA in Chicago. Both are expected to mount smaller exhibits than in years past. It will be very interesting to see what locations the returning corporate publishers are assigned this year and next. Presumably both applied after the deadline for seniority-based location assignments for the 1998 show. As per BEA's published seniority regulations, HC's seniority status would apply next year (assuming that they made the application deadline) as BEA now allows publishers to retain their seniority points if they skip one year. Random House, having been absent for two years, according to BEA's regulations, will drop down to the bottom of the location-assignment list. RH, traditionally, has occupied the front-and-center location.

Simon & Schuster has decided to take rights-sales space at BEA this year but, in a move that many are taking as a slap at independent bookstores, will not exhibit on the convention floor.

Asha's Mums Banned in B.C. School
— B.C. Civil Liberties Union Sues —

A bitterly fought battle over censorship in the Greater Vancouver school district of Surrey has culminated in Canada's first-ever court challenge to a school book banning.

Following the take-over of the Surrey school district by the Christian-dominated, right-of-center Surrey Electorate Team (SET), five Surrey school district board members voted to ban the use of *Asha's Mums* (published by The Women's Press/Toronto), and *Belinda's Bouquet* and *One Dad Two Dads, Brown Dad Blue Dads* (both published by Alyson Press). All three books have matter-of-fact positive imagery that confirm that some children have two parents of the same gender. Two of the books also address issues of racism, and *Belinda's Bouquet* addresses self-esteem issues for overweight children. All three are intended for Kindergarten and Grade One use.

The books were banned after James Chamberlain, an openly gay teacher, submitted them for review in January. The school board violated its own book review process by taking three and a half months to complete the review procedure, which normally takes 30 days. All of the books are on the Gay and Lesbian Educator (GALE)'s resource list and have been used successfully in B.C. schools for several years.

In March, at the B.C. Teacher's Federation convention, teachers overwhelmingly approved a GALE-inspired resolution to "create a program to eliminate homophobia and heterosexism in B.C. schools." "Many observers," according to *Quill & Quire*, Canada's book trade journal, "see the board's decision to ban as a form of revenge against GALE and its supporters, for that decision."

The school board further voted "that all administrative, teaching, and counseling staff be informed that resources from gay and lesbian groups such as GALE B.C. are not approved for use or distribution in the Surrey School District."

A coalition of teachers, parents, students and authors, and the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, filed a constitutional challenge with the B.C. Supreme Court. The coalition argues that the board's decision violates the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms. "While the [provincial] School Act allows the board to

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**Understanding
the Adolescent Years**



**mothering
teens**

Edited by
Miriam Kaufman, M.D.

Parents of teens often do not know where to turn to for advice about their adolescents. Mothering Teens is a much needed collection which offers parents and other caregivers a wide range of information about the adolescent years. This unique book gives parents a way to view their teens which is both practical and encouraging.

— Dr. Goldberg, Head of Adolescent Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto

Mothering Teens is a long-awaited, indispensable collection for all who accompany teenagers on their way to adulthood.

— Dr. Farrow, Professor and Head of Adolescent Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle

I highly recommend this book for parents who want to prepare themselves and their children to enter the 21st century.

— Dr. Friedman, Chief, Primary Care Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, University of California, San Diego

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rule on what resources are used, they have to make those decisions in line with Charter principles," said Irene Faulkner, associate counsel for Arvay/Finlay, the law firm representing the plaintiffs. "Banning material on the grounds of sexual orientation violates the expression-right of kids to read the books...and the [rights of] parents, teachers, and authors." The case is expected to reach court later this fall.

Deborah Barretto, marketing and promotions manager for Women's Press, said she wasn't aware of any previous controversies involving *Asha's Mums*, which has been in print since 1990 and has sold approximately 8,000 copies. "Teachers have told us they've used it and liked it," she said. "It's been ordered widely and we've had very good feedback. This has come as a bit of a surprise."

This particular book banning is part of a larger pattern of restrictions and agendas passed by the SET board members including the dismantling of the highly respected CARE (Child Abuse Research Prevention) program for children in grades K-3, the repeal of a motion to install condom dispensers in high school bathrooms, ending educational programs

about the transmission of STDs (taught by public health nurses), the banning of AIDS-education and Planned Parenthood materials, and the addition of a new program called "Challenge '97," a program of student presentations on the merits of abstinence and chastity for high school students.

Donations toward court costs — which are estimated at \$70,000 — may be sent to the B.C. Civil Liberties Union.

For more information contact (www.lesbigay.com/bigots) or the B.C. Civil Liberties Union, 425-815 W. Hastings, Vancouver BC V5C 1B4; 604-687-2919; (www.BCCLA.org). —Info from *Quill & Quire*

Wordsworth Launches Indie Bestseller List

Inspired by the Southeast Booksellers Association's (SEBA) recent letter of protest to the *NYT Book Review* Web site deal with B&N ("Click here to order this book" — and all sales automatically go to B&N with no mention whatsoever of the hundreds of

independent bookstores that contribute their sales figures to make up the list), Wordsworth Books (Cambridge, MA) has launched "The Independent Bestseller List" and is inviting all independent bookstores to participate.

Wordsworth staff had been considering the idea of an independent-only bestseller list for some time but the SEBA letter was the catalyst for action. As Wordsworth general manager Sanj Kharbanda told *PW Daily*, "All independents have something valuable to contribute to such a list," adding that each store should receive credit for its contribution. Wordsworth's bestseller list is up at (www.wordsworth.com/www/showme/bestsellers), but the new Independent Bestseller List will soon have a site of its own. The site will be designed to credit all of the stores that contribute to the list and will include links to their Web sites or the stores' address if they don't have a Web site. Wordsworth wants the list to be truly reflective of what the independents sell — and believes that specialty store reports are essential to building it.

Independent booksellers nationwide have been furious that the *NYT* is, in effect, collecting their sales information, posting it on the Web and selling the book sales generated by the site as well as selling proximity to the list to one of their primary competitors (the site mentions no independent bookstores, only B&N). Response to the *NYT*/B&N deal has been growing all summer and many independent booksellers across the country (including Wordsworth) have stopped reporting sales to the list. Early letters of protest came from Northern California Independent Booksellers Association members, a letter from the Oregon Independent Booksellers Association this summer urged members to stop reporting, and NCIBA President Amy Thomas and NCIBA executive director Hut Landon went to New York to meet with *NYT Book Review* editor Charles McGrath in July. SEBA members, at their fall trade show, unanimously endorsed a letter of protest that states that, while many independents in the South have faithfully forwarded sales information in the past, 78% of reporting stores at the business meeting have stopped or will soon stop sending sales figures to the book review.

Media coverage of the protest has been extensive, ranging from ABC's "World News Tonight" to *U.S.*

News & World Report, *The New York Post*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Denver Post*, *The S.F. Chronicle Book Review*, NPR and, of course, *Publishers Weekly* and ABA's *Bookselling This Week*. But the *NYT* has failed to respond adequately, leaving McGrath in the hot seat saying only, "I'm not responsible for this decision, it is out of my hands" — as if the *NYT*, which is supposedly familiar with the rudiments of journalism, doesn't know how to find or interview the people at the *NYT* who are responsible for this decision or how to address its own advertising ethics issues.

The new Independent Bestseller List should help to redress this situation, focus attention on independent booksellers, and become interesting in and of itself, as the contrast between what is sold in chainstores and what is sold in independents is clearly documented. It may also serve as a reality check for publishers' advertising and promotion departments as to whether investing thousands of dollars to put books in surperchains' national print advertising programs is appropriate for titles that appear on the Independent Bestseller List but not on the chains-dominated lists. (Now that information alone would be worth the cost of collecting the data!)

If your store is willing to contribute to the Independent Bestseller List, contact Sanj Kharbanda at (sanj@wordsworth.com) or 617-354-5201.

Chicago Borders Ratifies First Union Contract

Negotiating its first union contract did not come easily for Borders but, after over a year of negotiations, the Chicago Borders at Clarke and Diversy Streets has become the first store in the chain with a union-negotiated contract.

The employees, represented by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Locale 881, voted to ratify the contract 28–9. The contract calls for a union shop, representing approximately 45 employees with annual union dues of \$200. Salaries start at \$6.50 per hour, with a 25-cent raise after six months and another 25 cents after a year, and annual pay raises of 4.5% thereafter (32 cents on \$7.00 at the end of one's second year.) The standard work week remains 37 to 38.5 hours, although employees can request a 40-hour week. The contract also provides a grievance

procedure to handle dismissals and states that changes in the medical plan must be submitted in advance to the union. Medical coverage had been one of the primary organizing issues in the union drive. A Borders spokesperson called the agreement "tentative," saying that there is still some disagreement over language issues. —*Info from PW Daily.*

**Superchains Go Global —
Borders Opens in Singapore and U.K.,
B&N Shopping**

Borders is expanding its horizons to Europe and Asia.

On November 1, Borders will open a 31,000-square-foot store in Singapore. It will be the largest bookstore in Singapore and will feature indoor and outdoor cafes.

Days after confirming the Singapore store, the Borders Group announced that it is purchasing Books, Etc., a U.K. chain with 22 stores in the London area.

Borders plans to open several superstores in the U.K. in addition to running the Books, Etc. stores, which range in size from a few thousand square feet to 16,000 square feet.

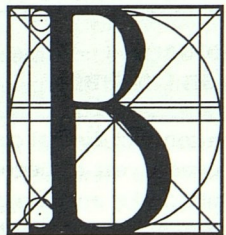
Rick Vanzura, Borders' vice president in charge of planning and finance, told the U.K.'s *Bookseller* that the purchase of Books, Etc., along with the opening of the Singapore store, are part of an effort to build Borders into "a global brand," adding that the U.S. market may reach "the saturation point" by the turn of the century.

The Bookseller also noted that Barnes & Noble has a team of 15 looking for superstore sites in the U.K. A recent *London Times* report indicated that Barnes & Noble is on the verge of a multimillion pound venture in the U.K. B&N already owns 20% of Chapters, Canada's expanding superchain which expects to have 75 superstores in major urban areas by the year 2000. The chain currently operates 13 superstores and 330 smaller stores.

Rumors that B&N is actively pursuing the purchase of HarperCollins, however, seem to be fading. ○

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News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

By Carol Seajay and Jenn Tust

Meristem (Memphis) celebrated their 7th birthday at their neighborhood street festival in September, with a booth right outside their store displaying buttons, bumperstickers, t-shirts and other sidelines items. Customers could go into the store to peruse books and higher-end items and admire the new loft in the rear of the store. Audrey writes, "We didn't really have the money for the loft but I just borrowed some more on our line of credit with the bank. Should have done this five years ago.... We have really high ceilings in the back — so my office and storage area are now in the loft, and we gained 150+ square feet of sales space without any additional rent. I love being up here — I have a view of the entire store and part of the street, but I have much more of a sense of having a separate office space. It's like being in a treehouse!" Meristem displayed their Banned Books Week Banner early to help publicize the week. Audrey also told *FBN* that the Center for Research on Women at the University of Memphis, in a partnership with the local Women's Foundation, released a groundbreaking study on the status of women in Memphis and Shelby County that includes a piece on Audrey and Meristem. —JT

Happy 23rd Birthday to Charis Books & More in Atlanta! Charis women are planning a big celebration in conjunction with the release of *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South*, which includes a 40-page oral history of the store and historic Charis photographs (See University Presses). Congrats to these famous birthday ladies!

Charis is looking forward to an exceptionally rich and full fall. In-store events

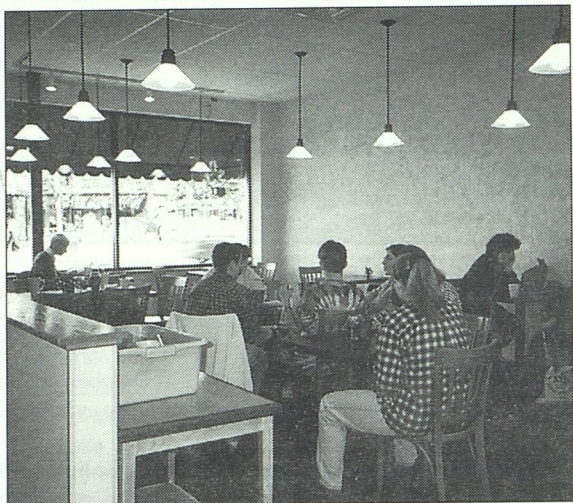
will include readings by bell hooks, Minnie Bruce Pratt and Leslie Feinberg, and Pearl Cleage — and Penny Mickelbury will be working with Charis' high school women writers group which started in October.

Charis also has three major out-of-store events on the fall schedule.

On November 11, Indigo Girls Emily Saliers and Amy Ray will take time off from a killer tour to do a benefit for Charis Circle. They'll be talking about and signing *Daughters of the Moon, Sisters of the Sun: Young Women and Mentors on the Transition to Womanhood* (see Small Press). Emily and Amy were interviewed by two young women from The Girls Focus Group for the book. Hopefully at least one of them will be able to join the Indigo Girls on stage.



Sweet Violets owners Susan Graves and Leigh Wall at their Customer Appreciation Party on the occasion of the store's fifth anniversary. Highlights included violet-decorated carrot cake and the new 1998 calendar display. Fortunately most of the calendars arrived before the UPS strike.



Ms. and *Utne Reader* are expected to cover the event. Location TBA but Charis expects it to be *big*.

Charis women are also planning, in conjunction with a local Unitarian group, a program on eating disorders to promote *The Secret Language of Eating Disorders*. Charis has rented a 600-seat auditorium, and is expecting a large community of school counselors and therapists to attend. They expect to get a lot of press for the event.

In addition to selling books at the Atlanta Women's Fund luncheon featuring Jane Fonda and Gloria Steinem, Charis has been invited to include promotional material in the packets that will be given to each of the 1,500 attendees. What to use? Charis picked the FB-Net Catalog, which includes the names and addresses for all of the feminist bookstores in the U.S. and Canada, and had an additional 1,500 copies imprinted especially for the occasion. —JT

Women & Children First (Chicago) also has a great lineup this fall: 22 events plus a workshop and assorted book groups. Writers include Elizabeth Perle McKenna (*When Work Doesn't Work Anymore: Women, Work and Identity*); Sandra Benitez (*Bitter Grounds*), Alice Hoffman, Joan Jacobs Brumberg (*The Body Project: An Intimate History of American Girls*), Cris Mazza and Lily James, Sharon Skolnick (Okeechee) (*Where Courage Is Like a Wild Horse: The World of an Indian Orphanage*), Lynn Kanter (*The Mayor of Heaven*), Sandra Jackson-Opoku (*The River Where Blood Is Born*), Rita Mae Brown, Daphne Scholinski

A Room of One's Own's beautiful new bookstore. Wish we could print these photos in color, b&w doesn't do justice to the rich colors, the natural woods, and the casual elegance they create. That's one very proud Sandi Tokildson at the café counter while Maggie Kozak brews coffee (middle).

Bottom: Moving the store just two doors closer makes it much more visible from State Street, Madison's main drag. The store is two storefronts wide, but local zoning restrictions allow signage on only one awning. The café is on the left, with the books immediately behind and on the right hand side. Has the café brought in new traffic? Our reporter noted that, on a recent weekday morning, 16 of 18 customers in the store came in for the coffee shop and most stayed to browse the books.

Photos by Rose Katz

(*The Last Time I Wore A Dress*), and Jamaica Kincaid.

And an out-of-store event for Anita Hill, co-hosted with The Women's Bar Association of Illinois. Tickets for this event, Hill's only Chicago appearance, were \$30 and included an autographed copy of *Speaking Truth to Power*. Book groups included a mother/daughter book group discussing *The Moon Over Crete*, a mystery group and a fiction group.

Women & Children First will also provide "a private shopping night" for groups of ten or more (friends, book groups, women's organizations). These events offer "the undivided attention of W&CF staff to recommend books, and the pleasure of each other's company and advice while you shop. Do your holiday shopping early or stock up on good books for your discussion group or the children in your life," W&CF invites. Non-profits are invited to use private shopping nights to benefit their groups.

Orlando Books (Edmonton) has launched a new series of writing workshops — on song writing. The workshops take place on the second Friday of every month.

For those of you who have been following Amazon's (Minneapolis) saga of the coffeehouse next door ("Ruby's Cafe by day, Café Ruby by night"), the evening coffeehouse has closed but the daytime cafe (8-2 Sunday to Saturday) is still open and serving their great breakfasts and lunches. Amazon has adjusted their hours accordingly and is no longer open on Saturday nights. *FBN*, on the other hand, is still waiting for the right coffeehouse manager to come along and make the entire block swing at night.



Milk & Honey (Sebastopol CA) has just added a video rental library at the shop. Some of their favorites are Marilyn Waring's *On Sex, Lies & Global Economics*, *The Hemp Revolution*, *When Night is Falling*, and *Antonia's Line*.

Milk & Honey's owner Jill Kurman writes, "This summer I found myself astonished again and again. The sense of community and celebration we generated together at the Goddess Temple at the Health &

Harmony Fair, at the Goddess Festival at Ocean Song, and at our own anniversary, "Celebrate the Sacred Feminine Erotic," is tremendous. Indeed, we are shifting the paradigm and creating a way of living that instills respect and reverence as the foundation from which we come together. Blessed Be! From my heart of hearts I acknowledge each of us for our commitment and dedication in making the personal the political, the mundane the sacred, and for choosing a path that may at times feel overwhelming in our quest for freedom and equality." ○

Looking Back

By Pat Reeves

Herland Sister Resources/Oklahoma City

What were you doing on August 1, 1988?

On August 1, 1988, for the first time, Herland Sister Resources opened for business in our very own property. This August, Herland celebrates nine years of operation at 2312 NW 39th. Many hours of volunteer time and many donations made it possible for Herland to open our current location and to keep it open for the past nine years.

The opening followed two years of searching for the right property and preparing the building to house Herland's services. Herland had been operating in rented space in an old store building on NW 19th. Members of the Herland collective decided a move from the old location was necessary because of the deterioration of the building and potential zoning problems at that location as well as a desire for a more easily accessible location.

The Herland Board of Directors made an offer to purchase the property at 2312 NW 39th in September, 1987. The first hurdle to the new building was the down payment of \$3,500 that had to be raised within just a few weeks of making the offer. The Herland community came through and the down payment was raised. The Herland Board of Directors entered into a five year mortgage that would end with a balloon payment of \$31,000.

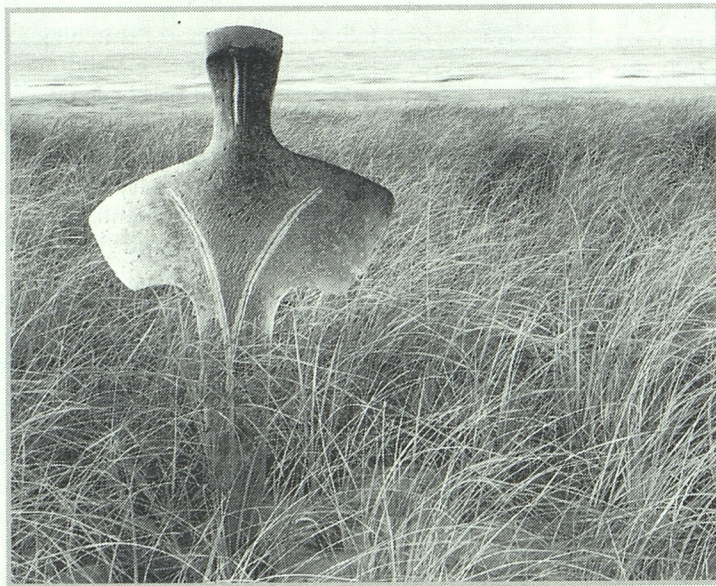
Soon after the purchase was made, renovation work began. That's when the second big hurdle to moving in surfaced. The electrical wiring was in terrible shape and needed to be completely redone before

the building could be occupied. These were difficult times. For several months, Herland was essentially homeless — we had moved out of the old location and the new location could not be opened. The volunteers, Board and community preserved, keeping Herland alive with the newsletter, retreats and other events continuing even without a building.

Finally, on August 1, 1988, nearly eleven months after the initial offer to purchase, Herland's new home was ready to be opened to the public.

The story doesn't end there, though. There was still a balloon payment to be made. As the time for the balloon payment got closer and closer, Board members tried to come up with ways to meet it. Finally a volunteer stepped forward and said, "What we really need to raise the remaining \$20,000 is 100 people to donate \$200 each," and she set about finding those 100 people. Thanks to an incredible amount of support from the community over \$13,000 was donated in just four months.

On January 5, 1993 Herland paid off the \$31,000 balloon payment. Most of the money came from donations from members of our community. A small anonymous loan covered the rest. (*Thank you, Ms.*



Digital montages of photographs of sculpted clay figures by Jill Solomon and Sam Laundon in *Kindred Arts Collection 1998 Calendar* (Kindred Arts).

Anonymous, Herland will be forever in your debt). The next time you are in Herland, take a minute to look at the plaque with the names of all those who contributed \$200 or more to pay off the mortgage. It is an impressive sight.

Maintaining and improving the building is a continuing challenge. There's always something to be done — painting, plumbing, yard work, and cleaning. In the past year, we finally got the central heat and air conditioning that had been only a dream for many years. (There's still a balance on the loan for the heat and air so contributions are welcome!)



Many people have made it possible for Herland to be in this location. Almost every time I'm at Herland, I'm reminded of some who made this space what it is — Cindy Bookout, who was Sister 1 and took the responsibility of signing the mortgage note; Jo Soske and her son Jon, whose leadership made the final fundraising drive successful; Kris Lund, who planted and nurtured the grass and the trees in the front yard, Tommy and Diana, who painted and carpeted the office area; Peggy Johnson, who tore out a wall to open up the meeting space; Natasha Rice and her army of volunteers who did the landscaping; Kris and Marian, who donated the ceiling fans that were moved from the 19th Street Herland; Ginger McGovern, who built the backyard stage and led the crew to build the ramp; and many others. And these are just some of the people who helped. There are so many more people whose work and contributions have made Herland happen.

So, who's responsible for Herland still being here? You are — if you've ever made a donation, pounded a nail, mowed the grass, swept the floor, met with a committee, performed at a fundraising event or worked a shift. Has it all been worth it? I know it was and is worth it every time I hear a woman say "I didn't know where to go but then I found Herland." Thanks to every one of you for making it happen.

—Reprinted from *Herland's Newsletter* ○

ON FEMINIST PUBLISHING



Compiled by Carol Seajay

While FBN does a good job covering the books from the feminist publishers, there's a lot more to publishing than just the books. In this new column and in related articles we'll cover publisher news, interesting tidbits and trivia, and look at some of the more complicated aspects of publishing, such as the ongoing discussion about distribution. Publishers, please send us your (non-book related) news for this column, and please call if you have suggestions for the related series of articles. —CS

New Publishers

Girls to watch out for: Pam Nelson will launch Girl Press in March with the publication of *Cool Women*. This press is born out of a commitment to gender politics and shopping failure: frustrated that she couldn't find the books she wanted for her cousins and young friends last Christmas, Pam decided to take matters into her own hands and publish them herself. She approached Girls, Inc. (formerly Girls Club) with a proposal about working together on some aspects of the first book. Inspired by their enthusiasm, she decided to go for it. The first book, *Cool Women*, will also serve as a fundraiser for Girls, Inc., which will receive \$1.00 for each book sold. Fall '98 titles will include a righteous book about menstruating and *Girl Boss: Running the Show Like the Big Chicks*, a book to encourage entrepreneurial thinking among girls.

Until a couple of years ago Pam was a stock analyst in New York. Then she moved to California, took a job with a company that did business publishing, learning as much as she could about publishing. When they decided to cut back on their publishing program Pam decided that the time was right to launch Girl Press.

This press may be adult-owned but the books will be girl-tested long before they reach print. Thanks to focus groups facilitated by Girls, Inc., girls have had a

hand in selecting the 50 women to be featured in *Cool Women*, as well as having input on design, color usage, and cover images. And these girls have strong opinions, know exactly what they like, and aren't afraid to let you know. I didn't expect it, but even the six-year-olds love Thelma and Louise. Watch out world, when this generation comes of age!

Girl Press books will be distributed to the trade through LPC and to schools in association with Advocacy Press. Girl Press is located at 8273 Clinton, Los Angeles CA 90048; 213-651-0880; (GirlPress@Earthlink.net).

Burning Bush, recently launched by Therese Armstrong, Cheryl Williams and Abby Bogomolny, will publish lesbian erotic poetry and journal books in addition to books on the immigrant experience (see *New to North America* in Small Press). Therese is the publishing coordinator as well as being the print manager at Community Printers in Santa Cruz. Cheryl will handle publicity and marketing. She's a writer, is particularly interested in African American writing, and works in the county court system. Abby is the editor and also does public relations. She teaches English and writing, has worked with HerBooks, co-edited *World Between Women*, and has a book forthcoming from Women in the Moon titled *People Who Do Not Exist* (see Our Press). Burning Bush's themes will be gender equity and gender justice. You can write to Burning Bush Publications at PO Box 7361, Santa Cruz CA 95061; or phone 408-426-9172.

Reality Check

Last issue we wrote about Kasha Songer's new approach to financing The Book Garden — real estate sales. Midge Stocker gets this issue's prize for creative financing: she's just finished computer programming school and has a new job as a programmer for a

sheetrock and ceiling tile company. Why this particular company? Because most of the people in the department telecommute 2-3 days a week — a situation that would work quite well for a part-time publisher. Third Side Press took a brief break from publishing every season when the returns madness set in, but it is back to regular every-season publishing this Fall with *The Mayor of Heaven*. Published in hardcover, *The Mayor of Heaven* is the first Third Side title to be reviewed in *PW*.

Astarte Shell Closes

It's been hard to watch Astarte Shell Press closing (see Letters, this issue). Nothing is ever simple — other contributing factors included life-decisions made by the three central women (one has gone on to a new career; the two who were "retired" decided that they wanted to be retired) but there were also long-term cash flow problems rooted in the InBook bankruptcy, the ineffective sales period just after LPC bought InBook, and the increasingly frequently-heard complaint that LPC/InBook is not selling numbers that are remotely comparable to pre-bankruptcy days for many publishers. Astarte's survival, during this period (no payments from Login for 14 months), was financed by the steady stream of mail order customers.

Last time we talked to Astarte they still had several titles that they'd like to sell to other publishers (or booksellers) at remainder prices. Astarte's best-seller, *Celebrating Ourselves*, for example, was featured in *USA Today* and a nationally syndicated column, but still does not have a home despite steady mail order demand for the book. Only a handful of copies remain and the book is ripe for republishing. Authors will also be invited to buy-out their own books and some book "relocations" are in the works. *FBN* will bring you the news as soon as the ink is dry on the contracts.

Closing down the press has been difficult, but was the whole experience worth the ride? "Absolutely! We feel very good about what we did," Debbie Leighton told *FBN*, clearly proud of the 13 titles that Astarte launched into the world.

Distribution

Spinsters Ink is the latest in a series of publishers rethinking distribution decisions. Effective January 1, Spinsters titles will be distributed by Words, the new distribution program developed by the Bookpeople

crew. (Spinsters titles will continue to be available from Bookpeople, Ingram, B&T, and other wholesalers.)

Spinsters isn't the first publisher to leave LPC/InBook. Rising Tide has recently taken their distribution back and is now focusing on selling books directly to bookstores on a non-returnable basis (50% for 10+ titles), while keeping books at wholesalers. (See the July/August issue, page 25, for more information.) Papier-Mache resumed handling their own distribution early last summer. *FBN* has also received word that three other publishers are leaving LPC/InBook. More next issue.

Success!

A&M Books is particularly pleased to be publishing their Fall title, *Nina in the Wilderness*, in both paperback and hardcover. It is the first time that a Sarah Aldridge novel has appeared in cloth. A&M would like to remind booksellers that A&M Books is now the only legitimate source for the Sarah Aldridge novels.

Elsewhere...

If you thought BEA was expensive...consider this: The Books-A-Million chain runs "management seminars" at the BAM offices in Alabama for BAM employees. Publishers are invited to "sponsor" various events at a cost of \$1,000 for a morning break, \$6,000 for lunch and \$8,000 for dinner. Display tables cost \$1,000/day (but, hey, you can get three tables for \$2,550)! Worried about reaching all the BAM employees who can't attend? No problem — publishers can (also) buy a 60-second spot on a required-viewing "product knowledge video" for a mere \$600. Or an ad in the BAM Christmas catalog for \$3,000. And those are just a few of the "opportunities" publishers have to drop money at BAM. Multiply these, may I say, "demands" by several other chains and it's no wonder the corporate publishers have less and less money to spend at BEA/ABA. (And why do I suspect that if publishers who don't choose to spend their money this way (or don't have this kind of money to begin with) don't get the same display and promotion (and sales) that the big spenders get? One also has to wonder what "separate but equal" parallel income opportunities are available to independent bookstores. Are these sorts of things covered by ABA's consent decrees...? The only remotely comparable pay-outs would be the regional holiday catalogs.... ○

*Does It Work?**What works?
What doesn't?*

Distribution:

What can we invent that will work for our future?

By Joan Pinkvoss/Aunt Lute Books
and Carol Seajay

Joan and I have been having an ongoing, if fragmented, conversation about book distribution, returns, feminist publishers and bookstores, since *FBN* moved in next to Aunt Lute last February.

At Joan's suggestion we sat down to have a deeper conversation and, hopefully, to launch a dialogue among the entire community of feminist booksellers and publishers (and deeply concerned others). We've done our best to capture our conversations in this article and the next ("Mathematics of Distribution and Wholesaling") and now invite your experience and ideas, responses, proposals, suggestions, points of agreement and disagreement, and the addition of other issues that we haven't raised here. Carol will compile and publish your comments in upcoming issues of *FBN* (long pieces and short pieces, paragraphs and free-standing sentences). Visualize the spontaneity of a good email dialogue and we're on our way. (Yes, of course, your comments can be anonymous if that helps you to get your *real* opinion out there. Wild humor also welcome.)

Our sincere hope in launching this conversation is to raise questions, inspire discussions and encourage feminist publishers and booksellers to consider

inventing a new distribution structure that creates a more level playing field for feminist publishers and feminist, gay and other independent bookstores — something that might not exist yet, but that will serve us well over the next decade or two. We want to raise some questions about what the landscape could look like as feminist publishers and booksellers work toward regaining our place in this shifting book world.

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In the following article, "Mathematics of Distribution and Wholesaling," we look at the distribution system that has evolved during the lifetime of feminist publishing and bookselling. If you are unfamiliar with how distribution works financially, you might want to skip to that article and come back to this one afterward.

In this article, we'll look at the high cost of middlemen, the returns problem (also see next article), the impact of superchains, the changing impact of distributors in these times, the disappearance of feminist press identity, and we will suggest a few

alternatives. We'll even consider throwing out the whole system and starting something new. But most of all, we want to put out a simple, straightforward, do-able, concrete proposal — one that came out of Joan and Carol's dialogue — and get your response. We want to know what both publishers and

booksellers think of this proposal, and if it is an answer — or even a starting point to inspire an alternative that will work better for us in the decade to come.

Joan's Proposal for an Alternative Structure

Given that no one seems inclined (or financially able) to invent a joint-distribution scheme (a new wholesaler?) that could abide by policies that would control returns and improve distribution, and that existing distributors have been unable to change their policies to resolve the situation, Aunt Lute wonders if feminist publishers will be forced to pull back from their distribution arrangement and forego wholesalers and return to doing *all* of their own fulfillment on a *new* discount schedule designed to reward stores for ordering direct and to control returns. Textbook sales (at 20% discount) are a vital component of Aunt Lute's income and this is reflected in this plan. The proposed schedule is as follows:

50% discount	non-returnable
40% discount	20% of books returnable
20% discount	fully returnable

We'll discuss the problems that this schedule is designed to solve and some of the pros and cons in the next parts of this article.

So Many Middlemen, So Little Money

Creating mega-structures like wholesalers and distributors is expensive. And most of this money has come from publishers while bookstore discounts have remained steady at 40% or improved a few points. Publisher's "share" of the book dollar has dropped from 60% in the good old everything-feminist-was-ordered-direct days to as low as 33% when books wend their way through both a distributor *and* a wholesaler on their way to the bookstore. (See next article.) This system, in conjunction with chain buying, returns and other factors, further erodes publisher income. Some people (including at least one distributor) will argue that the entire concept of distribution was invented simply to generate a larger revenue stream for wholesalers.

The theory was that using distributors would increase sales by enough to offset the publishers'

decline in income on each book, i.e. selling 8,000 copies of a book at \$4.50 would be better for the publisher than selling 5,000 copies at \$6.00. ($8,000 \times \$4.50 = \$36,000$. $5,000 \times \$6.00 = \$30,000$.) The rest of the equation was that, if the publishers are armed with accurate sales projections and (better yet) solid advance sales figures, the publishers could increase print runs accordingly and thus benefit from reduced per-copy costs and increase their overall profit margin. (The larger the print run, the lower the cost of printing each copy.)

But what has gone awry is that the information from distributors is no longer reliable. Those extra 3,000 books that were placed by the distributor may bounce back as returns and they may come back damaged — and the publishers are still stuck with the larger printing bills.

Sales (or the balance that is left after returns are subtracted from sales) are declining for a number of other reasons, too:

- chain stores are much less interested in "midlist" books than in years past (having discovered that they don't sell when stuck spine-out on non-featured shelf space), so frontlist orders are smaller and/or returns are higher
- superchains are being allowed to return books they bought 2–3 years ago. (Not only is extending return time for chains a problem for publishers, extending this benefit to chains but not to independents is a clear violation of the Robinson-Patman Act.)
- superstore sales aren't offsetting the loss of sales to the independents that have closed since the advent of superstores (see below)
- independent (and feminist) bookstores have reduced ordering in effort to stay current with their distributor/wholesaler bills in this increasingly credit-tight industry
- many stores have cut back on the number of backlist and frontlist titles they stock (as well as cutting back on the number of copies they stock of the titles they keep) as overall store sales decline when superchains move in and cannibalize the sales in a town
- last but not least, there's the problem that when a feminist bookstore customer walks into a chain store and buys books, the odds are that, even if she buys the same number of books she would have

bought on a trip to her feminist bookstore, fewer of the books she buys will be feminist press books, given the differences in display, location, staff familiarity with the books, and handselling.

At any rate, a declining percentage of an expanding sale is one thing. A declining percentage of a shrinking sale is a crisis.

Distributors and wholesalers, on the other hand have their own problems. Already trying to finance mega-structures on a slim margin, they are driven to try to meet their expenses by increasing gross sales and becoming (ever) more efficient and cost conscious — but some of these efficiencies are at the expense of the publishers they serve. Attention is shifted to the publishers with the most popular product. Less successful publishers may be dropped — or simply lost in the shuffle as more and more publishers are added to increase sales to the level that will support the company's (growing) expenses. (Consortium's list of publishers, for example, has grown from 29 in 1994 to 49 in 1997.)

Furthermore, sales reps may or may not have been hired for their feminist commitment. But too often reps working on commission have little choice but to focus on the titles where they can get a two-digit initial order and skip less trendy titles that, in years past, would have sold steadily in ones and twos for years in both general and feminist bookstores. (How many titles can a rep successfully introduce in a 30-minute session? How many are on the lists? Depending on the rep and the store, the titles that are skipped could be a publisher's entire list.)

Distributors and wholesalers are caught in a difficult bind. Servicing high-end corporate stores may require agreeing to whatever those companies demand: open returns, returns of damaged books, shipping out books that everyone knows will be returned and other compromises too delicate to list here — or losing the chains' business altogether. Distributors may also feel required to make similar arrangements with various wholesalers so that the wholesalers can maintain their business with large

corporate buyers. It's easy to see how attention to publishers' interests can become diluted.

But the bind for publishers becomes this: if you don't have a distributor, how are your books going to be seen? With 60,000 books published each year, how do you present your books to the larger world when our books so rarely make the big review lists?

One proposal is to revive the idea of doing a joint feminist-press catalog that would include the books from all of the feminist presses (and how/where to order them), which could be used to sell books to bookstores and to promote the books to reviewers. This idea, of course, requires both a certain amount of money and someone to produce the catalog and maintain bookstore and reviewer mailing lists.

Feminist Press Identity

Stores that depend on reps to review the books may simply never even "see" certain feminist press titles. Stores "too small" or "too far away" never see the rep at all. (What percentage of feminist bookstores see reps from each distributor even twice a year? Carol's guess — much as she'd like to be wrong — is that it's well below 50%.) Some of these stores may not even get these distributors' catalogs. Almost worse: these catalogs may be the only information they see from many feminist presses. It is all but inevitable that, when feminist publishers sign up for distribution, the money that they used to spend on their own catalogs, on their own promotion and on paying for staff time to stay in touch with bookstores now goes to paying the distributors' fees, to paying for their spot in distributors' catalogs and to time spent with sales reps.

*Getting out from under
returns would be
many publishers'
most compelling reason
for exploring
new sales and
distribution options.*

What happens to the connection between feminist publishers and bookstores when the primary connection is a distributor's sales rep or simply a few pages in a thick catalog? What happens to the press' identity when even the "publisher" name on the computer is reduced to the name of the handiest distributor or wholesaler? Even five or six years ago, Carol thinks, a lot more books were stocked (then

sold and reordered) simply because they were published by a known (and therefore respected) feminist publisher. The irony is that, in this era of "branding," many feminist publishers are less visible today to what should be a core constituency than they were a decade ago. — And feminist publishers are much less familiar with what is happening to their books in feminist bookstores. As we at FBN have worked on the Feminist Bookstore Network catalog over the last few years, it has become painfully clear that many mainstream publishers who have their own sales reps who take information directly back to the company, are far more familiar with how catalog ads affect their sales and their working relationships with their feminist bookstore customers than most feminist presses are.

The Problem of Returns

Returns have skyrocketed since the chains started returning books rather than absorbing unsold books into inventory expansion and as chains have gone public and had to be more accountable to stockholders.

Returns in the book industry are now running between 35% and 45% (depending on who you ask), and higher in many situations. Statistics regarding the source of returns are almost impossible to obtain but early last summer *The Wall Street Journal* reported that most independents sell 80% or more of the books they order while superstores sell less than 70% and discounters sell about 60%. Return rates, of course, vary tremendously by publisher and title.

Many publishers have experienced entire seasons of negative-sales as chains (and some near-to-closing independents) return accumulations of backstock. The chains' disillusionment with selling small press and specialty market books (not to mention literary fiction) has led to large returns coupled with small buys for both corporate and independent (including feminist) presses. Getting out from under returns would be many publishers' most compelling reason for exploring new sales and distribution options.

The returns problem is further complicated by damaged books: as many as 50% of the books in large returns are too damaged or shopworn to resell. While most distributor contracts specify that books must be in salable condition to be returned, in practice,

distributors and wholesalers lack the staff and the payroll budget to sort through huge returns, book by book, to pull out the damaged books, pack them to return to sender and redo the paperwork. It is much cheaper and easier (for the distributor) to simply return the books to the publisher. Thus the burden of the returns process — shipping the books back to the publisher, damaged books, and often the distributor's warehouse restocking fees — is at the publisher's expense.

Chainstores and Sales

Most of the chains are cutting back on "midlist" titles. Returns of midlist books are up, while orders are down. Clearly most (all) of our books are "midlist" (or lower) to all of the chains except, possibly, Borders. If 1,000 Barnes & Noble stores can only sell 1,100 copies of two-time National Book Award nominee Cynthia Ozick's *The Puttermesser Papers*, then how many copies of a book by an "unknown" feminist writer can we expect B&N to sell?

The big question here is: Do any of our books have a significant future in chain stores, or will the proliferation of chain stores simply mean that most feminist and lesbian books will be available in fewer locations a decade from now than they were five years ago?

There's an odd way that all the expansion of (chain) bookstores with their lowest-common-mentality approach to bookselling, and the corresponding dislocation of independents and specialty stores, may result in a re-creation of the mid-sixties situation that led to the creation of feminist presses and bookstores in the first place: The then-existing superstructure of bookselling simply wasn't interested in non-mainstream America books and couldn't/wouldn't/didn't stock such books out long enough for their readers (our communities) to find them — if they stocked them at all. But if you think it was hard to find a lesbian novel in Cody's in Berkeley in 1970, try finding a good lesbian novel in a non-urban chainstore in 1997. As Alice Walker pointed out, B&N used her picture in their promotion, but many of the stores that displayed the required picture didn't stock any of her books. Are we going forward or backward? Are we going to have to reinvent the wheel

all over again, or can we invent some systems to keep what we've got intact — and continue to build on it?

Who Cares?

And now some more hard questions:

Who is the constituency for feminist press books these days? Feminist stores? Gay stores? General independents? Some chains but not others? Some of each of a chain's locations but not the majority (i.e., B&N puts National Book Award displays in only 400 of its 1,000 stores)?

Are we being self-deceptive that we have a community that cares that we aren't reaching or does that community simply not exist anymore? Is it a matter of not having the audience or not being able to get to the audience? How does this vary by type of book and audience?

As interest in gay/lesbian and queer books and bookstores has increased, has attention to multicultural women's literature, for example, declined? Does it exist if it isn't queer? If *This Bridge Called My Back* was published today, would it receive the same attention that it received when first published?

Have feminist presses outlived our time? How have presses that have committed to reaching "young" or new markets fared? Where are those books selling?

Some Proposals

Can we create an alternative that produces a more level playing field for independent, feminist and gay bookstores? The proposals we have at hand generate as many questions as solutions. And that, gentle reader, is where you come in: What are your proposals? What do you think of these proposals? How would you answer these questions? Call, write, send email, and we'll collect all of your responses in the next issues of *FBN*.

During discussions at the Feminist Bookstore Network Conference in May, booksellers discussed

many of the above problems and tried to come up with solutions that would help both feminist bookstores and publishers. One idea was to ask publishers to create a 50% discount for non-returnable direct orders (which would increase bookstore profit, increase publisher income and reduce returns) and to find a way to *not* sell books to superchains (so that feminist stores would have a unique group of books not found in every chain store in town). Aunt Lute's proposal achieves most of these goals.

Given that no one seems to be inclined (or financially able) to invent a joint-distribution system (a new wholesaler?) for all the feminist presses, *would* Aunt Lute's proposed discount schedule work?

50% discount non-returnable
40% discount 20% of order returnable
20% discount fully returnable

Books would be available by direct order from the publisher only. Bookstores could select among these discounts on an order-by-order basis.

***Do any of our books
have a significant
future in chain stores,
or will the proliferation
of chain stores
simply mean
that most feminist
and lesbian books
will be available
in fewer locations
a decade from now than
they were
five years ago?***

Using this kind of discount would force publishers to leave their distributors and wholesalers because these institutions won't (yet) use this kind of schedule as they feel compelled to accept open returns, all timely returns and even damaged returns. So if publishers embrace this kind of schedule, it will force all feminist and independent stores to order direct from the publisher — for both frontlist and fill-in orders.

How would this program work for feminist bookstores? Independent general stores?

Would you order direct from publishers to get these discounts? Would it feel too risky to order new titles in quantity? Would stores order

direct from smaller publishers with fewer titles or non-bestseller titles? *Are* stores willing to place direct orders with publishers?

What if publishers augmented these terms with special delayed billing backlist offers that allowed

stores to buy a 4–6 month supply of back stock with delayed billing (4–6 months) two or three times a year at the above terms? This would allow stores to stock more backlist titles and to keep more copies on hand to replace weekly distributor runs for these publishers' titles — and presumably increase sales for everyone.

What if feminist publishers created an ordering consortium where the orders could be placed all at once but the books were shipped from each publisher and billed by each publisher? Would this make a significant difference to booksellers or would stores prefer the direct approach of ordering from each publisher?

Do stores — feminist and otherwise — value small press and feminist press books enough to order the books direct from the publishers? Can small presses handle fulfillment of orders? Can they turn the orders around quickly enough?

Publishers Adopting This Program Face a Number of Risks

If publishers do create an alternative structure that bypasses Barnes & Noble and the other chains (and the cash flow that comes from those sales) what will the publishers get back from the independent stores? Will the stores do in-store marketing on a scale that makes up for the loss of other outlets?

How will the stores learn about the books? Will publishers need to create some kind of joint catalog that features all the new feminist press books and includes ordering information?

What about collections? Will feminist, gay and other independent stores pay feminist presses in a timely manner, or will indies pay distributors, wholesalers and other "big" accounts first and the "little guys" last — or never? How many of "our" stores would prioritize paying indie publishers first in order to keep them alive?

While it's not legal for publishers to refuse to sell books to different kinds of bookstores, it's likely that this kind of discount would discourage chains from ordering (and returning and ordering and returning and ordering and returning) books and destroying them along the way, while still facilitating the textbook discount sales that keep many publishers afloat.

Conventional wisdom has it that if publishers charge 80% for books (to get maximum income on textbook sales), total sales will decline. Aunt Lute's experience, however, is exactly the opposite. In 1996, concerned that so many copies of *Making Face* were going as 50% sales (presumably to B&N's college bookstores via Ingram), Aunt Lute made it a short discount book (20% discount) for 1997 — and sales on this backlist title *increased* 15%. (B&N's college stores just bought them at the textbook discount and marked them up.)

While this decision generates needed revenues for Aunt Lute, the cost is knocking the books out of some of the places Aunt Lute cares most about selling them and it takes them away from some of the most important parts of their constituency. Going outside of the whole distribution/wholesaler system may be the only way around this dilemma. As Joan says, "It's tremendously dangerous for publishers to move outside the distribution system, but to have B&N be the winners is not acceptable, either."

Educating university bookstores and instructors about how to get the books would take a lot of effort and an expensive campaign — but the fact is that B&N stores already tell instructors that feminist press books aren't available when, in fact, they just aren't in the Ingram warehouse at that moment.

Test Cases

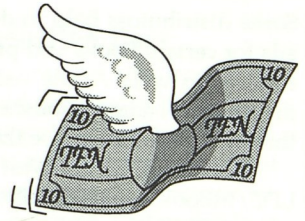
Beginning this Fall, Rising Tide pulled their books from distributors and started offering stores a 50% discount (non-returnable) to encourage direct orders. Their books continue to be available through wholesalers.

Naiad Press has offered 50% discount on direct orders for years. Naiad has never signed a full distribution contract and does most of their sales to wholesalers in house. Their titles are widely available at distributors. ○

Your Turn!

Which of these ideas work for you, what needs modification to work? What other ideas are you thinking about? Call, write, email...we really want to know what you're thinking!

—Carol & Joan



The Mathematic\$ of Distribution and Wholesaling

By Joan Pinkvoss / Aunt Lute Books
and Carol Seajay

To understand how distribution works in the book industry today, and its impact on both booksellers and publishers, it is essential to understand the business math: who gets how much money (and why) and how that has changed over the last decade.

First, we need to define two everyday words: “wholesaler” and “distributor.”

Book wholesalers operate on the premise that the booksellers already know about the books and know what books they want. Basically, what wholesalers do is warehouse books and sell them to stores as the stores request them. It’s pretty simple and

Joan Pinkvoss, a graduate of the University of Iowa’s Fiction Workshop, was one of the founders of the Iowa City Women’s Press, one of the earliest (1972) and strongest of the women-owned printing companies of the first phase of the Women-in-Print movement. The Press published two trade manuals for women as well as printing books for other companies and printing for profit. In 1982, with Barb Wieser, Joan founded Aunt Lute Books, in part to support the Iowa City Women’s Press. In 1986 she moved the press to San Francisco, merging with Spinsters Ink for three years. In 1990, she recreated Aunt Lute as a non-profit to focus on publishing underrepresented voices and viewpoints. She continues to steer Aunt Lute towards the creation of dialogue and discourse within the authors’ communities and across other communities.

In addition to her training in writing and editing, Joan has worked as a printer and as a master electrician to support her commitment to women’s writing and publishing.

straightforward. Wholesalers stock books from a large number of publishers and usually stock a relatively large number of titles from the publishers whose books they stock. Bookpeople, Koen, Alamo Square, Ingram and Baker & Taylor are all wholesalers.

***If the publisher nets \$3.75
that’s less than the cost to
produce the book.***

Distributors function as a kind of “club” providing many more services for a relatively small number of (independent) publishers and provide promotional and sales support for “their” publishers — services that wholesalers don’t offer.

Distributors distribute (hence the name “distributor”) books to wholesalers, chainstores and other “national accounts” — such as Costco and warehouse clubs — as well as selling them to bookstores. In exchange for these services, distributors get a percentage of *all* of these sales and an “exclusive” sales agreement (the publishers cannot sell to bookstores, wholesalers, chainstores, to schools for course adaptations, etc. All sales have to go through the distributor.) The exclusive agreement protects the distributor’s investment in promotion, sales rep costs, cataloging, et al.

One of the powerful attractions of distributors is that each distributor provides a national sales force to go out and rep the books to bookstores all across the country. Some distributors provide a significant amount of pre-publication advice re: the salability of a book, cover design and developing the sales pitch.

Some distributors help to defray the costs of certain ads for certain books and provide other promotional services as well. At the risk of stating the obvious: distributors charge publishers more for their services than wholesalers because they provide more services.

Publishers Group West (PGW), Consortium and LPC/InBook are all distributors. Distributors do not carry books from publishers they do not represent.

Both wholesalers and distributors also provide the nearly invaluable service of collecting payment from bookstores and absorbing the losses if a store fails to pay, closes, goes bankrupt, etc. Distributors also do all the collections and accounting for sales to wholesalers, national accounts, et al., which, historically, have been a real headache for independent publishers to do business with and collect from.

In theory wholesalers pay publishers 100% of what's owed in 90 days (which allows them time to collect from stores before paying the publishers). Distributors begin to pay after 90 days and spread the payment of the balance over the next four months as a hedge against returns, so some payments can take as long as eight months between the time a book is sold and the publisher receives payment.

Occasionally wholesalers and distributors co-exist in the same parent company. Words Distribution is a new distributor that is, basically, an offshoot of Bookpeople. Words will provide distribution services for publishers who want these services, but Bookpeople will continue to do wholesale. In those thrilling days of yesteryear, Inland was a wholesaler but InBook did distribution, all out of the same company and the same facility.

From the booksellers' perspective, the two kinds of organizations look — and often act — almost the same: you call them up, tell them what you want and they send it. Seeing the distributors' rep, especially for the smaller or more remote stores, may not enter into the picture at all. On the other hand, some wholesalers have reps in their primary regions, so simply seeing a rep (or not) doesn't necessarily make a company a distributor instead of a wholesaler. Sometimes a wholesaler's telemarketing staff is more effective (and helpful) than a distributors' rep. Wholesalers often publish catalogs and new-title updates.

But publishers can tell the difference at a glance: different commitments, different services — and the percentage the publisher receives for books sold is significantly different.

The Math

OK, now the math: Who gets what. In the following sections we'll outline the four most common paths a book can travel to get to the bookstore — and who gets how much money in each situation. To keep it simple, we'll use a \$10.00 book and assume that the bookstore always gets 40%. *Hint: The figure to watch is the publisher's income. The bookstore's income stays virtually the same, regardless.*

\$10 Book Sold Direct to a Bookstore by a Publisher

Let's start with the simplest (even if no longer common) situation. If a publisher sells a \$10 book to a bookseller at a standard 40% discount, the publisher gets 60% of the \$10 cover price which comes out to \$6.00. The bookseller keeps 40%, or \$4.00.

Store	Wholesaler	Distributor	Publisher
40%			60%
\$4.00			\$6.00

\$10 Book Sold to a Store Via a Wholesaler

Wholesalers generally get 15% of the cover price when they get their books directly from the publisher. So, if that same \$10 book is sold to the store through a wholesaler...

Store	Wholesaler	Distributor	Publisher
40%	15%		45%
\$4.00	\$1.50		\$4.50

Note that while the transaction looks about the same to the bookstore, which gets 40% in either case, the publisher's income has dropped by \$1.50 per book to \$4.50. If this book is the "typical book" described in the Book Production Cost sidebar, the publisher can still cover the fixed costs for the book and have a little bit left over to put toward all of the other expenses.

\$10 Book Sold to a Store Via a Distributor

So, how does this picture change if the publisher uses a distributor?

The classic model for distributors is that the distributor gets 25% of the amount they sell the book for (a.k.a. "25% of net"). If the distributor sells the book directly to the bookstore, it works out the same as if the publisher had used a wholesaler. And the publisher has, presumably, gotten a lot more services. So far so good!

Store	Wholesaler	Distributor	Publisher
40%		15%*	45%
\$4.00		\$1.50	\$4.50

*Book sold to store at \$6, so net = \$6. Distributor's cut is 25% of net (25% of \$6 = \$1.50 or 15%).

\$10 Book Sold to a Store by a Wholesaler Via a Distributor

OK, now it's going to get really interesting.

Now we're going to look at what happens when the distributor sells the book to a wholesaler and the bookstore buys the book from the wholesaler.

So, the distributor pays the publisher 25% of \$5.00, which is the net amount that the distributor collects from the wholesaler for the book. (\$10 retail price minus \$4.00 to bookstore minus \$1.00 to wholesaler = \$5.00)

Store	Wholesaler	Distributor	Publisher
40%	10%	12.5%*	37.5%
\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$3.75
	W+D income = \$2.25		
	W+D % of income = 22.5%		

*Book sold to wholesaler at \$5.00, so net = \$5.00. Distributor's cut is 25% of net collected from wholesaler (25% of \$5.00 = \$1.25 or 12.5%).

The publisher's share drops significantly as she is now paying two middlemen. Wholesalers generally get 10% when they get books from a distributor.

In the above situation, the publisher nets \$3.75 (even less than the bookstore makes) and — now here's the crux of the matter — less than it cost to produce the book. Suddenly it gets clear: where a bookstore orders its books has a significant impact on publisher finances.

Book Production Cost

It's hard to understand the impact of declining per-book publisher income unless you have some idea what publisher expenses are. Book production costs vary tremendously, but we can still project some typical expenses for our \$10.00 book — expenses that publishers must cover with their \$6.00, \$4.50 or \$3.37 per-book income.

Let's start with an average printing cost of \$2.00/book for a small print-run title, maybe an average of \$1.00 per copy for the remaining production costs (i.e. typesetting, design, lay-out, cover art), and add \$.50/book for shipping from printer to the distributor or wholesalers. Add 7% (\$.70) per book for royalties....

Just these "fixed costs" add up to \$4.20 per book. And then there's salary, office overhead, promotion costs...and all of those other things that have to be covered.

If you ever noticed those requests from feminist publishers asking bookstores to order their books direct from their distributors whenever possible, this is why: Publishers' gross income drops by 25% when bookstores order from wholesalers instead of the publisher's distributor. That's about as much as an independent bookstore's income drops when two superstores move to town....

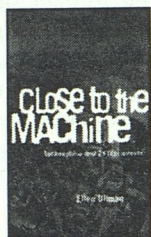
So now you have the basic math of wholesaling and know exactly who gets how much money in each of the basic situations described above.

You've probably already noticed the shift in income away from publishers. In the old pre-distribution days, publishers received \$6.00 (60%). Now, when a book is sold via a "double-deduction sale" — which has become the norm in many situations — the publisher receives only \$3.75 (37.5%) of the book price.

But It's Not That Simple Anymore

Chain stores started returning books in large quantities about two years ago. The patterns of these returns create extensive expenses for publishers that, too often, outweigh the profit from the sales. These patterns include returning cartons of books

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from frontlist buys that have never been opened (and obviously never made it to the shelves), returning and reordering the same book simultaneously (which reduces the chain's current accounts payable but damages a lot of books) and returning books purchased two, three or as long as five years previously — long after the publisher had assumed sell-through and in violation of distributors' and wholesalers' terms.

So if a chain returns, say only half of the books they ordered on a frontlist buy, and if half of those returns are damaged and cannot be resold, then the publisher is stuck with a lot of damaged books, the cost of which must come out of the sale: add another \$.50 to the printing cost of \$2.00/per book to cover the damaged/destroyed books.

At the time when most publishers signed up for distribution, a relatively high proportion of distributors' sales were to bookstores (wherein the publishers received 45% or \$4.50). But as time has passed, a much higher percentage of most distributors' sales have shifted to wholesalers which reduces the publishers'

share to 37.5% or \$3.75. This change may not amount to much on a handful of books, but when 40% to 50% or more of the books sold by the distributor shift from the higher paying category to the lower paying category, the publisher's net loss is significant.

Furthermore, there are an increasing number of situations where distributors are selling books at 55% discount to wholesalers (rather than the 50% sale described above). In these cases the publisher's income is reduced even more, to \$3.37 (33.7%).

But even assuming that most sales are made at 50%, \$3.75 isn't enough to run a publishing company. If fixed costs are "average" (see sidebar) the publisher is actually losing money with every book sold at this rate. But the story doesn't stop here.

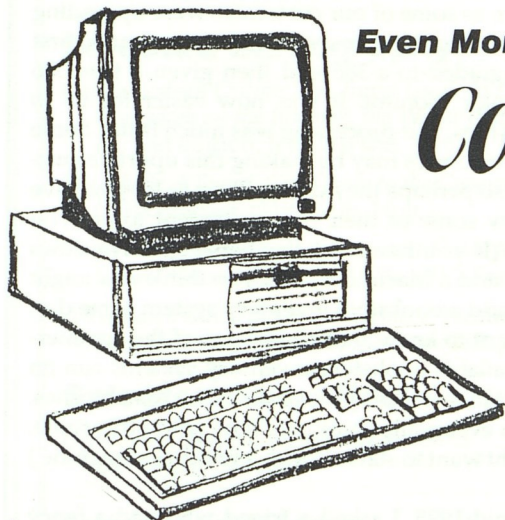
Presumably what offsets the low per-copy income for publishers is their ability to sell many more copies and thus increase their print runs so that, instead of paying \$2.00/per copy (plus the other \$2.20/copy for expenses) the publisher might end up paying \$1.50 per copy for printing, or if lucky, \$1.00 per copy.

But what if she doesn't sell those extra copies? If she prints 8,000, at \$1.00 per copy — instead of printing 4,000 copies at \$2.00/per copy — the \$8,000 bill from the printer is the same, so if she winds up selling only 4,000 of that 8,000-copy run, because the chains returned a large part of their order, then the publisher has gained nothing and it has lost income by selling the book at \$3.75 instead of \$4.50 — plus the publisher is also paying, in most cases, a restocking fee to the distributor on all of the returned books and for shipping the damaged books back to the publisher, books that she can't resell because of the damage. If the sales projections were less dramatic, or if the cost of printing fell by only \$.50/book, and the publisher printed 6,000 copies at \$1.50 for a printer bill of \$9,000, then the publisher also loses money on the printer bill.

The supreme irony here is that, if the publisher takes these damaged books to a local bookfair and sells them as "hurts" to the public at a 50% discount, the publisher will make more per book selling the damaged books than she can possibly make under any other form of distribution.

What's wrong with this picture!





Even More Reasons to Get a

Computer for Your Bookstore

(Yes, There are More!)

By Suzanne Corson
Boadecia's Books/Kensington, CA
boadbks@norcov.com

Do you still wonder if you would/could really use a computer? Is the thought of getting a computer for your store too overwhelming? Do you doubt you'll be able to recoup the investment? Do you want to hold off until you're ready to invest in a computerized inventory system, such as Booklog or IBID? Or are you just tired of hearing about all the hype and want to sit out the "computer thing" altogether?

I'm sure you've heard all the arguments about getting a computer, and you may have had lots of customers ask you when you're getting your own Web page. There have been great articles in *FBN* about these issues, as well as in other trade publications such as *American Bookseller*. Most folks have heard the conventional wisdom "buy the best system you can afford" — but, since there are new, better, faster, prettier, fancier machines available each day, this one bit of "helpful" advice is enough to scare anyone!

But computers are definitely worth it. And you can start out slowly, adding new components when you can, taking advantage of each piece of technology as it's available to you. If one of the pieces you start out with is a modem, you'll have two resources that are incredibly helpful: the World Wide Web (a.k.a. WWW or simply, "the Web") and electronic mail (a.k.a. email), two components of the Internet ("the Net").

When we first opened Boadecia's, we thought about computers pretty much in terms of computerized inventory systems such as Booklog. We'd had lots of great conversations with the folks at Booklog and got to see demos of it and other computerized inventory systems at ABA one year. We could see the benefits of such a system — who wouldn't? — but couldn't justify making that kind of investment so early in our store's tenure.

So we started very slowly. One of my business partners had an old 286 speed computer with a monochrome monitor and dot-matrix printer at home that she brought into the store. The computer was affectionately known as "the doorstep," since it was fairly limited in what it could accomplish. But it did have *WordPerfect*, a word processing program, on it, so we used this computer for our first newsletters, mailing labels, flyer creation, and other typewriter-style needs.

**You can start out slowly,
adding new components
when you can,
taking advantage of each piece
of technology as
it's available to you.**

We live and work near Silicon Valley, home base of many of the big computer companies, so many of our customers are extremely computer literate. They were enthusiastically egging us on about getting a better machine with a faster processor and a better printer. It actually felt like a lot of pressure, which we

When To Buy

There's a lot of buzz on the Web right now about the price of computers.... Excerpts from two articles follow:

"The computer hardware market is undergoing a historic transformation.... Until this year, mainstream PCs typically stayed the same price while increasing in power. Smart consumers always bought at the high end because (1) the software demanded high-powered hardware and (2) they feared instant obsolescence if they bought low-end gear. Today, however, [most people] just don't need the latest and greatest computer to do [their] job[s].... As a result of these changes, now is a great time to get a hardware bargain...."

The article goes on to suggest that there are a lot of \$1,000 Value PCs that are great for Internet access, email, word processing, spread sheets, etc. Specs: 16 [MB] RAM, 166 [MHz], standard Pentium, 1 GB hard drive, 8x CD-ROM. (Monitor not included.) For \$2,000 you can get a high-end multimedia PC...but why spend that much money unless you need to drive an inventory system?

A second article suggests that the price of the above mentioned "entry level PCs" may well dip to below \$700 by Christmas and advises "buy anytime between now and the end of the year," adding "the next big inflection point [possible price change] won't come until spring of 1998 when Intel rolls out two new versions of the Pentium II."

—Jesse Berst at http://www.zdnet.com/anchor-desk/story/story_1342.html

didn't really need, since running a bookstore is certainly enough pressure, as we all know! But two of the three of us were fairly computer literate from our pre-bookstore days, so we, too, knew the limitations of what we had and we knew what we could do if we had a faster, bigger system. The mantra "it was free" helped us love that old 286 during these days...and we did publish a perfectly respectable newsletter with it. So if this is the kind of system you have access to at first, go for it!

Later, as some of our customers were upgrading their personal computer systems, we were loaned first a 286-upgraded-to-a-386 and then given a true 386 with a color monitor. It was now easier for us to maintain files, and processing was much faster. Some of your customers may be making this upgrade journey, too, so perhaps they'd be willing to let you have or borrow some of their old equipment to get you started! (If you have a choice between a Windows machine and a Macintosh, and you think you might want to add a bookstore inventory system some day, you'll want to know that all but one of the commercially available bookstore inventory systems run on DOS or Windows. Only one is made for Macintoshes. So if you eventually think you'll be going this route, you might want to start off with a Windows machine.)

In mid-1995, I asked a friend who had a fancy system to show me a Web page. We had heard so much about them, but not having seen any, it was hard to know if we really needed one or not, like so many of our customers were insisting. He got me connected to the Internet on his machine and first brought me to www.yahoo.com. This is a search directory on the Internet. From here, and other directories and search engines like it, you can find anything you like on the World Wide Web. One of the first things I typed in was *lesbian books*, and even at that early date was rewarded with many "hits," as the found entries are called. From there, I surfed away!

One of the ways the Web works is that it's all connected, like a spider's Web. When you're on one page, there will be either highlighted or underlined words. Like digressing in a conversation, you can click on one of these "links," as they're known, and go to another page to find out more information about that subject. As an example, a paragraph of text on one Web page about writers may read:

Many great writers of the early twentieth century spent time in Paris. Some of these include Gertrude Stein, Natalie Barney, and James Baldwin.

See how these three writers names are underlined? This means you have a few choices. You can either keep reading the page you're on about early 20th-century writers, or you can click on one of the underlined names to find out more about that particular writer. Your Web browser, the utility that helps you navigate the Web, will keep track of the pages you

Selected Bibliography:

Gay & Lesbian Online: The Travel Guide to Digital Queerdom on the Internet, the World Wide Web, et al., 2nd edition, Jeff Dawson. (\$16.95, Peachpit.)

Net Chick: A Smart-Girl Guide to the Cyberworld, Carla Sinclair. (\$19.95 pb, Holt.)

SurferGrrls: Look Ethel! An Internet Guide for Us! Laurel Gilbert & Crystal Kile. (\$15, Seal.)

A Woman's Guide to Online Services, Judith Broadhurst. (\$19.95 pb, McGraw Hill.)

Selected Web sites:

(Note: your Web browser probably inserts the "http://" for you)

Bookseller Related Sites:

List of feminist bookstores in U.S. and Canada
www.igc.apc.org/women/bookstores/
 (You're probably on this list, even if you don't have a computer!)

Feminist Bookstore Catalog www.FemBookNet.com

American Booksellers Association
www.bookweb.org

BookWire www.bookwire.com
 & www.bookwire.com/index/book-resources.html

R.R. Bowker (Books in Print) www.bowker.com

Publishers Weekly www.bookwire.com

Sisters in Crime www.books.com/sinc

Women's Review of Books ww.wellesley.edu/WCW/CRW/WROB/welcome.html

Non-Book Vendors:

Ladyslipper Music www.ladyslipper.org

Wolfe Video www.wolfevideo.com

Dan Kaufman Graphics www.dkgraphics.com

Publishers:

Calyx www.proaxis.com/~calyx

HarperCollins www.harpercollins.com

HerBooks www.igc.apc.org/herbooks

New Victoria www.opendoor.com/NewVic

Press Gang www.pressgang.bc.ca

Publishers Marketing Association
www.pma-online.org

Random House www.randomhouse.com

Routledge itp.thomson.com.routledge

Sage Publications www.sagepub.com

Simon & Schuster www.simonandschuster.com

Spinifex Press www.peg.apc.org/~spinifex

Stonewall Inn (St. Martin's Press)
www.stonewallinn.com

Lists: Feminist Publishers in Asia
www.peg.apc.org/~women/asiapublish.html

Lists: Publishers Worldwide
www.lights.com/publisher

Other Business Resources:

Federal Express www.fedex.com

Small Business Administration www.sba.gov

United Parcel Service www.ups.com

United States Postal Service www.usps.gov

Women's Business Resource Site
www.athenet.net/~ccain

Other Lesbian Sites:

Amazons Online www.amazon.org

Isle of Lesbos www.sappho.com

Lesbian.org www.lesbian.org

Other Women's Sites:

National Organization for Women www.now.org

Feminist Majority Foundation www.feminist.org

Women's Web www.womweb.com

Women's Wire www.women.com

Web Directories & Search Engines:

Alta Vista www.altavista.digital.com

Excite! www.excite.com

InfoSeek www.infoseek.com

Lycos www.lycos.com

visited, so if you wanted to go find out more about Gertrude Stein, you could do that, and then come back to finish the page you started on, or come back to click on Natalie Barney to find out more about her.

Most major companies and many smaller ones have Web sites. (Basically, a Web site is a collection of Web pages, though the terms are often used interchangeably.) Many times the addresses of the Web sites are intuitive, once you know the format. Most addresses, also known as URLs, or Universal Resource Locators, are divided into at least three parts, separated by periods, known as "dots." The first is usually "WWW" for World Wide Web. The second is usually some form of the name of the company, the part that's most intuitive. The third is an extension, of which, currently, there are only a few. The most common are: "com" for a (commercial) business; "org" for a non-profit organization; "edu" for someone affiliated with a school; and "gov" for a government affiliation. (Keep these extensions in mind for the upcoming discussion on electronic mail!) So let's say you wanted to check a zip code online, rather than calling the post office or

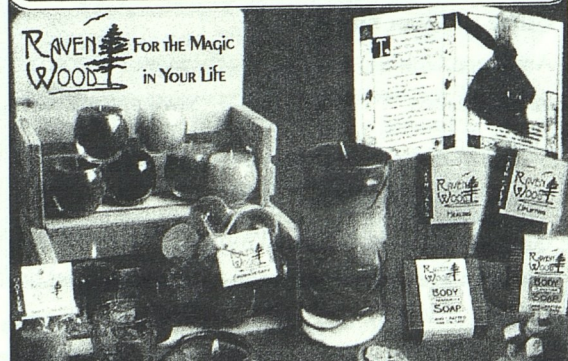
looking it up in a clunky directory. You can go to a search engine, such as www.excite.com, and type in United States Postal Service or even just Post Office, and you'll find matches to choose from. Or if you're feeling adventurous, you can try to guess, based on the URL convention above: www.usps.gov would take you right to the post office Web site.

What you can find on the Web is practically limitless. You can compare shipping rates using the online rate calculators at the FedEx and UPS Web sites (www.fedex.com & www.ups.com); find out what book was discussed on Terry Gross' "Fresh Air" program on National Public Radio (www.npr.org, then click "Programs," then click "Fresh Air," then click on "Past Fresh Air Programs," and fill in the date you're looking for when prompted); look at a vendor's product if you can't put your finger on their catalog when you need it (e.g. www.wolfevideo.com); find out what upcoming releases are coming from a particular publisher (e.g. www.sealpress.com).... Many publishers, authors, book distributors, and magazine distributors have Web sites that give you access to information about their companies 24 hours a day.

The Small Business Administration Web site (www.sba.gov) has lots of information for small businesses, including special information for businesses owned by women. There are a myriad of sites by and for women; a good place to start is Women Online at www.women.com. For lesbian sites, begin with Amy Goodloe's wonderful www.lesbian.org or Amazons Online at www.amazon.org. Keep up with political activism at such sites as www.now.org where you'll find the National Organization for Women and www.feminist.org for the Feminist Majority Foundation's home page.

Now for my guilty, uh, ur...resourceful secrets! If you can afford it, R. R. Bowker publishes *Books in Print* on CD-ROM, so you can use your computer to interface with this great resource! If you can't or don't want to plunk down the money for that valuable, but oh-so-pricey reference, there are places on the Web that will get you similar information. Many college, university, and public libraries have their card catalogs online. Doing research for yourself and/or customers is a snap using these catalog's subject guides. But what if you need an ISBN or price for a book? Use the resources that have been built on our hard-working backs — the online conglomerate bookstores:

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Oils, Bath Salts, Soaps, Body Powder

www.amazon.com (Amazon.com, the company that took the name of the oldest feminist bookstore in the U.S. The real Amazon Books can be found online at www.amazonfembks.com) or www.barnesandnoble.com (guess who?) and www.books.com (Book Stacks, Inc.). As much as I hate to admit it, Amazon.com's site is especially useful since it lists out-of-print books, too. Sometimes their pricing information is out-of-date, but I've never had a problem with the ISBNs. (I'd also like to point out that many of our customers use these sites to find out about forthcoming books by their favorite authors and then order them from us!)

You do not need an extra-fancy computer to access the Internet. You will need a modem, though, and the faster the modem, the less time you'll wait for the information you want to download. At this time, 56K modems are all the rage, but truthfully, you'll do just fine with a 14,400 bps (bytes per second) or 28,800 bps modem, unless you're planning on downloading a lot of images.

Soon after taking the initial baby steps onto the Web, my girlfriend bought a computer for our home in February 1996. This purchase was researched for over a year, and the "buy the best you can afford" theory was definitely in effect. She purchased a Pentium 100 MHz with *Microsoft Windows 95* and a software "suite," or group, of programs called *Microsoft Office 95 Professional*. It included *Word*, a word processing application; *Excel*, a spreadsheet program; *Access*, a database program that can be used for creating inventory files and mailing lists; and *PowerPoint*, a graphics application. We also got *Microsoft Publisher*, which is a desktop publishing application. (Now there is a wonderful, less expensive option called *Microsoft Office Small Business Edition*. This replaces *Access* with *Publisher* and also includes a program called *Scheduler+* which is great for creating work schedules, event schedules, etc.) The machine she purchased also had an internal modem at 14,400 bps.

One of our store's customers has his own Internet Service Provider company. This kind of company, abbreviated as ISP, provides access to the Internet, the Web, and email. Most also provide some space on their server for you to have your own Web page — when you're ready! You don't have to rush into this right away. [Books such as *A Woman's Guide to Online Services* explain the differences between local ISPs and bigger

online services such as America Online (AOL) and Microsoft Network (MSN), so I won't go into those details here. Basically, we chose to support a customer who has supported us, and an independent business as opposed to a conglomerate.] When we signed up with this ISP, besides getting "mailboxes" for each of us, we also got one for the store. This meant the store now had email access, which has been a huge help!



We're on Pacific Time, while many publishers, authors, and other contacts are on the East Coast. Some are in different countries. Being able to write to folks all over the world, 24 hours a day, is incredible! You have written documentation of all of your online "conversations," so there's not as much confusion as there is when relaying phone messages. And there's no long distance charge! The charges for online service vary, but many are similar to ours: we pay \$25 a month. Quite a bargain, considering you get access to all the resources on the Web, as well as email and Web site privileges! (I should also mention that many ISPs and other online companies often give you the software you'll need to get started. Our ISP gave us a version of Netscape Navigator for our Web browser, and Eudora Light for our email program. Commercial versions of these and other similar products are also available.)

I really like the fact that I can write to publishers, publicists, and authors when it's convenient for me, and know that they'll be reading their email when it's convenient for them. Scheduling readings has become so much easier! Though we often play email tag instead of phone tag, it all usually happens much quicker (and cheaper!).

Email can also be used to publicize events. In the San Francisco Bay Area where we are, there are several email mailing lists that are kind of like online newsletters. We can send our events to these lists and several hundred people will see them. (Be sure to check with the list administrator of a list you're thinking of posting to if it's okay that you post these events. Some do not allow the posting of for-profit events, so if you charge admission, you might not be able to use these.) Even some of the papers that we send press releases to about

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our events prefer getting these listings by email. They can save them all up in a file and then "cut and paste" the text from the email message into their word processing program. You save copying and postage costs!

If you have customers who have email, you can notify them of when their special orders are in or if a book by their favorite author has arrived. Customers with email can also contact you 24 hours a day to ask questions, special order books, make reservations for events, and the like. Stores can also publish an online version of their newsletter (again, saving copying and postage costs). Warning about email, though: it's generally just basic text. You can't underline titles, use bolding or italics, or have graphics. So this means you may need to reformat your print newsletter into a simpler version before you send it out online.

Depending on how ambitious you want to be, you could conceivably publish different versions of your newsletter via email — one for mystery fans, one for sf/f, etc....and send them only to those customers who have expressed interest in those subjects.

One nice email resource is our very own FB-Net list. This is a mailing list started by Carol and the folks at FBN to connect all of us online feminist bookstores together. In the past, this list has been used for asking each other questions about certain books, publishers, vendors, or distributors; for sharing tips on handling certain situations; for chatting about particular events; and getting up-to-the-minute notice (earlier than mail, that is) of changes and updates to the annual FBN catalog.

There used to be two good mailing lists: one for women/feminist publishers called "BookBabes" and one called "Bookfiends" for feminist and lesbigaytrans booksellers, publishers, authors, publicists, etc.... They may re-emerge this fall, as Carol thinks she has located a server to host them. Watch these pages for more information!

Eventually, Vina, one of my business partners, purchased a computer, color monitor, and inkjet printer for the store. Again, lots of research took place, and we got the best we could afford. We spent about \$2,300 for an MCA 166 MHz Pentium with a 28,800 modem, a fast CD-ROM drive, Windows 95, etc. The price included a color printer and a 15" monitor. (MCA is an "off brand," and so a little cheaper. We've had some problems that took longer to fix than we wanted, but we think that was primarily a problem with the local office.) There are a lot of decent systems out there for about \$1,000, or figure \$1,500 if you need a monitor and a printer. For this price you should be able to find a 133 MHz Pentium with a 28,800 modem and Windows 95.

With our new computer we can access the store's email right at the store and use the Web there as well. We have several virtual filing cabinets worth of information on the computer, from customer records to copies of orders, our mailing list, and our newsletters. Someday, we'll get Booklog and have a point-of-sale terminal, online inventory, and all that jazz. But by taking baby steps, we've come a long way from that 286 "doorstop," at a pace we could handle, at prices we could afford at the time, while having a wealth of information and resources at our fingertips, 24 hours a day. You can, too! ○



CANADIAN CONTENT

New Book Chapter in Edmonton?

By Jacqueline Dumas
Orlando Books/Edmonton AB, Canada

As I write, I've just received an invitation to attend the opening of the new Chapters Bookstore — business attire (do I wear an Orlando Books t-shirt?) and RSVP to a Toronto phone number. Although curious to see what all the fuss is about, and tempted to further embellish my t-shirt with a bold I Am Not Afraid message, I've decided to finish the newsletter, and to think again about the whole issue of large corporations and small businesses.

Our city has the reputation of being one of the best book cities in the country. Since Mel Hurtig's first bookstore, the independents, including the excellent second-hand stores, have established locations on and around Jasper Avenue and Whyte Avenue — in the heart of the city. One could say they *are* the heart of the city. Chains have proliferated in the malls and in the outskirts. Now we have the superchains moving into the periphery, first on the south flank, with three planned forays from other directions. Is this a war? I don't know, but it seems to me that independent, community-centered bookstores are more important than they have ever been.

Ten years ago the main market share of bookstores was in the hands of the independents. Now the numbers are reversed with chains controlling the bulk of the retail book industry. The August 12 edition of *The New York Times* reported that Grove Press approached Barnes & Noble for its opinion of a forthcoming title by Jerry Leiber. Barnes & Noble responded with "a tepid response," i.e., an order for 1,200 copies, at which point the title was canceled. Is the day now upon us when a few buyers from a few superchains are determining what is to be published? As the chains gain a larger share of the market place,

they are gaining a larger say in what is published. HarperCollins has canceled 100 forthcoming titles from its lists, many of them because not enough copies were ordered in advance to please the publisher's bottom line. But it's not just new titles which are affected. Backlist titles seem to be disappearing with alarming frequency, declared out of print — titles by Judy Grahn, Jane Bowles — all so Jay Leno can get a \$4 million advance for a nonbook to be featured in every superchain in North America? Are we seeing fewer titles being published, but in larger quantities?

*I've just received an invitation
to attend the opening
of the new Chapters Bookstore —
business attire.
Do I wear an Orlando Books
t-shirt?*

Carol Seajay of the *Feminist Bookstore News* has pointed out that in the U.S., the expansion of superstores (with direct aid from large publishers) has not translated into more book sales, but into a diffusion of sales, with books being used as "wallpaper" for these huge stores, resulting in huge returns to the publishers, in some cases as high as 70%. Here in Canada, this situation has meant problems for some bookstores, as HarperCollins earlier this year decided to stop shipping books to independents (not chains!) whose returns were over 40%. And in the U.S., again reported in the *Feminist Bookstore News*, Macmillan has recently announced that it will no longer do business with stores with whom they do less than \$10,000/year (no

exceptions for special orders) — eliminating many independents in a single sweep. Translation: an increasingly inefficient book industry is foisting the blame for its inefficiencies onto the smaller independents.

A superchain will carry whatever books it can sell at the moment, whether they be romances, feminist books, anti-feminist books, Paul Bernardo books, gay books — as long as they can sell them, it will stock them; the moment they are no longer popular, it will return them. On the other hand, if I can't keep going selling the kind of books I believe in, I may struggle harder, but I won't stop carrying books by bell hooks, or Gail Scott, or Di Brandt, or David Leavitt. And I will not carry books like *The Bell Curve* or magazines like *Alberta Report* even if I can sell 100 copies of each.

Settlement, continued from page 8.

for independent booksellers in their dealings with trade book publishers," adding, "The settlement sends a message to the entire publishing community that federal law requires a 'level playing field,' that the law must be observed scrupulously...and that there are very serious adverse consequences for publishers that are cavalier or callous regarding compliance with the law."

She also stressed that the settlement "demonstrates Penguin's commitment to treat independent booksellers with the respect they deserve. Penguin, which is now operated by almost entirely new senior management, should be applauded for its voluntary decision last spring to permit ABA to conduct the investigation which lead to this settlement, as well as for the settlement itself."

Discussing the settlement, ABA counsel Jerry Jacobs stressed, "This is by far the largest antitrust discrimination settlement ever, in the 60-year history of the antitrust discrimination laws. We are unaware of a recovery of *any* [antitrust recovery] that exceeds a million or two million dollars."

He added that it would be difficult to overstate the significance of ABA's settlement in terms of antitrust discrimination law, which the government has failed to enforce: "ABA, struggling for the survival and prosperity of its members, did what the FTC couldn't — or wouldn't — do," he told *BTW*. "For nearly two decades, publishers looked to the FTC for ultimate guidance on compliance with the law while, year after

A superchain can try to disguise itself as a giant community bookstore, with interest in local poets and thinkers. But beware: if the superchain doesn't reach its bottom line, it will change the mix of books until it makes the money it wants to make. It might discount titles until other stores can't compete, and if it still doesn't make enough money, it will close the outlet. And where does that leave the local poets and thinkers if the independent bookstores have long gone? Where are the lovely local stationers we once had on Jasper and Whyte? We have to get in our cars and drive to the giant office supply monopolies, which have now reduced their choice of products, raised their prices, and by the looks of it, reduced their staff. ○

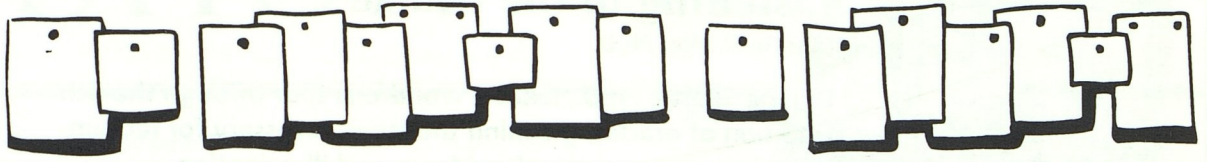
year, caving in to the pressures from chains and other favored buyers, sometimes on the basis, we were told, that FTC had not yet specifically interpreted the law for publishers.... But a series of seven consent orders, \$25 million in settlement, and \$2 million in legal fees is, frankly, far more than the FTC would likely ever have achieved had it proceeded," Jacobs concluded.

The FTC inexplicably dropped its 17-year proceedings against seven of the largest U.S. book publishers last year and refused to complete the process or issue guidelines for publishers.

Domnitz also recalled that, at the beginning of the lawsuit, "We were severely maligned. I remember sitting with my colleagues in a room filled with opposition lawyers who were heaping invective upon us. We were called irresponsible and criminals. We didn't know the business. We were infantile, and we were going to destroy publishing as we know it for no good reason. Those were the *nice* things they said."

But the bottom line for Domnitz and everyone who has supported the lawsuits is, as he explained, this message to the entire book publishing industry: "You're not dealing with only the individual plaintiffs but with all of the independent booksellers that belong to the [ABA]. We represent a significant market share in this industry, and we're claiming the moral high ground. There is a grand tradition of bookselling in the American culture and [with these lawsuits] we said, simply, that we were not going to be cheated out of our birthright. We will do what needs to be done." ○

ANNOUNCEMENTS



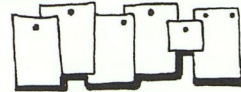
Compiled by Jenn Tust with Carol Seajay

The Union Institute Center for Women is accepting applications for its third annual Audre Lorde Legacy Award and for the *new* Audre Lorde Fellowship for Women of Color Writers/Activists. The Audre Lorde Fellowship Award includes a month-long residency at Norcroft: A Writing Retreat for Women and a \$1,000 stipend. This fellowship is made possible by a gift from the Harmony Women's Fund (MN). The Center for Women will also award its \$3,000 Audre Lorde Legacy Award to an individual or organization doing exemplary work, which meshes scholarship and activism for the benefit of women and/or girls. For more information or to receive an application (specify award or fellowship) send SASE to: The Union Institute, Center for Women, Attn: Diana Orley-Campbell, 1710 Rhode Island Ave. NW #1100, Washington DC 20036; 800-969-6676, Web <www.tui.edu/~osr>.

Small Publishers Co-Op is an organization of 250 zine, comic, newsletter and catalog publishers. SPC's main focus is ganging press runs together to take advantage of the membership's combined buying power, cutting members' printing costs by as much as 60%. Members can do newsprint as well as glossy covers and white bond interiors, and a full spectrum of publication lengths and sizes. Costs for 1,000 16-page newsletter, zines, or comics can be as low as \$240. Members include Desert Moon/NM, Dagger/CA, *Fat?So!/CA*. For more information contact: Scott McIntire, Small Publishers Co-Op, 2579 Clematis Street, Sarasota FL; 941-922-0844, email <spcoop@netline.net>.

Ingram Book Co. and the Publishers Marketing Association have started Ingram Express, a program

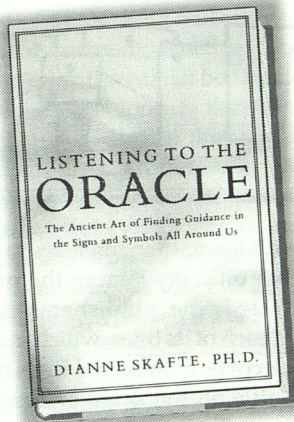
that allows publishers with fewer than ten titles to be stocked by Ingram. Before officially joining the program, publishers are tested: the publisher sends Ingram four free copies of each of its titles, which must have the ISBN on the back cover, a Bookland EAN bar code on the back cover, title on the spine and price marked clearly on the cover. Two copies of each title will be stocked in Ingram's two large warehouses — in LaVergne/TN, and Roseburg/OR — for six months, allowing Ingram to gauge demand. If demand is sufficient, Ingram will then establish "a trial business relationship with the publisher." Ingram recommends that publishers promote and market the titles actively and rely on PMA for support. For more information, call 615-793-5555, ext. 7584, or on the Web <www.ingrambook.com>. —*Info from PW Daily*



OutWrite '98, the seventh annual (usually) queer writers conference will be held February 20-22, in Boston at the Sheraton Hotel in Copley Square. Keynote speakers will be Pratibha Parmar and Craig Lucas. \$65 pre-registration through December. For more information, call Mia Anderson at 617-262-6969, ext. 3.

The Women's National Book Association is celebrating its 80th anniversary by publishing a list of "Eighty Books for 21st Century Girls." Books range from *Madeline* to *Just Us Women* and *The Library*, as well as including *The Nancy Drew Mysteries* and *Sexual Harassment: High School Girls Speak Out*. It is OK with WNBA to reproduce the list for distribution, as long as appropriate credits are given. Alternately, **See Announcements, page 48.**

ANCIENT WISDOM FOR MODERN TIMES



Listening to the Oracle

Dianne Skafté, Ph.D.

Dianne Skafté, Ph.D., leads a wondrous tour through the rich tradition of oracles, gleaning the steps necessary for reclaiming this ancient source of guidance and illumination.

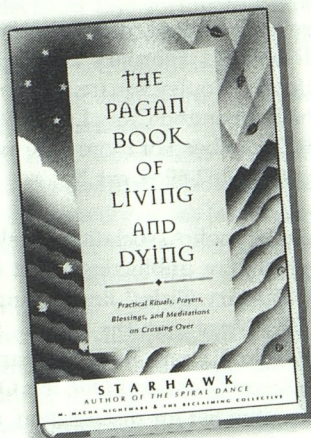
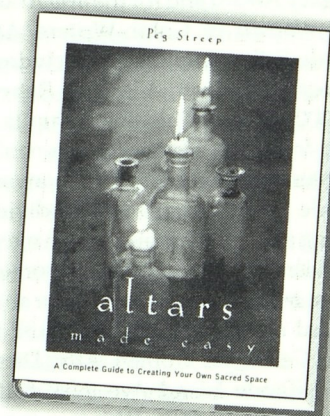
"Provocative and original. Essential reading for anyone seeking to penetrate the mysteries of human consciousness."

—ROBERT JOHNSON, author of *He, She, and We*

Altars Made Easy

Peg Streep

A faded photo, a trinket, a sea shell, a feather—you may not know it, but objects such as these placed in a particular fashion on your mantel or your desk are examples of personal altars. Let this comprehensive guidebook show you how to create your own powerful and sacred space using materials meaningful to you.



The Pagan Book of Living and Dying

Starhawk, M. Macha NightMare, and the Reclaiming Collective

Let Starhawk and friends teach you the Pagan practices for helping your loved ones cross over.

"Absolutely superb . . . I love the simple and elegant writing, and the way death is described in relationship to the cycles of the natural world. Enormously comforting."

—MARGOT ADLER, author of *Drawing Down the Moon*



SHORT RAVES

Compiled by Jenn Tust

Raising Peaceful Children in a Violent World by Nancy Lee Cecil. This is for parents and teachers who want to end violence and create a safe, peaceful environment for children — in the home, in school, and in the community. Brimming with suggestions and examples for teaching children to become peace-makers. Wonderful ideas and lots of encouragement. \$16.95, 1-880913-16-X, Innisfree.

The Science Book for Girls and Other Intelligent Beings by Valerie Wyatt and Pat Cupples. Absolutely wonderful — don't miss this one. Demonstrates that science is fun, and that it's for girls. This was a hit at our family reunion, both with the pre-teen young woman we thought was the target audience, and with the boys and adults also! \$8.95, 1-55074-113-6, Kids Can Press. —*Dorothy Holland*

Coming across Sally Gearhart's wild story of how she came to own a pit bull in **Storming Heaven's Gate: An Anthology of Spiritual Writings by Women**, got me hooked into reading the other sixty pieces. Several others are just as riveting, such as Joanna Macy's experience with a fly in her tea among Tibetan refugees in India, and Gene Zeiger's exploration of "the little bit" that's missing. It's an incredibly varied assortment of personal essays, stories and poems covering the widest possible definition of what might be considered spiritual, from every source of inspiration. The authors are of many races, religions and spiritual paths. Editors Amber Coverdale Sumrall and Patrice Vecchione have put together an inspiring and entertaining collection. \$14.95 pb, 0-452-27621-7, Plume. —*Kathryn Werhane*

Monkey Bridge, Lan Cao's haunting fictionalization of a teenager's flight from war-torn Vietnam, contrasts the experiences of generations, gives readers



wonderful, long glances into a Vietnam they didn't see on TV in the 70s, and subtly illuminates coming of age balanced (or unbalanced) between two cultures. But what has haunted me, for the several months since I read it, is its telling exploration of exile: what does it mean to be exiled from one's own country, from a home that one can't (ever?) return to and, most of all, how exile, so very often, begins in the very home that is left, in the class and cultural clashes of the hearth and heart. I've often wondered why lesbians and gay men so rarely write of exile but found, in **Monkey Bridge**, exactly the story I had looked for, just as rich with complexity and contradiction as I had dreamed. \$23.95 cl, 0-670-87367-5, Viking. —*Carol Seajay*

Avast ye! If you've ever had a hankering to don some breeches and a pegleg and set sail on the mighty Caribbean, **Women Pirates and the Politics of the Jolly Roger** by Ulrike Klausmann, Marion Meinzerin, and Gabriel Kuhn is the book for you! The book is divided into sections — the first, by Klausmann and Meinzerin, gives us the real stories of these female pirates and the seas that they plundered. The book covers a broad range of lady buccaneers, from the infamous lesbian duo of Anne Bonny and Mary Read to lesser-known heroines such as Lady Ch'ing of China and the Arabian pirate Sida al Hurra. The authors even shed some light on the suspected gender of the great sea-captain Bartholomew "Black Bart"

Roberts — was “he” really a “she?” The stories are lively and exciting. While reading, I could practically feel the salt wind on my face and the motions of the sea below my feet. (Although that might be just because I was reading it on the bus.) You’ll definitely be able to taste the sensation of piracy, as the authors have included a number of actual recipes prepared on the high seas. (Shark schnitzel, anyone?) The second part is a brief essay by Gabriel Kuhn entitled “Life Under the Death’s Head,” which links piracy to anarchist politics. Less fun than the first half, but still interesting and definitely preferable to a keelhaul! Overall, this book is a hearty read which I would recommend to the saltiest of seadogs as well as your average landlubber. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$23.99 pb, 1-55164-058-9, Black Rose Books.

—Karen Mitchell

FBN Intern and publisher of Crampzine

Magician’s Assistant is a lovely, haunting novel — but it’s hard to know what to say that won’t give it away. Lisa brought it into the office and we’ve been passing it hand to hand ever since. It was the *book du jour* during a recent weekend full of houseguests. Those of us who had just finished one of the two galley copies we had circulating had such an urgent need to discuss it that we (OK, I) rudely sent those who hadn’t finished it out of the room so we could talk about the



Sixth century pirate, from *Women Pirates and the Politics of the Jolly Roger* (Black Rose Books).

ending. One of those conversations convinced a bookseller from a city lucky enough to be scheduled for Ann Patchett’s tour to call the publicist back and *crowbar* room into the schedule for a reading. Caught in the crisis of not having finished it, but having to leave, another houseguest took it with her and FedEx’d it back from the airport when she landed. Good thing, too. Anything slower and we’d have not let her into the house again. The waiting list for this book is long and impatient.

So what makes this book so magical? More than anything, it’s a novel about a woman, Sabine, coming into herself. It’s a wonderful, complicated, and deeply satisfying journey. In her forties, having spent the previous twenty years being a magician’s assistant to a man who, though he loved her dearly, loved men much more, Sabine is faced with her own life after the magician’s death. That’s the simplest summary of plot, but the novel’s explorations of love and contentment (and what is required of different people to achieve it), of abandoned vs. cherished childhoods and the creation of one’s own adulthood, and of what it takes to choose life when surrounded by death, all combine to create a wonderful, rich, thoughtful, and unforgettable novel.

I refuse to give away any details that could spoil its unexpected twists and developments. Please just trust me on this one: if you read *FBN*, this novel’s for you. But where to shelve it? I offer only one solution: in a stack on the counter where you can handsell it to all of your best customers. They will thank you for it — even those who buy only one hardcover a year.

Magician’s Assistant by Anne Patchett, \$23 cl, 400 pages, 0-15-100263-0, Harcourt Brace. —Carol Seajay

Our Guys: The Glen Ridge Rape and the Secret Life of the Perfect Suburb is a profoundly disturbing, provocative — and very important — book. I think everyone in the office is relieved that I’ve finished it, having had enough mornings begin with rants like “One of the defense attorneys asked the victim’s mother what steps she had taken to protect the *boys* from her daughter!”

When I first saw this book, I thought it was a true crime-genre account of this brutal rape of a retarded young woman by a group of high school athletes she considered her friends. This happened in a small, affluent, “safe” community where neighbors knew

each other: most of the boys had grown up with the victim. I followed the story in the paper, on the radio and in magazines — and I felt I'd heard all I needed to know about this atrocious crime. I couldn't imagine that there could be any good reason to go through it all again, but Russell Banks' review in the *NYTBR* made it clear that the book was something much more: a thoughtful, painstakingly researched indictment of this nation's cult of the athlete, and how in communities all over America, boys are being raised to be abusive in their dealings with girls and women.

Bernard Lefkowitz, a journalist who has spent much of his career writing about poor children and adolescents in urban environments, arrived in Glen Ridge at the close of the school year and about four months after the gang rape. He attended graduation parties where the athletes that had *finally* been charged with rape (the rape occurred on March 1, 1989; while the victim told one of her teachers about it two days later, it was three weeks before anyone reported it to the police, and then another two months before any charges were brought against the boys) were treated like martyred heroes. "It's such a tragedy. They're such beautiful boys and this will scar them forever," was one comment he overheard. Most townspeople seemed to feel that "the incident," as they chose to refer to it, was a tragedy for the boys, their families, and the good name of the town. Local teenagers told other reporters that the victim, a 17-year-old mentally retarded girl (IQ of 64, and with the reading comprehension of an eight-year-old) "teased them into it," "was promiscuous," and "asked for it." During the trial, one of the defense lawyers tried to paint her as a Lolita, stressing numerous times that she was "big-breasted."

Lefkowitz conducted more than 200 interviews in the six years it took him to write the book, and provides the history and socioeconomics of the town as well as detailed portraits of the people of this community that responded so passively to the crime in an effort to understand why this happened. I could write this whole "rave" about the offensive and despicable

facts of the case and how it unfolded, but it's not the chronicle of what happened that makes this an important and worthwhile book. (I can't help saying, though, that of the 13 boys who were in the basement when the rape occurred *only* four were charged and brought to trial. In April of 1992, they were convicted and sentenced to medium-security campus-style prisons where they were given "indeterminate" minimum terms. They were free on bail, of course, until the appeal on June 30, 1997. They lost, and eight years later, it looks like three of them will finally spend a few years in jail.)

*The book is important
as a powerful examination
of male violence
against women,
and the cultural biases
so commonly held
that promote and nurture
this violence in
young boys and men.*

Our Guys is important as a powerful examination of male violence against women, and the cultural biases so commonly held that promote and nurture this violence in young boys and men. About what this same culture teaches young women, the author writes, "As children [the girls of Glen Ridge] expected to be accepted as equal human beings by the boys they knew. This was a reasonable expectation for children living in a seemingly placid small town whose appearance

invited trust. Treated as inferiors and outcasts when they stood up to the Jocks, these girls learned while they were very young — a lesson that was repeated throughout their childhood and adolescence — that the price of acceptance was submission. They had to submit to whatever the boys asked of them, and, as time passed, the boys kept asking for more.... Weren't parents worried about how their sons were growing up? Weren't they concerned about what might happen to *their* daughters?" \$29.95 cl, 0-520-20596-0, University of California Press. —Lisa McGowan

Hey Booksellers: We want to hear you rave your current favorite feminist books. Especially your unexpected delights and discoveries that other stores might have missed. Write them up, including the title, author, price, binding, ISBN, and publisher, and send them to Feminist Bookstore News, Attn: Jenn Tust, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188; fax 415-642-9995, email <Jenn@FemBkNews.com>. ○

BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Jenn Tust

Awards

New Delhi writer Arundhati Roy won England's distinguished Booker Prize this year for her novel, *The God of Small Things* (\$23 cl, 0-679-45731-3, Random House). The Booker, the most prestigious literary prize in Britain, carries a £20,000 (about \$32,000) purse and is awarded annually to a novel published in the past year by a writer from Britain or one of the Commonwealth countries.

A first novel, *The God of Small Things* is set in a pickle factory in southern India and is told from the perspective of seven-year-old twins who are struggling to make sense of the world, themselves and their strange and difficult family.

Gillian Beer, a professor of English literature at Cambridge and the chairman of the Booker judges, said *The God of Small Things*, which has already been translated into 27 languages, was written with "extraordinary linguistic inventiveness." Roy's combined advances reportedly came to \$1.6 million.

The Booker is usually riddled with controversy, with people criticizing the judges for not naming one book or another to the six-book short list and the judges themselves, who plowed through 106 novels this year, often failing to reach a happy consensus.



Down There Press' *First Person Sexual* won an inaugural Small Press Book Award for Sex/Romance category.

National Book Award finalists have been announced. Fiction finalists include *Le Divorce* by Diane Johnson (Dutton/William Abrahams) and *The Puttermessenger Papers* by Cynthia Ozick (Knopf); nonfiction

finalists include *My Brother* by Jamaica Kincaid (FSG); and poetry finalists include *Primate Behavior* by Sarah Lindsay (Grove) and *The Fields of Praise: New & Selected Poems* by Marilyn Nelson (Louisiana State).

This year's United States Board on Books for Young People's Hans Christian Andersen Committee chose Nancy Farmer's *A Girl Named Disaster* (Orchard, 1996) for its author citation. Set in Mozambique and Zimbabwe, the story offers young readers a powerful and often mystical tale of physical and spiritual survival set against incredible odds. Nhamo's escape from a forced marriage to a cruel elderly man and her struggle to find strength and courage as she journeys to her father's country will speak to children of any culture and country.

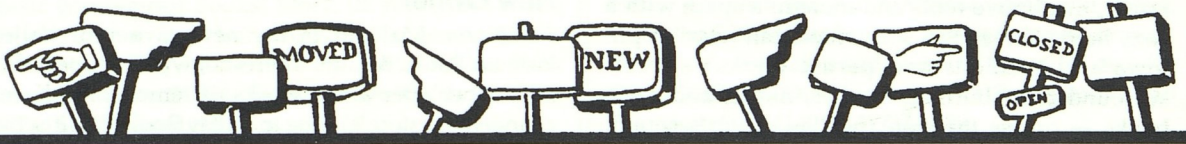


Rights

Eighth Mountain sold translation rights for a Chinese edition to *A Journey of One's Own: Uncommon Advice for the Independent Woman Traveler* by Thalia Zepatos to Macrovision Culture Co., Ltd.

Penguin has bid \$150,000 for *Point Last Seen: A Woman's Tracker's Story* (Beacon) for paper reprint. The Book-of-the-Month and QPB have picked up club rights to the book and *Ms.* has run a first serial excerpt. Foreign rights sales include: Karl Blessing Verlag, Germany; Rizzoli, Italy; Meulenhoff, Holland; and Hodder/Headline for the U.K., Australia and New Zealand. A TV/film option is in the works. ○

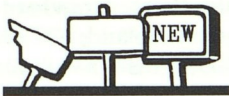
THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Jenn Tust

New Stores

The Haven is a new Gaia-like feminist bookstore that opened in mid-October in Pleasant Hill, CA. Sandie Kardof, who has 15 years experience working in legal publishing, has always wanted to and is now going to be "living in a bookstore." The 700-square-foot selling space will hold 3,500 titles focusing on a spectrum of women's issues including sexuality and relationships, and will also have new age and metaphysical titles in the mix. The Haven, which Sandie hopes will be a resource center and comfortable space for women, is located in a shopping center at a major intersection in Pleasant Hill. Other shops in the center include a scrap-booking store, a learning center for kids, a karate studio, and a convenience store. The Haven, 607 Gregory Lane #160, Pleasant Hill CA 94523; 510-947-5571, fax 510-947-5579, email soon to come.



Drumming is the focus at The Muse Lodge, a new women's spirituality bookstore and creative learning center in Newport Beach, California. The owners, Kimberly Hodgson-Wallish and Misha Ma'Heo, are working on turning their project into a nonprofit center, with a board of directors of women with diverse energies and specialties. Although the bookstore was something of an afterthought, the store's stock includes 45% books, lots and lots of drums, jewelry, crafts, art and more. The Muse provides classes and workshops including monthly drumming circles, and supports local artists and craftspeople by carrying and/or displaying their work. The 600-square-foot location is pretty full, and

the owners are contemplating moving to a bigger space. The Muse is located an hour south of L.A. and is a half mile from the beach, which is nice for outside drumming circles. The Muse Lodge, 408 Westminister Ave. #7, Newport Beach CA 92663; phone/fax 714-631-1179, email <themuselodge@juno.com>.



Spiritworks, a new spirituality gift and bookstore, was opened in October by Patricia Smith and Anne Elliott in Saskatoon, ten minutes away from Cafe Browse. Patty hopes the space will provide a healing atmosphere and assist customers in finding a spiritual path. While the store focuses on spirituality in the greatest sense, it is only partially (about 25% of the stock) feminist-oriented. Hot sections are self-help, women's issues, psychology and religion, and sidelines such as goblets, incense burners, and music. The 1,500-square-foot store is located in a beautiful semi-residential neighborhood, and it has a garden in front with space for customers to relax. Spiritworks, 1814 Lorne Ave., Saskatoon SK, Canada S7H 1Y4; 306-653-7966, fax 306-665-0276.

Thelma Spencer is the owner of Thelton Hall Books & Gallery, a very small women's bookstore in Springfield, MO, which focuses on local authors. Springfield is three hours from Kansas City, four hours from St. Louis and ninety minutes from the Arkansas border. Also a writer and a publisher of memoirs, Denlinger's Publishers — Ozark Division, Spencer carries all of her own titles, two of which are advertised in this year's Catalog. The new space will be used as a store as well as for publishing-related needs. Thelton Hall Books, 417 N. Booneville, Springfield MO 65806; 417-887-4521.

Melody Beattie, author of *Co-Dependent No More* and ten other titles, opened *A Different Dimension* in Malibu in September. This "boutique" features recovery, spiritual, and alternative healing books, music, meditative tools and more in a space with a cozy home library feel. Customers can relax on pillows and cushions and peruse books — while surrounded by burning candles, music, and 4,000 books — or use the store/healing center's sound, light, or biofeedback machines. Other important sections include major and minor religions, gay and lesbian issues, women's issues, self-help and recovery. The store is managed by Kyle Mathews. *A Different Dimension* will be up on the Web soon. Beattie is also returning to her original publisher, Hazeldon, from HarperSanFrancisco. *A Different Dimension*, 3900 Cross Creek Plaza #2, Malibu CA 90265; 310-317-9573, fax 310-456-5774.

Unique In Tucson is the new branch of Douglas Klinge's Unique on Central, a gay and lesbian gift shop located in Phoenix. The second store opened

September 20 — Mike Jones is the manager. Unique In Tucson, 2900 E. Broadway #142, Tucson AZ 85716; 520-318-4307, fax 520-319-8496.

New Owner

Karen Malcher is the new owner of Valley Women Books & Gifts in Fresno, which reopened in September after a few weeks of remodeling. Karen changed the store's name to Valley Books & Gifts, but will continue to keep the store's focus feminist. The contact information remains: Valley Books & Gifts, 1118 N. Fulton St., Fresno CA 93728; 209-233-3600.



Stores & Publishers Move

Womankind Books and Rising Tide Press left hearth and home in New York for new adventures in the hot and expansive Tucson. The new address is 65161 E. Emerald Drive, Tucson AZ 85739; 800-648-5333.

An Open Book in Columbus, Ohio, recently moved three doors down to a new location twice the size of their old space. An Open Book, 749 N. High Street, Columbus OH 43215; 614-291-0080, fax 614-291-0081.

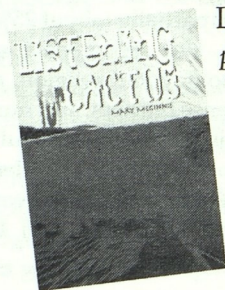
Attic Press has a new address: Attic Press, c/o Cork University Press, Crawford Business Park, Crosses Green, Cork Ireland; +353-1-021-902-980, fax +353-1-021-315-329, email s.wilbourne@ucc.ie.

Polestar Book Publishers has new contact information: for Editorial and Administrative: Michelle Benjamin, PO Box 5238, Station B, Victoria BC, Canada V8R 6N4; 250-361-9718, fax 250-361-9738, email pstarvic@direct.ca, Web <http://mypage.direct.ca/p/polestar/>, and for Publicity: Emiko Morita, 103-1014 Homer Street, Vancouver BC, Canada V6B 2W9, 604-488-0830, fax 604-669-8250, email polestar@direct.ca.

Special Issue

Trikone recently published a wonderful special issue that tackles the issues around coming out to Indian (and other South Asian) parents. It includes

Unapologetically Female



Listening to Cactus

poems by Mary McGinnis

"These poems reveal an adept listener, one who has been listening to time move through cactus, the sky, lovers, all manner of tender and funny human behavior. I have been listening to the poems of Mary McGinnis for years. They continue to move me to listen."

—Joy Harjo

Finalist for the 1997 PEN-West

Literary Award & the Ben Franklin Award for Poetry

96 pages, trade paper, \$14
ISBN 0-9644196-4-5

DISTRIBUTORS: INGRAM, KOEN, BAKER & TAYLOR



Sherman Asher Publishing
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1-888-984-2686 www.shermanasher.com

articles by lesbians and gay men as well as articles for, by and about parents who learned that their kids are gay. It's a wonderful read — and it addresses many culture-specific issues that are ignored in the basic coming-out books! Stock it! You won't make any money on it — but you will change someone's life. July 1997 (Vol. 12, No. 3). Write *Trikone* Back Issues, PO Box 21354, San Jose CA 95151; 408-270-8776. \$3.95, standard terms 60/40.



People Move

Ann Grossman left LPC/InBook for a job as the Northeast Sales Rep for Koen. John Alvord will be handling publishers of the InBook list, as well as a number of marketing duties. You can reach John at 203-878-6417, ext. 5, fax 203-874-2308.

Inga Petri, formerly marketing manager at Ragweed Press/gynergy books, is offering a full range of marketing services on a freelance basis. For more information: Inga B. Petri, Marketing Consultant, 99 Fifth Avenue #145, Ottawa ON, Canada K1S 5P5; 613-237-9915, email ipetri@cyberus.ca.

Anniversaries

Third World Press, one of the nation's oldest Black owned book publishing companies, is celebrating their 30th anniversary! Events included panel discussions on What Black Theater Can and Should Be and a Dialogue Between Writers and Publishers. The gala celebration in Chicago featured Derrick Bell as the keynote speaker, performances by Steve Cobb and Chavinduka, music and dancing.

Conari Press is celebrating their 10th year in publishing.

Distribution News

Spinsters Ink titles will be distributed by Words, the new distribution arm of Bookpeople, as of January 1, and will continue to be available from the whole-salers BP, Ingram, B&T and others.

Biblio Press has a new distributor: H. & M. Distribution, 41 Monroe Turnpike, Trumbull CT 06611;

800-698-7781, fax 203-459-5095. Biblio titles will also be available from LPC, BP, and New Leaf.

Tradeswoman magazine is now available from AK Press. AK also distributes *Maxine* (see Small Press), *Bitch*, the *SCUM Manifesto* by Valerie Solanas, *Pussycat Fever* by Kathy Acker and Cleis and Ism titles. 40% for 5+. AK Press Distribution, PO Box 40682, San Francisco CA 94140; 415-923-1429.

Small Press Distribution (SPD), the sole remaining exclusively literary wholesaler in the country, relocated its operations to a new 6,400-square-foot space, on Berkeley's west side, that's twice the size of their old location. SPD provides distribution and wholesaling services to 500 independent presses. Founded in 1969, SPD now distributes books to bookstores and libraries around the U.S. and abroad. Direct sales to individuals is its fastest growing market. SPD's customer base is 60% bookstores, 72% of which are independents. SPD expects to double its sales over the next five years to \$750,000/year. SPD, 1341 Seventh Street, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-524-1668, fax 510-524-0852.

St. Martin's Press is now the exclusive U.S. distributor of Zed Books. Zed is the English-language publisher of Nawal El Saadawi and other leading women's studies titles, including *Male Daughters*, *Female Husbands: Gender and Sex in an African Society* by Ifi Amadiume, and *Ecofeminism* by Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva.



Electronic News

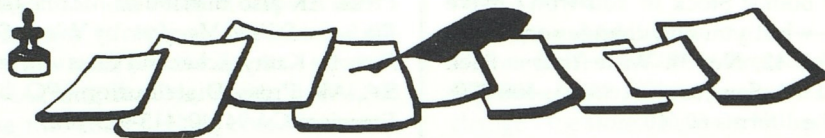
Mother Kali's in Eugene, Oregon now has email (kali@efn.org).

Pride & Joy in Northampton has an email address (pridnjoy@crocker.com), and a fax number 413-584-4848.

The new Brave Girls and Strong Women book list at (<http://members.aol.com/brvgirls>) describes over 40 small publisher books that empower girls.

HarperCollins' Winter/Spring catalog is online at (<http://www.catalog.harpercollins.com>). ○

WRITING WANTED



Compiled by Jenn Tust

Susan Fox Rogers is seeking nonfiction stories for a literary anthology focusing on women heading into the outdoors together. Entitled *Sisters in Adventure: Stories from Outdoor Women*, the book will be edited by Rogers and be published by Vintage Books. The female companion in these works can be a sister, mother, lover, grandmother, daughter-in-law, best friend, or even (female) dog. Deadline: April 1, 1998. For guidelines or contributions: Box 2576, Tucson AZ 85702.

Kuumba, a poetry journal for Black lesbians and gay men, accepts ongoing contributions of poetry and artwork celebrating the lives and experiences of Black people "in the life." Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, coming-out experiences, interactions with families and community, substance abuse and recovery, political activism, oral histories, HIV/AIDS, and intimate relationships. For guidelines see a recent issue of *Kuumba* or contact: BLK Publishing Company,

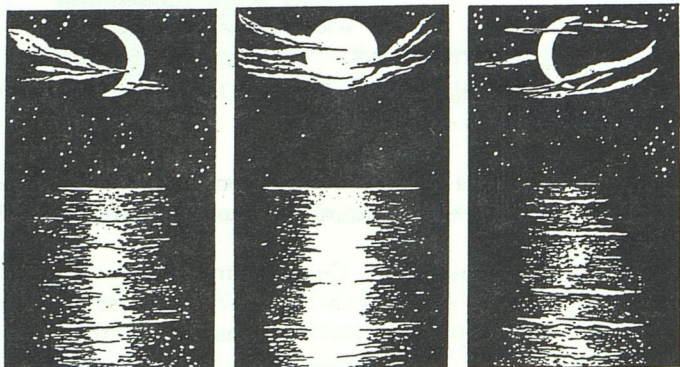
Box 83912, Los Angeles CA 90083; 310-410-0808, fax 310-410-9250, email (newsroom@blk.com).

Cleis Press is seeking short stories by Jewish lesbians about sex and desire between women for an anthology, *Jewish Lesbian Erotica*. Stories can be funny, sad, serious, steamy or passionate. Maximum: 5,000 words. Deadline: October 1. Send stories with SASE (with IRC), bio, address, phone, email, to: Karen X. Tulchinsky, PO Box 106, 1832 Woodland Drive, Vancouver BC, Canada V5N 3N7.

Cleis Press is also seeking explicit memoirs and fiction on Jewish themes for *Kosher Meat*, an anthology of Jewish gay male sexual writing. Deadline: November 1. Send to Lawrence Schimel, PO Box 528, New York NY 10011.

Alyson Publications is seeking contributions for an erotic anthology in which lesbians describe introducing another woman to the pleasures of lesbian sex. Stories can be romantic, passionate, and/or sizzling. Deadline: December 31. For guidelines, send SASE to Virgin Guidelines, Alyson Publications, PO Box 4371, Los Angeles CA 90078; email (alyson@advocate.com), Web (http://www.alyson.com).

BronzeWord is seeking stories from secretaries about their worst, funniest and best secretarial experiences. For those who have never written a story before, BronzeWord is a publisher who will work with you. The goal: The best gift book for Boss' Day ever! Write for guidelines, or send story typed or on audio cassette to: BronzeWord, Office Worker Tales, 1155 S. Van Ness, San Francisco CA 94110. ○



The waxing moon, the full moon and the waning moon, by Jane Brideson, in *The '98 Lunar Calendar* (Luna Press).

BESTSELLERS

mother tongue books — femmes de parole

Ottawa, Ontario

September Bestsellers (in no particular order)

- **Alias Grace**, Margaret Atwood, C\$8.99 pb, 0770427596, Seal
- **Fall on Your Knees**, Ann-Marie MacDonald, C\$18.95, 0394281780, Vintage
- **Larry's Party**, Carol Shields, C\$31, 0679308776, Random House
- **Prozac Highway**, Persimmon Blackbridge, C\$18.95, 088974078X, Press Gang
- **Two Ends of Sleep**, Lizard Jones, C\$15.95, 0889740720, Press Gang
- **Slow Dance: A Story of Stroke, Love & Disability**, Bonnie Sher Klein, C\$18.95, 0679970303, Vintage Canada
- **Everywoman's Almanac 1998**, C\$12.95, 0889612234, Women's Press/Canada
- **Memoires Lesbiennes**, Line Chamberland, C\$22.95, 2-89091142X, *Les editions du remuemenage*
- **Liberty Square**, Katherine Forrest, C\$7.99, 0425158993, Berkley
- **Beyond the Pale**, Elana Dykewomon, C\$19.95, 0889740747, Press Gang

Amazon Bookstore Minneapolis, MN September Bestsellers

1. **Apparition Alley**, K. Forrest, \$21.95, 0425159663, Berkley
2. **Body Alchemy**, L. Cameron, \$24.95, 1573440620, Cleis
3. **Divine Secrets of the YaYa Sisterhood**, R. Wells, \$13.50, 0060928336, Harper

4. **Early Embraces**, L. Elder, \$11.95, 1-55583-354-3, Alyson
5. **Ferrari for Women**, \$14, 0-942586-61-1, Ferrari International
6. **Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**, A. Bechdel, \$10.95, 1-56341-086-9, Firebrand
7. **Intimacy Dance**, B. Berzon, Ph.D., \$12.95, 0-452-27747-7, Plume/Penguin
8. **Let's Face the Music and Die**, S. Scoppettone, \$5.99, 0345412257, Little, Brown
9. **Liberty Square**, K. Forrest, \$5.99, 0425158993, Berkley
10. **We'Moon Calendar 1998**, \$14.95, 0951066196, Mother Tongue Ink

Rainbow's Ltd. Inc. Huntsville, AL September Bestsellers

1. **Ferrari for Women**, \$14, 0-942586-61-1, Ferrari International
2. **Permanent Partners**, Betty Berzon, Ph.D., \$14.95, 0-452-26308-5, Plume
3. **What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality**, D.A. Helminiak, Ph.D., \$9.95, 0-9624751-9-X, Alamo
4. **Early Embraces**, Lindsey Elder, \$11.95, 1-55583-354-3, Alyson
5. **Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**, Alison Bechdel, \$10.95, 1-56341-086-9, Firebrand
6. **Lesbian Couples Creating Healthy Relationships for the 90s**, Clunis/Green, \$12.95, 1-878067-37-0, Seal
7. **Dream Lover**, Jane Fatcher, \$9.95, 1-55583-375-6, Alyson
8. **Nina in the Wilderness**, Sarah Aldridge, \$11.95, 0-9646648-3-6, A&M

9. **Baby, It's Cold**, Jaye Maiman, \$10.95, 1-56280-156-2, Naiad
10. **Intimacy Dance**, Betty Berzon, Ph.D., \$12.95, 0-452-27747-7, Plume/Penguin

**A Quiet Corner Bookstore
Ft. Collins, CO
September Bestsellers**

1. **We'Moon '98: Gaia Rhythms for Women**, \$14.95 pb, 0951066196, Mother Tongue Ink
2. **Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**, Alison Bechdel, \$10.95 pb, 1-56341-086-9, Firebrand
3. **Baby, It's Cold**, Jaye Maiman, \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-156-2, Naiad
4. **Succulent Wild Woman**, Sark, \$15 pb, 068483376X, Simon & Schuster
5. **Conscious Loving: The Journey to Co-Commitment**, Gay and Kathlyn Hendricks, \$13.95 pb, 0553354116, Bantam
6. **Liberty Square**, Katherine Forrest, \$5.99 pb, 0425158993, Berkley
7. **Bisexuality: The Psychology and Politics of an Invisible Minority**, Beth A. Firestein, editor, \$25.95 pb, 0803972741, Sage
8. **In Her I Am**, Chrystos, \$12.95 pb, 088974033X, Press Gang
9. **Journal to the Soul**, Rose Offner, \$19.95 pb, 0879057025, Gibbs M. Smith
10. **Color of Woman: Coloring Book and Journal for Women**, Shiloh Luminar McCloud, \$26 spiral bound, Heron/McCloud, PO Box 668, Port Townsend WA 98368; 360-379-3055

**Page One — Books By & For Women
Pasadena, CA
Bestsellers between 7-17 and 9-17**

1. **Angel Wings**, Nicole Conn, \$23 cl, 0684832054, Simon & Schuster
2. **Dream Lover**, Lyn Denison, \$11.95 pb, 1562801732, Naiad
3. **Passion's Shadow**, Nicole Conn, \$5.99 pb, 0425156648, Berkley

4. **Liberty Square**, Katherine Forrest, \$5.99 pb, 0425158993, Berkley
5. **Apparition Alley**, Katherine Forrest, \$21.95 cl, 0425159663, Berkley
6. **Class Reunion**, Linda Hill, \$11.95 pb, 1562801783, Naiad
7. **The Loving Lesbian**, McNab/Gedan, \$14.95 pb, 1562801694, Naiad
8. **A Grave Talent**, Laurie King, \$5.99 pb, 0553573993, Bantam
9. **Baby, It's Cold**, Jaye Maiman, \$10.95 pb, 1562801562, Naiad
10. **Phases of the Moon**, Julia Watts, \$11.95 pb, 1562801767, Naiad

Announcements, continued from page 37.

stores might want to hang it from a shelf in the kids department for shoppers and book browsers' reading pleasure.

Eighty years ago, on October 29, 1917, three years before women were granted the right to vote, fifteen women met at Sherwood's Book Store on John St. in New York City. Excluded from the all-male Booksellers League (which later became the ABA), they formed their own organization, which became the Women's National Book Association. WNBA has ten chapters, and members throughout the U.S. and Canada. WNBA is open to women — and men — in all areas of the book world including editors, publicists, librarians, booksellers, literary agents, designers, writers and producers.

For more information or to obtain copies of the list of books for girls, send a SASE to WNBA 80th Anniversary List, 160 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10010, call 212-675-7805 or email <SKPASSOC@internet.mci.com>. It is also posted on WNBA's Web site at <<http://bookbuzz.com>>.

The Friends of Marija Foundation is seeking contributions for a documentary on the life and work of the late archaeologist Marija Gimbutas. This hour-long film will be narrated by Olympia Dukakis and produced by Belili Productions (an organization formed by filmmaker Donna Read and author Starhawk). Send contributions to: Reclaiming, "Friends of Marija Project," PO Box 410187, San Francisco CA 94141.

Books in Canada:

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



By Jacqueline Dumas
Orlando Books/Edmonton, Alberta

Publishers and booksellers, please phone in information and comments to me at 403-432-7633 or email <orlando@compusmart.ab.ca>.

Novels

Larry's Party by Pulitzer Prize-winner Carol Shields — The portrait of a man with a passion for garden mazes, and a story that flashes backward and forward as he journeys toward the millenium. C\$31 cl, 0-679-30877-6, Random House.

Prozac Highway by Lambda winner Persimmon Blackbridge — Features Internet junkie Jam and her far-flung family. (C\$18.95/\$14.95 pb, 0-88974-078-X, Press Gang, General/LPC.) Now in paper, her first novel, **Sunnybrook: A True Story with Lies**. (C\$18.95/\$15.95, 0-88974-060-7, Press Gang, General/LPC.)

The Underpainter by Jane Urquhart — A story of love and art (Rockwell Kent is featured) that spans more than seven decades and moves from the Great Lakes to World War I France to 20s and 30s New York. C\$29.95 cl, 0-7710-8664-4, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Some Things About Flying by Joan Barfoot — Namely, skewered male-female relationships. C\$19.95 pb, 1-55013-908-8, Key Porter, General/Firefly.

The Moons of Palmares by Zanab Amahady — A feminist adventure novel for science fiction buffs and social justice advocates alike. C\$17.95/\$14.95 pb, 1-896705-22-7, Sister Vision, General.

In the Wings by Carole Corbeil — Alice falls in love with Allan, and the two are cast opposite each

other in an upcoming production of *Hamlet*. A passionate exploration of art informing life. C\$28.95 cl, 0-7737-3041-9, Stoddart, General.

These Festive Nights by Marie-Claire Blais, translated by Sheila Fischman — Eagerly awaited in English, a swirling, baroque fresco of activity on an island in the Gulf of Mexico. (C\$22.95 pb, 0-88784-601-7, House of Anansi, General.) Also from Anansi, **1953: Chronicle of a Birth Foretold** by Acadian writer France Daigle, translated by Robert Majzels. (C\$18.95 pb, 0-88784-604-1, House of Anansi, General.)

The Time Being by Mary Meigs — Her fourth book, two women in love in Australia. C\$15.95 pb, 0-88922-374-2, Talonbooks, General.



Visible Worlds by Marilyn Bowering — A sweeping novel which moves from Depression-era Winnipeg to the polar ice caps of Siberia to the napalm-burned forests of Korea. C\$28 cl, 0-00-224377-6, HarperCollins.

Bread, Wine and Angels by Winnipeg writer Anna P. Zurzolo — A girl child in southern Italy and her dreams of America. (C\$17.95/\$14.95 pb, 0-88801-213-6, Turnstone Press, General/LPC.) Also, **What Birds Can Only Whisper** by Julie Brickman — About recovered memory and childhood sexual abuse. (C\$17.95/\$14.95 pb, 0-88801-214-4, Turnstone Press, General/LPC.)

The Other Side by Cynthia Holz — Her second novel, this one about love, both sexual and platonic. C\$15.95 pb, 1-896764-01-0, Second Story Press, University of Toronto Press.

The Burden of Grace by Veronica Ross — Her third Carolyn Archer mystery. C\$17.95 pb, 1-55128-049-3, Mercury Press, General/LPC.

Note: Canadian distribution information except where otherwise noted.

New in paper: **Fall on Your Knees** by Ann-Marie Macdonald (C\$18.95 pb, 0-394-28178-0, Vintage); **Oyster** by Janette Turner Hospital (C\$17.95 pb, 0-676-97031-1, Vintage); **A Killing Spring** by Gail Bowen (C\$7.99 mm, 0-7710-1486-4, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook); and **Stargate** by Pauline Gedge (C\$7.99 mm, 0-14-026842-1, Penguin, Canbook).



Short Stories

Aurora Montrealis by Monique Proulx, translated by Matt Cohen — A unique sequence of stories set in referendum and post-referendum Montreal by one of Quebec's most outstanding writers. C\$18.95 pb, 1-55054-258-3, Douglas & McIntyre, University of Toronto.

Flirt, Punk and Loo: My Dogs and I written and illustrated by Emily Carr — An irresistible collection of dog stories (from *The House of All Sorts*) and drawings reproduced here for the first time. C\$18.95 cl, 1-55054-598-1, Douglas & McIntyre, University of Toronto.

The Congress of Human Wonders by M. A. C. Farrant — Her fifth collection, this one encompassing celebrity and fan phenomena, domestic matters, and strange folks who domesticate odd pets and engage in peculiar rituals. C\$16.95/\$14.95 pb, 1-896095-28-3, Polestar, General/Orca.

Awake When All the World Is Asleep by Shree Ghatage — An articulation of the minutiae of daily life in India's urban south. C\$18.95 pb, 0-88784-602-5, House of Anansi, General.

And a Body to Remember With by Chilean Canadian writer Carmen Rodriguez — Stories of place, language, and women who are in transition and caught between two worlds. (C\$14.95 pb, 1-55152-044-3, Arsenal Pulp, General.) Also, **Stories to Hide from Your Mother** by Montreal writer Tess Fragoulis. (C\$14.95 pb, 1-551-52-045-1, Arsenal Pulp, General.)

Snackers by Janina Hornosty — Stories from Generation X. C\$14.95 pb, 0-88982-163-1, Oolichan, General.

Women Dancing on Rooftops: Bring Your Belly Close by Turkish Canadian Yasmin Ladha — A mixture of fiction, poetry, travelogue and memoir. (C\$13.95 pb, 0-920661-65-3, Tsar Publications, General.) Also, **Against an African Sky** by Farida

Karodia — A collection of stories in which South Africans pick up where apartheid leaves off. (C\$13.95 pb, 0-920661-62-9, Tsar Publications, General.)

The Penguin Anthology of Stories by Canadian Women selected by Denise Chong — An excellent introduction to one of Canada's best-kept secrets — her great tradition of short story writing. Includes stories by Carol Shields, Alice Munro, Mavis Gallant, Dionne Brand, Margaret Atwood and many others. C\$35 cl, 0-670-87633-X, Penguin, Canbook.

Má-Ka: Diasporic Juks: Contemporary Writings by Queers of African Descent edited by Debbie Douglas, Courtney McFarlane, Makeda Silvera and Douglas Stewart — An erotic, political anthology of prose, poetry, essays and personal testimony from Canada, the U.S., Africa, the Caribbean and Britain. C\$17.95/\$14.95 pb, 1-896705-14-6, Sister Vision, General.

Her Mother's Ashes 2: More Stories by South Asian Women in the United States & Canada edited by Nurjehan Aziz. C\$15.95 pb, 0-920661-63-7, Tsar, General.

Cowgirls: 100 Years of Writing the Range edited by Thelma Poirier. C\$16.95 pb, 0-88995-168-3, Red Deer College Press, Raincoast/Orca.

New in paper: **Traplines** by Eden Robinson — A fresh collection of funny, unsettling stories by a young West Coast First Nations writer. (C\$15.95 pb, 0-676-97026-5, Vintage.) **The Selected Stories of Mavis Gallant** — A superb collection. (C\$26.99 pb, 0-7710-3330-3, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.) Reissued: **In Transit**, Mavis Gallant's ninth collection. (C\$14.99 pb, 0-14-027003-5, Penguin, Canbook.) The New Canadian Library has picked up two collections of short fiction by Margaret Atwood which had vanished along with Coach House Press: **Good Bones** (C\$6.95 mm, 0-7710-3463-6, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook) and **Murder in the Dark** (C\$6.95 mm, 0-7710-3464-4, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook). And now available in paper: **Strange Things: The Malevolent North in Canadian Literature** by Margaret Atwood. (C\$17.95 pb, 0-19-541351-2, Oxford.)

Plays

2000 by Joan MacLeod — As the millenium approaches, the wild (a cougar) invades the city, and the city invades the wild. C\$13.95 pb, 0-88922-373-4, Talonbooks, General.

Harlem Duet by Djanet Sears — The story of Billy, Othello's first wife (yes, before Desdemona), set in Harlem at the corner of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X boulevards. C\$12.95 pb, 1-896239-27-7, J. Gordon Shillingford, General.

Playwrights Canada Press has reissued two out-of-print Coach House plays: **Good Night Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet** by Ann-Marie MacDonald (C\$11.95 pb, 0-88754-513-0) and **Lion in the Streets** by Judith Thompson (C\$10.95 pb, 0-88754-515-7). 40% for 5+. Playwrights Union of Canada, 54 Wolseley Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto ON, M5T 1A5; 416-703-0201, email (cdplays@interlog.com).



Poetry

The Hidden Room by P. K. Page — The essential work of this essential poet in two volumes. C\$18.95 pb each, Vol. 1, 0-88984-190-X; Vol. 2, -193-4, The Porcupine's Quill, General.

The Journals of Susanna Moodie by Margaret Atwood, full-colour illustrations by Charles Pachter — A faithful reproduction of the 1980 hand-set, hand-printed limited edition. C\$39.95 cl, slipcased, 1-55199-013-X. Macfarlane Walter & Ross, 37A Hazelton Avenue, Toronto ON, M5R 2E3; 416-924-7595, email (mwandr@interlog.com), General.

Two books by writers who are also performance artists: **Woman of Sticks, Woman of Stones** by Sandra Nicholls — A meditation on the silence and invisibility of domestic life (C\$14.95 pb, 1-55082-195-4, Quarry Press, General/ LPC); **Uncommon Prayer** by Susan McMaster — In the oral tradition of *Song of Songs* (C\$14.95 pb, 1-55082-196-2, Quarry Press, General/ LPC).

The Man with the Dancing Monkey by Barbara Curry Mulcahy — A dazzling first book of poems. C\$12 pb, 0-919897-54-1, min. 1. Wolsak and Wynn, Box 316, Don Mills ON, M3C 2S7; 416-237-0364.

Debbie: An Epic by Lisa Robertson — A lush, subversive vision of the world. C\$14 pb, 0-921586-61-2, New Star, General.

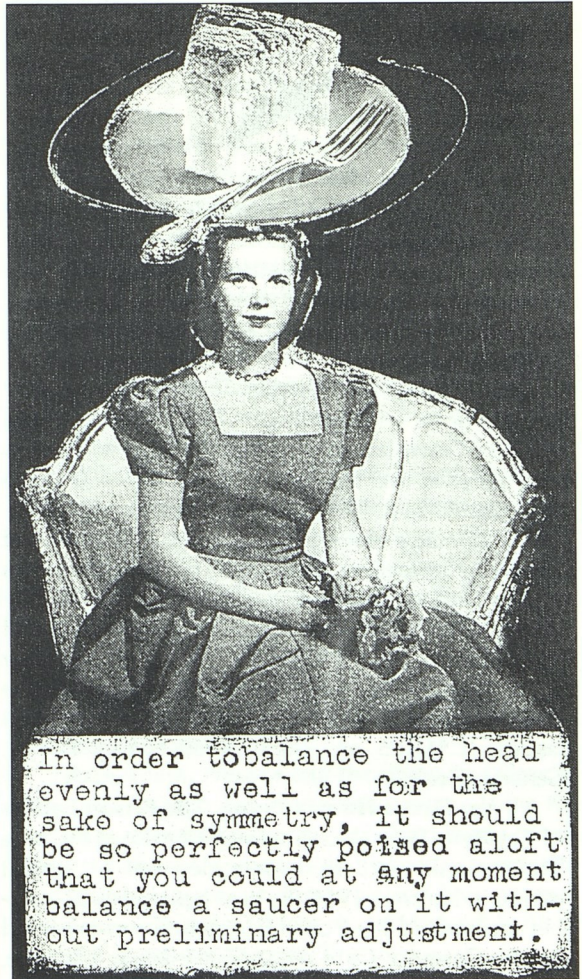
Hand to Hand by Nadine McNinnis — An exploration of connections: between the personal and the public, and between the family and the larger sphere of social history. C\$16.95/\$14.95 pb, 1-896095-31-3, Polestar, General/Orca.

Fault Line by Toronto writer Laura Lush. C\$9.95 pb, 1-55065-096-3, Véhicule, General.

Lyrics and Poems by Joni Mitchell — The first comprehensive collection of song lyrics and poems by this influential singer/songwriter. C\$29.95 cl, 0-679-30882-2, Random.

Humour

Storm Clouds Over Party Shoes: Etiquette Problems for the Ill-Bred Woman by Sheila Norgate — Norgate's response to *The Rules* is a compilation of her own illustrations and retro images and rules culled



From *Storm Clouds Over Party Shoes: Etiquette Problems for the Ill-Bred Woman* (Press Gang)

from etiquette books and magazines of the 30s to the 50s. 30+ full-colour illustrations. C\$18.95/\$13.95 pb, 0-88974-080-1, Press Gang, General/LPC.

More Letters from the Country by Marsha Boulton — A continued look at what can happen when a city woman trades in her high heels for a pair of rubber boots. C\$14.95 pb, 0-316-10238-5, Little, Brown/Waltham.

Sandra Shamas: A Trilogy of Performances (My Boyfriend's Back and There's Gonna Be Laundry; Spin Dry: The Cycle Continues; Wedding Bell Hell) — Transcripts of her very popular one-woman shows. C\$18.95 pb, 1-55128-044-2, Mercury Press, General/LPC.



Biography and History

Mrs. King: The Life and Times of Isabel Mac-Kenzie King by Charlotte Gray — The mother of one of Canada's most colourful (and reviled) Prime Ministers, their complex relationship, and a portrait of early 20th-century Ontario. C\$32.99 cl, 0-670-86674-1, Penguin, Canbook.

Mothertalk: Life Stories of Mary Kiyooka by Roy Kiyooka — A poignant, witty account of a Japanese Canadian woman born in 1896 whose son tape-recorded and translated her memories. C\$16.95 pb, 1-896300-24-3, NeWest Press, General.

A Woman's Place: Seventy Years in the Lives of Canadian Women — Social history through the eyes of *Chatelaine* magazine. (C\$36 cl, 1-55013-910-X, Key Porter, General/Firefly.) And now in paper, **Rebel Daughter** by Doris Anderson — The autobiography of the editor of *Chatelaine* from 1957 to 1977, one of the first magazines in North America to cover women's issues. (C\$19.95 pb, 1-55013-930-4, Key Porter, General/Firefly.)

I Am First a Human Being: The Prison Letters of Krystyna Wituska edited and translated by Irene Tomaszewski — Letters smuggled out of Moabit prison in Berlin in 1944, the year before this 22-year-old member of the Polish Resistance was executed by the Gestapo. C\$16 pb, 1-55065-095-5, Véhicule, General.

Selected Letters of Margaret Laurence and Adele Wiseman edited by John Lennox and Ruth

Panofsky — Correspondence covering 1947–1986, and encompassing the professional and personal developments, disappointments and satisfactions of these eminent writers and friends. (C\$24.95 pb, 0-8020-8090-1, University of Toronto.) And just out, **The Life of Margaret Laurence** by James King. (C\$35.95 cl, 0-676-97073-7, Knopf.)

Mamie's Children: Three Generations of Prairie Women by Judy Schultz — Their dramas played out against the history, climate and landscape of the Canadian West. C\$16.95 pb, 0-88995-167-5, Red Deer College Press, Raincoast/Orca.

Lilith Fair: The Story of Sarah McLachlan by Judith Fitzgerald — Eight-page colour insert, 24 b&w photos. C\$19.95 pb, 1-55082-190-3, Quarry Press, General/LPC.

The Colour of Gold by Margaret McKirdy — The white justice system worked against Cree Adelaide McCauley and her two children after their Métis husband/father was killed by a crazed white miner. C\$15.95 pb, 0-920576-66-4, Caitlin Press, General.

Victory Harvest: Diary of a Canadian in the Women's Land Army by Marion Kelsey — An account of World War II Britain. 32 illustrations. C\$29.95 cl, 0-7735-1663-8, McGill Queen's, University of Toronto.

Undisciplined Women: Tradition and Culture in Canada edited by Pauline Greenhill and Diane Tye — Twenty essays in folklore scholarship — from female sailors to women preachers. Eleven illustrations and one map. C\$45 cl, 0-7735-1614-X, McGill Queen's, University of Toronto.

Gold Diggers of the Klondike by Bay Ryley — A look behind the myths and popular accounts of the dance-hall girls and prostitutes of the 1898 gold rush. C\$19.95 pb, 1-896239-29-3, J. Gordon Shillingford, General.

Click edited by Lynn Crosbie — How the personal became the political in the lives of 30 very different feminists. C\$24.95 pb, 1-55199-004-0. Macfarlane Walter & Ross, 37A Hazelton Avenue, Toronto ON, M5R 2E3; 416-924-7595, email <mwandr@interlog.com>, General.

Female Gazes: Seventy-Five Women Artists by Elizabeth Martin and Vivian Meyer — A diverse collection of well-known and lesser-known artists from the Renaissance to the present. 75 full-colour reproductions. C\$29.95 pb, with French flaps,

0-929005-99-6, Second Story Press, University of Toronto.

Too Many Men on the Ice: The Story of Women's Hockey in North America by Julie Stevens and Joanna Avery — The women have arrived! From grassroots hockey to national team programmes to the passionate drive to the 1998 Olympics. Includes b&w photos. C\$19.95/\$16.95 pb, 1-896095-33-X, Polestar, General/Orcia.

Now in paper: **The Way She Looks Tonight: Five Women of Style** by Marian Fowler — A wicked and revealing romp through the history of fashion, with peeks at French Empress Eugénie, pulp novelist Elinor Glyn, Marlene Dietrich, Wallis Simpson and Jackie Kennedy. (C\$18.95 pb 0-676-30885-7, Vintage.) **Slow Dance: A Story of Stroke, Love and Disability** by Bonnie Sherr Klein — A survival story by the award-winning filmmaker best known for her brilliant exploration of pornography, *Not a Love Story*. (C\$18.95 pb, 0-676-97030-3, Vintage.) **The Concubine's Children: Portrait of a Family Divided** by Denise Chong — A memoir of the author's grandmother, brought from China to Canada as a young outraged concubine, and her family. (C\$14.99 pb, 0-14-025427-7, Penguin, Canbook.)



Social and Cultural Politics

The Big Black Book: The Essential Views of Conrad Black and Barbara Amiel by Maude Barlow and James Winter — Essential reading to help counteract the antifeminist, homophobic, antiunion and anticultural views of Amiel and her husband, who controls 60% of the dailies in Canada (100% in three provinces). C\$18.95 pb, 0-7737-5904-2, Stoddart, General.

The Trouble with Normal: Postwar Youth and the Making of Heterosexuality by Mary Louise Adams — The first Canadian study of youth as a sexual and moral category, as well as an unpacking of normality. C\$19.95 pb, 0-8020-8057-X, University of Toronto.

Capturing Women: The Manipulation of Cultural Imagery in Canada's Prairie — A series of stories, events and episodes is used to contrast representations of women and the creation of hierarchies of race and gender in the Prairies. Illustrated. (C\$17.95 pb, 0-7735-1656-5, McGill Queen's,

University of Toronto.) Also, **The Cultural Politics of Fur** by Julia V. Emberley — Using stories by Native peoples as well as other sources, Emberley traces the colonial fur trade to its globalization. 41 illustrations. (C\$22.95 pb, 0-7735-1706-5, McGill Queen's, University of Toronto.)



Stolen from Our Embrace: The Abduction of First Nations Children and the Rebuilding of Aboriginal Communities by Suzanne Fournier and Ernie Cey — A hard-hitting, compassionate look at the experience of First Nations children in Canada, from first contact to recovery. C\$29.95 cl, 1-55054-117-X, Douglas & McIntyre, University of Toronto.

Night Spirits: The Story of the Sayisi Dene Relocation by Ila Bussidor and Ustün Reinart — Survivors now living in Tadoule Lake recount their stories. C\$18.85 pb, 0-88755-643-4, University of Manitoba Press, University of Toronto.

Sinews of Survival: The Living Legacy of Inuit Clothing by Betty Kobayashi Issenman — Promises to be another stunning and unique window into Inuit culture. Includes 225 duotones, 13 maps, and diagrams. C\$49.95 cl, 0-7748-0596-X, UBC Press/University of Washington Press.

"...But Where Are You Really From?" Stories of Identity & Assimilation in Canada anthologized by Hazelle Palmer — Women of colour discuss the meaning of identity, where it comes from, and how to claim it. C\$15.95/\$12.95 pb, 1-896705-20-0, Sister Vision, General.

A Genealogy of Resistance by M. Nourbese Philip — Essays on race and culture — always worth reading what she has to say. C\$18.95 pb, 1-55128-047-7, Mercury Press, General/LPC.

Race, Class, Women and the State: The Case of Domestic Labour by Tanya Schecter — How the Canadian state took advantage of Third World immigrant women's desperation and poverty in order to find a cheap supply of domestics and limit its own social expenditures. C\$24.99 pb, 1-55164-108-9, Black Rose, University of Toronto/Consortium.

Still Raising Hell: Poverty, Activism and Other True Stories by Sheila Baxter — An anti-poverty **See Canada, page 76.**

*"After Mother died, the thought came to me...
that if I was good, if I paid attention, if I put up with,
if I understood and overlooked and tended my bruises in silence,
I believed...that, in time, happiness would be given me.
That I would find it. Or it would find me."*

WHEN SHE WAS GOOD

A NEW NOVEL by NORMA FOX MAZER

ISBN 0-590-13506-6 • \$16.95

- ★ **"Powerful."**
—Booklist, starred review
- ★ **"Heart-wrenching."**
—Publishers Weekly, starred review
- ★ **"Stunning."**
—School Library Journal,
starred review



Arthur A. Levine Books
An Imprint of Scholastic Press

 SCHOLASTIC



KIDS' LIT

By Linda Bubon
Women & Children First/Chicago

Greetings from sunny Chicago. I'm writing my column this month from my sunny balcony overlooking a sparkling Lake Michigan on what may be the last day when both the water and the air are warm enough for swimming. Fortunately my task is an easy one — reviewing the children's books featured in our stunning new Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. While few in number, the books cover a range of topics, genres, and age groups. My compliments to the wise publishers who picked terrific, feminist books for Catalog placement. I'm sure you'll agree that feminist bookstore customers will be delighted with this year's Catalog choices.



For the youngest readers, **When Dawn Stole the Dark** (\$17.95 cl, 09653018-1-8) by Donna Joerg and Judith Ann Benedict, from Cadence Press, is a warm and reassuring story of a daughter and mother dealing with the daughter's fear of the dark. Bedtime battles and sleep resistance is a *very* common problem with toddlers, and there are many good books on this subject (*There's a Nightmare in My Closet*, *Jeremiah and Mrs. Ming*, and *Kate's Giants*), but what makes this book special is the rhyming text and the portrayal of communication and understanding between mother and daughter. Rhymes help children learn language, keep their attention while reading, are soothing, and make a text more memorable. The mother in this story

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

identifies with her daughter's imaginings and helps her change them from frightening to funny. Great for two- to seven-year-olds.

Another lovely, full-color book for this age group is **Grandmother's Alphabet** (\$14.95 cl, 157025-127-4) by Eve Shaw, from Pfeifer-Hamilton. This book could also be titled "Grandmothers Can Do Anything" because each letter of the alphabet is represented by a drawing of a woman at her job: "Grandma is an Artist/she paints with colors bright. Grandma is a Businesswoman/who often works at night." Note the rhyming text. And each picture is lovingly drawn and colored with wonderful details. The Grandmas depicted range in age, size, and race. Under each picture other occupations are suggested: "Grandma can be.../an actress, an author, or an architect/...and so can I." I love the repetition of that final phrase on every page. We've been selling this book in the store for six months and have had very nice customer feedback.



For school-age children (5–10), I highly recommend **Bright Star** (\$13.95, 0916291-75-8) by Gary Crew and Anne Spudvilas, from Kane Miller Publishing. In beautiful, full-color paintings and thoughtful, clear language, **Bright Star** tells the story of Alicia, a farm girl in Australia, who meets and is inspired by the "Star Man," the amateur astronomer John Tebbutt, who discovered the Great Comet of 1861. Alicia's love for school and learning, and her frustration with the mundane farm chores that are the lot of a 19th-century girl, are palpable in this poignant and inspiring story. I especially like the portrayal of her mother's

encouragement and Alicia's acknowledgment, at the end, that *she* can make a choice to pursue her interest in astronomy. This is a book for boys and girls that tells a great story in an historical context without being dull or preachy. (Also in the Catalog for this age group are *Something to Remember Me By* and *Confessions of a Divorced Kid*, which I reviewed favorably last issue.)

There are several great gift choices for older kids in this year's Catalog, including the very popular *New Moon* magazine. We had never sold a kids' magazine successfully before *New Moon* and had to keep increasing our standing order each issue. For girls in the 8-14 range, this is the best, featuring stories, poems, articles, and artwork by girls themselves. Even if you don't have your own kids, I challenge you to read an issue to see what young girls are thinking about. Kids Can Press has published an educational book that is truly lively, interesting and fun for this age range, **The Science Book for Girls and Other Intelligent Beings** (\$8.95 pb, 1-55074-113-6) by Valerie Wyatt. My eleven-year-old son grabbed this off the cart the day it came in and was instantly absorbed (apparently he considers himself an intelligent being or he wanted to make sure he wasn't being left out). I wish this book had been there when I was growing up; we had such poor science education, and I grew up convinced that girls like me just didn't "get science." This book shows how scientific principles are at work in our everyday life and how we can do simple experiments to find out more. I love the way it encourages kids to think like scientists.



Those sensible women at Free Spirit Publishing have put two terrific young adult titles in the Catalog this year. Having just sat through another "mini-school" for parents at my son's school last night where I was told that there would be a special emphasis on character-building, I was delighted today to page through **What Do You Stand For? A Kids' Guide to Building Character** (\$18.95, 1-57542-029-5) by Barbara A. Lewis. I can envision this book being used in a variety of settings, certainly the middle-school and high-school classroom, scout group,

Sunday school, therapeutic settings, and at home. Character-building, thankfully, is a hot topic in education today, but how does one go about teaching accountability, empathy, purpose, self-discipline? How do parents, especially those of us who don't go to church or temple, describe, model and instill positive traits in our children? Each chapter focuses on a trait, gives a definition, appropriate quotes, and background info, then describes several dilemmas to use for journaling, discussion, debate, or role-playing. This is a kid-friendly book with bold graphics and cartoons. I'm going to encourage parents to buy one for home and one for their child's homeroom teacher or guidance counselor.

For the same age group, 10 and up, Free Spirit is publishing **Girls and Young Women Entrepreneurs: True Stories About Starting and Running a Business** (\$12.95, 1-57542-022-8) by Frances A. Karnes and Suzanne M. Bean. The first section profiles 20 young entrepreneurs in both product and service businesses as they tell in their own words how they started and developed money-making businesses while they were still in school. These girls are a kick! Many of them display more business sense than many adults I've encountered with schemes to start bookstores. There's a section at the end with inspiring quotes from women business leaders, but I found 14-year-old Lindsay Elder's advice as sage as any: "...stay committed to your project. Once you start, you have to see it through. You can't skip out because you're tired or show your customers that you're in a bad mood. You can't act shy or quiet — an entrepreneur needs to get out and sell her product with enthusiasm. And you can't just sit back and expect people to approach you. You have to display an air of confidence in yourself and your product." So take Lindsay's advice and get out there and sell these wonderful children's books designed to delight and inspire the next generation.

The rain has pushed me back inside, looks like my opportunity to swim is gone. I guess I'll just have to curl up with **Who Killed Olive Soufflé?** (\$5.95, 0-07-006275-9) by Margaret Benoit, from McGraw-Hill's Learning Triangle Press. For ages 10 and up, this stylishly written kids' mystery features Detective Angel Cardoni and her lovable German shepherd, Miro. I'd better finish it before Max gets home from school because he saw it this morning and called "dibs." Happy Holidays! ○

GAY MEN'S LIT

FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstores

But wait, there's more...more of the year's rich and varied (to coin a cliché) flow of gay titles, in this third chapter of Summer, Fall and now Winter announcements:

***Gay Body: A Journey Through Shadow to Self** by Mark Thompson — In a quiet and profound way, former *Advocate* senior and arts editor Thompson has made his mark as one of the gay male community's most valued theorists and spirit-guides. Previous books, *Gay Spirit* and *Gay Soul*, explored, in essay and interview form, the underpinnings of evolving gay culture; in this latest work, the political becomes personal, the spiritual theory is brought to life by the experience of his own present and past. It's a moving and necessary memoir. St. Martin's, \$24.95 cl, 0-312-16853-5.

Gorilla Suit: My Adventures in Bodybuilding by Bob Paris — No less personal, revealing and instructive, this is a memoir of quite a different sort: it's the story of a worldclass bodybuilding champion, one of the few known to be gay, describing why he was willing to mold his body into a muscular aesthetic not always appreciated. St. Martin's, \$23.95 cl, 0-312-16855-1.

Execution, Texas: 1987 by D. Travers Scott — This debut novel from a prolific writer of short fiction and essays is a breathtaking, brilliant take on the coming-of-age tale, here set in the small town of Execution, and centered on a 17-year-old struggling, with grim grace, to find out who he really is. St. Martin's, \$20.95 cl, 0-312-16830-6.

***Sister, Brother: Gertrude and Leo Stein** by Brenda Wineapple — Paper edition of a deft biography telling of Gertrude's powerful, poignant relationship with her brother in Paris in 1906 — a brother to whom she never spoke from 1914 until her

death. Johns Hopkins University Press, \$24.95 pb, 0-8018-5807-0.

Simple Justice by John Morgan Wilson — Paper edition of a well-wrought mystery from a new writer compared to Joseph Hansen and Michael Nava in how he sets his characters realistically into the underworld and back alleys of a vividly-drawn L.A. Bantam, \$5.99 pb, 0-385-57532-5.

Revision of Justice by John Morgan Wilson — In Hollywood, they'll kill for a movie deal, and that sort of death among the stars is what Benjamin Justice meets in this second mystery. Doubleday, \$21.95 cl, 0-385-48235-3.

Hostage by R. D. Zimmerman — Third in a series about a gay TV personality whose private life is forever intruding on his public image; here, hero Todd Mills is caught up in a frenzy of unlikely terrorism. His paperback originals *Tribe* and *Closet* have been bestsellers; this is his first hardcover, but it's a good one for the mystery section. Delacorte, \$21.95 cl, 0-385-31983-5.



***Pink** by Gus Van Sant — From the director of *My Own Private Idaho* and *To Die For*, to mention the two movies I liked, comes a debut novel, a loopy and exhilarating novel of the sort which used to be called experimental before that became a put-down. Doubleday, \$21.95 cl, 0-385-48828-9.

Miss Vera's Finishing School for Boys Who Want to Be Girls: Tips, Tales, and Teachings from the Dean of the World's First Cross-Dressing Academy by Veronica Vera — Well, the title says it all: it'll liven up your transgender section. Doubleday, \$14.95 pb, 0-385-48456-9.

***Cracks in the Iron Closet** by David Tuller — Paper edition of a fine book looking at lesbian and gay

life in contemporary Russia. University of Chicago, \$14.95 pb, 0-226-14264-7.

***After Nirvana** by Lee Williams — "A stark and stunningly realized post-grunge novel in the tradition of John Rechy's *City of Night*," says the publisher of this on-the-streets coming-of-age book. William Morrow, \$20 cl, 9-688-15215-5.

Modern Words 5: A Thoroughly Queer Literary Journal — Garland Richard Kyle's exquisite little magazine has evolved into, in effect, an excellent annual anthology of prose and poetry by both women and men. Contributors this issue include Justin Chin (*Bite Hard*), Jorge Ignacio Cortinas (whose work will appear next year in *Best Gay Erotica 1998*), Brian Chung and Rigoberti Gonzalez — a welcome wide range of voices which has been a hallmark of Kyle's magazine. Modern Words, \$12 pb, no ISBN, Alamo.

In the Flesh: Undressing for Success by Gavin Geoffrey Dillard is a book with an interesting publishing history — several years ago it was offered in a Dutton catalog, and touted by sales reps (A Different Light in San Francisco ordered 100), and page-proof galleys were even mailed out, before legal threats from some of the moguls mentioned in Dillard's sensuous and spiritual tell-all caused the publisher to suddenly cancel the book. Several other publishers dallied with the work but backed out when they realized that the Dillers and the Geffens of the world don't like to be written about in an unauthorized way; the at-last edition, edited by David Groff, may be, um, softer than the original manuscript. In any case, though, Dillard's balanced take on porn films, hustling, AIDS, and spiritual renewal is candid, saucy, refreshing and wise, a fine addition to the recent spate of personal memoirs. Barricade Books, \$23.95 cl, 1-56980-118-5.



A couple of gender-straddling gift book ideas:

Bachelor Brothers' Bed & Breakfast Pillow Book by Bill Richardson — From Canadian radio broadcaster Richardson comes a really sweet sequel to the bestselling *Bachelor Brothers' Bed & Breakfast*, itself purporting to be an account of the lives of elderly hoteliers Hector and Virgil; this is a finely fey

collection of bon mots, doggerel, annotated recipes, anecdotes and lists of recommended readings. St. Martin's, \$18.95 cl, 0-312-16779-2.

Studio 54: The Legend by Niels Kummer, photography by Felice Quinto — A photo/text reprise of the blazing-bright glamour of the dimly-lit disco which, for better or worse, has defined New York of the 70s and early 80s. teNues, \$29.95 pb, 3-8238-2118-0.

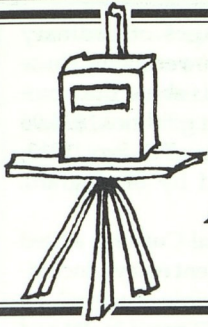
Isaac Mizrahi Presents the Incredible Adventures of Sandee the Supermodel or Yvesac's Model Diaries by Isaac Mizrahi — Let's use the word "deconstruct" with a sense of humor, and that's the essence of this fashion designer's skewering of a world he knows well. The book comes, actually, as a boxed set, with the before and after stories of a generic supermodel, and a third volume which pretends to be a novel based on the making of a documentary (in real life) of Mizrahi. It's an odd but delightful piece of camp — gay men with fashion genes will love it, as will gay women with a certain perspective on the tyranny of fashion. Simon & Schuster, \$29.95 boxed, 0-684-83511-8.

Enchanted Evenings: The Broadway Musical from Show Boat to Sondheim by Geoffrey Block — Here are the backstage stories of how more than a dozen classic Broadway shows were crafted. Oxford University Press, \$35 cl, 0-19-510791-8.

***Shared Heat: Portraits and Stories Celebrating Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Young People** by Adam Mastoon — Forty portraits of teens, stunning in their style, are complemented by the teens' own words. William Morrow, \$22.50 cl, 0-688-14931-6.

Sex Lives of the Hollywood Idols and Sex Lives of the Hollywood Goddesses, both by Nigel Cawthorne — The first digs into the polymorphous reality of the likes of Flynn, Dean, Grant, Valentino and Gere (how come the guys aren't "gods"? Oops, maybe a silly question); the second looks under the bedcovers of Nazimova, Garbo, Dietrich, Crawford and Colbert. And if you don't know the first names, you won't get much out of these two books. Trafalgar Square, \$11.95 pb each, 1-85375-249-5/-250-9.

Never make promises you can't keep: last issue I promised calendars for the Winter season, but way back then I didn't realize how close to December that listing would appear, after many calendars are already out of stock at the wholesalers — the best ones always run out. I'll plan ahead next year. ○



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

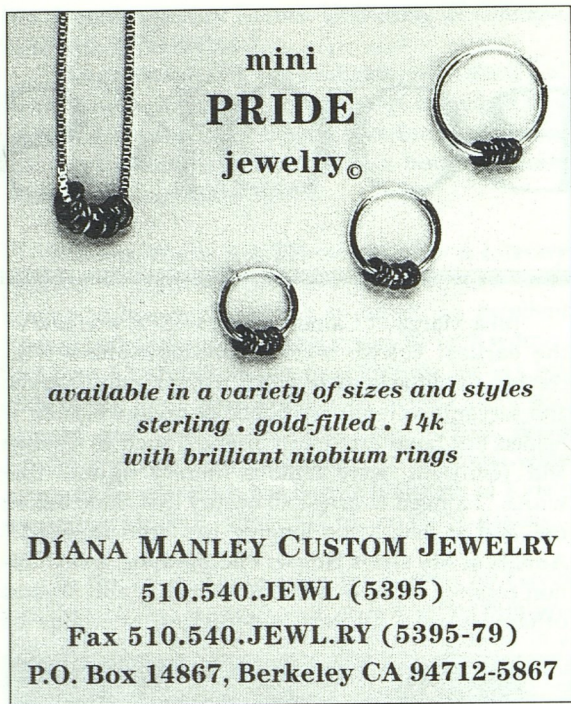
Spirited Threads: A Fabric Artist's Passion for Life, The Art and Writings of Patricia Roberts Cline by Cynthia Grant Tucker uses a mixture of (edited) journals, memoir, and biography to focus on the life of Memphis-born quilter, Patricia Roberts Cline (1943–1996). Cline's life was shaped both by her talent for art and the cystic fibrosis which caused doctors to predict that she would not live beyond age twelve. For Cline, working with fabrics and threads was a way to avoid the lung-damaging fumes of painting and print-making studios. In 1991, Cline showed her quilts at Meristem bookstore: "Meristem is a feminist bookstore and, like others around the country, serves the lesbian community as well as women in general and their friends.... One of my nieces, a college student, phoned right before the [opening of my exhibition at Meristem] and told me that my exhibit was being announced in a local gay and lesbian newspaper. She...was afraid I didn't know — actually, I didn't — but I really saw no cause for alarm.... My deep feeling is that women's progress has been so slow because we divide ourselves up according to what we are not, instead of who we are." The book is inspiring on many levels. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.95 pb, 0-9638327-8-6, Sibyl Publications. Distributed by Ingram, BP, and APG.

Limelight: A Memoir by Helen Gee is a highly readable memoir by a woman who ran a combination photographic gallery and coffeehouse in Greenwich Village from 1954 to 1960. Gee, a single mother, overcame myriad obstacles in starting and running the only photo gallery in the country at the time, exhibiting work by many well-known individuals and others whose fame has grown. \$19.95 pb, 0-8263-1817-7; \$50 cl, -1783-9, University of New Mexico Press.

Julia Margaret Cameron (1815–1879) was one of the earliest British women photographers who created a unique body of work, using family, friends, and servants to represent poetic or mythic figures. It helped her fame that many friends, such as Carlyle and Tennyson, were famous literary figures. She wrote, "I longed to arrest all beauty that came before me, and at length the longing has been satisfied." **Annals of My Glass House: Photographs**, an exhibition catalog, includes texts by Cameron and several others as well as very interesting critiques of



From *Annals of My Glass House: Photographs* by Julia Margaret Cameron (Scripps College)



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Cameron's work. \$14.95 pb, 0-295-97602-0, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery of Scripps College. Distributed by University of Washington Press.

The Goddess: Creation, Fertility, and Abundance, The Sovereignty of Woman, Myths, and Archetypes by Shahrukh Husain is a glossy, mini-encyclopedia of color photographs and multicultural information, including maps, personalities such as Zsuzsanna E. Budapest, and work by both modern and ancient artists. \$15.95 pb, 0-316-38005-9, Little, Brown.

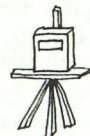
Hathor Rising: The Power of the Goddess in Ancient Egypt by Alison Roberts is one of those books which is likely to sell on the richness of its illustrations alone. All the illustrations are in black and white, which keeps the price reasonable, but their clarity, juxtaposition, and relevance to the text make them a delight. The writing is engaging and compelling. \$19.95 pb, 0-89281-621-X. Inner Traditions, One Park St., Rochester VT 05767. Distributed by Ingram and B&T.

My Spirit Flies: Portraits and Prose of Women in Their Power by M. Cathy Angell documents Angell's journey as she learns to follow her own passions and gains the power to make her vision real.

The photographs are strong images of ordinary women doing activities which empower them. These are juxtaposed with their own words about their motivations and activities. An excellent gift book. \$24.95 pb, 0-9655459-3-8. Bay City Press, PO Box 1213, Bellingham WA 98227. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T, and New Leaf.

Sex in Public: Australian Sexual Cultures edited by Jill Julius Matthews collects excellent essays, including "Lesbian Erotica and Impossible Images" by photographer C. Moore Hardy, and "Stirred Heart and Soul: The Visual Representation of Lesbian Sexuality" by Elizabeth Ashburn, author of *Lesbian Art: An Encounter with Power*. \$24.95 pb, 1-86448-049-1, Allen & Unwin. Distributed by Paul & Co., PCS Data Processing, 360 W. 31 St., New York NY 10001; fax 212-967-0928.

"Feminism has made a significant impact on all Western theory for the past twenty-five years but it has had little positive impact on Africa, where it is frequently viewed with suspicion because of its foreign origins." In **Women and Art in South Africa**, Marion Arnold, a white South African academic, sets out to supply female histories, make women of the past visible, and present a contemporary post-colonial critique. In a series of essays with titles like "Subject to Authority," "Portraits of Servitude," "Contemplating Self," and "Proclaiming Womanhood," Arnold examines a variety of artists and issues. References and brief biographies are included. \$39.95 cl, 0-312-16586-2, St. Martin's Press.



June Wayne: A Retrospective by Arlene Raven focuses on one of the fabulous figures of American art in the last forty or so years. Wayne (born in 1918), founded Tamarind Lithography Workshop in L.A. in 1960 and led the contemporary print revival. Tough, invigorating, explosively creative, her work ranges from abstract to fanciful to hauntingly realistic. \$24.95 pb, 0-295-97607-1, Neuberger Museum. Distributed by University of Washington Press.

The Witch of Kodakery: The Photography of Myra Albert Wiggins, 1869-1956 by Carole Glauber documents the work of an early Pacific Northwest photographer who was active with the Pictorialists, a photo

movement which created moody, soft-focused images more akin to art than to reportage. Later in life, Wiggins became a painter and several of her oil paintings are also reproduced here. \$28 pb, 0-87422-148-X; \$42 cl, -149-8, WSU Press. Distributed by Ingram and Partners.



Particular Voices: Portraits of Gay and Lesbian Writers by Robert Giard has Olga Broumas on the front cover, Audre Lorde on the back cover, and a host of generally well-known lesbians and gay men pictured inside, including Achy Obejas, Jane Rule, Irena Klepfisz, Joan Nestle, Becky Birtha, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, Carol Seajay, Ana Maria Simo, Katherine Forrest, and many, many more. Most images are coupled with excerpts from each person's writing. \$45 cl, 0-262-07180-0, The MIT Press.

I Am the Most Interesting Book of All: The Diary of Marie Bashkirtseff Vol. I, translated by Phyllis Howard Kernberger with Katherine Kernberger, is the private voice of Marie Bashkirtseff (1858-1884), a talented artist who rebelled against the restrictions of her time, lived fast, and died of consumption at age 26. She was born in Russia, moved to France as she began her teen years, and started keeping her journal at age 14. The story of the translation itself is a feminist adventure story worth preserving. \$35 cl, 0-8118-0224-8, Chronicle Books.

From Suffragettes to She-Devils: Women's Liberation & Beyond by Liz McQuiston, introduction by Germaine Greer, begins with an image of Wonder Woman using a speculum, battling men wearing AMA buttons, holding books by Freud or holding protest signs. This book is a visual history of graphics associated with different phases of women's movements in various cultures, from 1850 to the present. Funny, insightful, moving, international, and worth every penny of its price. \$59.95 cl, 0-7148-3619-2, Phaidon. Available from Chronicle Books.

For librarians: **Women Photographers: A Selection of Images from the Women in Photography International Archive 1852-1997** by Peter E. Palmquist and Gia Musso, is a limited edition reference book with a broad range of photo practitioners and fine illustrators (I am represented by the cover image I made for *The*

Swashbuckler), as well as brief, informative biographical essays. \$32.50 pb, 1-887825-04-5. Iaqu Press, PO Box 70, Kneeland CA 95549. No discounts.

New in paperback: **Conversations Before the End of Time: Dialogues on Art, Life & Spiritual Renewal** by Suzi Gablik includes provocative discussions with The Guerrilla Girls and other women active in the contemporary art scene. \$14.95 pb, 0-500-27838-5, Thames and Hudson. Distributed by W.W. Norton.

Clarification:

Healing Legacies, reviewed in the *Sidelines* issue (pg. 55) and in the *Fall Announcements* issue (*Art*, pg. 51) seems not to be available for resale. A 24-page booklet of Matuschka's photo-montages and writing dealing with mastectomy and breast cancer, titled $\frac{1}{2}$ of a $\frac{1}{2}$ of a $\frac{1}{2}$, (but bearing only the word "Matuschka" on the cover) is available direct from Matuschka. An excellent resource in a world where breast cancer runs rampant and there are far too few images of women living their lives post-mastectomy. 50% discount to bookstores. \$9. Matuschka, 150 E. 87th Street, New York NY 10128; 212-722-2131. ○

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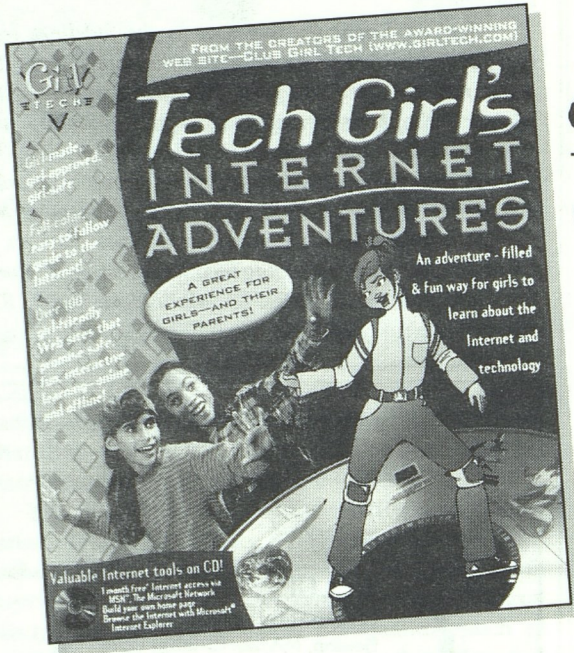
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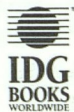
A step-by-step cyberspace adventure in FULL COLOR with Tech Girl, the perfect online guide for girls ages 8 and up. This book features over 300 girl-oriented web sites and includes a bonus CD-ROM containing an interactive Web Home Page maker for girls.



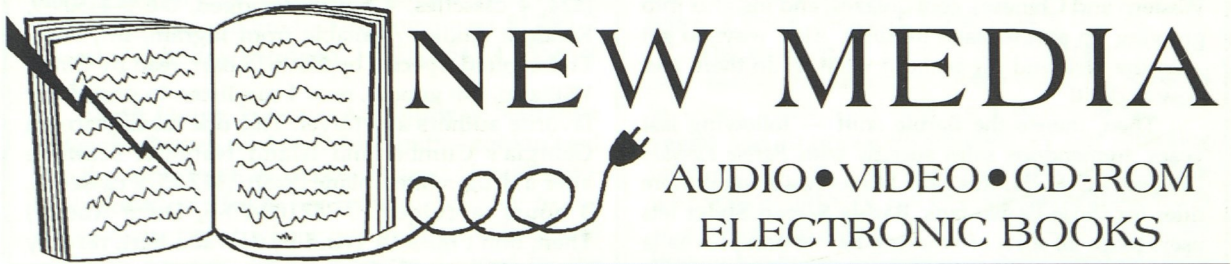
Dr. Janese Swanson, founder & CEO of Girl Tech, has produced award-winning titles such as the Carmen Sandiego series, and developed the bestselling, Toy of the Year, YakBak.™

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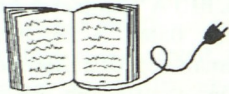
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By Dorothy Holland

TECH GRRLS STRIKE BACK

After years of boys going first, girls finally have a few choices in software designed for them. Last year, *Barbie* was one of the bestselling computer software packages during the holiday season. It did extremely well, and finally proved to the software industry that there really is a market in girl-related materials. This year, there are actually several titles for supportive moms, aunts, and friends to consider for those Tech (or soon-to-be-) Tech Grrls.



The first is a book that is *absolutely wonderful* for girls who are, or hope to become, computer literate: **Tech Girl's Internet Adventures**, subtitled "An adventure-filled and fun way for girls to learn about the Internet and technology" by Girl Tech. *Yes Yes Yes*. Designed for girls ages 8 and up, this delightful book offers girls a step-by-step guide to launching themselves onto the Web. It highlights 100 Web sites just for girls, features helpful tips and advice to keep young Internet users safe, presents notable women throughout history, and helps girls design a Web page — even providing space on the Internet to post it! Quite a delight. Attractive graphic design, engaging presentation. Advertised on the cover of the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.99, 0-7645-3046-1, book + Win CD-ROM, IDG. Available from Ingram, BP.

You'll definitely want to carry the book. As for the following software, I'm not so sure, but I really think you'll need to at least know about the following software/games for girls.

Purple Moon is a new software company that develops computer adventures for girls. **Rockett's New School** and **Rockett's Tricky Decision** are \$29.95 each (Win/Mac CD-ROM), and both feature Rockett, an eighth-grade girl, and her adventures. You control the adventures with your decisions every step of the way. **Secret Paths in the Forest** (\$29.95, Win/Mac CD-ROM) is the first in another series. In this title, you venture into a mysterious wilderness, following paths by solving puzzles and gathering secret stones. I haven't seen these yet, but the company definitely has its heart in the right place, and I'm planning to direct these toward my niece.

Girl Games has produced three titles: **Sabrina**, **The Teen-Age Witch**, based on the TV show which is #1 in ratings among 12–17-year-old girls. CUC International is releasing it. **Clueless**, based on the second-most-popular show for girls that age, will be released by Mattel New Media. I haven't messed around with either of these programs, however, I'm assuming they will be as good as the Web site for Girl Games — which is awesome. I have seen **Let's Talk About Me: Girl's Interactive Handbook for the 21st Century** (0-671-56332-7, Win/Mac CD-ROM, Simon & Schuster). *Wow!* Go for it grrrls. I had to fight for my turn to mess around with this CD. It was a great YA hit. Interviews with famous women, a password-protected diary, a scrapbook, horoscopes (both

Web Site Addresses for Computer Games for Girls:

<http://www.girlgamesinc.com>
<http://www.herinteractive.com>
<http://www.purple-moon.com>
<http://www.girltech.com>
<http://www.planetgirl.com>

Western and Chinese), cool quizzes, and insights into growing up and teenage troubles. Also, ways to get onto the Net, and hints about what to do there and how to do it!

Then, there's the Barbie stuff — following last years' tremendous sales success with *Barbie Fashion Designer CD-ROM*, this year Mattel has several more titles for those Barbie fans: **Barbie Screen Styler** lets users place all sorts of amazing Barbie paraphernalia on their computer's desktop; **Barbie Magic Fairy Tales: Barbie as Rapunzel*** has Barbie starring as the beautiful princess trying to break the spell and save the handsome prince; **Barbie Print 'n' Play*** helps users create personalized print projects — stickers, cards and more; and **Barbie Storymaker** lets users create original Barbie stories. I'm not sure of prices or availability. (* indicates CD-ROM on both Mac and Windows.)

AUDIO

There are several mystery titles that I just loved this time around. Of course, there's **Unnatural Exposure** by Patricia Cornwell, read by Blair Brown. Another great Cornwell mystery with Kay Scarpetta.

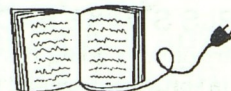
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(\$24, 4 cassettes, 4 hours, abridged, 0-679-44509-9, Random Audio. Available from Ingram, BP.) Also, **Endangered Species** by Nevada Barr, read by Cindy Williams. Oh goodie, now I can listen to one of my favorite authors as I travel. This one takes place on Georgia's Cumberland Island National Seashore after a drug-related plane crash. (\$17.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-787103-73-5, Dove Audio.) Then, don't miss **Ill Wind** by Nevada Barr, read by Joanna Gleason. Somehow I missed this one! Quite a delight to find Barr's stuff on tape. (\$17.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-787103-70-5, Dove Audio.)



Willa Cather: Stories by Willa Cather, read by Melissa Hughes. Think of Willa Cather, then think of Nebraska: the divide, the plains, the colors, and the awesome horizon lines. Cather's stories and novels embrace life there in the early 1900s as no other authors have done. I loved this tape. (\$22.95, 2 tapes, 3 hours, 1-883332-29-X, Audio Bookshelf. Available from Ingram, BP.) **A Thousand Acres** by Jane Smiley, read by Kathy Bates. A touching, poignant novel about the human cost of a lifetime of farming — and repressing, then confronting, the incest memories that are deeply rooted in this particular farm family. (\$22, 4 cassettes, 4 hours, abridged, 0-671-57727-1, Simon & Schuster.)

There's this kids' tape that I loved that has both **Eleanor** and **Hattie and the Wild Waves** by Barbara Cooney on it, read by the author. Cooney devoted three years to researching the story of Eleanor Roosevelt's childhood, and her meticulous attention to historical detail lays the groundwork for superb visual and verbal storytelling. Cooney says, "I think that **Eleanor** is the nicest book I've ever written." Contrasting with the sad and lonely childhood of Eleanor Roosevelt is the book **Hattie and the Wild Waves**, based on the life of Cooney's mother. Filled with love, family, and hope, this is the story of a young girl's inspiration and dreams. Ages 5 and up. \$13.95, 1 cassette, 40 minutes, 1-883332-31-1, Audio Bookshelf.

Here's one we'll all enjoy: **A Kind of Grace: The Autobiography of the World's Greatest Female Athlete** by Jackie Joyner-Kersey, read by the author. From the world's greatest female athlete comes an

inspiring story of triumph over poverty, racial discrimination, and life-threatening illness. \$17.98, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-57042-543-4, Warner Audio.

Night Flying Woman: An Ojibway Narrative by Ignatia Broker, read by Debra Smith. I couldn't get into this tape, but Kati Jacobs, a friend of ours, absolutely loved it! Here's her review: "Journey to the not-so-distant past where two cultures collide and only one emerges. Or so it seems. Guided by the wisdom of the Ojibway grandmothers, the tribe learns to appear to absorb itself into the white man's world, while still maintaining the wisdom, knowledge, and values of generations gone by. Adopting the white man's vernacular, the grandmothers teach their children to love the earth and one another and to wait...wait for the time when the caretakers of the Mother will once again save us all from [the white man's] destructive practices." Kati highly recommends it. \$22, 3 cassettes, 3 hours, 0-87351-293-6, Minnesota Historical Society Press.

The Heart of a Woman by Maya Angelou, read by the author. Angelou leaves California with her son for New York, where she enters a world of Black artists and writers. Not since her childhood has she lived in an almost entirely Black environment, and she is surprised at the obsession her new friends have with the white world around them. Angelou chronicles her joys and burdens as a Black mother in America, and how the son she has cherished so intensely and worked for so devotedly finally grows to be a man. \$18, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-679-46097-7, Random House.

The Dancing Mind by Toni Morrison, read by the author. This is the speech that Morrison gave for her acceptance of the National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters in 1996. She speaks with brevity and passion to the pleasures, the difficulties, and the necessities of the reading/writing life in our time. \$6, 1 cassette, 10 minutes, unabridged, 0-679-46026-8, Random House.

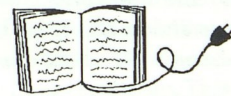
Clearing Your Past: How to Explore Your Memories and Change Your Future by Lynne Finney, read by the author. Teaches a direct way to uncover and heal the painful memories from the past. With step-by-step instructions and case histories, Finney guides readers through a program for freeing themselves of the limiting core beliefs that can cause fear, guilt,

depression, and self-defeating behaviors. \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-56455-444-9, Sounds True.

The Healing of America by Marianne Williamson, read by the author. Presents a vision for America in which Williamson calls for a return to spiritual values and to principles outlined by our founding fathers [sic]. Explores the roots of politics to show how we have lost our way, and how we can heal ourselves as we heal our nation. If you have a big Marianne Williamson following, you'll probably need this tape. \$18, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-671-57653-4, Simon & Schuster.

Meditations by Shakti Gawain, read by the author. Offers four different guided meditations, all designed to help listeners develop qualities such as creativity, intuition, and inner strength to effect positive change in their lives. \$17.95, 3 hours, unabridged, 1-57731-023-3, New World Library.

The Chalice & the Blade: Our History, Our Future by Riane Eisler, read by the author. This is a new, accessible adaptation of the ground-breaking book in which Eisler combines theory and scholarship to tell a new story of our cultural origins. She reconstructs a prehistoric culture based on partnership rather than domination and traces the roots of the global shift to patriarchy, showing that war is neither divinely nor biologically ordained. \$17.95, 3 hours, abridged, 1-57731-011-X, New World Library.



COMPUTER BOOKS

The Writer's Guide to the Internet by Dawn Groves. Intended for writers who want to use their computers for more than word processing, this book focuses on the tools and skills needed to take advantage of Internet resources, services, research, and communication — from getting on the Web and creating Web pages, to publishing an E-zine and copyright info. Very useful for writers who are also computer folks. \$18.95, 1-887902-13-9, Franklin, Beedle & Assoc.

GREAT GIFT IDEAS FOR COMPUTER-SAVVY CUSTOMERS

Women in the Arts is a CD-ROM of the collection from the National Museum of Women in the Arts. I've just seen a demo of this, but it really looked good. You

VIDEO FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Liz Wermcrantz
Women & Children First/Chicago

Liz Wermcrantz from Women & Children First is our new Video reviewer. Please send review copies to her at Women & Children First, Attn.: Liz Wermcrantz — FBN Video Reviewer, 5233 N. Clark St., Chicago IL 60640; 773-769-9299.

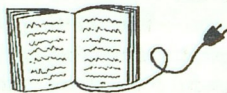
Born in Flames by Lizzie Borden. This futuristic film was first released in 1983 but has been in moratorium for many years. Newly re-released, it is so right-on in so many ways. Not only is it an amazingly written, acted, and directed film, it drives home its message in a way that is interesting, provocative, and enlightening despite the fact that the characters are dressed in some obviously 80s garb. **Born in Flames** opens ten years after the social democratic war of liberation and we get the chance to look back on what's happened. Instead of the egalitarian society that social democracy proposes, we witness the typical compromises that occur when a party comes to power. The strong women in this film fight back. They struggle and rage against conflicts women face under all types of governments and in all times. This film has firmly

placed itself in my personal top 10. \$29.95 retail, First Run Features. Available from Wolfe Video and Naiad Video.

Amazing World by Denise Ohio. This Northern Arts/Naiad Press release done by Denise's own production company, Holy Toledo Pictures, is about two tabloid reporters, Bing and Nico, as they track down strange and supposedly freaky occurrences in their fight for the front page. Their relationship starts with the stereotypical tensions between two lesbians of completely different styles and pasts and quickly turns sexual as they muddle through a case of serial killing with the assistance of a dead psychic. Call it a street-smart, grunge *Claire of the Moon* with a thriller's twist. \$29.95 retail. Available from Naiad Video.

Teasers: Provocative and Passionate Lesbian Erotica. This saucy collection of erotic shorts is filled with the earnest tanglings of young lesbians. Included are films titled *Top of the World*, *Regarde-Moi*, *Double Entente*, and *Love Strikes Hard*, and a couple of music videos. These shorts take the viewer to coffee shops and bars and show many tension-filled moments and erotic interludes. The video is a much-needed addition to the somewhat lacking world of lesbian erotica. \$29.95, #5172. Available from Wolfe Video and Naiad Video. ○

can browse, create a slide show, take a tour of the museum, and find biographical material on lots of women artists. Could be very useful for teachers. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$49.95, 1-57768-010-3, Win/Mac CD-ROM, McGraw-Hill Home Interactive.



The Heroic Legends of Hercules & Xena. This is a CD-ROM full of more information than you ever wanted to know about Xena (and also Hercules, but who cares about him?!). Includes never-before-available bloopers. Full of video, audio, graphics, and text. A sure bet for the Xena fan clubs. \$34.95, 1-887692-28-2, Win CD-ROM, Software Sculptors.

The Harvard Guide to Women's Health, edited by Karen Carlson, Stephanie Eisenstat, and Terra Ziporyn. Pilgrim New Media and Harvard have joined together to package the book and CD-ROM — at a reasonable price. It installed very easily on my Windows 95 computer. The info on the disk is presented in easy-to-navigate menus — won't scare even a novice. I don't know, though, if we have customers who will go the extra little bit to get a CD-ROM — but perhaps it's worth a try. \$39.95, 0-674-36771-5, Win/Mac CD-ROM, Harvard University Press.

Her Heritage: A Biographical Encyclopedia of Famous American Women, edited by Robert McHenry. Some stores sold this well, many did not. The new packaging is much more appealing. \$49.95, 1-885213-07-7, Win/Mac CD-ROM, Pilgrim New Media.

Reel Women: The Untold Story. Based on the book *Reel Women: Pioneers of the Cinema* by Ally Acker, this CD features Jodie Foster, who says, "I think that it would have changed me as a human being if I had known that there were women who were so importantly involved in all aspects of filmmaking...." Includes interviews, film clips and photographs, biographies and filmographies for 100 women filmmakers. I'm not a film buff, but I really enjoyed playing around in this CD. It includes a documentary on the history of women in film. Users can sit back and watch, or go searching for information on women, film, or whatever. Very nicely put together, installs easily, interactive. 1-887233-15-6, Win CD-ROM.



FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

PCs for Teachers, 2nd Edition by Pamela Toliver and Carol Kellogg. This could be really valuable for teachers — starts with what a computer is, dwells on how to make one work, and then presents tons of ideas for using computers with students and in the teacher's professional life. Includes great proposals such as how to teach computers without a computer (sadly enough, a given for many teachers). \$24.99, 0-7645-0240-9, book + CD-ROM, IDG. Available from LPC.

Creating Web Pages for Kids and Parents: The Dummies Guide to Family Computing by Greg Holden includes a CD with all the tools you'll need. Hands-on, easy-to-follow reference for creating and publishing family members' personal pages on the Web for little or no cost. Simple, clear instructions show adults and kids how to organize and plan a complete Web site and even how to add animation, sound, and graphics. \$24.99, 0-7645-0156-9, IDG. Available from Ingram.

Great Software for Kids & Parents by Cathy Miranker and Alison Elliott gives hints on how to choose the best software for kids — how to evaluate different kinds of software, coordinate software with schoolwork, and buy software that works for kids' ages, grades, and interests. Very handy. \$24.99, 0-7645-0099-6, IDG. Available from Ingram, BP.

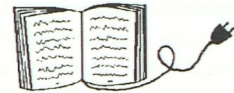
Take Charge Computing for Teens & Parents by Pam Dixon helps teens and parents find relevant, useful software and Web information. Hundreds of

MORE VIDEO

By Jennifer Hickey
Formerly with Full Circle/Albuquerque

Two Friends, by the Academy Award-winning director of *The Piano*, this is one of Jane Campion's finest films. Louise and Kelly, once inseparable girlfriends, have now grown apart, their friendship having fallen prey to the typical teenage problems of boys, sex, and drugs. This video tells the story of their heartbreaking rush toward adulthood with the honesty and passion that are the hallmarks of Campion's work. 76 minutes. \$59.95, #11324. Available from Wolfe.

The Castro. Known internationally as the world's first "gay hometown," San Francisco's Castro district has a rich history. This highly acclaimed documentary is a must have. Filled with rare archival footage, the story of the Castro's transformation over the years is told by those who love it, young and old, straight and gay. \$29.95, #11271. Available from Wolfe.



Women Speak Up: A Video Collection of Women's Voices from Around the World — The United Nations' International Women's Forum, Huairou, China, 1995. Produced by Esther Farnsworth and Linda Leehman. This is a colorful collage of events and music from the Fourth UN International Women's NGO Forum, attended by 30,000 women from 189 countries. Captures the serious, predominant themes of the Forum and also portrays the joyful celebration of women being together. 58 minutes. SR\$19.99/\$11.99 from Multicultural Media, RR 3, Box 6655, Granger Rd., Barre VT 05641; 800-550-9675, 802-223-1294, fax 802-229-1834. Available from Ladyslipper and Goldenrod. ○

software descriptions give users an inside look at how to choose the best software to take charge of school work, social life, Web browsing, hobbies, sports, and more. Ages 12–20. \$24.99, 0-7645-0101-1, IDG. Available from Ingram, BP. ○

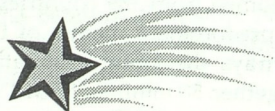


SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY



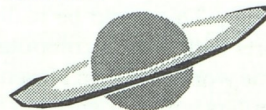
By Laura Quilter, University of Illinois at Chicago Library and Heather Whipple, Swarthmore College Library

Nice to meet you, *FBN* people. We are long-time feminist science-fiction fans, sometime bookstore employees, avid bookstore patrons, and current academic librarians. We met through our interest in feminist SF, first online and then at WisCon, the annual feminist SF convention in Madison, Wisconsin. WisCon is the birthplace and frequent home of the James Tiptree, Jr., Award, presented, since 1992, to science fiction that explores or expands gender roles. The Tiptree winners offer an amazingly diverse sampling of what good (science) fiction can do, and most importantly, all the books (not counting two winning short stories by Ursula K. Le Guin) are still in print. Several of these titles have been mentioned in previous issues of *FBN*, but they're all good enough to warrant another look and keep in stock. In this issue we'll review the Tiptree books and revisit some other fabulous titles, new and old, that should expand horizons and inspire devoted followings among your customers.



The first Tiptree winners were **White Queen** by Gwyneth Jones (Orb, \$12.95 tp, 0312890133) and **A Woman of the Iron People (WIP)** by Eleanor Arnason [two volumes: **WIP: In the Light of Sigma Draconis** (Avon, \$4.99 pb, 0380756374) and **WIP: Changing Women** (Avon, \$4.99 pb, 0380756382)]. **A Woman of the Iron People** chronicles the experiences of two women, one from Earth exploring a new planet, the other a native of that planet, a wanderer and outcast searching for a way to live with herself and her

culture. In contrast to Arnason's limited-technology culture, **White Queen** presents another version of the "first contact" story, this one set in early 21st-century chock-full-o-technology Earth. A journalist in exile encounters a person he assumes to be a "girl," but who is actually one of a group of marooned aliens. The shifting points of view between human and alien offer a fascinating exploration of cultural assumptions and expectations.



Maureen F. McHugh's **China Mountain Zhang** (St. Martin's, \$13.95 tp, 0312860986) presents a future Earth in which China is the dominant world power and culture, frontier colonies have begun to settle Mars, and social constraints remain a powerful force in the lives of the characters. The book's chapters switch narrators, all of whose lives intersect loosely with each other, though the primary story is told by Zhang, a gay Chinese student/engineer/designer.

Ammonite by Nicola Griffith (Ballantine, \$5.99 pb, 0345378911) takes place on Jeep, a planet with a virus that kills most people infected by it — including all men. An anthropologist is sent to test a new vaccine for the virus and to find out how the original colonists survived and thrived. Her journey across Jeep leads to her own journey of change and discovery. This is a women-only novel with no separatist discussion — the virus is a big problem, but the pros or cons of the absence of men is simply not an issue.

Nancy Springer's **Larque on the Wing** (Avon, \$4.99 pb, 0380767422) was a co-winner. Larque may be familiar to many of us — a middle-aged woman wondering who she is and who she wanted to be and who she wants to become. Humorous and fantastical,

serious and metaphysical, the story follows Larque as she encounters, searches for, and becomes different incarnations of herself: a grubby, skeptical 10-year-old appalled at how the 40-year-old turned out, a fun-loving, adventurous young gay man, and the new old person she (re)discovers in herself.

Both **Waking the Moon** by Elizabeth Hand (HarperCollins, \$5.99 pb, 0061054437) and Theodore Roszak's **The Memoirs of Elizabeth Frankenstein** (Bantam, \$5.99 pb, 0553576372) involve secret goddess-worshipping groups and explore images of the Goddess as both creator and destroyer. Hand's illuminati-style believers live and die in a modern high-gothic world of academia and magic. Anyone familiar with Mary Shelley's tale knows that the characters in the *Frankenstein* story also inhabit a gothic world; Roszak's retelling of the story from Elizabeth's point of view is compelling and surprising; her memoirs are full of events as strange and charged as Victor's concurrent experiences creating the monster.

Mary Doria Russell's novel **The Sparrow** is still in hardcover and will be out in paperback this Fall (Fawcett, \$12 tp, 0449912558). Reviewed in the May/June 1997 issue of *FBN*, it's just as highly recommended now as then. Rich characters and a suspenseful, tragic story of first contact between humans and aliens focus on the transformation of a Puerto Rican Jesuit priest struggling with his love of God, his different loves for his human companions, and his awe-ful encounter with the alien culture.

Three retrospective Tiptrees were awarded to works that would have won had the award existed when the books were originally published: Ursula K. Le Guin, **The Left Hand of Darkness** (Ace, \$6.50 pb, 0441478123); Joanna Russ, **The Female Man** (Beacon, \$11 tp, 0807063134); and Suzy McKee Charnas, **Walk to the End of the World and Motherlines** (InBook, \$14.99 tp, 0704341549 — one volume for both titles). The third book in Charnas' series was published almost 20 years after the first two: **The Furies** (Tor, \$5.99 pb, 0812548191).

Other award-winning, Tiptree "short-listed" SF, and recent titles are listed below. All of these books have stood the test of time.

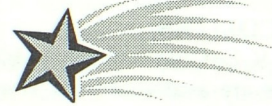
AVON

Severna Park, **Speaking Dreams** (\$5.99 pb, 0380729245). This very interesting story was first

available through Firebrand and is now back in print. It will have ongoing popularity; it is well-written and interesting, and should appeal to lesbian and SF audiences.

BANTAM

Sheri Tepper's work provokes and satisfies. A prolific author, she also writes mysteries as B.J. Oliphant and A.J. Orde. **Beauty** (\$5.99 pb, 0553295276), **Gibbon's Decline and Fall** (\$6.50 pb, 0553573985), **Grass** (\$5.99 pb, 0553285653), and **The Gate to Women's Country** (\$5.99 pb, 0553280643).



BEACON

Both Octavia Butler's **Kindred** (\$13 tp, 08070-83054) and Monique Wittig's **Les Guérillères** (\$12.95 tp, 0807063010) are classics that should retain their popularity. **Kindred** — the story of a woman who finds herself mysteriously back in time as a slave — is one of Butler's best-known works. Wittig's work — strange and sometimes hard to read — is sought after nonetheless.

CLEIS PRESS

Pam Keeseey, ed. **Women Who Run with the Werewolves** (\$12.95 tp, 1573440574), **Dark Angels: Lesbian Vampire Stories** (\$10.95 tp, 1573440140), and **Daughters of Darkness: Lesbian Vampire Stories** (\$9.95 tp, 0939416786). Look for her new one: **Vamps: An Illustrated History of the Femme Fatale** (\$21.95 tp, 1573440264). The Keeseey anthologies are great fun, and will be picked up by readers of erotica and lesbian fiction as well as SF fans.

FEMINIST PRESS

The Feminist Press continues to release marvelous works by forgotten or under-rated feminist writers. Katherine Burdekin's **Swastika Night** (\$9.95 tp, 0935312560) examines the misogyny that underpinned Nazi ideology in this frightening tale of a debased future; book groups may wish to compare this work with Orwell's *1984* or Charnas' *Walk to the End of the World*. Burdekin's **The End of This Day's Business** (\$8.95 tp, 155861009X) also takes place in a far future, one in which men are the second sex. Compare this work with Naomi Mitchison's

far-future **Solution Three** (\$10.95 tp, 1558610960) in which heterosexuality is frowned upon.

HARCOURT BRACE & CO

Pamela Sargent, ed. **Women of Wonder: The Classic Years** (\$15 tp, 0156000318), and **Women of Wonder: The Contemporary Years** (\$15 tp, 01560-00334). These large trades include most of the stories in the original three out-of-print *Women of Wonder* books; with some exclusions and some new material. These might be the best introductions to women's SF available.

HARPERCOLLINS

Ursula K. Le Guin is widely published, but many of her titles are available from HarperCollins. Her writing and wisdom improve with each work; she is truly one of this century's great writers and thinkers. Her recent works, including **Four Ways to Forgiveness** (\$5.99 pb, 0061054011), display a wonderful consciousness of the ways in which power structures affect our lives. Older collections and works, such as **The Wind's Twelve Quarters** (\$4.99 pb, 0061056057) and **The Dispossessed** (\$5.50 pb, 0061054887), remain as true and popular as ever.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Joanna Russ' **To Write Like a Woman: Essays in Feminism and Science Fiction** (\$12.95 tp, 02532-09838) was reviewed in *FBN* January/February 96. Russ' essays are witty and insightful. An excellent book for any writer or reader.

SEVEN STORIES

Octavia Butler's **Bloodchild & Other Stories** (\$10 tp, 1888363363) contains several of Butler's most sought-after short fiction pieces.

ST. MARTIN'S

Candas Jane Dorsey's **Black Wine** (\$22.95 cl, 0312861818) was reviewed in *FBN* March/April 97. Watch for this one to win awards. Worth every penny for hardcover — *highly* recommended.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

Samuel Delany is a perennial favorite with queer and feminist readers. Literary, dense and wildly imaginative, he writes both fiction and lit-crit. **Flight**

from **Neveryon** (\$14.95 tp, 0819562777), **Neveryona** (\$14.95 tp, 0819562718), **Return to Neveryon** (\$14.95 tp, 0819562785), **Silent Interviews on Language, Race, Sex, Science Fiction, & Some Comics** (\$17.95 tp, 0819562807), **Tales of Neveryon** (\$13.95 tp, 081956270X), and **Trouble on Triton: An Ambiguous Heterotopia** (\$14.95 tp, 081956298X).

VIKING PENGUIN

Angela Carter's short work, especially, is fabulous, and has fortunately just been collected in **Burning Your Boats** (\$14.95 tp, 0140255281). Her dark humor and intense writing stay with you a long, long time; expect readers to snap it up.

WARNER

Nearly all of the Octavia Butler canon is being reissued by Warner in eye-catching metallic covers. Bulter is the recent recipient of a MacArthur "genius" award. Her work — especially *Kindred* (Beacon, above) — is also frequently used in college classes on literature, women's studies and African American studies. **Adulthood Rites** (\$5.99 pb, 0446603783), **Clay's Ark** (\$5.99 pb, 0446603708, February), **Dawn** (\$5.99 pb, 0446603775), **Imago** (\$5.99 pb, 0446603635), **Mind of My Mind** (\$5.99 pb, 0446361887, February), **Parable of the Sower** (\$5.99 pb, 0446601977, February), **Patternmaster** (\$5.50 pb, 0446362816, February), and **Wild Seed** (\$5.99 pb, 0445205377, February).



After wandering through several book-related jobs (library assistant, mainstream publishing, bookstore clerk at a Doubleday chain store/Stamford, CT and Wordsworth Books/Cambridge, desktop publishing, Aquarius Books, (the now defunct Bloomington, Indiana women's bookstore) volunteer, and English grad student), Heather Whipple finally realized she should be a librarian and has been one since 1995.

Laura Quilter has been a librarian for over four years and a feminist for most of her life (but especially since she grew up). She's worked with New World Resource Center, a leftist bookstore, Autonomous Zone, an anarchist info-shop and bookstore, and the Gerber/Hart Library & Archives (Midwestern lesbian archives). Laura patronizes women's bookstores, and now flagrantly avoids chain bookstores. ○



MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater
Cape & Dagger and Now Voyager/
Provincetown, MA

In the better-late-than-never department, here are a couple of interesting new mysteries by African American women. **Rhode Island Red** by Charlotte Carter is both jazzy and poetic, befitting the main interests of the author and her heroine. Fictional sleuth Nanette is a sax-playing street musician with an advanced degree in French lit, who lives in New York City but pines for Paris. Suddenly, an undercover cop is found dead in her apartment, sixty thousand dollars turns up stashed in her sax, and a strange man wants her to help him understand jazz great Charlie Parker. With an ambiguous ending that packs a wallop, **Rhode Island Red** is the kind of avant-garde, neo-noir mystery that one would hope to find in a feminist bookstore, and it's an affordably priced hardcover at \$15.99. 1-85242-5664-4, Serpent's Tail.

In **Caught in a Rundown**, a much more traditional mystery that's already getting a lot of positive attention, Lisa Saxton introduces "baseball wives" Jewel Averick and Dee Sweet. Both are married to major league baseball players, but that's all this odd couple seem to have in common. Jewel is Black and Dee is white. Jewel is gorgeous and selfish, Dee is timid and self-effacing. The two go on a kind of treasure hunt for a glove that belonged to a legendary player in the old Negro Leagues. The plot unfolds at a breakneck pace, with baseball lore, African American history, and lots of wonderful characters thrown into the mix. Perhaps most important, the mystery provides an opportunity for the two women to grow and change and become friends. \$21 cl, 0-684-82967-3, Scribner.

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

Native American mysteries are hot, but very few of the authors are Native American themselves, and it's hard to tell if they are actually experts in tribal lore and culture. I have discovered only a couple of exceptions. Carole laFavor is a Two-Spirit (lesbian) Ojibwa writer, whose first mystery, **Along the Journey River**, introduced Two-Spirit Ojibwa sleuth Renee LaRoche. Renee lives on the Red Earth Reservation in Minnesota. The mystery involves the theft of sacred objects from a tribal exhibit at the local high school, followed by the murder of the Tribal Chairman. Some of the nature writing is beautiful (reminiscent of Nevada Barr), and Ojibwa traditions and beliefs are wonderfully woven into Renee's reality, but the pacing is too leisurely and the plot too complicated to build much suspense. (\$10.95 tp, 1-56341-070-2, Firebrand.) Renee is back this Fall in **Evil Dead Center**, in which she uncovers a child pornography ring, and is reunited with her old girlfriend from her radical American Indian Movement days. This complicates her already challenging relationship with her *chimook* (white) lover, a women's studies professor. With more at stake in the plot, and with a promised "terrifying" climax (a wilderness chase in a blizzard), **Evil Dead Center** may be dead on target. (\$11.95 tp, 1-56341-088-5, Firebrand. Cloth also available for both titles.)



Mardi Oakley Medawar is an Eastern Band Cherokee who writes about a 19th century Kiowa man named Tay-bodal. *Death at Rainy Mountain* was published by St. Martin's in 1996, and *Booklist* called it "a beautifully

written, life-affirming, heartwarming story...." Now we have **Witch of the Palo Duro**, set in 1867, when the Rattle Band return to their traditional winter camp and bad things begin to happen. When a death and a disappearance are blamed on a mysterious witch, Tay-bodal must uncover the truth before the camp is destroyed by fear. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-17065-3, St. Martin's.

The holidays are good for selling hardcovers, so here are a number to consider. Liza Cody brings back her formidable, dysfunctional female wrestler Eva Wylie in **Musclebound**. This is the third in a British series that transcends the genre with its class and gender consciousness and strange-but-true emotional realism. The previous titles were *Bucket Nut* and *Monkey Wrench*. (\$22 cl, 0-89296-601-7, Mysterious Press/Warner.) **Cold Blood** by Lynda LaPlante is the sequel to the outstanding *Cold Shoulder*, about cop-turned-private-eye Lorraine Page. Here Lorraine continues to struggle with alcoholism as she searches for the daughter of a faded movie star in New Orleans. (\$23 cl, 0-679-44104-2, Random House.) **Foggy Mountain Breakdown** is a collection of short stories, some of them mysteries, by Sharon McCrumb, who has made quite an impression lately with such well-received mysteries as *She Walks These Hills* and *If I'd Killed Him When I Met Him*. Whether customers will go for a mixed bag of her stories is your call. (\$22.50 cl, 0-345-41493-4, Ballantine.)



Many old reliables return this season. Already in stores at this writing is **Road Rage**, the new Inspector Wexford novel by Ruth Rendell, which involves environmental terrorists and Wexford's wife. (\$25 cl, 0-609-60056-7, Crown.) P.D. James, the *grande dame* of British mystery, is back with a new Dalglish mystery, the first since *Original Sin*. In **A Certain Justice**, crime literally enters the British justice system when a woman barrister is found dead in her chambers. (\$25 cl, 0-375-40109-1, December, Pantheon.) Martha Grimes has a new entry in her Richard Jury series, **The Case Has Altered**. (\$24.95 cl, 0-805056203, Henry Holt.) And Amanda Cross (who is, of course, the

wonderful Carolyn Heilbrun, author of *The Last Gift of Time*) brings back feminist professor Kate Fansler in **The Puzzled Heart**, her first mystery novel since the very political *An Imperfect Spy*. (\$19.95 cl, 345-41883-2, January, Ballantine.)

Anne Perry now has two well-established Victorian mystery series, and both sell for us in hardcover. **The Silent Cry** is her eighth novel in the series featuring brooding investigator William Monk and his companion Hester Latterly. This one takes us into the underworld of Victorian prostitution. (\$24.95 cl, 0-449-90848-8, Fawcett.) The most recent paperback in this series is **Weighed in the Balance**, published in October. (\$6.99, 0-804-11562-1, Ivy.)

On the legal front, Lisa Scottoline begins a new series about an all-female Philadelphia law firm with **Rough Justice**. (\$23 cl, 0-06-018746-8, Harper.) Scottoline has a nice sense of humor, which so many legal thrillers (not to say lawyers) are missing. Her most recent paperback, also about a woman lawyer, is **Legal Tender**. (\$6.99 pb, 0-06-109412-9, Harper.)

Naiad author Penny Mickelbury has jumped ship for the big bucks (we hope) of the mainstream. According to Mickelbury, her new novel, **One Must Wait**, concerns "criminal defense attorney Carole Ann Gibson, who gets tossed into the swampy waters of environmental racism, pollution, and, of course, murder." There doesn't appear to be significant lesbian content, but it's good nevertheless to see another African American woman publishing mysteries in the mainstream. \$22 cl, 0-684-83741-2, January, Simon & Schuster.

One essential anthology for the holidays is **The Best of Sisters in Crime**, a cream-of-the-collections culled from five volumes of *Sisters in Crime*, edited by Marilyn Wallace. This includes George, Grafton, Maron, Muller, Paretsky, and just about every other big name in American women's mystery writing. (\$21.95 cl, 0-425-16060-2, December, Berkley.) A very interesting, mixed-gender anthology that will probably be a luxury for most stores is **Murder and Other Acts of Literature**, edited by Michele Slung. Emphatically not a collection of whodunits, this includes stories of murder by literary greats like Isak Dinesen, Virginia Woolf, Alice Walker, Nadine Gordimer, and Isabel Allende, along with a number of male heavyweights. (\$24.95 cl, 0-312-16937-X, St. Martin's.)

If you want to take a chance on any first mysteries

during this giving season, a good bet might be **Flower Net** by Lisa See, author of the acclaimed memoir *On Gold Mountain*, about her Chinese father's family. (Two good signs: this woman can write, and she knows China firsthand.) **Flower Net** is a thriller that mixes politics and police à la *Gorky Park*, but in modern China. A Chinese woman cop and a male U.S. DA team up to solve some diplomatically sensitive murders. (\$24 cl, 0-06-017527-3, Harper.) An intriguing unknown is **To Shield the Queen** by Fiona Buckley, an historical mystery set in the court of Queen Elizabeth I. Ursula Blanchard acts as an agent of the queen to preserve her good name when the wife of the queen's favorite meets foul play. (\$21 cl, 0-684-83841-9, Scribner.)

Although it will miss the holiday buying frenzy (on sale December 29), there's a lot of hype about another first mystery, **Render Up the Body** by Marianne Wesson, a legal thriller about a lawyer who runs a rape crisis center. Because of her opposition to the death penalty, she's drawn into the courtroom on the side of a convicted rapist/murderer. \$24 cl, 0-06-018292-X, December, Harper.

Notable lesbian mysteries this season include **Murder in the Castro** by Elaine Beale, which looks to be intriguingly political at the very least. Heroine Lou Spencer works as an advocate for victims of gay bashings in San Francisco, but the work gets a little too personal when someone in her own agency is murdered. (\$10.95 tp, 0-934678-87-1, New Victoria.) Two of Naiad's biggest sellers have new entries: **Old Black Magic** by Jaye Maiman, in paper, thank you (\$11.95, 1-56280-175-9, December) and **Chain Letter** by Australian Claire McNab (\$11.95, 1-56280-181-3, November).

Do historical mysteries sell well for women's bookstores? They are becoming increasingly popular in mystery stores, so you may want to give them a try. Colonial midwife Hannah Trevor is the heroine of **Hearts and Bones** by Margaret Lawrence, nominated for both the Edgar and Agatha Awards, now out in paper. (\$5.99 pb, 0-380-78879-9, Avon.) Lawrence's hardcover follow up is **Blood Red Roses**. (\$23 cl, 0-380-97352-9, Avon.) **The Knowledge of Water** by Sarah Smith is a critically acclaimed psychological mystery that *The New York Times* called, "lushly erotic...a rain drenched portrait of Edwardian Paris that could hang in the Louvre." This also has interesting intellectual content about

art and feminism; it looks great. (\$12.95 tp, 0-345-40963-9, Ballantine.) Ballantine is re-issuing Smith's first mystery, **The Vanished Child**, set in turn-of-the-century New England, in a matching edition. (\$12 tp, 0-345-41805-0.)

In mass market paperback, there's Golden Dagger Award winner, **The Mermaids Singing** by Val McDermid. It's not clear to me whether this is part of McDermid's nifty Kate Brannigan series, but in any case it is a departure for her, with a terrifying serial killer and graphic, grisly murders. For the squeamish, you might suggest her very entertaining Kate Brannigan mysteries, *Crack Down* and *Clean Break*, or her sharp lesbian mysteries, *Deadline for Murder* and *Common Murder*. For serial killer fans, of course, this is as good as it gets. \$6.50 pb, 0-06-101175-4, Harper.

Also great for the *Silence of the Lambs* crowd is **Eyeshot** by Lynn Hightower, sequel to *Flashpoint*, about Cincinnati police detective Sonora Blair, here investigating an eight-year-old murder that turns political. Hightower writes lean, smart prose in creepy thrillers worthy of the name. \$6.50 pb, 0-06-109609-1, Harper.



Chestnut Mare, Beware by Jody Jaffe, the sequel to *Horse of a Different Killer*, brings back Charlotte reporter Natalie Gold, a misfit in the Southern WASP horse world, who investigates the death of a former beauty queen at the hooves of an unruly mare. (\$5.99 pb, 0-804-11552-4, Ivy.) In **The Dead Man and the Sea** by Janice Steinberg, public radio reporter Margo Simon looks into the suspicious death at sea of a skilled sailor. Steinberg's books almost always raise interesting political/cultural issues. (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-16037-8, Berkley.) Janet Dawson also raises important social issues in her series about California P.I. Jeri Howard. Jeri stalks a stalker who has been harassing five young women in **A Credible Threat**. (\$5.99, 0-449-22357-4, Fawcett.) Dawson's new hardcover is **Witness to Evil**, in which Jeri follows a missing teen to Paris, and into a confrontation with neo-Nazis. (\$21.95 cl, 0-449-00042-7, Fawcett.) *Lethal Genes* is

See **Mysteries**, page 135.

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HUMOR

By Roz Warren

Not Now, I'm Having a No Hair Day: Humor and Healing for People with Cancer is a humor book by cancer survivor Christine Clifford, alternating brief prose descriptions of her own experiences with diagnosis and treatment with very funny cartoons. Clifford wrote the book, she says, because when she was in the hospital recovering from her mastectomy, nobody brought her anything that made her laugh. This book, an insider's view of a tough experience, will do the trick for anybody coping with cancer. My favorite cartoon shows Clifford at a party, refusing the offer of a cigarette by saying, "Gee, no thanks...I already have cancer." \$9.95, 1-57025-120-7. Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers, 210 West Michigan, Duluth MN 55802.

Although it isn't entirely a humor book, I absolutely must sing the praises of **From Suffragettes to She-Devils: Women's Liberation & Beyond** by Liz McQuiston, which is thrilling, absorbing, empowering, feminist, lesbian friendly...and very, very expensive. **From Suffragettes** provides a thorough examination of the struggle for the liberation of women, chronicled through posters, leaflets, buttons, billboards, advertising and other forms of graphic media. (Happily, the author includes plenty of humor and comic art, from a full-page color reproduction of the classic "Do you know the women's movement has no sense of humor?" cover of *Ms.* magazine to Wonder Woman wielding a speculum, and HotHead Paisan and Chicken on the rampage.) Basically, this is a great big beautiful coffee table book for feminists, packed with lovely, moving, funny and priceless

**Just who the hell
is SHE, anyway?**



One of hundreds of graphic images reproduced in
Suffragettes to She-Devils:
Women's Liberation and Beyond (Phaidon Press Ltd)

graphics, along with readable and informative text about the history of 20th-century feminism. The hefty price tag makes it unaffordable for most, but if you do get it into your store I guarantee you'll fall in love with this book. \$59.96, 0-7148-3619-2, Phaidon Press/Chronicle Books.

Lea DeLaria's **Box Lunch** faithfully reproduces an evening with this loud, profane, raucous lesbian comic, whose shows mix high-octane humor with hot jazz. DeLaria's shtick is honest and bitter, celebrating the hatred of powerful creeps and bigots. (She encourages

the audience to chant along to something she refers to as "Italian Karma: They hate us so...We Hate Them!) She also makes fun of certain aspects of her own community, like her funny riffs about lesbian folk music and the term "lesbigay." And nobody is better at excoriating straight white guys in power, such as Bill Clinton ("What a putz!"), Jesse Helms ("Jesse Fucking Helms — when is he gonna die?") and Newt Gingrich (whom she refers to as "the other white meat"). And the music is great, too. \$15.98, Rising Star Records.

Another fine and funny CD from Rising Star is **The Best of Lesbian Comedy**, a well-chosen sampler of material by Kate Clinton, Sara Cytron, Karen Williams, Karen Ripley, Dos Fallopa and others. It's a nice mix of well-known and up-and-coming comics. \$15.98.

Why take sex seriously? Rina Piccolo's third cartoon collection, **Rina's Big Book of Sex Cartoons** (Laugh Lines Press, \$8.95, 1-889594-02-4) includes hilarious work on topics ranging from sex education and fake orgasms to the National Dildo Company and Dr. Ruth on a bad day. Rina's cartoons appear everywhere, including *Ms.*, *Glamour*, the *Funny Times*, and the *Utne Reader*. Her first two collections, *Stand Back, I Think I'm Gonna Laugh* (\$7.95, 0-9632526-3-1) and *Kicking the Habit: Cartoons About the Catholic Church* (\$7.95, 0-9632526-7-4), are also available from Laugh Lines Press.

The good news is that Leanne Franson's **Assume Nothing** finally collects in trade paperback (rather than mini-zine form) the semi-autographical adventures of her bisexual character "Liliane." (You can check out Franson's work in *Dyke Strippers*.) The bad news is that since it's published by a U.K. press, distribution in this country is still iffy. I will keep you posted. \$10, 1-899866-04-3. Slab-O-Concrete Publications, PO Box 148, Hove U.K., BN3 3DQ. Available from Alamo Square and Diamond Comics Distribution.

Finally...it'll never happen again (I promise!), but this Fall, Laugh Lines Press is actually publishing a humor book by a straight white male. The book is Vance Lehmkuhl's **The Joy of Soy** and it's the world's first (and funniest) vegetarian cartoon collection. **TJOS** pokes fun at meat-eaters and vegetarians alike. You'll laugh over mysterious party dips, tuna-safe tuna, raising vegetarian kids and the increasingly topical "What's Really in That Burger?" If you've got veggie customers, check this one out. \$8.95, 1-889594-03-2, Laugh Lines Press. ○

Canadian Books, continued from page 53.

activist speaks out against poor-bashing, homelessness, gentrification and other abuses. Includes 15 b&w photos. C\$18.95/\$14.95 pb, 0-88974-076-3, Press Gang, General/LPC.

Undulating Women/Erect Men: The Visual Imagery of Gender, Race and Progress in Reconstructive Illustrations of Human Evolution by Melanie G. Wiber — Paleoanthropological conventions and how they've influenced illustrations of our origins in popular publications such as *National Geographic*. C\$24.95 tent. cl, 0-88920-247-5. 40% for 1-9. Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 75 University Avenue W., Waterloo ON, N2L 3C5; 519-884-0710, email <press@mach1.wlu.ca>.



Editing Women by Ann M. Hutchison — A collection of essays presented at the Annual Conference on Editorial Problems held at the University of Toronto. C\$14.95 pb, 0-8020-8048-0, University of Toronto.

Challenging the Public/Private Divide: Feminism, Law, and Public Policy edited by Susan B. Boyd — Essays by feminist scholars on issues ranging from childcare to violence against women. (C\$24.95 pb, 0-8020-7652-1, University of Toronto.) Also, **Unshielded: The Human Cost of the Dalkon Shield IUD** by Mary F. Hawkins. (C\$17.95 pb, 0-8020-7861-3, University of Toronto.)

Family Violence: A Canadian Introduction by Ann Duffy and Julianne Momirov — A feminist analysis using case histories and other concrete examples. C\$19.95 pb, 1-55028-582-3, James Lorimer, Formac.

The New Midwifery: Reflections on Renaissance and Regulation edited by Farah M. Shroff — A multicultural collection of essays examining the impact of professionalism, legalization and state involvement on woman-centered care. C\$18.95/\$16.95 pb, 0-88961-224-2, Women's Press, University of Toronto/LPC.

Mothering Teens edited by Miriam Kaufman — Information from 19 professionals about sexuality, body image, spirituality, addiction, divorce, death. Includes issues of race, class and sexual orientation. C\$16.95 pb, 0-921881-46-0, gynergy, General/LPC. ○



MUSIC NEWS

By Susan Frazier
Goldenrod Music, Inc.

This Fall is a great time for buyers of women's music! Whether your customers' tastes run towards folk, rock, classical, gospel, Celtic, alternative or "just" your "classic" women's music, there's something for all of them!

Looking for new releases from old favorites? Check out the new releases by Holly Near, Linda Tillery and Joan Baez. A folk junkie? Not to worry — there's music by Catie Curtis, Dar Williams, Eliza Gilkyson and Suzzy Roche (of The Roches). Celtic fans will delight in new albums from Loreena McKennitt, Aine Minogue and several wonderful new compilations. And for the twenty-something crowd, there's a great new release by The Murmurs and the way cool soundtrack to *All Over Me*. And let's not forget... Gillian Anderson???

Extremis (CD single)/Gillian Anderson. Gillian Anderson??? Scully from *The X-Files*??? Alas, it's true. This CD single features the theme music from the hit TV show, with Anderson providing cool voice overs. The sound could best be described as "sexy-techno-dance meets Enya." Virgin 38599.



11,000 Virgins/Anonymous Four. Finally — the women whose voices blend to make ancient music come alive again are lending their incredible talents to the works of Hildegard von Bingen. The group was named to honor the many anonymous women whose compositions are often forgotten. This album is built around the music for the feast of St. Ursula and the 11,000 virgins. According to legend, St. Ursula and her

virgin companions were martyred by the Huns in Germany when Ursula refused to marry their pagan chief. Harmonia Mundi 907200.

Gone from Danger/Joan Baez. The woman can sing — there's never been any doubt about that! However, Joan Baez also possesses another skill that has gone mostly unnoticed. Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen were early examples of her uncanny ability to discover the best new songwriters. On this new album, the tradition continues, featuring songs from Dar Williams, Richard Shindell, Sinéad Lohan and Betty Elders. Expect to hear Joan's new music on national folk radio shows as well as many NPR, college, adult alternative and folk specialty shows. Guardian 59357.



Refuge/Jennifer Berezan. This fourth album from the Canadian-born Berezan is her most direct and powerful recording to date, as well as her most acoustic. Her fresh blend of folk, rock and urban country will appeal to fans of Mary-Chapin Carpenter or the Indigo Girls. The songs share a common theme, refuge as a place of safety and strength that can also provide a home, a community and meaning in an increasingly technological world. Accompanying musicians on this release include Nina Gerber, Jami Sieber and Laurie Lewis. Edge of Wonder 10.

The Sky Road/Frances Black. One of the leading contemporary artists to emerge from Ireland in recent years, Black's two tracks on the bestselling *A Woman's Heart* album paved the way for the success of her first album, *Talk to Me*. This second solo release is soothing and fulfilling. The title track retraces the path of immigration, "Love's Magic Bite" showcases her

her earlier album, *The Visit*, this album was inspired by experiences including a journey on the Trans-Siberian railway and a visit to an ancient Italian monastery. The result is an album of beauty and mystery — a musical gateway to eras long past. Warner Brothers 46719.

Surfacing/Sarah McLachlan. Her popularity has soared with the success of this past summer's Lilith Fair, and this new album will not disappoint her fans, old and new. Produced by Pierre Marchand (*Fumbling Towards Ecstasy*), **Surfacing** includes ten extraordinary new songs, all written by McLachlan. Arista 18970.



Between the Worlds/Aine Minogue. With this, her first major label release, Irish harpist and vocalist Aine Minogue (pronounced On-ya Mi-Noag) explores the emotional journey of leaving her homeland to begin a new life in America. Her independent releases have sold in excess of 100,000 copies and continue to sell steadily, showing a significant fan-base. *The LA Times* says "Aine Minogue proves beyond a reasonable doubt why the harp is indeed the instrument of the angels." RCA Victor 68846.

Every Dirty Word/Mollies Revenge. Yvette, the lead singer and songwriter of this Vancouver-based band, is a San Francisco native with a longtime local lesbian following. Rhythmic drums, hard-edged electric and acoustic guitars, and a gorgeous soft melodic cello combine to create a versatile alternative-pop-rock-whatever sound. "Sexually provocative music from a dyke perspective; including songs like the voyeuristic 'I Like to Watch' and a lesbian coming out version of The Kinks' 'Lola.'" —*Female FYI*. Atlantic 82972.

Pristine Smut/The Murmurs. Definitely a hit at this year's Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, this pop duo-turned-foursome has been featured on a regular basis this summer in the gay and lesbian press. Described as the "acoustic voice of the twenty-something generation," Heather Grody and Leisha Hailey plug in the guitars and add drums and a bass on this album. Hailey is also garnering press for her role in the lesbian-themed film, *All Over Me* and as k.d. lang's new love. lang also lent her production talents to six of the album's tracks. MCA 11637.

With a Song in My Heart/Holly Near. Her first solo album since 1993, this album features covers of musical standards from the 30s and 40s. Simply produced, with the artistry of John Bucchino's piano accompanying her, Holly's interpretations of these songs will leave listeners wanting more. Calico Tracks Music 9701.

Pele Juju Live!/Pele Juju. Dubbed the "wild women of the world beat," this eight-piece all woman ensemble does it all — from original high energy dance music to soulful ballads and Afro-beat grooves. Note the catchy "All We Got," complete with a bit of pop and funky rhythms and the hot, spicy Cajun style "Happy to Be Alive." This third album from the group captures the intensity and magic of their magnetic stage show. Pele 3.

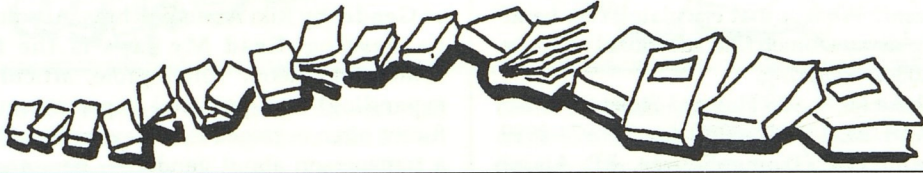
Holy Smokes/Suzzy Roche. A single Roche?? Yep. "Finally, the solo career she obviously had in her!" —*The Village Voice*. Her entrancing stage presence, actor's delight in performance, hilarious epiphanies and deadpan humor are still intact, but wed with an added intimacy and starkness that takes her music to a whole new level. Fans of The Roches will definitely want to check out this solo debut from the baby of the family. Redhouse Records 104.

All Over Me Soundtrack. Basically, this soundtrack serves as the essential guide to women's underground rock music in 1997! Featuring three of *Spin* magazine's "40 Most Vital Artists in Music Today" — Ani DiFranco, Sleater-Kinney and The Geraldine Fibbers, the album also includes tracks by The Murmurs, Babes in Toyland, Michelle Malone, Drugstore, Cornershop and Remy Zero. TVT 8110.



Front Porch Music/Linda Tillery and The Cultural Heritage Choir. Celebrate the human spirit with this uplifting collection of African American folk songs! Four years ago, Linda Tillery experienced a career-changing epiphany, deciding to dedicate herself to research and reconstruction of the folklore, religion, language and music associated with her heritage. Thus, The Cultural Heritage Choir was born. This is their second release and their first to be distributed by a major label. EarthBeat 72881.

FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Jenn Tust

DOWN THERE PRESS

Sex radical Carol Queen and artist Jack Davis, Good Vibrations' staff members and co-hosts of the Erotic Reading Circle, have gathered over 30 tantalizing short stories and a sprinkling of verse in **Sex Spoken Here: Good Vibrations Erotic Reading Circle Selections**. This enticing selection includes a diversity of sexual orientations and explores the boundaries of traditionally accepted sexuality. **Sex Spoken Here** will seduce the imagination and expand sexual horizons! \$14.50 pb, 0-940208-19-9, Winter.

Anal Pleasure & Health: A Guide for Men and Women, Revised by Jack Morin, Ph.D., is newly revised for the 21st century. With 75,000 copies in print, this is the book that has helped thousands find pleasure in learning to communicate their desires for

anal sex. "A sex education classic." —*The Advocate*. Dr. Morin's extensive research, comprehensive explanations and reassuring exercises "cover everything you might think to ask...and more." —Isadora Alman, nationally syndicated sex advice columnist. \$18 pb, 0-940208-20-2, Spring.

The Good Vibrations Guide to Adult Videos by Cathy Winks and the staff of Good Vibrations. Who's watching adult video? Why watch them? How have they changed since the early years? What are the best feminist, lesbian, gay, alternative videos — and how do you find them? The author also addresses pornography as a feminist issue and why the taboo turns us on. The first in a series of guides that incorporate the expertise of Good Vibrations' sexually literate staff. \$7 pb, 0-940208-22-9, Spring.

The Good Vibrations Guide to the G-Spot by Cathy Winks and the staff of Good Vibrations.

Meet Reeta. She's the new Radical Feminist For Hire that just moved into the neighborhood to set up shop.



HI 'YA!

She's fully licensed to practice feminism whenever the occasion rises.

Cartoon by Wendy Griswold and Dale Martin, in *Invasion of the Space Amazons from the Purple Planet* (Grizmart)

User-friendly, specific information about the G-spot garnered from the latest research and responses from Good Vibes' customers. How to find it, how to help a partner find it, and how to stimulate it. Why don't all women respond? What is that ejaculate? This handbook will help many women find additional pleasure. \$7 pb, 0-940208-23-7, Spring.

Down There Press, 938 Howard Street #101, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-974-8985, fax 415-974-8989. Available from LPC/WomenSource, BP, Alamo Square, et al. —Down There Press



FIREBRAND BOOKS

Evil Dead Center: A Mystery by Carole laFavor. Carole laFavor's second Native American lesbian mystery has a harder edge than her first (*Along the Journey River*) as it focuses on a pornography ring involving Red Earth Reservation children. The same insider's look at contemporary tribal life, splashes of Ojibwa language and customs, and the development of a lesbian Indian/white (*chimook*) relationship —

along with a lot of action — provide the mix that makes the book a good read. \$11.95 pb, 1-56341-088-5; \$24.95 cl, (institutional binding) -089-3.

Read My Lips: Sexual Subversion and the End of Gender by Riki Anne Wilchins. Absolutely essential reading. **Read My Lips** is the first book combining theory (intelligible, articulate, mind-expanding) and personal experience (sometimes funny, often outrageous, always riveting) written by a transperson about gender — hers and everyone else's. This is one of those books that has pushed me to rethink many things I didn't even know I believed. \$16.95 pb, 1-56341-090-7; \$28.95 cl, (institutional binding) -091-5.

Waiting in the Wings: Portrait of a Queer Motherhood by Cherrie Moraga. I was deeply moved by this jewel of a book by celebrated Chicana lesbian author Cherrie Moraga. A very personal, honest account of her decision to become pregnant, the premature birth and near-death of her son, her relationships with both her biological and families of choice, and the changes wrought in her creative and personal life by motherhood. Bright, vibrant, poignant.

WOODSWOMAN III



Chekika, Anne, and Xandor in the pines.

ANNE LABASTILLE

West of the Wind Publications, Inc., Westport, NY 12993

SPUNKY * SENSITIVE * INSPIRATIONAL

In her third decade at the log cabin she built near wilderness, Anne and her dogs encounter a perilous tornado, environmental controversies, joys of guiding, and challenge of being an older woodswoman.

Anne authored seven trade books and 150 articles. She received 1994 Roger Tory Peterson Award for National Nature Educator; 1993 Gold Medal from Society of Woman Geographers; 1990 Honorary Doctor of Letters from Ripon College, WI.. Anne and her German shepherds live in Adirondack Park, NY.

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KNOWLEDGE, IDEAS & TRENDS

From the Realm of the Ancestors: An Anthology in Honor of Marija Gimbutas edited by Joan Marler. Marija Gimbutas' discovery of a goddess-based, matrilineal society challenged all the assumptions about the origins of Western civilization. Here 60 international scholars, poets and artists show us her influence in the fields of archaeology, linguistics, mythology, folklore, art and poetry. Contributors include: Miriam Robbins Dexter, Riane Eisler, Mary Mackey, Ralph Metzner, Vicki Noble, Starhawk and many others. 655 pp; photos, illustrations and index. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$45.95 pb, 1-879198-25-8. Knowledge, Ideas & Trends, Inc. (KIT), 1131-0 Tolland Turnpike #175, Manchester CT 06040; Web (www.booktrnds.com). Distributed by LPC/InBook and available from B&T, BP, Koen and others.

—Knowledge, Ideas & Trends



MINERVA'S BOOKSHELF

As the extent of abuse of military women is finally coming to public attention, Dr. Donna M. Dean's anguished voice in **Warriors Without Weapons: The Victimization of Military Women** reflects agony and rage as well as provides an intellectual analysis of this abuse. Her book is a wounded healer's gift to traumatized women veterans, to their therapists, to the friends and families who love them, and to the American public whose understanding of the horrors many women have faced while serving their

country is essential to preventing future abuse and trauma. \$35 cl, 0-9634895-3-4. 40% for 5+. Minerva Center, Attn: Minerva's Bookshelf, 20 Granada Road, Pasadena MD 21122; 410-437-5379, fax 914-693-2834, email (minervacen@aol.com). Distributed by B&T.

—Minerva's Bookshelf



NAIAD PRESS

Letting Go is a sexy, romantic read from Naiad newcomer Ann O'Leary. At 39, Laura seems to have it all — a fantastic home, her own advertising agency, and a stunningly beautiful lover. But something is missing from her life, and lots of women — including handsome, barhopping Kelly and shy, baby dyke Kate — would love to help her find it. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-183-X, December.

A brilliant and brutal serial killer is on the loose in Jaye Maiman's brilliant new thriller, **Old Black Magic**. With a new love unfolding, P.I. Robin Miller has her own urgent reason to find the murderer — before he finds her! Remind your customers to pick up the first five installments in this critically acclaimed mystery series: *I Left My Heart...and Baby*, *It's Cold*, et al. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-175-9, December.

Your romance readers will be enraptured by Marianne Martin's passion-filled debut novel, **Legacy of Love**. Tall, toned Sage Bristo has never had a problem attracting women. Women who wanted to own her, to spoil her, to please her. Women who would do anything for her. But never the woman she needed — the one who could lead her through the realm of desire, to the thing she desires most.... \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-184-8, December.

Frankie J. Jones' debut novel, **Rhythm of the Tide**, is a poignant love story about two women who had given up all hope of happiness. Despondent after years of abuse, Clara Webster decides to end it all and swims out into the deep waters of the Texas Gulf. Totally exhausted, she surrenders to the relentless pull

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Bookstores that have been around ten years will remember our publishing Denise Ohio's first novel, *The Finer Grain*. We are now delighted to have the exclusive video rights to Denise Ohio's first lesbian film. Along with Holy Toledo Pictures we present **Amazing World**, written, produced and directed by Denise Ohio. Exploding with music by Seattle bands, **Amazing World** follows queer tabloid reporters Bing and Nico as they encounter pyromaniacs, brides of Satan, UFO abductees — and mutual lust. When Baskir, a mysterious psychic back from the grave, leads them to the bodies of several murdered women, our intrepid girls step into the ring with a killer. Sarcastic, sexy, smart, suspenseful — this is not your mother's lesbian movie! Among other attributes, it has a nice dollop of well done sex. Nicole Conn, bless her heart, says, "Fun! Frolicking! Delicious dialogue! A romp!" 91 minutes, \$29.95, 1-56280-207-0.

V.disc. Order direct from Naiad. The Naiad Press, Inc., PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973. —Naiad Press



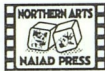
PRISM COLLECTIVE

The Prism Collective is a group of feminist educators and writers [Jeanne Brinkman Grinnan, Mary Rose McCarthy, Barbara S. Mitrano, and Rosalie



Exploding with music by Seattle bands. **Amazing World** follows queer tabloid reporters Bing and Nico as they encounter pyromaniacs, UFO abductees — and mutual lust. When Baskir, a mysterious psychic back from the grave, leads them to the bodies of several murdered women, our intrepid girls step into the ring with a killer. Sarcastic, sexy, smart, suspenseful —

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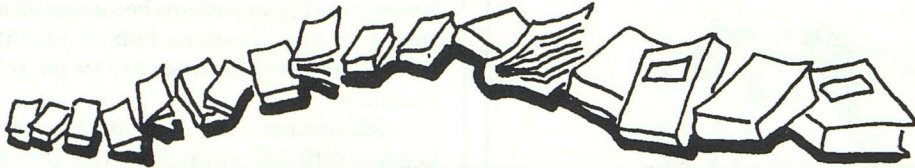
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of the tide — only to feel strong, rescuing arms wrap around her... \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-189-9, January.

The second Tru North mystery, **Penn Valley Phoenix** follows closely on the success of *The K.C. Bomber*. A wealthy restaurateur has been murdered, and Kansas City Homicide Detective Tru North has the killer in custody. Or does she? Despite a by-the-book investigation, this open-and-shut case is about to swing wide open — trapping Tru in a deadly game of hide-and-seek. Author Janet McClellan is the Chief of Police in a small Midwestern town. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-200-3, January.

By Reservation Only, from #1 bestselling author Jackie Calhoun, is a richly emotional tale of real women caught up in all the pain and passion of contemporary lesbian life. When Shelley inherits Pine Shores Resort in rural Wisconsin, she sees it as a gift of personal freedom. Unfortunately, Shelley's lover has other ideas.... Jackie Calhoun's works include *Seasons of the Heart* and *Sticks and Stones*, which is also available on audiocassette. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-191-0, January.

Naiad books are available from the publisher and distributed by BP, LPC/InBook, Ingram, et al. The



Muschal-Reinhardt] who work together to develop resources that make feminist scholarship more accessible for young women.

Journey to a Place Among Faith-Filled Women: A Journal is a comb-bound, workbook/journal with writing exercises and suggestions for young women to use on their journey to discovering their Self, especially the spiritual Self. It's the first in what will be a series of workbook/journals. This one gives users a place to have dialogues with figures in Judeo-Christian scriptures. (\$9.95 comb-bound, 1-890662-05-4.) **Journey to the Divine Within**, the second workbook/journal, offers women an opportunity to reflect on their lives and experiences by imagining themselves on a journey to the divine within them. This one focuses on dialogues with Goddess figures from different cultures. (\$9.95 comb-bound, 1-890662-06-2.)

Sisters of the Thirteen Moons: Rituals Celebrating Women's Lives provides 13 moon-based celebrations that imbue women's lives and their everyday experiences with a sense of their sacred meaning. Shared with groups or read as individual meditations, these rituals provide time of tears, laughter and profound understanding. \$14.95 pb, 1-890662-03-8.

The Prism Collective, PO Box 1042, Webster NY 1450; 716-872-6657 or 716-265-3006, fax 716-265-1328. Distributed by New Leaf. — Prism Collective

RISING TIDE

In **Cloud Nine Affair** by Katherine Kreuter, the author of *Fool Me Once*, Christine Grandy — rebellious, wealthy, twenty-something — has disappeared into the depths of India, along with her hippie lover Monica Ward. Desperate to bring her home, Christine's millionaire father hires expert finder-of-missing-persons, Paige Taylor. But the trail to Christine is mined with obstacles, as powerful enemies plot to eliminate her. Eventually, high in the Himalayas, Paige realizes her companions are not

who they say they are, her mission far more perilous than she ever dreamed. \$11.99 pb, 1-883061-16-4.

Coming Attractions by Bobbi Marolt. After three years of mourning her lover Chelsea's death, Helen Townsend, a successful reporter for one of New York's top newspapers, reluctantly admits she's tired of being lonely...and of being closeted. Princess Charming comes along in the form of pianist Cory Chamberlain, and Helen embraces joy once again. More than a moving love story, **Coming Attractions** is also about how passion and a search for integrity fuels our lives. A delicious blend of love and laughter, passion and politics. \$11.99 pb, 1-883061-17-2.

If you would like to place the first chapter of any of these new books on your Web site, we'll email them to you. For a copy of our electronic catalogue, email us at <RTPress@aol.com>. Customer Service: 516-427-0195. *Order direct and save with our new discount policy: 50% on ten+ assorted titles, front and backlist, net 30, nonreturnable, order judiciously.* 800-648-5333, fax 516-423-6642. Orders shipped in 24 hours. Also available in the U.S. from Alamo Square, B&T, Koen, Bookazine, BP, and Ingram; in Canada from Marginal; in the U.K. and Western Europe from Turnaround; and in Australia and New Zealand from Banyan Tree.

—Rising Tide



ONLYWOMEN

On the whole, we're horrified by U.S. booktrade returns but, nonetheless, very pleased to be publishing new lesbian feminist fiction and non-fiction this year. We're looking for a free-lance U.S. publicist and a new North American distributor but until 1998, Onlywomen titles will continue to be available via the LPC Group or, of course, from us direct.

Rebellion by Jay Taverner. Lesbian historical romance. Hope, a gamekeeper's daughter, and the Lady Isabella are girls of 16 as England's feudal world of aristocrats and peasants is forced to change. It's



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1715, a year marked out for political violence on a grand scale, the first of the Jacobite uprisings. Our teenagers share a perilous, adventurous, and certainly passionate, coming of age. (Jay Taverner is the fiction writing persona of a lesbian partnership.) \$10.99 pb, 0-906500-58-3.

Leaving the Life: Lesbians, Ex-Lesbians and the Heterosexual Imperative by Ann E. Menasche. Why would any lesbian go straight now, so long after Stonewall? Analysing interviews with married lesbians, ex-lesbians, bisexuals and life-long never-het dykes, Menasche exposes the cruel underside of heterosexual culture. This well-documented feminist theory not only shows there's nothing natural about

heterosexuality, in patterns becoming all too recognisable, but also questions lesbian identity. Research no-one can afford to miss. \$17.99 pb, 0-906500-53-2, December.

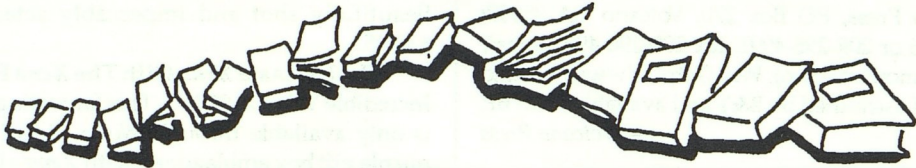
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SISTER VISION: BLACK WOMEN AND WOMEN OF COLOUR PRESS

China Dog and Other Tales from a Chinese Laundry is Judy Fong Bates' first collection of short stories. This beautifully designed and produced book is set in small town Ontario and Fong Bates brings to light a dazzling assortment of characters in these vivid, richly textured stories. The characters are Chinese immigrants living in Canada, from the turn of the century to the present day. Some are trying to adjust to life in a strange new land; others are trying to live "Canada" (or anywhere white) lives while accommodating the wishes of their more traditional families. All learn that some of the truths they've built their lives around are illusions that can shatter as easily as a china dog. Some of the stories included in this collection are: A homesick teen-aged girl from Hong Kong who is cheered by the friendly attention of her godfather — but discovers there is more to his kindness than meets the eye. The arrival of a pretty mail-order bride from China, which creates tension between two brothers. A lonely elderly woman surprises her children by making a new life for herself. "These tales are wonderful, original, and heartbreaking." —JT/FBN. \$12.95 pb, 1-896705-30-8.

The Moons of Palmares by Zainab Amahady is a fast-paced feminist adventure novel set in the distant future on a faraway world, but it's a world that will seem strangely familiar to readers interested in post-colonial and Third World issues. Zaria Aquene — dancer, secret Kituhwan operative and lover of the leader of the resistance movement — has a lot on her mind. The new Major's infatuation with her is strategically useful — but what if he finds out she's a double agent? If she must, will she have the nerve to kill for her planet's survival? What if the person she must kill has become her friend? \$14.95 pb, 1-896705-22-7, February.



Má-Ka: Diasporic Juks: Contemporary Writing by Queers of African Descent edited by Debbie Douglas, Courtney McFarlane, Makeda Silvera, and Douglas Stewart. Deliciously political and radically erotic, this is a colourful and outrageous anthology of work by writers who live with many shifting identities — social, cultural and sexual. Personal and political writing, and many pieces that bring the two together, in a variety of forms — essays, fiction, poetry. Though it doesn't duck the heavier issues facing the queer community, **Má-Ka** is basically an upbeat, entertaining read. A wide range of contributors — aged twenty-something to fifty-something and hailing from the United States, Canada, Britain, Europe, the Caribbean and Africa — means subject matter ranges from the offbeat to the familiar. \$14.95 pb, 1-896705-14-6.

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*



VOLCANO PRESS

To Tell the Truth by Brian Ogawa is a full-color illustrated book for children eight years and older to help explain the criminal justice system and guide young people through testifying in the criminal justice system. This is an informative introduction to police, prosecution and court proceedings, and is applicable in all states. It also addresses children's advocacy centers as places where people assist child victims and witnesses. An excellent glossary gives definitions of terms used in the book. \$9.95 pb, 1-884244-15-7, December.

The 1997 update of **Learning to Live Without Violence: A Handbook for Men**, by Daniel Sonkin,

Ph. D., and Michael Durphy, M.D., provides techniques and suggestions to help men in the continuation of their journey of living without violence. The authors write of the new chapter: "The purpose of this new chapter is to suggest ways for you to continue to make positive changes in your behavior, to assess which areas need further attention, and to discuss areas where you might do some 'advance training' in violence prevention, and especially in anger management." 200,000 copies in print. (\$15.95 pb, 1-884244-16-5.) Now also available in Spanish: **Aprender a Vivir Sin Violencia: Manual Para Hombres** translated by Jorge Corsi, Ph.D. (\$14.95 pb, 1-884244-07-6.)

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WOMAN IN THE MOON

People Who Do Not Exist by Abby Bogomolny is an exquisite collection of well-formed, well-crafted, thoughtful images and touching poetry. "As a Jew and a lesbian — in other words, a person who does not exist — I found much to relate to in Abby Bogomolny's newest collection. In particular, reading her poems about her Brooklyn Jewish childhood was like coming home to a place I have been away from for a long, long time. Bogomolny preserves the vital language and lifestyle, the *Yiddishkeit*, of her parents and grandparents, with wit and heart." — Lesléa Newman. Abby Bogomolny is one of the founders of Burning Bush Press. \$13.95 pb, 0-93417-45-5. *Woman In The Moon*, PO Box 2087, Cupertino CA 95015; 408-279-6626 (27WOMAN), fax 408-279-6636, email <sb02701@mercury.fhda.edu>. Available from BP, Alamo Square. — *Woman In The Moon*



Comix and Periodicals

In issue #2 of *Invasion of the Space Amazons From the Purple Planet* by Wendy Griswold and Dale Martin, Shallod, a member of the Fist of Gi'Tal and Planetary Guardian (and friend of S'san), has sworn to end life on earth as we know it and S'san, Alien Sociologist (and friend of Shallod) must risk her own life to stop her! Also includes "Dimar's Story," a tale set in the era before the Fist of Gi'tal eradicated men from the purple planet, and my favorite, "Radical Feminist for Hire." 32-page standard size comic; b/w interiors with two-color cover. 40% for 5+. Available by mail from GrizMart Productions, PO Box 442612, Lawrence KS 66044; 785-843-3659, email <grizmart@juno.com>.

The third issue of *Kuumba: A Poetry Journal for Black People in the Life* is dedicated to Terri L. Jewell

who devoted a lot of time to *Kuumba* before her tragic death. According to Mark Allen Haile, the editor, *Kuumba* "represents a pool where we can see ourselves mirrored. Every poem is a resting place, a time for reflection, the starting place for a journey." The poems bring up all the feelings, images, and memories that most poems do and more — love, lust, sex, desire, passion, AIDS, celebration of Blackness, heart-break, interracial love, sickness, politics, being followed by police, Africa, friends, dancing, grinding, hope, home cooking, God, sodomy laws, harassment, working for white folks, confusion, waiting... This is a very valuable journal. \$4.50 each, Summer 1997/Issue 3. 8½" by 11", saddle-stitched. BLK Publishing Company, Box 83912, Los Angeles CA 90083; 310-410-0808, fax 310-410-9250. —JT O

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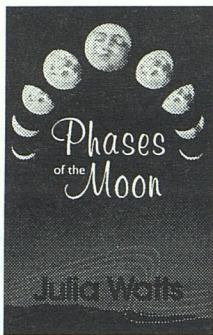
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Phases of the Moon

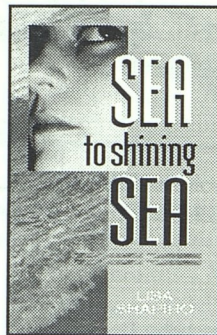
Julia Watts

Growing up dirt poor in a Kentucky coal mining camp in the 1940's has made Glenda Mooney hungry for everything that life has to offer. She discovers early on the two vital forces that will sustain her throughout her life: music — in the sweet harmonies of

gospel and bluegrass — and love — in the arms of a preacher's daughter. This ill-fated romance and the resultant broken heart increases Glenda's devotion to music, and, armed with just raw talent and wide-eyed wonder, the young singer sets out to conquer the world.

Deeply moving and joyously romantic, *Phases of the Moon* chronicles the extraordinary life of an unforgettable woman.

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Sea to Shining Sea

Lisa Shapiro

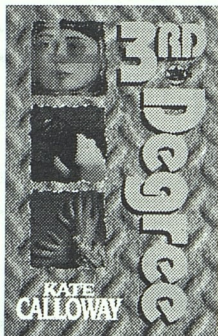
Agent June Gavin, large and solid in her faded sweats, leaned over the bed. "I'll be in the front room if you need me," she said softly.

Amelia reached for her protector, but June caught her hand. "You'll be furious if I let this happen, Amelia."

"I know. And I'll be furious if you make me stop. You can't win, Agent Gavin. So you'd better find a way to deal with the situation."

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Third Degree

A Cassidy James Mystery

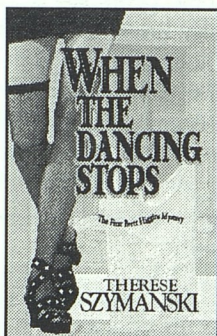
Kate Calloway

Private Investigator Cassidy James suspected that the women of Cedar Hills were being systematically terrorized, but until she posted flyers, no one knew to what extent. Now the truth is out, but with none of the victims willing to help her, how will she

be able to stop this fiend — before he stops her?

As if her life weren't complicated enough, Cassidy's devastatingly beautiful and notoriously unfaithful ex, Erica Trinidad, has decided that the quickest way to the investigator's heart is through her bed. How can Cassidy convince her new girlfriend that she no longer wants Erica — when she can't quite convince herself?

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When the Dancing Stops

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Therese Szymanski

In a daring departure from the standard lesbian mystery, this exciting new author brings you a brilliant crime novel of love, deception, and revenge. A novel that will take you deep into the dark side of desire and engulf you in wave after wave

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Sometimes, there is a fine line between right and wrong, between good and evil. As lieutenant to the owner of a chain of adult bookstores and "entertainment centers," Brett Higgins walks that fine line. People often mistook the tall, broadshouldered woman for a man, but Storm never did. She'd known right from the start what Brett was, and she liked it. The problem was, so many others did too . . .

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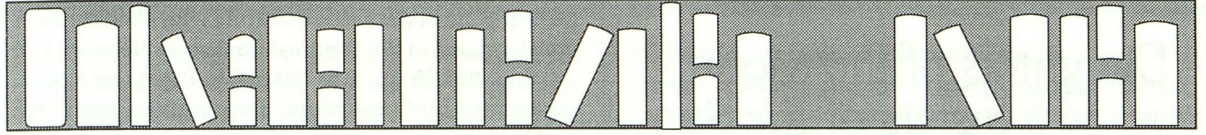
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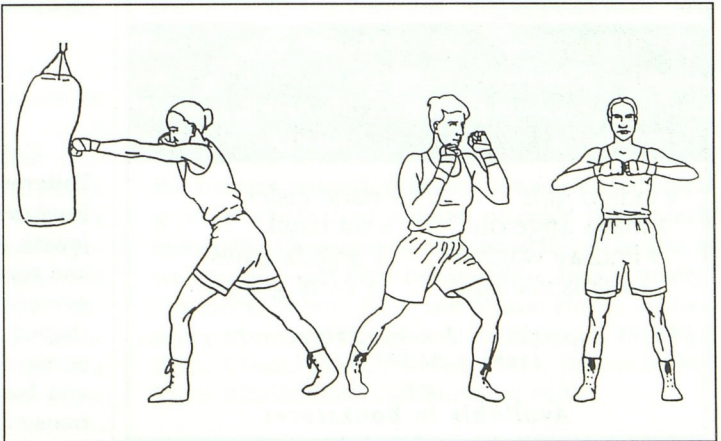
By Lisa McGowan and Jenn Tust

If you haven't already noticed, the **Carry It On 1998 Peace Calendar** from the Syracuse Cultural Workers contains a February editorial by publisher Dik Cool: "*Support Small Presses and Stores: The small press renaissance, which began in the early 70s as an outgrowth of cultural and political activism, is facing an urgent crisis. The 'superstore' onslaught threatens small presses such as Kitchen Table and the Syracuse Cultural Workers, as well as feminist, lesbian/gay, and independent bookstores. You can make a difference by prioritizing support of those values-driven stores which are part of our communities. I know it's not always as convenient and frequently not as cheap, but it's the only way to assure the survival of creative, revolutionary, essential small press publishing and retailing. It's your decision.*" The February art is titled "Homage to Kitchen Table Press." "We also have a blurb in our 97-98 catalog which isn't back from the printers yet. I'd like to urge all fem/pro publishers to start doing something similar," writes Dik Cool to *FBN*. The calendar also lists "October 14, 1976 — Carol Seajay publishes *Feminist Bookstore News*; groundbreaking trade mag for feminist bookstores and publishers." \$12.95, 0-935155-22-8. Syracuse Cultural Workers, Tools for Change, PO Box 6367, Syracuse NY 13217; 315-474-1132. Also available from BP, Koen, New Leaf, Small Changes and Don Olson.

Circle of Love Over Death: Testimonies of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo by Matilde Mellibovsky is a collection of intense and deeply moving first-person narratives by the Mothers of the

Disappeared in Argentina. These women, their children abducted, tortured and killed by the military government, refused to be silenced. Instead, they organized and turned their anguish and suffering into demonstrations that caught the imagination of the world. The international movement the Mothers built brought pressure on the Argentine authorities and was instrumental in forcing an end to state terrorism. "These are the stories of [the Mothers'] daily lives: the waiting and the hopelessness, the photographs in the house and in the Plaza, and the perpetual circle around the Plaza of those who have nothing to lose and nothing to gain, but who keep going around because they believe in justice."—from the foreword. \$14.95 pb, 1-880684-38-1. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson St., Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110. Distributed by Consortium.

If It Weren't for the Honor — I'd Rather Have Walked: Previously Untold Tales of the Journey to the ADA by Jan Little. The history of the Americans



Illustrations by Chris Wolfe, from *Boxing for Everyone: How to Get Fit and Have Fun With Boxing* (AmandaLore Publishing)



These are our true stories.
They're yours, too.

Daughters of the Moon Sisters of the Sun



Young
Women
& Mentors
on the
Transition to
Womanhood

K. Wind Hughes
& Linda Wolf

This book is about the lives of teenage girls — and the profound journey they have taken with their mentors. It's an invitation for women to heal from their own teenage years and for girls to find themselves — and perhaps for each to find the other between the covers of this boldly honest and compelling book.

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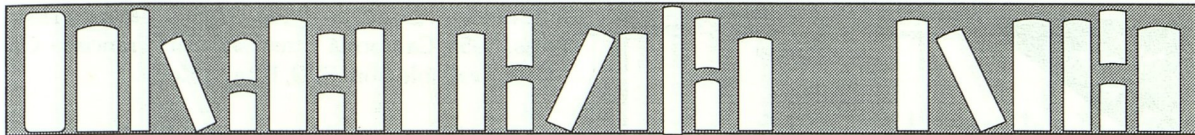
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with Disabilities Act is a long one, textured with the lives and experiences of many. Little, who became a paraplegic as a child, traces the development of the ADA through the efforts, joys and agonies of some of the individuals who made this progress possible. An inspiring, personal account by one who lived through it. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$15.95 pb, 1-57129-026-5, Brookline Books. Distributed by Consortium, also available from B&T and Ingram.

New to North America: Writing by U.S. Immigrants, Their Children, and Grandchildren, edited by Abby Bogomolny, is Burning Bush Publications' first book. Although not focused on writing by women (70% of the contributors are women), the book is very feminist in its messages and content. Unlike many immigrant readers, it strongly represents the experiences of people of color as well as people who arrived on the West Coast of this land, rather than taking the European or Euro-American experience as the norm. Contributors' place-of-origin ranges from Afghanistan to Peru, from Vietnam to Liberia, from India and Israel to Ireland, Jordan and Jamaica. Contributors also include a number of lesbian and gay writers, but only two write specifically about the gay immigrant experience. Some of the stories might work well in ESL and literacy classes. \$19.95 pb, 0-9650665-9-2, December. 40%. Direct order only, so far. Burning Bush Publications, PO Box 7361, Santa Cruz CA 95061; 408-426-9172, email (abby@cruzio.com). —CS



Celebrating the Lives of Jewish Women: Patterns in a Feminist Sampler edited by Rachel Josefowitz Siegel and Ellen Cole. In this collection, Jewish women of all ages and backgrounds explore and rejoice in their common heritage. Their striking personal stories reveal how their Jewishness has shaped their identities and informed their experiences. Survivors, witnesses, defenders, innovators and healers, these women question, celebrate and transmit Jewish and feminist values in hope of bridging the differences among Jewish women. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog.



\$19.95 pb, 1-56023-913-1. 42% for 5-9. Harrington Park/Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice St., Binghamton NY 13904; 800-429-6784. Also available from BP, Koen and Ingram.

In 1958 Adhe Tapontsang was 26 years old and the single mother of two small children when she was arrested by soldiers of Communist China, and accused of leading the Tibetan women's resistance. She was imprisoned for 27 years, tortured, beaten and brutalized. **Ama Adhe: The Voice That Remembers** is the story of this woman who sustained her human dignity, integrity and compassion in the face of immense degradation and suffering. This is one of those "as told to" memoirs — in this case, as told to Joy Blakeslee. Blakeslee includes a glossary of Tibetan and Chinese names, places and terms, as well as a summary of the main historical events in eastern Tibet during Tapontsang's lifetime to provide the reader with the historical context for the story. Blakeslee leaves the telling of the story to Tapontsang, and her clear, straightforward account of her determination to maintain her culture, religion and inner freedom in the face of such brutality is both compelling and inspiring. \$19.95 cl, 0-86-171-1300. Wisdom Publications, 361 Newbury St., Boston MA 02115; 617-536-3358. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420.

Benedita da Silva grew up in the *favelas* (slums) of Rio in a family of thirteen siblings. She led a life of excruciating poverty; watched two of her four children die from curable diseases, barely survived a back alley abortion, and was exploited and humiliated as a live-in maid. Far from beating her down, these experiences turned da Silva into a fighter: she organized her neighbors to get water, sewers and electricity; she learned to read and write, and then taught other women; and in 1982, she ran for political office as a Workers Party Candidate, becoming the nation's first Black city council woman. Da Silva then went on to become the first Afro-Brazilian woman Senator. **Benedita da Silva: An Afro-Brazilian Woman's Story**

of Politics and Love by Benedita da Silva (as told to Medea Benjamin and Maisa Mendonça) is the inspiring story of this remarkable and driven woman. \$15.95 pb, 0-935028-70-6. Food First Books, 309 60th St., Oakland CA 94618; 510-654-4400. Distributed by Subterranean Distribution Co., Box 160, 265 S. Fifth St., Monroe OR 97456; 800-274-7826. Also available from BP.



Sharon Harley and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn were graduate students at Howard University in the 70s when they compiled the essays that make up the book, **The Afro-American Woman: Struggles and Images**. Finding a publisher that believed there was an audience for a book by Black academics which analyzed Black women's experiences from an historical and Black nationalist perspective twenty years ago was a formidable task, but one that was appreciated by educators, civil rights activists, writers, artists and others who had long awaited such a history. **The Afro-American Woman**, out of print since the 80s, has been reprinted by Black Classic Press. "As we approach the end of the 20th century, one thing appears to be clear. Racism, though never absent, has reared its ugly head in much the way it did this time 100 years ago as Americans looked to the close of the 19th century. We cannot ignore racism in its new guise worldwide. As the 'new world order,' so designated by the leaders of the western nations, it breeds ideologies for scapegoating which find women of color particularly vulnerable. Consequently, reprinting this collection, as we created more than twenty years ago, is timely." —Rosalyn Terborg-Penn and Sharon Harley, editors, on the reprinting of their book. \$10.95 pb, 1-57478-026-3. Black Classic Press, PO Box 13414, Baltimore MD 21203; 410-358-0980. Distributed by PGW.

A Really Good Brown Girl by Marilyn Dumont. "In a world where cultural fascism is becoming the

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political norm, we desperately need courageous voices who shout *Stop! Think!* Marilyn Dumont is one such voice. She is a Metis poet with attitude and I applaud her courage and clarity." —Beth Cuthand. A moving and powerful book on the emotional reality of growing up and surviving within a Native culture in a white-dominated society. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$12.95 pb, 0-919626-76-9, Brick Books. Distributed by General in the U.S.; 800-805-1083, fax 416-445-5967.

From Spirit to Matter: New and Selected Poems 1969–1996 by Carol Lee Sanchez (*Message Bringer Woman*) "offer[s] an oasis for the thirsty soul." —Carol J. Adams (*The Sexual Politics of Meat*). "My mixed race, multicultural heritage works through my poems over the years as the issues of the times rise and fall within them, but those issues are generally rooted in my background. My own discoveries about myself, my life's wonders and tragedies as well as the lives of others also lie in these poems — sometimes deeply embedded — sometimes floating on the surface as in *mezclada* or *yo quiero cantar* or the way I was." —The author in her

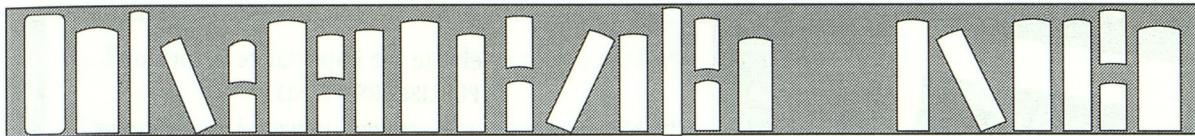
introduction. \$14.95 pb, 0-931552-09-5. Taurean Horn Press, 1355 California Street #2, San Francisco CA 94109. Available from SPD, BP and Koen.

Based on a tragic history and presenting a hopeful vision for the future, *Last Standing Woman* by Winona LaDuke is a powerful and poignant first novel tracing the lives of seven generations of Anishinaabe (Ojibwe/Chippewa). Beginning in the 1860s, the story chronicles a Native American Indian Reservation and its people's struggle to restore their culture. Battling alcoholism, sexual abuse and fighting to regain their land, the characters are living heroes breathing with hope and vision. "This book goes out into the world much as a prayer. Reading it, I am blessed by the writer's use of language and strengthened by her courageous vision." —Louise Erdrich. "I've looked forward to a novel from Winona LaDuke for a long, long time. A must carry!" —JT. \$22.95 cl, 0-89658-278-7. 46% for 10+. Voyager Press, 123 North Second Street, Stillwater MN 55082; 612-430-2210, fax 612-430-2211. Also available from B&T, Ingram and Bookman.

Half Moon Pocosin by Cherry L. F. Johnson is set in 1930s eastern North Carolina where Cindy's parents have forced her into giving up her desire to become a school teacher and pressured her into marrying a man she does not love. "This novel is a gem — a perfect evocation of time and place, with a haunting undertone that casts a spell. You won't be able to put it down until you've finished, and you'll never forget it." —Lee Smith. \$20 cl, 0-89733-438-8. 47% for 5+. Academy Chicago Publishers, 363 West Erie Street, Chicago IL 60610; 800-248-READ. Also available from Ingram, B&T and The Distributors.



Grandmother's Gift: Stories from the Anishinabeg by Anne M. Dunn gathers 40 short stories, myths, and legends from the perspective of an Anishinabeg elder and grandmother storyteller. In its quiet yet forceful way, this book offers memorable insights on such time-honored subjects as our relationship to the earth, social justice, the power of family tradition and respect for all humankind.



Illustrations by Annette Humphrey. \$12.95 pb, 0-930100-72-7. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by Consortium.

My Mother Was Right: How Today's Women Reconcile with Their Mothers by Barbara McFarland and Virginia Watson-Rouslin. Written in the words of women from all walks of life, this book offers an intimate look at women's evolving relationships with their mothers. These midlife women talk about growing up with two very different views of womanhood — *Good Housekeeping* vs. *Ms.* magazine — and how, at long last, they are seeking resolution and more meaningful relationships with their mothers. \$25.00 cl, 0-7879-0875-4. Jossey Bass Publishers, Inc. Distributed by Simon & Schuster, also available from Koen, B&T and Ingram.

In Connections and Reflections: Mothers and Daughters in Their Own Light, in Their Own Words, Catherine Koemptgen's simple, striking portraits of ordinary women spanning every age hint at stories that beg to be told. Personal mementos and photographs captured in **Connections and Reflections** tell these stories with a rawness and honesty only people who deeply know and love one another can afford. Blank pages in the back invite readers to add their own history and photos. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$22.95 cl, 1-57025-147-9. 45% for 6+. Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers, 210 West Michigan, Duluth MN 55802; 800-247-6789 or 218-727-0500. Also available from Koen, B&T, Ingram and Bookman.

Fat — A Fate Worse Than Death? Women, Weight, and Appearance by Ruth Raymond Thone offers hardy resistance to the narrow, random and irrational appearance standards set for American women through an approach that is personal, eclectic, courageous and funny. Using statistics, research, anecdotes and personal experiences, Thone examines

the connection between the appearance standard for older women and large women, the myth of diets and dieting, how the body resists weight loss, the national "War on Fat" and a lot more. Looks readable and is suited for a general audience. \$17.95 pb, 1-56023-908-5; \$39.95 cl, 0-7890-0178-0.

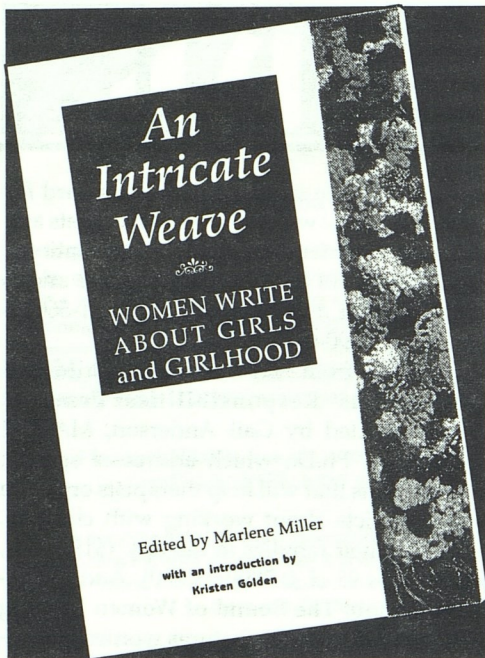
Also available from Haworth Press: **Children's Rights, Therapists' Responsibilities: Feminist Commentaries** edited by Gail Anderson, MA and Marcia Hill Ed.D., Ph.D., which addresses specific practice dimensions that will help therapists organize and resolve conflicts about working with children, adolescents and their families in therapy. (\$19.95 pb, 1-56023-100-9; \$34.95 cl, 0-7890-0326-0). And **Menopause, Me and You: The Sound of Women Pausing** by Ann M. Voda, RN, Ph.D., features women at various stages of menopause sharing their experiences (\$24.95 pb, 1-56023-922-0; \$49.95 cl, -911-5).

Harrington Park/HaworthPress, 10 Alice Street, Binghamton NY 13904. Available from BP, Koen and Ingram.



The Taking Charge of Menopause Workbook by Robert M. Dosh, Ph.D. and Susan N. Fukushima, M.D., et al. is an interactive workbook designed to help women take charge of their own journey through menopause and make the best decisions for their health and well-being. Written by a multidisciplinary team of doctors and therapists, it provides the latest medical research, outlines alternative treatments and offers guidelines for effective interactions with health-care providers. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$17.95 pb, 1-57224-060-1.

Clear Your Past, Change Your Future: Proven Techniques for Inner Exploration and Healing by Lynne D. Finney, J.D., M.S.W. Embark on a life-altering journey of discovery! Pioneering psychotherapist Lynne Finney, *Reach for the Rainbow*, presents a unique collection of powerful techniques



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"All the pieces celebrate the importance of girlhood..."

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

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BOOKLIST

An Intricate Weave
Women Write About Girls and Girlhood

EDITED BY MARLENE MILLER

Contributors include Julia Alvarez, Lucille Clifton, Ursula Le Guin, Denise Levertov, Janice Mirikitani, Peggy Orenstein, Adrienne Rich, Alice Walker, and many other vibrant voices. Introduction by Kristen Golden, project director of the first Take Our Daughters to Work Day.

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to heal old psychological wounds. "A powerful new model for self-healing...this book is a must for anyone who wants to get on with a better life." —Joan Borysenko, Ph.D., *Minding the Body, Mending the Mind*. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$12.95 pb, 1-57224-088-1. Also available in audio. \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-56455-445-7, Sounds True; 800-333-9185.

It's Not Okay Anymore: Your Personal Guide to Ending Abuse, Taking Charge, and Loving Yourself by Greg Enns and Jan Black. This practical and inspiring guide offers a step-by-step path out of abuse and into safety and empowerment. Written with sensitivity and respect, it contains action steps, survivors' stories, success tips, "Get Safe" plans and coaching in self-nurturing and esteem-building. "[This book] gently, yet firmly, helps victims of domestic violence climb out of their situation." —K.C. Eynatten, Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$13.95 pb, 1-57224-066-0.

New Harbinger Publications. Distributed by PGW, also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

The Right Side of Forty: Celebrating Timeless Women by Patricia Martin. Photographs by Leif Zurmuhlen. **The Right Side of Forty** is a joyful, upbeat and honest collection of photos and interviews that celebrates women who have come into their prime. Zurmuhlen's stunning photos are teamed with Martin's sensitive interviews of women, who reveal their insights on aging, femininity, and being a woman over the age of forty loving life. A lovely gift. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$24.95 cl, 1-57324-095-8, Conari Press. Distributed by PGW, also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.



Mother Nature's Herbal by Judy Griffin, Ph.D. Every gardener, herb lover, cook and natural healer will treasure this beautiful compendium of herbal lore. Each chapter is rich with expert advice for growing and using herbs; every page blooms with recipes and remedies harvested from the world's cultures.



Written by a master gardener and herbalist who explores organic methods, theme gardens, herbal medicine, essential oils, and more. B&W illustrations, 8-page color insert. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.95 pb, 1-56718-340-9.

The New Book of Goddesses & Heroines by Patricia Monaghan. No matter what Her name, She is the ultimate source of divine feminine power: the Goddess. This essential reference has been newly revised to encompass more than 1,500 goddess names, symbols, myths, rites, invocations and prayers from all times and places. Embrace the global Goddess in all Her sacred aspects. Includes 53 photographs from Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.95 pb, 1-56718-340-9.

43% for 5+. Llewellyn Worldwide, Ltd., 85 S. Wabasha, St. Paul MN 55107; 800-843-6666, ext. 742. Also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

Medicine Women: A Pictorial History of Women Healers by Elisabeth Brooke. Women have always been healers — from ancient temple priestesses to medieval herbalists to the alternative practitioners today. Yet while women are widely known as nurses and midwives, they have not been recognized for their roles as doctors, educators and researchers. With over 100 full-color illustrations, this glorious gift book celebrates women's many contributions to the healing arts throughout history. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$20 pb, 0-8356-0751-8. 30% for 1-4; 40% for 5-9; 41% for 10+. Quest Books. Also available from National Book Network; 800-462-3366, BP, Koen, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.

Women's Health and **Having a Baby** are two new books from Signal Hill Publications, an imprint of Laubach Literacy, the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit organization helping adults with limited literacy skills. Both have easy-to-read formats and are comprehensive and informative. **Women's Health**

(\$8.95 pb, 1-56853-034-X) provides information on how to adopt healthy eating habits, manage physical and emotional stress and be sexually healthy, from menstruation to menopause and beyond. **Having a Baby** (\$8.95 pb, 1-56853-032-3) provides information on healthcare during pregnancy, the stages of labor and delivery, preparing for parenthood, and handling a newborn child. It also offers useful information on the many physical, social, and emotional issues faced by parents-to-be. If you don't (yet?!) have a section for new readers, or for women with limited literacy skills, try to find another way to draw attention to these books and bring them to the attention of women who will pass the word that your store has these books. 47%. Signal Hill Publications, Laubach Literacy, 1320 Jamesville Avenue, Box 131, Syracuse NY 13210; 315-422-9121. Distributed by Ingram.



Teen Moms: The Pain and the Promise by Evelyn Lerman. The half billion dollars earmarked for abstinence-only programs will not help the four-in-ten women in the United States who become pregnant before age 20. Evelyn Lerner spent two years interviewing teenage mothers, and found that most were victims of sexual abuse, male predators and poverty. **Teen Moms** emphasizes the need to address the problem, and offers aggressive solutions to end the teen pregnancy epidemic. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$14.95 pb, 1-885356-25-0; \$21.95 cl, -24-2. Morning Glory Press. Available from IPG, B&T and Ingram.

The cover of the reissue of **Tree: Essays & Pieces** by Deena Metzger features the famous photo of Deena with a beautiful tattoo over her mastectomy scar. This new volume includes additional writings by Metzger which place **Tree** in the larger context of her vision for healing ourselves and our communities, always linking the personal with the political.

"With rich and evocative language Deena Metzger plays on an old myth to explore the dilemma of male and female and the conflict between masculine and feminine values. This is a moving book, one that brings us closer to the truths we need in order to survive." —Susan Griffin (*Pornography and Silence*). \$15.95 pb, 1-55643-245-3. North Atlantic Books, PO Box 12327, Berkeley CA 94712; 510-559-8277. Distributed by PGW.

In poetic and vivid language, **The Shutter of Snow** by Emily Holmes Coleman portrays the post-partum psychosis of Marthe Gail, who, after giving birth to her son, spends two months in an insane asylum with the belief that she is God. The book, which was originally published in 1930, is based on the author's own experience. Coleman (1899-1974) was a poet and a prominent figure in the Paris literary scene. She co-edited (with T.S. Eliot) Djuna Barnes' *Nightwood*. \$12.95 pb, 1-56478-147-X. Dalkey Archive Press, ISU Box 4241, Normal IL 61790; 309-438-7555. Distributed by Chicago Distribution Center: 800-621-2736 or 773-568-1550.

A Stunning Literary Début

What birds can only whisper

by Julie Brickman

Kendra Quillan, leader of a feminist/dyke rock band in Toronto, finds her world beginning to shatter when she wakes up beside the first lover she's had in a decade and wants to kill him.

An engrossing novel by a psychologist who offers a clear, new voice on childhood sexual abuse and recovered memory.



ISBN 0-88801-214-4 \$14.95 US/\$17.95 Canada, 300 pages, QP

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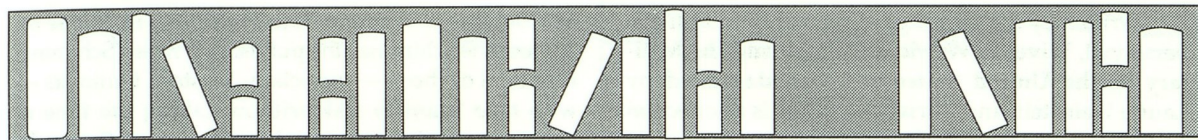
TURNSTONE PRESS

"What About the Children?" Sons and Daughters of Lesbian and Gay Parents Talk About Their Lives by Lisa Saffron is a fascinating and accessible collection of interviews with daughters and sons of lesbians or gay men. Women and men from different races and classes, from ages 11 to 66, examine the effect of their upbringing on their adult lives with a combination of humor and serious reflection. It's a British book, but the issues are the same. \$18.95 pb, 0-304-33523-1, Cassell. Distributed by Books International, PO Box 605, Herndon VA 20172; 800-561-7704.



In **Counseling Lesbian Partners** Joretta L. Marshall examines issues that lesbian couples face in working through their relationships within the context of their sexuality and the society's oppression of lesbians. "However you define your role as a pastoral caregiver...invest yourself in this book. In its integrated reflections on clinical and pastoral practice, respective of scripture, theology, secular resources and the author's own spiritual and professional maturity, it models what pastoral theology should be." —Peggy Way, Eden Theological Seminary. \$18 pb, 0-664-25532-9. Westminster John Knox Press, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville KY 40202; 502-569-5058. Distributed by Spring Arbor, also available from Ingram and B&T.

Daughters of the Moon, Sisters of the Sun: Young Women and Mentors on the Transition to Womanhood by K. Wind Hughes and Linda Wolf, photography by Linda Wolf. The journey to womanhood is filled with confusion, passion and courage. Twenty-one young women — together with mentors including the Indigo Girls, Michelle Akers, Starhawk and Angela Davis — share their powerful stories of surviving and overcoming abuse, bulimia, suicide, coming out, pregnancy, drugs and death in these compelling photographic essays. A profound gift from mother to daughter, or sister to sister. Includes 75 photos. Bookmarks, posters and other sidelines also available. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.95 pb, 0-87571-377-4, New Society Publishers. Distributed by LPC/InBook, and also available from BP, Koen, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.



Women's Ventures, Women's Visions by Shoshana Alexander presents 29 inspiring stories of women who have followed their dream of being their own boss and are succeeding! The women represented reflect the incredible diversity in age, ethnic background, socio-economic class, and location of women business owners in the U.S. today. Such women include award-winning producer Marcy Casy, nun and massage therapist Sister Rosalind Gefre, consultant for small and mid-sized companies at critical junctures in their development, Sylvia Warren, and other incredible women. \$14.95 pb, 0-89594-823-0.

The Natural Pregnancy Book: Herbs, Nutrition, and Other Holistic Choices by Aviva Jill Romm, foreword by Ina May Gaskin, explores topics including pregnancy as a time of transformation, learning to listen to your body, using herbs to promote and maintain a healthy pregnancy and choosing your prenatal care provider. "From conception to birth, and all the days between, this book offers history, remedies, and woman-loving visions of health in a clear voice that rings with experience." —Susun Weed (*Wise Woman Herbal for the Childbearing Year*). \$19.95 pb, 0-89594-819-2.

In **On Grief and Dying: Understanding the Soul's Journey** Diane Stein weaves together a rich variety of resources from the contemporary Goddess movement, powerful psychic techniques and the ancient traditions of Buddhism and Greek mythology, leading the reader on a remarkable journey to loving acceptance, affirmation and hope. **On Grief and Dying** offers a healing perspective and important insights on the issues of death and loss. \$15 cl, 0-89594-830-3.

The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95018; 408-722-0711. Also available from BP, B&T, Ingram.

Stumbling Toward Enlightenment by Geri Larkin is the story of one woman's leap off the corporate fast track into a search for emotional tranquility and spiritual contentment. Larkin's style is honest,

earthy, scrappy and often wildly funny. This is a truly accessible book for those intrigued — yet perhaps intimidated by — the practice of Zen. This is dharma from the heartland. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$12.95 pb, 0-89087-849-8. 47% for 10+ FOB assorted titles. Celestial Arts, PO Box 7123, Berkeley CA 94707; 800-841-2665. Also available from BP, Koen and B&T.

Success with Soul by Doris Pozzi and Stephen Williams. Two personal growth experts dispel the popular myth that to be successful you must live a balanced lifestyle. Pozzi and Williams help readers identify values, define what is important to them, and develop life goals as an alternative to juggling competing priorities. Readers' experiences make each discovery unique. This is the perfect guide for those desiring change and meaningful success. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$14.95 pb, 0-646-28692-7, Dorian Welles. Available from BP, Koen, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.



Based on a solid framework of theory and research, **Setting Psychological Boundaries: A Handbook for Women** by Anne Cope Wallace illustrates definitive ways in which we learn to recognize psychological boundaries — our unique and inner territory — and to defend our rights in every relationship. In a study that interweaves poetry, drama and psychological theory, the author describes patterns of family dynamics in the context of everyday lives and how they affect us from generation to generation until we break the destructive chain. Following the paths of ten remarkable women, from the narrative of a resourceful inner-city child to the survival of a holocaust victim, this book, filled with compelling voices, will touch the reader in unexpected ways. \$21.95 cl, 0-89789-534-7.

Written by a wide range of scholars and military personnel, **Wives & Warriors: Women and the Military in the United States and Canada** edited by Laurie Weinstein and Christie C. White is a collection of essays that cover such issues as the opening of military academies to women, the opening of combat posts to women, sexual harassment, and U.S. and Canadian policies allowing lesbians and gays to serve in the military. It is about the women who serve in the military as wives and those who serve as soldiers, sailors and flyers. **Wives & Warriors** examines how the military constructs gender to maintain the status quo, excluding women from being respected as equals to men and maintaining their narrowly defined roles as the dependent helpmates of men. \$22.95 pb, 0-89789-526-6.

Bergin & Garvey, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, 88 Post Road West, PO Box 5007, Westport CT 06881; 800-225-5800.

After decades of silence (or misinformation) on the subject, books that examine the role of women in the Islamic world are finally being published. About

My Soul Is a Woman: The Feminine in Islam by Annemarie Schimmel, the publisher writes, "Schimmel is critical of those — especially Western feminists — who take Islam to task without taking the time to comprehend the cultures, language, and the traditions of the many societies in which Islam is the majority religion.... Schimmel reconstructs an important but little-known chapter of Islamic spirituality. With copious examples, she shows the clear equality of women and men in the conception of the Prophet Muhammad, the Quran, the feminine language of the mystical tradition, and the role of holy mothers and unmarried women as manifestations of God." \$22.95 cl, 0-8264-1014-6. Continuum Books, 370 Lexington Ave., New York NY 10017; 212-953-5858. Available from BP.



Gender Politics in Latin America: Debates in Theory and Practice edited by Elizabeth Dore is a collection of scholarly essays that analyze the

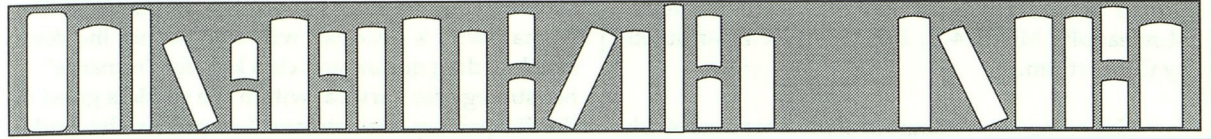
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gendered politics of state power, language, culture, history, social movements, human rights and knowledge in Latin America. "This wide-ranging multidisciplinary collection is essential reading, bringing together theoretical reflection and case study material on the different meanings given to politics in Latin America today." —Maxine Molyneux, University of London. \$18 pb, 0-85345-976-2. Monthly Review Press, 122 West 27th St., New York NY 10001; 212-691-2555. Available from BP and Koen.

Language, Gender, and Professional Writing: Theoretical Approaches and Guidelines for Nonsexist Usage by Francine Wattman Frank, Paula A. Treichler, et al. This landmark book explores the origins and effects of biased language and provides sensible guidelines for nondiscriminatory speech and writing. Winner of *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Book Award, this volume demonstrates the value of avoiding biased language and stimulates readers to think of language as a rich resource offering many alternatives to objectionable usage. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$18 pb, 0-87352-179-X. Modern Language Association, 10 Astor Place, New York NY 10003; 212-614-6304. Available from Ingram.

In Spiritual Lemons: Biblical Women, Irreverent Laughter, and Righteous Rage, Rev. Lyn Brakeman explores the struggles of eight biblical women who had their spirituality turned upside down. By liberating the stories of these women from their often sanctimonious closets of holiness, Brakeman offers modern commentaries and meditations for those who struggle to find gifts in life's lemons. Designed as a study guide, each chapter opens with a biblical text and a question derived from that text, which is then expanded and illuminated with a story to answer the question. A personal commentary follows each story and suggestions for personal prayer, meditation and group study are found at the end of each chapter. \$12.95 pb, 1-880913-22-4.

Innisfree Press, Inc., 3445 N. Fremont Avenue #1, Tucson AZ 85719; 215-247-4085. Distributed by Consortium, also available from Ingram, New Leaf and Spring Arbor.

In Caretakers of Our Common House: Women's Development in Communities of Faith, Carol Lakey Hess argues compellingly for theological education that nurtures women as caretakers of themselves and of our communities of faith. "This highly readable study asks whether the Church can make a difference in the development of young women in a culture that destroys [their] self-esteem.... A truly engaging book." —Elizabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, Harvard Divinity School. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$18.95 pb, 0-687-00963-4. 40% for 5-9. Abingdon Press; 800-251-3320. Also available from Ingram.



God on the Wall by B.M. Spaight tells the story of Elizabeth Wallace, who, having grown up in a dysfunctional family in Ireland, has no wish to be part of a family again. This novel explores Wallace's journey as a working-class woman deciding on single motherhood. It is about family: old and new. \$14.95 pb, 1-898256-23-3, The Collins Press. Distributed by Dufour Editions, Inc., Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005, fax 610-458-7103.

Crowning the Queen of Love by Susan Welch is a haunting and often dark collection of love stories. "[Welch's] protagonists include a disabled woman, a cancer patient, and a mixed race couple, to name just a few.... Welch seems fascinated with taboos, and how breaking them can create a sort of moral clarity. In these deftly crafted love stories for an unlovely age, Welch poises her women on the edge of transformation and self-realization, sometimes allowing them to cross to redemption." —*Minnesota Monthly*. \$13.95 pb, 1-56689-058-6.

Coffee House Press, 27 North Fourth St. #400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125. Distributed by Consortium.

"Spanning twelve hours in September, from dusk till dawn, and set in Brazil's São Paulo, this cinematic novel tracks a gang's robbery at a funeral home... **Early Mourning** by Edla Van Steen jumps among multiple plots, features a cast of eccentric characters — most memorably a female transvestite who moonlights as a professional mourner — and black humor.... The racy prose, briskly translated by David S. George, is in the present tense, adding to the headlong rush of events." —*Washington Post Book World*. Winner of the Brazilian Academy of Letters prize for best novel and the Pen Club of Brazil for best book in 1993. \$13.95 pb, 0-935480-84-6. Latin American Literary Review Press, 121 Edgewood Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15218; 412-371-9023, fax 412-371-9025. Available from BP.

"I really enjoyed **Oriental Girls Desire Romance** by Catherine Liu." A refugee from an Ivy League education and a family of middle-class Maoist ide-

ologies, Liu's narrator is a young Chinese American woman with a deadpan wit, who scours the *demi-monde* of drag queens and club kids for "romance" — her strategy for survival within the soulless greed of the Reagan-era mainstream. Liu guides the reader into the underbelly of the 80s New York through a series of skewering perspectives — the temp's view of an old-boy law firm, the stripper's Wall Street, the struggling critic's Soho. "Please give Liu some shelf space — her fresh voice says a lot to young readers." —JT. \$13.95 pb, 1-885030-24-X. Kaya, 133 W. 25th St. #3E, New York NY 10001; 212-352-9220, fax 212-352-9221, email (kaya@kaya.com). Distributed by DAP.



"**White Bread Competition** by Jo Ann Yolanda Hernández is a fun read — I had a hard time putting it down." This collection of interlinking stories follow Luz, a young Latina, who will represent her San Antonio school in the upcoming state-wide spelling bee. The stories follow the experiences of Luz's sister, who has mixed feelings about her sister's accomplishments; her mother, who pushes Luz to be the best she can be; and her grandmother, who fears her granddaughter's ambition while another generation of Latinas pins its hopes on her. Luz's participation in this context signifies a substantial milestone for her community's sense of pride and achievement. "Beautiful! This is Jo Ann's first full-length collection." —JT. \$7.95 pb, 1-55885-210-7.

Consuelo Harburton was orphaned at an early age and when her uncle (her guardian) loses his job, Consuelo is sent to live with her grandmother in the suburbs. In **Call Me Consuelo**, intrigue, danger and excitement weave a dramatic web around Consuelo as she is thrust into a new life in unfamiliar surroundings and is plunged into a mystery that begs to be solved. This book, award-winning author Ofelia Dumas Lachtman's newest novel for young adults, follows Consuelo's struggles with the changes in her life, and we see that a quirky cast of new-found friends and a loving grandmother teach her that she has a secure place in her new life. \$7.95 pb, 1-55885-187-9; \$14.95 cl, -188-7, Piñata Books.

Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 713-743-2841. Available from BP.

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Bx 294, Oilville, Va, 23129





In **Chicken**, a novel by Paula Martinac, Lynn, a writer whose 13-year relationship with Claire just went bust, has started to regroup by spending some time between the sheets with Lexy, a much younger and uninhibited bartender. Lynn is also consoling herself with Jude, the young and alluring daughter of a feminist artist famous for carving oversized wooden sculptures of women's genitals. "Three generations of contemporary lesbians are gently but firmly skewered in this delightful Manhattan romp." —Barbara Wilson (*If You Had a Family*). \$10.95 pb, 1-55583-433-7. Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 800-464-4574. Distributed by Consortium.



An Intricate Weave: Women Write About Girls and Girlhood edited by Marlene Miller, with an introduction by Kristen Golden, showcases the work of 67 authors who write about the girls in their lives and in the world today, and also about their own girlhoods and the girl who remains within. Contributors include Julia Alvarez, Kelly Cherry, Judith Ortiz Cofer, Carolyn Kizer, Denise Levertov, Peggy Orenstein and Adrienne Rich. "After reading most of these pieces I found myself wanting to do two things: stop and savor the complexity of images and feelings created by these gifted women, and then call a friend and read a story aloud. This book deserves an audience." —Kate Fitzsimmons, *The San Francisco Review*. 40% for 2+ copies. \$15.95 pb, 0-945372-15-9. Iris Editions, 1278 Gleneyre #138, Laguna Beach CA 92651; 800-247-6553. Also available from BP, B&T and Ingram.

"My name is Josephine Fuller and I've never weighed less than two hundred pounds in my adult life — not counting the chip on my shoulder. Friends call me Donna Quixote because tilting windmills is what I do for a living. How did I get started? I answered an ad in the *San Francisco Chronicle*...." So begins **Larger Than Death**, Lynne Murray's latest

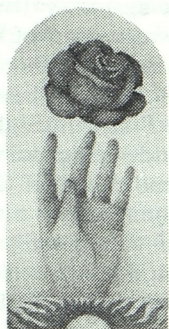
mystery novel and first in a series featuring Josephine Fuller, a boldly drawn woman of substance certain to take her place in the pantheon of much-admired amateur sleuths. Shocked by the murder of her friend and mentor, Jo Fuller untangles a Gordian knot of clues that maddeningly point to several suspects at the same time. "Finally! Great character, terrific concept. Josephine Fuller is a heroine for the 90s: self-confident, self-accepting, strong. Wonderful!" —Kathleen Swanholt, editor, *Mysterious Women Newsletter*. "I really enjoyed **Larger Than Death** and am looking forward to Murray's next mystery with Jo Fuller. Booksellers, please handsell this to your mystery fans." —JT. \$23 cl, 0-9642949-0-7. Order from publisher: 50% discount. Orloff Press, PO Box 80774, Athens GA 30608; 800-724-8078. Also available from B&T and Ingram.

First Love & Look for My Obituary: Two Novellas by Elena Garro, translated by David Unger, won the prestigious *Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz* Prize sponsored by the Guadalajara International Book Fair. **First Comes Love** examines the consequences of two tourists befriending German prisoners of war in France and explores the tension between primal human kindness and social conventions. **Look for My Obituary** explores a surrealistic, haunting love affair set in a world of arranged marriages. "Elena Garro is the best writer in Mexico today." —Emmanuel Caballo. \$11.95 pb, 1-880684-51-9. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson Street, Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110. Distributed by Consortium.

In When a Lifemate Dies: Stories of Love, Loss, and Healing, more than 50 contributors share vivid, real-life accounts of how the loss of their mate (husband, wife, or domestic partner) has affected their lives. By articulating often unspoken feelings and experiences, the authors of these moving short stories, journal entries and poems provide emotional support and healing comfort for others who, like them, have been touched by the loss of a lifemate. About

FOR-GIVING: A FEMINIST CRITICISM OF EXCHANGE

Genevieve Vaughan, who founded the Foundation for a Compassionate Society in 1987, unravels the twisted strands of patriarchy and proposes a woman-based gift economy as the principle of a nurturing socio-economic way, which will satisfy the needs of all. She also briefly recounts the activities of the Foundation as the practice of the theory.



The book will soon be placed on the Internet as a gift. Foreword by Robin Morgan. Published by Plain View Press.

To order this book call (512) 447-6222 or write P.O. BOX 18087, Austin, TX 78760 <http://www.compassionate.org> e-mail ffacs@igc.apc.org

two-thirds of the contributors are women. Edited by Susan Heinlein, Grace Brumett and Jane-Ellen Tibbals. \$14.95 pb, 1-57749-056-8. Fairview Press, 2450 Riverside Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55454. Distributed by National Book Network, also available from Ingram, B&T, BP and Koen.

“With pathos and humor, eleven women and men writers explore deeply human challenges — physical, emotional, personal and universal. Finding a dialogue of the heart between the genders, it is an anthology of healing that touches darkness and openly celebrates light.” —Margo LaGuttata, editor, **Almost Touching: A Reader for Women and Men**. \$17.95 pb, 0-911051-84-8. Order from the publisher 50% for 5+. Plain View Press, PO Box 33311, Austin TX 78764; 512-441-2452. Also available from B&T.

The Lights of Earth by Gina Berriault. “Gina Berriault has been writing superbly for thirty years. It’s time she became an overnight sensation.” —*Newsday*. From the author of the award-winning *Women in Their Beds*, this short poetic novel is a study

of three writers as they interact with one another, the world and their art. Long out of print, this is the first paperback publication of **The Lights of Earth**. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$12.50 pb, 1-887178-53-8, Counterpoint. Distributed by PGW, also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

Women Artists: An Illustrated History by Nancy Heller. With lavish color illustrations, **Women Artists** provides an unprecedented wealth of visual material. The text offers a lively overview of the barriers that generations of women artists have encountered while emphasizing the ingenious ways women have circumvented these obstacles to establish themselves in the art world. Updated third edition: several new artists, expanded bibliography, 207 illustrations, 152 in color. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$37.50 pb, 0-7892-0345-6. 40% for 5–24. Abbeville Press, 488 Madison Ave., New York NY 10022; 800-227-7210. Also available from B&T and Ingram.

Stolen Moments by Judy Francesconi. Photographic art book capturing romantic, playful and sensual images of women with women as only Judy Francesconi can. Over 40 black-and-white and duotone images. Very nicely done. \$25.95, no ISBN. For 6+ copies contact Judy Francesconi Studios; 310-236-2101, fax 310-204-1756. Also available from BP.

—Dorothy Holland



Torn Shapes of Desire: Internet Erotica by Mary Anne Mohanraj, with photographs by Tracy Lee, is a hot collection of erotic short stories, poems and letters. Her mix of style, genre and setting is evocative — with stories to suit many tastes. The book also includes an interview with other writers of Internet erotica and essays discussing healthy sexuality and free speech on the Internet. FYI: this collection is 90% heterosexual, but there is one male-male story, one story of consensual incest, one letter by a closeted lesbian to her love interest after the lesbian kills herself, and one planned assault story by a woman who wants to have sex with a woman



friend and plans for a male friend to come in and pretend to force them to have sex. \$14.95 pb, 1-885876-03-3. Intangible Assets Manufacturing, 828 Ormond Avenue, Drexel Hill PA 19026; 888-399-9426, 610-853-4406. Available from Koen, BP, Ingram and other wholesalers.

Sirens: Symbols of Seduction by Meri Lao. Since the sirens first tempted Ulysses, they and their mermaid sisters have been symbols of the lure of the dark feminine, inspiring artists and writers throughout the ages. This lavishly illustrated gift book celebrates the sirens, mermaids and harpies of art and literature, and offers an intriguing Jungian perspective on this powerful archetype. 300 color and b&w illustrations. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$40 cl, 0-89281-653-8. 40% for 6-24; 42% for 25-49. Inner Traditions International, One Park Street, Rochester VT 05767; 800-246-8648. Also available from BP, Koen, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.



Tanzania on Tuesday: Writing by American Women Abroad edited by Kathleen Coskran and C.W. Truesdale is the second in a series of New Rivers Press' anthologies of women's travel writing. "The nearly 50 short pieces of travel writing that comprise this volume display such a wealth of perspectives and explore such a variety of locales that the book is a splendid adventure in itself." \$19.95 pb, 0-89823-179-5. New Rivers Press, 420 North 5th St. #910, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-339-7114 or 800-339-2011. Distributed by Consortium, also available from BP.

Travelers' Tales: A Woman's World edited by Mary Beth Bond. Winner of the coveted Lowell Thomas award for best travel book, *Travelers' Tales: A Woman's World* is a remarkable anthology of true, contemporary stories by and about women traveling

throughout the world. Other books from Mary Beth Bond include *Gutsy Women* and *Gutsy Mamas*; both are packed with advice and practical information for women on the road. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$17.95 pb, 1-885211-06-6. 45% for 5-99. Travelers' Tales/ O'Reilly & Assoc., 101 Morris St., Sebastopol CA 95472; 800-998-9938. Also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

Maxine: A Literate Companion for Churlish Girls and Rakish Women is a stylishly produced, well-written, interesting and fun new magazine, with each issue devoted to exploring a new theme. We received issue no. 3 for review, which contains stories, essays, photos and comics on women and travel. The next issue ("which will hopefully be out before 1998, but I'm not holding my breath!" says co-editor and publisher Martha Bayne) will be on the topic of Crime and Punishment. *Maxine*, which was profiled in *A Girl's Guide to Taking Over the World* (St. Martin's Press), is now also on the Web: (<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~maxineab>). \$3 per issue. 60%. *Maxine*, PO Box 408774, Chicago IL 60640; 312-226-6690. Distributed by Small Changes, Desert Moon and DeBoers; 201-667-9300.

Newly revised: **The Self-Publishing Manual** by Dan Poynter (10th ed.). "The book is a must for those considering publishing as a business, for writers who want to investigate self publishing, and is eminently useful for its new and old ideas to those who have already begun to do it. A fine and handy guide by a fine and successful publisher." —*Small Press Review*. \$19.95 pb, 1-56860-047-X. 40% for 5+. Para Publishing, PO Box 8206-344, Santa Barbara CA 93118; 805-968-7277. Distributed by PGW.

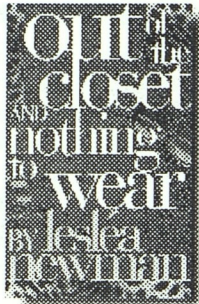
Take Stage! How to Direct and Produce a Lesbian Play by Carolyn Gage is a practical, hands-on

For Small Press Distributor information, please see page 87.

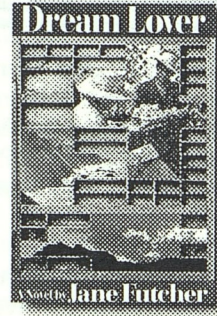
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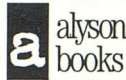
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guide for anyone directing and producing a play by, with, for or about lesbians by a woman who has been involved in every aspect of lesbian theater. Gage has founded and directed three theater companies, and is the author of *The Second Coming of Joan of Arc and Other Plays* and *Live Like There's No Tomorrow: Meditations for Women Leaving the Patriarchy*. \$38.50 pb, 0-8108-3208-9. 40% for 1-5; 22% for 6+. Scarecrow Press, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706; 800-462-6420. Direct only.

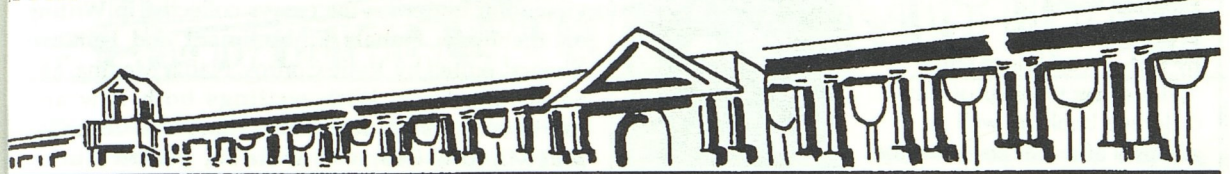


Living With Dogs: Tales of Love, Commitment, and Enduring Friendship by Henry Korman and Mary Ellen Korman captures the stories of dog lovers that demonstrate the unique bond between dogs and humans. It explores the life experiences of hundreds of dog owners, including the ups and downs, adventures, power struggles and peculiar characteristics that make these kinships joyful. An intelligent, thoughtful book for people who consider their dog to

be one of their best friends. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$13.95 pb, 1-885171-19-6, Wildcat Canyon Press. Distributed by PGW, also available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

In Boxing for Everyone: How to Get Fit and Have Fun With Boxing, Cappy Kotz guides the beginning and advanced boxer alike in experiencing the fitness and emotional management benefits of a boxing workout. She instructs readers on basic punches, footwork, skipping rope, and choosing and setting up boxing equipment. Kotz also provides a thorough overview of boxing techniques and practices plus solid, practical suggestions for improved performance. Valuable tips include developing a boxing regimen and avoiding injury. **Boxing For Everyone** is written in an empowering and easy-to-understand style addressing the unique needs, physiological and psychological, of female boxers. 103 illustrations. A great and fun resource! \$19.95 pb, 0-9657737-9-5. AmandaLore Publishing, 1111 E. Madison 3433, Seattle WA 98122; 206-320-1381. Distributed by Partners, also available from Koen, B&T and Ingram. ○

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller

Well, it's time for another column and the books are piling up all around me. I thought I'd try something new for those of you who want that quick reference but may not have time to read all my witty remarks! So, I'm devising a visual guide — here's the way it works.

The range is from 1–4 ****. One and two are more suited for general feminist bookstores while three and four would do better in stores with an academic audience.

* = suited for general audience or intro courses

** = general audience but getting more difficult

*** = getting ready for your doctorate

**** = people highly interested or involved in this field are likely to invest in this one

I will rate only the books I've actually seen. Know that this is not scientific — only my opinion based on a cursory glance. If I can't decide or haven't seen the book, I won't rate it. Please let me know if you find this rating system to be helpful. If it's too cumbersome, I won't continue to use it. Your feedback is appreciated. Another question: Would a list of University Presses' Web sites be worth it for me to compile?

I can be reached via email (mev@winternet.com) or by phone at Amazon Bookstore 612-338-6560. A note to publishers: please *don't* send me information via email — it will only get lost in my shuffle. I prefer to have all information come in hard copy via mail or fax.

BROADVIEW PRESS

Broadview Press is new to this column. They publish high-quality, trade-format paperback editions only of scholarly works. Their main office is in Peterborough, Canada (PO Box 1243, ON, K9J 7H5); 705-743-8990, fax 705-743-8353. They also have an

office in the U.S.: 3576 California Rd., Orchard Park NY 14127; 705-743-8990, fax 705-743-8353.

Counterbalance: Gendered Perspectives for Writing and Language, edited by Carolyn Logan, is a usable text — composition reader — for those who actively teach thinking, reading, and writing skills. Unlike most texts in this genre, this book presents a “counterbalance” — three-quarters of the text are written by women, it includes some focus on feminist agendas, and it encompasses writers of color exploring subjects of race, culture, and class. Though designed as an undergraduate textbook, including discussion topics and writing exercises, it may have some interest for those with a general interest in viewpoints of gender and language. \$26.95 pb, 1-55111-127-6.*



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The titles from Cambridge are highly academic, but I wanted to mention them for two reasons: two cover a subject not often handled (music) and one addresses a timely and hotly debated public policy issue (welfare). All these titles receive ****.

The newest title by Lucy Green, **Music, Gender, Education**, claims to be the first book to focus on the role of education in relation to music and gender. \$18.95 pb, 0-521-55522-1.

Of related interest and now available in paper: **Embodied Voices: Representing Female Vocality in Western Culture**, edited by Leslie Dunn and Nancy A. Jones. \$18.95, 0-521-58583-X.

Of interest to those deeply mired in the welfare debates: **Gender, Equality and Welfare States**, Diane Sainsbury. \$19.95 pb, 0-521-56579-0.

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—Lucy Rollin, Clemson University

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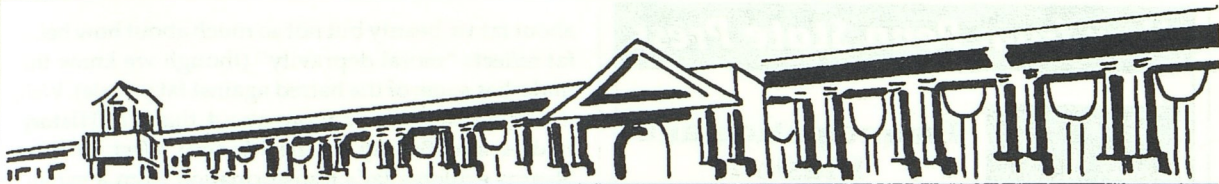
The female body has always been a contested site — a battleground for competing ideologies. This viewpoint underlies the essays collected in **Writing on the Body: Female Embodiment and Feminist Theory**, edited by Katie Conroy, Nadia Medina, and Sarah Stanbury. With writings both new and reprinted by such feminist thinkers as Catharine MacKinnon, Gloria Anzaldúa, Judith Butler, Monique Wittig, and Sojourner Truth to name a few, this collection explores the female body through representation, performance, sex, pornography, menstruation, anorexia, and so on. \$17.50 pb, 0-231-10545-2; \$49.50 cl, -10544-4.**

Despite the fact that Sappho was long ago embraced as a lesbian poet and that the term lesbian derives from Sappho's Lesbos, **Lesbian Desire in the Lyrics of Sappho** by Jane McIntosh Snyder is the *first* book (according to the jacket) to actually examine Sappho's poetry through the "lens of lesbian desire, focusing on the active female gaze in the text and the narrative voice..." With the reprinting of the original Greek text and detailed English translation and transliteration, this work is perhaps too scholarly for the casual reader. But this is an important work, showing men on the periphery of Sappho's consciousness where female erotic desire focuses on other females. \$29.50 cl, 0-231-09994-0.***



This is an important title from last Spring that I somehow managed to miss but wanted to be sure was mentioned. **Like Bread on the Seder Plate: Jewish Lesbians and the Transformation of Tradition** by Rebecca Alpert explores what it means to be both Jewish and lesbian, and suggests ways in which lesbians can reconcile the seemingly discordant elements of their identity. Alpert is one of the first women to be ordained a rabbi and is now openly lesbian. \$24.50 cl, 0-231-09660-7.**

If you're looking for that perfect quote to include in that card you're sending to your dearest friend, or a poem to send on a birthday, or a clever way to express your desire, turn to Emma Donoghue. In **Poems Between Women: Four Centuries of Love, Romantic Friendship, and Desire**, Donoghue



collects a selection of poems in which women present their affections for each other, as childhood playmates, romantic friends, and lovers. I really do wish, though, that the cover was a bit more attractive! \$24.95 cl, 0-231-10924-5.*

Of interest: **Lesbian Panic: Homoeroticism in Modern British Women's Fiction**, Patricia Juliana Smith. \$16.50 pb, 0-231-10621-1; \$49.50 cl, -10620-3.***

INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Of interest to stores with strong film and theater sections: **Feminism and Film**, Maggie Humm. \$16.95 pb, 0-253-21146-98; \$39.95 cl, -3334-2.****

Of interest for those with strong magazine sections: **Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies** brings together cultural studies and feminism and aims to provide a forum for an examination of cultural politics and discursive practices informed by feminist criticism. Published three times a year. \$12.95, ISSN 1040-7391.****

Of specialized interest: **To the Glory of Her Sex: Women's Roles in the Composition of Medieval Texts**, Joan Ferrante. \$19.95 pb, 0-253-21108-5; \$39.95 cl, -33254-0.****

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In **Beyond Gender: The New Politics of Work and Family**, Betty Friedan addresses some of the most crucial questions of the 90s — and proposes new ways of thinking about work, family, and community. She argues that women and men need to move forward from identity politics and gender-based, single-issue political activism. Without yielding on women's issues, Friedan calls for a transformation of the intellectual, political, and economic structures within which those issues are viewed. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$21.95 cl, 0-942875-84-6.

Of special interest: **An Army of Women: Gender and Politics in Gilded Age Kansas**, Michael Lewis Goldberg. \$39.95 cl, 0-8018-5562-4.***

MIT PRESS

Those who are captivated by the life, thought, and controversy surrounding Hannah Arendt will look forward to **Hannah Arendt: Twenty Years Later**, edited by Larry May and Jerome Kohn. This collection of 15 essays brings her work into dialogue with those philosophical views that are at center stage today — and includes an extensive bibliography. \$17.50 pb, 0-262-63182-2.****



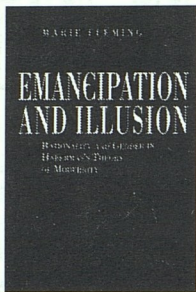
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Hey y'all. Those of us from the South will be interested in **Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South**, edited by John Howard, for a number of reasons — including interesting historical perspectives and visibility to an often maligned section of the country. But feminist booksellers *check it out!* There's a 40-page section about the life of Charis Books & More in Atlanta — complete with pictures! (I wish the one of Linda standing in front of the store in 1974 was a bit clearer, though.) "Family" stores in the South should be sure to stock this one. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-3560-6.**

Our store has a developed section of books on fat oppression, body image, food issues, and so on. Fat activists have produced much but there's more to do — and here's another front. There are lots of books

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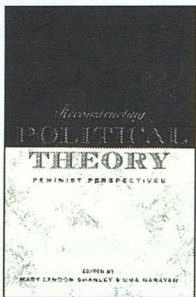


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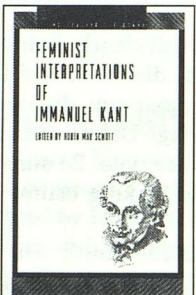
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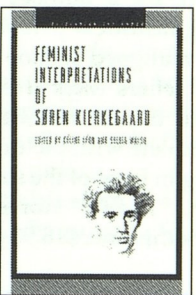


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about fat vs. beauty but not so much about how being fat reflects "moral depravity" (though we know this underlies some of the hatred against fat people). Well, if you want to know more about this, **Fat History: Bodies and Beauty in the Modern West** by Peter Stearns explores fat's transformation from a symbol of health and well-being to a sign of moral, psychological, and physical disorder. Pass me the ice cream while I try to take this in! \$25.95 cl, 0-8147-8069-5.**

At the end of the "Shameless Hussies" song we sing "...we are fighting for our rights and our sex...and our sex...and our sex." **New Sexual Agendas**, edited by Lynne Segal, challenges the notion that there are fixed sexual behaviors for men and women. This collection of essays includes writings from the perspectives of women's studies, literature, gender studies, cultural studies, history, politics, and education as well as from sociologists, medical doctors, and psychologists. \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-8075-X; \$45 cl, -8076-8.**

Women Transforming Politics: An Alternative Reader, edited by Cathy Cohen, Kathleen Jones, and Joan Tronto, starts with the idea that the full integration of women into politics presents a radical challenge to the nature of any political system. More importantly, it places at the center of this discussion the lives of poor and working class women, women of color, and those defined as "marginal." At a hefty 600 pages, this collection of articles by a variety of women from differing perspectives is essential for those interested in women's political empowerment. \$22.95 pb, 0-8147-1558-30.**



Ah. At last. One book many of us have been waiting for — the one that explores unapologetically, Virginia Woolf's love for women and the lesbian content of her writings. **Virginia Woolf: Lesbian Readings**, edited by Eileen Barrett and Patricia Cramer and a part of NYU Press' *The Cutting Edge: Lesbian Life and Literature* series, collects writings by those fascinated by Virginia Woolf as well as by Woolf scholars. Usable by academics, it's readable, refreshing, and provocative. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-1264-9; \$55 cl, -1263-0.**

I remember being aware, when I first came to feminism (late 70s), of the strong emphasis on self-defense. Those of us active in rape crisis, *Take Back the*



Night, and the battered women's movement seemed especially focused on issues of self-defense. In recent years it seems that the urgency of women's self-defense has waned, but **Real Knockouts: The Physical Feminism of Women's Self-Defense** by Martha McCaughy offers a refreshing and much-needed perspective. It addresses an ambivalence many feminists face — how to not be a helpless victim of abuse while embracing actions of violence including self-defense. **Real Knockouts** explores the connections between feminist theory and "a woman's balled fist," and reveals that the self-defense culture embodies a new form of feminism — one that changes how we understand gender politics, the female body, and feminism itself. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-5577-1.**

In a newly revised second edition, **Introducing Women's Studies**, edited by Victoria Robinson and Diane Richardson, provides the reader with an up-to-date introductory text that covers major debates in women's studies. New chapters focus on social policy, science and technology, and feminist research methodologies. This continues to be an important book for those interested in the academics of women's studies. \$19.95 pb, 0-8147-7494-6; \$55 cl, -7493-8.*

Queer theory — is it in danger of becoming just another category of theoretical inquiry? Just another academic discipline? So soon? **The Gay 90s: Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Formation in Queer Studies (Genders 26)**, edited by Thomas Foster, Carol Siegel, and Ellen Berry, addresses this potential problem. The essays collected here contrast older academic disciplines with newer, identity-based areas of study. \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-2673-9; \$55 cl, -2672-0.***

Looking for a first novel? Psychological thriller? Post-modern conundrum? Check out **Bye-Bye** — New York University Press Prize for Fiction — by Jane Ransom. \$17.95 cl, 0-8147-7490-3.*

Of related interest: **The Queer Renaissance: Contemporary American Literature and the Reinvention of Lesbian and Gay Identities**, Robert

McRuer (\$18.95 pb, 0-8147-5555-0; \$50 cl, -5554-2, ***); and **Queer Representations: Reading Lives, Reading Cultures**, Martin Duberman (\$22.95 pb, 0-8147-1883-3, **).



NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS

Jazz fans and those who like good biographies will enjoy **Billie Holiday** by Stuart Nicholson. Not only does this biography tell her life story but it also includes photographs, a complete discography, and most interestingly, a listing of songs composed or co-composed by Billie. \$15.95 pb, 1-55553-303-5.**

Louisa May Alcott on Race, Sex, and Slavery, edited by Sarah Elbert, collects for the first time in one volume Alcott's writings that support the abolition of slavery and champion the cause of women's rights. \$12.95 pb, 0-55553-307-8.**

Don't let the title of this next one scare you away. **Beyond Portia: Women, Law, and Literature in the United States**, edited by Jacqueline St. Joan and Annette Bennington McElhiney, is a pioneering collection that challenges the historical marginalization of women's lives in the canons of law and literature. Essays, short stories, poems, and personal narratives, written by such women as Lucille Clifton, Hisaye Yamamoto DeSoto, Judy Grahn, Joy Harjo, Audre Lorde, Valerie Miner, and Leslie Marmon Silko to name just a few, weave together a multicultural collage of experiences and subjects exploring women's relationships with the law. \$20 pb, 1-55553-306-X.***

Also of interest: **A Bride's Passage: Susan Hathorn's Year Under Sail**, Catherine Petroski. \$15.95 pb, 1-55553-297-7.****

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

When I first received the reading copy of **Feminism, Media, and the Law**, edited by Martha

Other Voices



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Renaissance writer Laura Cereta (1469-1499) presents feminist issues in a predominantly male venue—the humanist autobiography in the form of personal letters. Now available in English for the first time, these letters are a testament both to an individual woman and to enduring feminist concerns.

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Fineman and Martha McCluskey, I got a bit worried. Looking at the articles presented in double columns I wondered if I could make any sense of it. This collection of 23 articles is not only surprisingly readable, but the topics of discussion — hate radio, glamour magazines, movies of the week, "bad mothers" and welfare reform, lesbians and prostitutes, and rape on the soaps to name a few — are interesting as well. Overall, they explore how the media represents and constructs gender, law, and feminism. \$24.95 pb, 0-19-509629-0; \$45 cl, -509628-2.**

Gerda Lerner is perhaps one of the most important feminist historians, having written several groundbreaking books including *The Creation of the Patriarchy* and *The Creation of Feminist Consciousness*. As if talking to herself, Lerner's newest book, *Why History Matters: Life and Thought*, explores in twelve essays the importance of history and the vital role women have played in it. It includes her own personal reminiscences of her life as a Jewish refugee from Hitler's persecution, and innovative ideas about issues of race and class. \$30, 0195046447.**

Of specialized interest: *The Erotics of Talk: Women's Writing and Feminist Paradigms*, Carla Kaplan. \$17.95 pb, 0-19-509915-X; \$35 cl, -509914-1.****

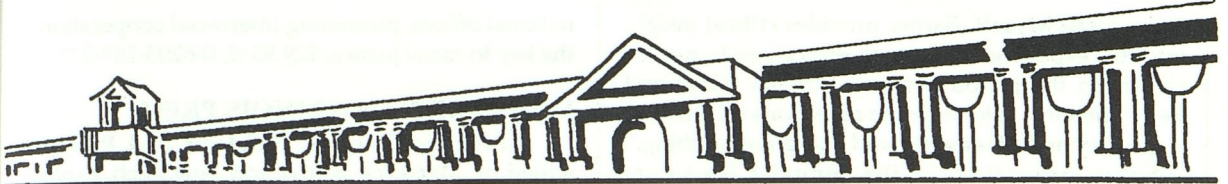


PENN STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Writing As Resistance: Four Women Confronting the Holocaust: Edith Stein, Simone Weil, Anne Frank, Etty Hillesum by Rachel Feldhay Brenner is a moving account of the life, work and ethics of four Jewish women caught in the Holocaust. "Brenner reveal[s] the essential connection between writing, resistance and dedication to life in the face of absolute evil...[and] how each of these women chose to bear witness to an ethic of compassion amidst a nightmare of brutality." —Alan L. Berger. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$26.50 cl, 0-271-01623-X.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
(SUNY)

Of specialized interest: *Compelling Knowledge: A Feminist Proposal for an Epistemology of the Cross*, Mary Solberg. \$18.95 pb, 0-7914-3380-3.****



TEACHER'S COLLEGE PRESS

Confronting Sexual Harassment: What Schools and Colleges Can Do by Judith Berman Brandenburg is one of those books that should be placed in the hands of administrators, counselors, and educators interested in creating safe learning environments for students and faculty. Not only does this book contain information on how to confront sexual harassment and create policy, it also includes suggestions for modeling ways for students to deal with sexual harassment both in school and in day-to-day life. Most helpful are the examples of sexual harassment policies. \$18.95 pb, 0-8077-3590-6.*



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

It's fun when we have an opportunity to see matriarchal animal behavior — especially if it informs how humans can and do interact with each other. **Bonobo: The Forgotten Ape** by Frans de Waal may have initially been passed over by feminist book buyers because of its strong emphasis on natural history and science. But look again. If you have a gender issues section, this study of bonobos could go there as well. The bonobo, least known of the great apes, is a female-centered, egalitarian species that has been dubbed the "make-love-not-war" primate by specialists. In bonobo society, females form alliances to intimidate males, and sexual behavior (including same sex sexuality) replaces aggression and serves many social functions. The species' most striking achievement is sensitivity to others. It has great pictures, too. Also see *FBN* Vol. 20 #2, page 40, for Carol's rave. \$39.95 cl, 0-520-20535-9.***

Now in paper: **A Woman Scorned: Acquaintance Rape on Trial** (with a new preface), Peggy Reeves Sanday. \$14.95, 0-520-21092-1.**

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

I have to admit, I do like it when University of Chicago re-issues articles previously published in *Signs* in a single volume based on a particular theme. It's nice to have all that information in one convenient volume. Like *Signs*, though, the work is extremely academic and perhaps not of much interest to the casual reader or those outside the field in question. **History and Theory: Feminist Research, Debates, Contestations**, edited by Barbara Laslett, Ruth-Ellen Joeres, et al., organizes feminist theoretical debates on historical research around issues of political economy and class, the "body" as material and discursive, and the power of language. \$22.50 pb, 0-226-46932-8; \$37.50 cl, -46930-1.****

Those with strong academic poetry and/or literary sections will want to include **Forms of Expansion: Recent Long Poems by Women** by Lynn Keller. Keller examines the poetry of Judy Grahn, Marilyn Hacker, Susan Howe, Sharon Dubiago, and others, revealing diverse traditions and feminist concerns. \$18.95 pb, 0-226-42971-7.****

New edition: **The Battered Child**, edited by Mary Edna Helfer, Ruth Kempe, and Richard Krugman. Fifth edition, revised and expanded. \$45 cl, 0-226-32627-6.

Collected Letters of a Renaissance Feminist, by Laura Cereta and edited by Diana Robin, furnishes a detailed portrait of an individual woman with enduring feminist concerns. \$19.95 pb, 0-226-10013-8; \$45 cl, -10011-1.

Of related interest: **The Worth of Women: Wherein Is Clearly Revealed Their Nobility and Their Superiority to Men**, by Moderata Fonte edited by Virginia Cox. \$17.95 pb, 0-226-25682-0; \$45 cl, -25681-2.***

Of additional interest: **The Story I Tell Myself: A Venture in Existentialist Autobiography** by Hazel E. Barnes. Hazel Barnes is best known for introducing French Existentialism to Americans through her translation of Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*. "In **The**

Story I Tell Myself, Barnes provides critical insight into the 'experience of women who chose to pursue careers in the period between Virginia Woolf and Betty Friedan'.... Her humane reflections on relationships (gay and otherwise), and aging are soothing." —*Kirkus*. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$29.95 cl, 0-226-03732-0.**

Of special interest: **The People's Lobby: Organizational Innovation and the Rise of Interest Group Politics in the United States, 1890-1925**, Elisabeth S. Clemens. \$19.95 pb, 0-226-10993-3; \$58 cl, -10992-5.***



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA PRESS

Grace Towns Hamilton and the Politics of Southern Change by Lorraine Nelson Spritzer is a biographical and historical look at an African American woman instrumental in the struggle for racial equality. Serving in the Georgia legislature from 1965-1984, Hamilton exercised considerable power as a leader in the Black struggle for local, state, and

national offices, promoting interracial cooperation as the key to racial justice. \$29.95 cl, 0-8203-189-2.**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

Academic Couples: Problems and Promises, edited by Marianne Ferber and Jane Loeb, explores how the careers and lives of academic couples differ from those of other academics — advantages/disadvantages, problems/opportunities. Couples include those who are Black, white, married, unmarried, and same sex. \$19.95 pb, 0-252-06619-7.***

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

As part of their Poets on Poetry series, Carol Muske has contributed **Women and Poetry: Truth, Autobiography, and the Shape of the Self**. Muske points out that in the present climate of truth-telling, autobiography, and testimony, the positioning of the self as autobiographical referent in poetry has become central to the reading of poetry by women. In this way, the poems of "testimony" have overshadowed the diverse variety and range of poems by women. Muske illustrates a split in women's poetry between

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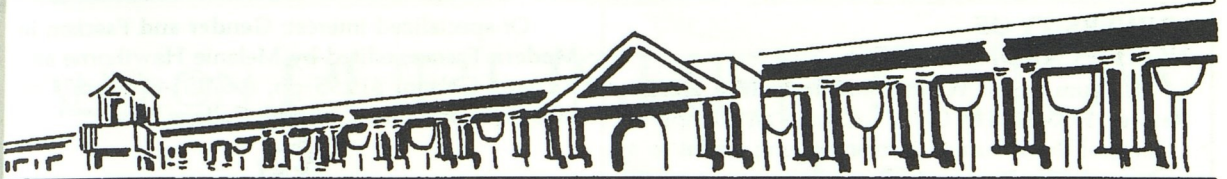
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those whose self stood as representative of truth or moral narrative, and those who continued to write as if the truth were fiction. For women writing poetry and those studying women poets, this could become an important point of reference. \$13.95 pb, 0-472-06624-2; \$39.50 cl, -09624.**



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

Third Wave Agenda: Being a Feminist, Doing Feminism, edited by Leslie Heywood and Jennifer Drake. Feminists born between the years of 1964 and 1973 look back at the accomplishments and failures of the past and plan for the challenges of the future. Drawing on the submerged histories of other feminisms, including Black feminism, womanism, and working-class feminism, these writers explore, among other current issues, popular music, interracial coalitions, and tensions between individual ambitions and collective action. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$17.95 pb, 0-8166-3005-4.

The Forgotten Queens of Islam by Fatima Mernissi. Though Islamic tradition holds that no Muslim state has ever been governed by a woman, Mernissi discovered female rulers existed, but that the proof has been ignored. Recovering the stories of 15 queens, this exploration tells how they acceded to the throne, how they governed and exercised their power, and how their forgotten reigns influence the way politics is practiced in Islam today. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$16.95 pb, 0-8166-2439-9.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI PRESS

I'm a bit too young to remember Kewpie dolls, but I have heard about them. Apparently, their creator, Rose O'Neill, was an accomplished artist who had

exhibited works in both Paris and New York. She was also a woman who preferred art, activism, and adventure to motherhood and marriage. Viewpoints and critiques of her work and life vary, but **The Story of Rose O'Neill: An Autobiography**, edited by Miriam Formanek-Brunell, exemplifies what happens to "bohemian" or independent women in historical studies. This is of interest to feminist historians and biographers but also an interesting read for those who like good biography. \$24.95 cl, 0-8262-1106-2.*

Of interest: **The Bedquilt and Other Stories** by Dorothy Canfield Fisher, edited with introduction and afterward by Mark Madigan. \$16.95 pb, 0-8262-1140-2.*

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS

Literature from University of Nebraska: **Breathe Something Nice: Stories**, Emily Hammond (\$13 pb, 0-87417-293-4, *); and **A History of the Garden: Poems**, Katherine Coles (\$10 pb, 0-87417-298-5, *).



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA PRESS

Wynema: A Child of the Forest, the only novel by S. Alice Callahan, was originally published in 1891 and is the first novel known to have been written by a woman of American Indian descent. Set against the sweeping and often tragic cultural changes that affected southeastern native peoples during the late 19th century, it tells the story of a lifelong friendship between two women from vastly different backgrounds — Wynema Harjo, a Muscogee Indian, and Genevieve Weir, a Methodist teacher from a genteel Southern family. \$9.95 pb, 0-8032-6378-3.**

Of related interest: **Some Went West** by Dorothy Johnson describes the great Western experience of a number of 19th-century women of widely different situations and fates. \$10 pb, 0-8032-7598-6.**

**UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA PRESS**

Radium Girls: Women and Industrial Health Reform, 1910–1935 by Claudia Clark is an example of a doctoral thesis turned into something useful to a larger audience. It recounts the experiences of a group of women workers hired to apply luminous paint to watch faces and instrument dials who found themselves among the first victims of radium poisoning. The thesis then makes connections to social and political factors including workplace control, government intervention, and industry-backed medical research. It's still a pretty academic book but perhaps of interest to those interested in ecological debates and worker safety. \$17.95 pb, 0-8078-4640-6.***

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

African Feminism: The Politics of Survival in Sub-Saharan Africa, edited by Gwendolyn Mikell, gathers together several essays that illustrate the feminism emerging in Africa — one that is distinctly heterosexual, pronatal, and concerned about issues such as access to land, right to own property, living wages and safe working conditions, health care, and power. What becomes clear is that African feminism is radically different than what has developed in the West. \$19.95 pb, 0-8122-1580-X.***

I used to be a “theologian” so I know I’m in trouble when the title of a book sends me to the dictionary. **Sacred Fictions: Holy Women and Hagiography in Late Antiquity** by Lynda Coon looks at the biography of women saints in antiquity to reveal the paradoxical portrayal of women’s roles in early Christian centuries. I’m not sure if my fascination with the introduction to this book triggers memories of my upbringing as a Catholic or what. This is a **** book but Catholics (or even ex-Catholics) still intrigued by the lives of saints might find it interesting. \$39.95 cl, 0-8122-3371-9.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

il cuore: the heart: New and Selected Poems documents chronologically the last three decades of Kathleen Fraser’s poetry. Her use of language innovation as a feminist strategy, her inventiveness, and unusual courage have established Fraser as an important experimental writer. \$16.95 pb, 0-8195-2245-7; \$35 cl, -2244-9. (Imprint of Wesleyan University Press.)**

Of specialized interest: **Gender and Fascism in Modern France**, edited by Melanie Hawthorne and Richard Golsan. \$19.95 pb, 0-87451-814-8; \$35 cl, -812-1. (Imprint of Dartmouth College Press.)****



And a few that got lost in the shuffle...

DUKE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The first novel to be published in English by this celebrated Mexican author, **Señora Rodríguez and Other Worlds** by Martha Cerda is a collection of vignettes, anecdotes, and character sketches that reflect her unique interpretation of magical realism and explore people’s relationships to each other — which, in Señora Rodríguez’ world, transcend time and international boundaries. This book defies categorization in the realm of literary genres — it is in turn tragic and comic, fantastical, and realistic. Cerda’s stories are often unbelievable but always interesting. **Señora Rodríguez and Other Worlds** is reminiscent of Sandra Cisneros’ *House on Mango Street* or *Woman Hollering Creek* — a collection of stories that, although they may not seem related to each other, raise questions about the power of language and its ability to affect reality. \$12.95 pb, 0-8223-1890-3.

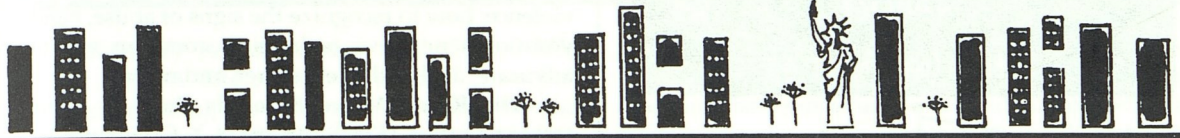
—Danielle Bauter/FBN

GUILFORD PRESS

Women’s Growth in Diversity: More Writings from the Stone Center, edited by Judith V. Jordan, follows Stone Center’s *Women’s Growth in Connection*, which helped shape a revolutionary approach to the study of contemporary women’s lives, and has 45,000 copies in print. The Stone Center at Wellesley College is recognized as a leading forum for the exploration of the varied and distinctive issues that affect women and their psychological development. In this second compilation of writings, renowned teachers and therapists associated with the Stone Center devote attention to the ways that diversity can enhance relationships between women and between women and men. “A brilliant and essential book, grounded in compassion and rooted in the real world of female experience.” —Harriet Lerner, Ph.D. \$18.95 pb, 1-57230-206-2.

—JT O

AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Jenn Tust

ADDISON WESLEY

Working Fathers: New Strategies for Balancing Work and Family by James Levine and Todd Pittinsky. Wow — a book that looks at working fathers in the same light that most folks think of the term “working mothers.” Wonderful. \$23, 0-201-14938-9.

When Mothers Work: Loving Our Children Without Sacrificing Ourselves by Joan Peters. A look at the emotional and psychological restructuring essential for all mothers today. Offers hands-on strategies for mothers struggling to balance work, family and self. “Good mothering does not require mothers to focus so intensely on their children that they give up crucial parts of their identities.” \$24, 0-201-14794-6.

East to the Dawn: The Life of Amelia Earhart by Susan Butler. A new biography of the first lady of aviation. The most comprehensive account to date of Earhart’s remarkable life: as fashion plate, lecturer, educator, and of course, pilot. \$25, 0-201-31144-5.



Rebirth of the Goddess by Carol P. Christ. Historically, we have learned about the masculine God while the patriarchal religion has symbolically slayed the Goddess. “Ultimately, **Rebirth of the Goddess** reveals that the Goddess is the power of intelligent embodied love that is the ground of all being — and all beings are interdependent in the web of life — and offers a healing theology for dismantling patriarchy, building community, and living spiritually.” \$24 cl, 0-201-14398-4.

— Barb Dube, *Heartland Books/Winthrop WA and Dorothy Holland*

ALGONQUIN

Yo! by Julia Alvarez. Yolanda, or Yo, is resented by friends and family for using their lives as material for her books. In this entrancing novel by the author of *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* the “characters” get the chance to tell *their* side of the story. “The voices of Yo’s family and friends are magical...the writing is animated and wonderfully imaginative; the characters jump off the page.” —*Kirkus*. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$18.95 cl, 1-56512-163-5.

My Life as a Boy: A Woman’s Story by Kim Chernin. How did Chernin, a wife and mother in her thirties, begin turning into a boy — a boy full of mischief and recklessness who acts before he thinks? This book explores what could happen if the person who offers passion and intimacy happens to be of the same gender as the person who seeks it. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$16.95 cl, 1-56512-163-5.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY

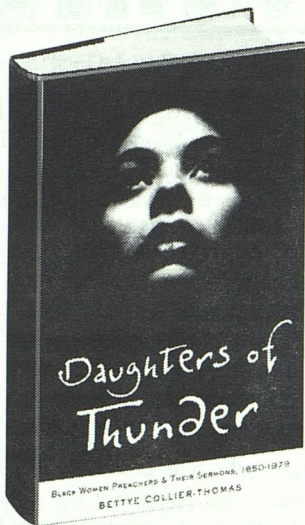
Generations: A Century of Women Speak About Their Lives by Myriam Miedzian and Alisa Malinovich, foreword by Gloria Steinem. “An extraordinary record of the lives of American women over the course of the 20th century. Written in their own words — often moving, always enlightening, **Generations** tells us both how far we have come and how far we have yet to go.” —Ruth Sidel. Women of every ethnic group and social background trace the profound changes that have occurred in their lives. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$27.50 cl, 0-87113-687-3.

BALLANTINE

Romancing the Shadow: Illuminating the Dark Side of the Soul by Connie Zweig and Steve Wolf.

Daughters of Thunder
Black Women Preachers and Their Sermons,
1850-1979

Bettye Collier-Thomas



Hear the voices of
 African American
 women preachers
 who transformed
 their world.

ISBN 0-7879-0918-1
 Hardcover \$25.00



JOSSEY-BASS PUBLISHERS
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Distributed to the trade by Simon & Schuster

(\$27.95, 0-345-41739-9.) These Jungian psychotherapists offer modern parables for reconnecting with our dark sides.

Foggy Mountain Breakdown, and Other Stories by Sharyn McCrumb. (\$22.50, 0-345-41493-4.) Chilling suspense alternates with evocative character portraits and compelling narratives that embrace the Southern Appalachian locales and themes of McCrumb's wonderful writing.

Pope Joan by Donna Woolfolk Cross. (\$12.95, 0-345-41626-0.) Now in paper. A story of triumph and tragedy, of an extraordinary heroine whose existence has been denied for a thousand years. She disguised herself as a man and monk, and rose to be named the Pope. "An irresistible tale." —CS/FBN. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog.

To Be an Anchor in the Storm: A Guide for Families and Friends of Abused Women by Susan Brewster. (\$12.95, 0-345-41719-4.) A hands-on guide written for people who want to help a battered friend or loved one. A comprehensive education on domestic violence: how to recognize the signs of abuse, handle your own negative feelings, become an effective advocate, deal with the batterer, and more.

The River Where Blood Is Born by Sandra Jackson-Opoku. (\$25, 0-345-39514-X, One World.) "In the tradition of Gloria Naylor and Isabel Allende, a mystical novel that chronicles the generations of one family's remarkable women. Takes us on a mythic journey along the river of one family's history, from ancient Africa into today's America."

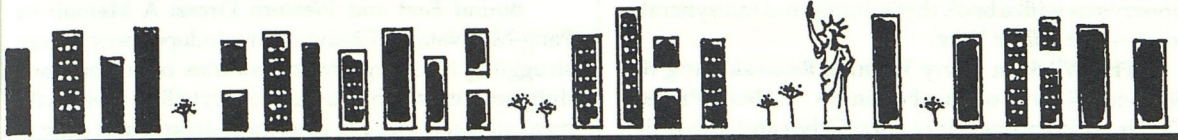
Kinfolks by Kristin Lattany. (\$10.95, 0-345-41720-8, One World.) Now in paper. A *Black First Wives Club*. Funny and poignant; a touching novel about two African American women, their two children and the romantic past that they share.

Now in paper: **In Before Women Had Wings** by Connie May Fowler, Bird Jackson fancies herself the girlfriend of a dime store picture of Jesus, and embarks upon a spiritual quest for salvation, as the chaos of her home life plunges her into a stony silence. 1996 Southern Book Critics Circle Award. \$12, 0-449-91144-6. —DH, LM

BANTAM DOUBLEDAY DELL

In Winona's Web: A Novel of Discovery, Priscilla Cogan presents psychologist Dr. Meggie O'Connor, who has left her hectic New York life for scenic Leelanau Peninsula on Lake Michigan. Soon, Winona Pathfinder, an elderly Sioux medicine woman who has announced to her stunned family that she intends to die in two months, becomes O'Connor's new patient. "Cogan is a masterful storyteller... A revealing look into the world of Native American beliefs and spirituality, written with impressive knowledge and respect." —*New Phoenix*. \$12 pb, 0-385-49048-8, Doubleday.

Do They Hear You When You Cry by Fauziya Kasinga with Layli Bashir and Gini Kopecky. This true story of persecution, friendship and triumph, chronicles the struggles of Fauziya, who flees her African homeland to escape female genital mutilation, only to be locked up in American prisons for 16 months. \$24.95 cl, 0-385-31832-4.



Perfidia by Judith Rossner. (\$23.95 cl, 0-385-48427-5; A Nan A. Talese book.) An electrifying story of a mother and a daughter which reveals the complex and intense undercurrents of hostility and competition that often flow beneath mother-daughter relationships.

Everyday Revolutionaries: Working Women and the Transformation of American Life by Sally Helgesen. (\$24.95 cl, 0-385-48025-3, Doubleday, January.) Told through the voices and experiences of working women who have long been balancing work, children, community and their spiritual lives, this book is a clear-eyed look at the changes in society brought about by the entrée of women into the work force. In a rich portrait of one Chicago suburb, Sally Helgesen argues that women — not computers, not pop culture, not the end of the Cold War — are the driving force in the transformation of America.

Married Women Who Love Women by Carren Strook. (\$23.95 cl, 0-385-48825-4, Doubleday, January.) After 27 years of a happy — and ongoing — marriage, the author fell in love with another woman. In this book she interviews over 100 women of diverse backgrounds, as well as their husbands and children, and shows that this situation is not as uncommon as some would believe.

Foreign Correspondence: A Pen Pal's Journey from Down Under to All Over by Geraldine Brooks. (\$22.95 cl, 0-385-48269-8; Anchor, January.) A memoir of the author's idyllic girlhood in the middle-class Western suburbs of Sydney, Australia in the 60s and 70s. As a teen, Brooks (*Nine Parts of Desire*) formed pen pal friendships with correspondents in France, the Middle East and New Jersey. This led her to a career as a foreign correspondent, and as a young woman she decided to track down the pen pals that had enriched her life and shaped her very being. The publisher compares this book to Jill Ker Conway's *The Road from Coorain*.

Release 2.0: A Design for Living in the Digital Age by Esther Dyson. A view of the new digital society providing some ways to think about its consequences in our lives. Dyson addresses fundamental

conflicts in the spread of digital communication — between personal privacy and society's interest in openness, between security and freedom, and between and commerce and community. \$25 cl, 0-7679-0011-1, Broadway.

Vegetarian Cooking for Everyone by Deborah Madison. (\$35 cl, 0-7679-0014-6, Bantam.) A comprehensive, beautifully illustrated and innovative new cookbook, from the founding chef of the legendary Greens restaurant in San Francisco and award-winning author of *The Greens Cookbook* and *The Savory Way*.

Notes from an Incomplete Revolution by Meredith Maran. For many, feminism of the 90s is a far cry from feminism of the past. Maran touches on the many roles we play today, often with humor but always with feeling, and addresses the burdens our successes have brought. Women today will feel relief, sisterhood, validation, pain — everything that this delightful book can give. \$22.95 cl, 0-553-09952-3, Bantam.

Now in paper: **Light Years** by Le Anne Schreiber. (\$11, 0-385-48943-9; Anchor.) "This is spare and intense writing that speculates about why we are the way we are, and how we are formed by our own thoughts. Few have either the aptitude or the opportunity for such reflection. To share it is a rare privilege." —*Publishers Weekly*. (Note: Le Anne Schreiber was the first female editor of the *New York Times* sports section and then became the deputy editor of the *New York Times Book Review*.)



My Sister's Bones by Cathi Hanauer. (\$10.95 tp, 0-385-31704-2, Delta.) Cathi Hanauer strips away the veneer of a "perfect" family to reveal the subtle cruelties and concessions of love, and creates a memorable portrait of a remarkable young woman who must abandon the safety net of illusion as she reaches for adulthood. "Cathi Hanauer in her elegant and simple first novel, **My Sister's Bones**, works a miracle. She gives power and dignity to the subject of anorexia and

presents us with a book that is funny and idiosyncratic too." —*The Village Voice*.

The Witch in Every Woman: Reawakening the Magical Nature of the Feminine to Heal, Protect, Create and Empower by Laurie Cabot and Jean Mills. An empowering book for women, with spells, magical recipes and Celtic lore about reawakening the ancient wisdom within, from renowned author and High Priestess Laurie Cabot. \$12.95, 0-385-31649-8, Delta Trade.

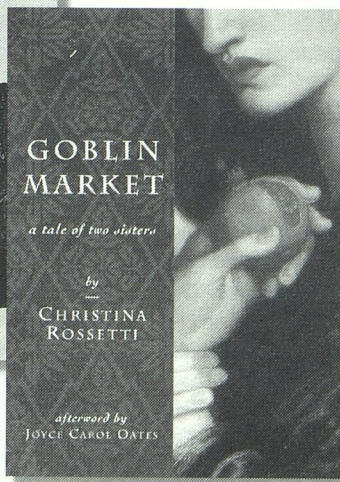
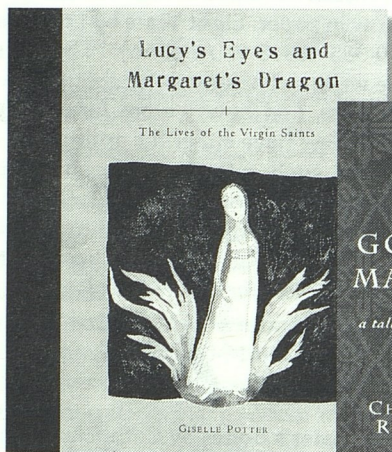
Grandmother's Gift of Memories: An African-American Family Keepsake by Danita Rountree Green. A keepsake to record family facts and history — illustrated to evoke the rich tradition of quilt making. Designed to be filled by the grandmother of a baby. \$16.95, 0-553-06746-X, Broadway.

Bound Feet and Western Dress: A Memoir by Pang-Mei Natasha Chang. Shows independent women struggling to emerge from centuries of customs and duty, and reveals the power of storytelling itself, as the great aunt confides her innermost dreams and demons to the author. \$12.95, 0-385-47964-6, Anchor.

Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood. Takes us back in time and into the life of one of the most notorious women of the 19th century. Grace Marks is serving a life sentence after a stint in a lunatic asylum, for her involvement in the murders of her employer and his mistress. Another marvelous book from one of my [Dorothy's] favorite authors. \$12, 0-385-49044-5, Anchor.

Kissing God Goodbye: Poems 1991–1996 by June Jordan. Jordan, the author of 23 books and

Feminists Before Their Time



Lucy's Eyes and Margaret's Dragon

The Lives of the Virgin Saints
By Giselle Potter
\$17.95 hardcover

Wonderfully told and delicately illustrated with marvelous original watercolors, these stories of 13 virgin saints are a potent and inspiring tribute to female strength.

Goblin Market

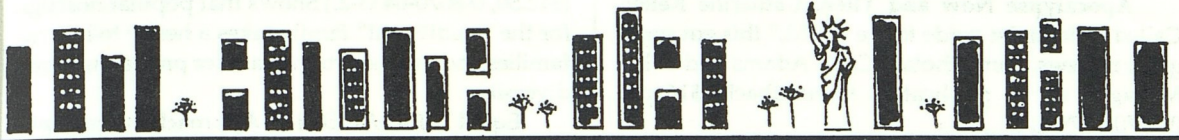
A Tale of Two Sisters
By Christina Rossetti
Paintings by Dante Gabriel Rossetti
Afterword by Joyce Carol Oates
\$14.95 hardcover

A beautiful keepsake edition of Christina Rossetti's poetic masterpiece, this sensuous tale of seduction offers a startling glimpse of the depths of the Victorian psyche.

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recipient of the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Writers Award, writes about love, loss, feminism, family, politics, and civil disobedience, and explores the universal chord that ties us all together. \$12, 0-385-49032-1, Anchor.

The Hand I Fan With by Tina Ansa. An absolutely delicious love story. Author of *Ugly Ways* and *Baby of the Family*. \$11.95, 0-385-47601-9, Anchor.

Seeing the Crab: A Memoir of Dying Before I Do by Christina Middlebrook conveys the physical and emotional ordeal of coming to terms with her own imminent death from metastasized breast cancer. \$12.95, 0-385-48865-3, Anchor.

My Mother/My Self: The Daughter's Search for Identity by Nancy Friday. 20th anniversary edition, includes new introduction. \$12.95, 0-385-32015-9, Delta Trade.

Hard Questions, Heart Answers: Sermons and Speeches by Bernice King. Bernice is the youngest daughter of Martin Luther and Coretta Scott King, an ordained minister and an attorney. \$11, 0-7679-0037-5, Broadway. —DH, LM, BD, JT



BEACON

Note: Beacon Press titles are now distributed by Ballantine Books and combine for discount with their other books.

The Healing Connection, Jean Baker Miller. An analysis of how women's relationships shape psychological health, how our connections lead to psychological growth. \$24 cl, 0-8070-2920-3.

Aunt Carmen's Book of Practical Saints, Pat Mora. The recent National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship poet (one of an endangered species), Pat Mora models these poems on her elderly aunt and her prayers to saints. Catalog says national advertising and author appearances. \$20 cl, 0-8070-7206-0.

Twenty years ago **Toward a New Psychology of Women** by Jean Baker Miller and Irene Pierce Stiver

was revolutionary for explaining how the psychological development of women reflects the social and political culture in which we live — now it's in a second edition for a new generation of women. \$12.50 pb, 0-8070-2909-2.

New in paper: **Choosing to Lead**, Constance H. Buchanan. Rather than blaming women for a "crisis in the nation's values" the public can benefit from a redefining of American values and the leadership of women. \$15 pb, 0-8070-2003-6.

Cravings: A Sensual Memoir, Jyl Lynn Felman. This title will be in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog, so stock up! I got an advance copy and it looks good. The author of *Hot Chicken Wings* writes a memoir of growing up the youngest in a Dayton, Ohio Jewish family, a family which couldn't talk about feelings. She remembers her obsessive love for her mother, the taste of her cooking, and the grief she felt when her mother died. \$21 cl, 0-8070-7074-2.

Making More Waves: New Asian American Writing edited by Elaine H. Kim, Lilia V. Villanueva and Asian Women United of California, with a foreword by Jessica Hagedorn. The title doesn't specify women but this *is* a collection of writings by women, and it will also be in our Fall Catalog. The first anthology was published in 1989, *Making Waves*. \$18 pb, 0-8070-59137.

Walk Tall: Affirmations for People of Color. Readings draw on traditions of Native, Asian American and Latino communities as well as African American. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and *Cinco de Mayo* are included as well as the lesser known June-teenth. The catalog says this book sold 100,000 copies through a specialty house. \$12 pb, 0-8070-2811-8.

Rooted Against the Wind, Gloria Wade-Gayles. New in paperback, this memoir by the author of *Pushed Back to Strength* is about racism and sexism from a spiritual perspective. \$12 pb, 0-8070-0939-3.

Also new in paper is **Life in a Day**, Doris Grumbach. I did not sell this in hardback, but will try this meditation on age and memory in paper. \$10 pb, 0-8070-7089-0.

Apocalypse Now and Then, Catherine Keller. Called a "feminist guide to the world," this got some good reviews from scholars Carol Adams and Sallie McFague on its publication in hardback. \$16 pb, 0-8070-6779-2.

Fertile Ground: Women, Earth and the Limits of Control, Irene Diamond. A call to women to recognize the dangers of technological control over our bodies and over the earth. Foreword by Starhawk. Diamond also wrote *Reweaving the World*. \$14 pb, 0-8070-6773-3.

—Patty Callaghan,
Brigit Books

Woman the Hunter by Mary Zeiss Stange. This is a compelling, provocative, and spiritual look at one woman's experience hunting. Yes, hunting. While women have hunted for thousands of years, we have forgotten that millions still do. **Woman the Hunter** asserts that if we view ourselves as "a part of nature... then hunting takes on symbolic value for us all." Though fascinating and thought-provoking, this book might not be for everyone. \$25 cl, 0-8070-4638-8.

The End of the Novel of Love by Vivian Gornick. Twelve essays explore the writings of Jean Rhys, Willa Cather, and Clover Adams, to name a few. Gornick asserts that romantic pairings as salvation can no longer make great literature. Are we becoming too cynical or are we just asserting our rights as individual women, fully complete without expecting or accepting happily-ever-after? Interesting look at literature's dilemma — love vs. self. \$20 cl, 0-8070-6222-7.

Point Last Seen: A Woman Tracker's Story is the true story of Hannah Nyala's survival and the empowering skill of tracking that finally brought her spiritual and physical safety. After seven years of physical and psychological abuse at the hands of her husband, Nyala escaped with her two children. But they were *still* far from safe; Nyala's ex-husband continued to menace, threaten, and abuse them, and even kidnapped the children on more than one occasion. Nyala turned to the wilderness for spiritual survival and used her self-taught tracking skills to join a search-and-rescue team in a national state park where she developed the expertise that allowed her to find other people's lost children. Ultimately, she was able to retrieve her own children as well. A must carry! \$21 cl, 0-8070-7092-0.

In the Name of the Family: Rethinking Family Values in the Postmodern Age by Judith Stacey.

(\$12.50, 0-8070-0433-2.) Shows that popular nostalgia for the "traditional" family takes a heavy toll on real families and makes a strong case for protecting family diversity.

Equal Value: An Ethical Approach to Economics and Sex by Carol Robb. (\$14, 0-8070-6505-6.) An incisive exploration of economic discrimination against women, and the policy and ethical reforms that could create a more just future.

—DH, BD, JT

BERKLEY

Best of Sisters in Crime edited by Marilyn Wallace. Mary Higgins Clark, Diane Mott Davidson, Sue Grafton, Sara Paretsky, and many more in one handsome volume! \$21.95 cl, 0-425-16060-2.

Stumbling Toward Enlightenment by Barbara Lewis-Marco. A unique and deeply inspirational book that takes us from crisis to understanding. A beautiful gift for yourself or anyone you love. \$14, 0-399-52348-0, Perigee.

The Pull of the Moon by Elizabeth Berg. Fifty-year-old Nan leaves behind home and husband to take a second look at life and learn how to live it all over again. \$6.50 pb, 0-515-12089-8, Jove. —DH



CARROLL & GRAF

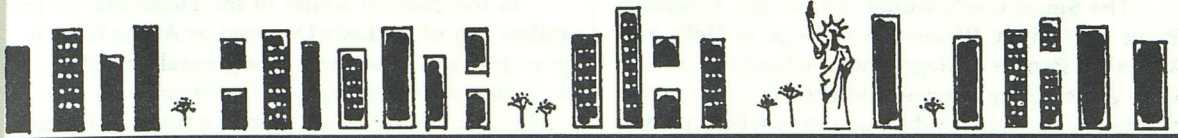
Flowers for Mei-Ling by Lorraine Lachs. Chinese by birth, Eurasian by blood, Mei-Ling's extraordinary life is a mirror of our time. Born in China in 1949, the year of the red army's entry into Beijing, she grows to womanhood amid the violent dogma and numbing brutality unleashed by the cultural revolution. \$24 cl, 0-7867-0414-4.

Deadly Women edited by Jan Grape, Dean James and Ellen Nehr. (\$19.95, 0-7867-0468-3.) An oversized book to celebrate the large talents and huge appeal of women mystery writers. Contains articles by and about Mary Higgins Clark, Barbara Michaels, Patricia Cornwell, Sara Paretsky, Marcia Muller, and others. Great gift item for feminist mystery lovers.

—DH

CAROL PUBLISHING GROUP

Whoopi Goldberg: Her Journey from Poverty to Mega Stardom by James Parish. (\$22.50, 1-55972-



431-5.) From a school dropout and drug user, this book follows Whoopi to stardom. Includes 24 pages of photographs. An interesting read — should be one hardback biography we can actually sell! —DH



FABER & FABER

In *A Child Out of Alcatraz* Tara Ison paints a portrait of the life of a girl growing up on the prison isle of Alcatraz in the late 40s and early 50s. Olivia experiences both the isolation of being the only child her age and the dark shadows of her father's work as the violence and menace of a prison guard's life slowly envelops his family. Disturbing, dark, and original — an awesome first novel. \$22.95 cl, 0-571-19910-0.

Hers 2: Brilliant New Fiction by Lesbian Writers edited by Terry Wolverton (*Bailey's Beads*) with Robert Drake is the second installment in the Hers series. This collection of 21 stories is full of complex love affairs, casual sex, intense emotions, and relationships of all kinds. Breast-cancer, ex-lovers of best friends, mysterious new lovers, and other issues addressed in this collection are relevant to all women today. Contributors include Mary Gaitskill, Judy Grahn, Gerry Gomez Pearlberg, and Carla Tomaso. Expensive at \$15.95 in paper. 0-571-109909-7. —JT

FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her Doctors, and an American Tragedy by Anne Fadiman. (\$23 cl, 0-374-26781-2.) When three-month-old Lia Lee arrived in the emergency room of a California hospital in the middle of an epileptic seizure, her doctors felt confident of the best way to treat her: they prescribed anticonvulsants. Lia's parents, immigrants from a Laotian hilltribe, called her illness *qaug dab peg* — the spirit catches you and you fall down — and ascribed it to the wandering of her soul. According to their culture, performing animal sacrifices was the way to heal Lia. A tragic

meditation on medical culture: its rationality, its devotion, its authority — and its inelasticity when faced with a culture such as the Hmong's, which is not rational and does not acknowledge that authority.

Now in paper: **Housekeeping** by Marilynne Robinson. (\$11, 0-374-52518-8; Noonday.) After the death of their mother, Ruth and Lucille are raised first by their grandmother, then two comically fumbling great-aunts, and finally Sylvie, the transient sister of their mother. This is a beautiful, odd, dream-like novel — if you haven't read it yet do so immediately! One of my [Lisa's] all-time favorite hand-sells. "**Housekeeping** is a quiet, humorous, beautiful book filled with what I can only call the ecstasy of wisdom. It turns eccentricity into poetry, praises the orphan in each of us, transforms everyday life into a kind of sacred myth. I think there are few novels published since mid-century to compare with **Housekeeping** for sheer perfection of language and for conveying what it means to be human. It is a work of pure grace." —John Hawkes.

A Whole Other Ball Game: Women's Literature on Women's Sport edited by Joli Sandoz. (\$13 pb, 0-374-52521-8; Noonday.) A collection of short stories, poems and novel excerpts that deal with all aspects of women's competitive sports. Contributors include Toni Cade Bambara, Carol Anshaw, Pat Griffin, Adrienne Rich, Marge Piercy and Ellen Gilchrist.

My Brother by Jamaica Kincaid. (\$21 cl, 0-374-21681-9.) Jamaica Kincaid's brother Devon Drew died of AIDS in 1996 at the age of 33. This is a searing, poetic and heartbreaking recounting of his life, as well as the story of Kincaid's family on the island of Antigua. **My Brother** is also available on audio, unabridged and read by the author, from Penguin. (\$24.95, 4 cassettes, 6 hours, 0-14-086737-6.)

Just As I Thought by Grace Paley. (\$23 cl, 0-374-18060-1.) Paley describes this book as "A collection of articles, reports and talks representing about thirty years of political and literary activity with a couple of occasional glances over my shoulder into disappearing family and childhood."

The Smart Girl's Guide to College: A Serious Book Written by Women in College to Help You Make the Perfect College Choice edited by Cristina Page gives young women a source of advice that is tailored specifically to their concerns when making the difficult choice of which school to attend. Each essay is written by a woman in college and provides perspectives on factors to consider from type of school and location, to campus politics and social issues. The book also shows how to find out about what the brochures and campus tours won't tell, including crime, sources of financial aid just for women, and the best college entrance exams for girls. Savvy, hip and honest! I really enjoyed it! \$12 pb, 0-374-52514-5. —LM, JT

FOUR WALLS EIGHT WINDOWS

Women & Madness: 25th Anniversary Edition by Phyllis Chesler. (\$15, 1-56858-096-7.) A feminist classic — essential reading. Includes Chesler's new introduction, showing how this work remains frighteningly up to date! —DH

GUILFORD PRESS

Growing Up in a Lesbian Family by Fiona L. Tasker and Susan Golombok. Interviews of grown children born in heterosexual partnerships yet raised in lesbian households hold appeal for many women, yet this book is not for the lay-person. Highly statistical, this is a very academic book. It does contain extremely pertinent and important information, yet it isn't light reading. It's just not for my coffee table. \$26.95 cl, 1-57230-170-8. —BD

HARCOURT BRACE

In **Women on Divorce: A Bedside Companion** edited by Penny Kaganoff and Susan Spano, 14 notable women writers share their experiences with divorce. Ellen Gilchrist considers the psychology of mate selection. Alix Kates Schulman and Anne Roiphe discuss the effect of the womens' movement on their marriages. Ann Patchett describes how she rebuilt her life after ending a strict Catholic marriage in which death was (officially) the only way out. And Carol Shields argues that a long marriage can be "as complex, as potentially dynamic, and as open to catharsis as the most shattering divorce." \$12 pb, 0-15-600462-3.

In the court at Kyoto in the Heian era, in **The Pillow Boy of the Lady Onogoro** by Alison Fell, Onogoro, poet and concubine of the general Motosuke, has a problem achieving orgasm. To overcome it, she hides blind Oyu, the stable boy, behind a screen at the head of her bed. While Motosuke makes love to Onogoro, Oyu arouses her by whispering wildly erotic stories in her ear. In addition to bringing her to orgasm, Oyu's tales help Onogoro see her situation under the general's dominion more clearly and lead her to take action. "Fell's identifiable lyric gifts reverberate throughout this...clever and elegantly erotic novel." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review). \$12 pb, 0-15-600468-2. —JT

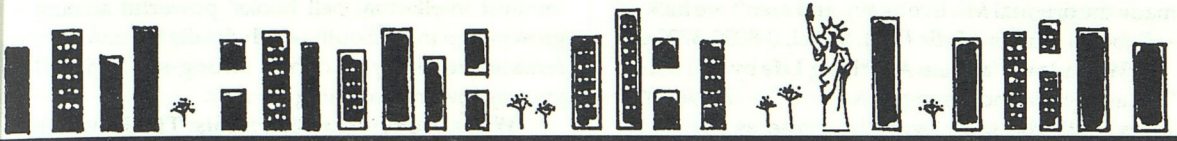


HARPERCOLLINS

Plain Seeing by Sandra Scofield. (\$23 cl, 0-06-017342-4.) At the heart of **Plain Seeing** is the myth of beautiful Emma Laura, whose Hollywood dreams are destroyed by the birth of a child. Twenty-five years later, that child, Lucy, is recovering from a terrible injury when her lover and their daughter decide to leave. Lucy, whose whole life has been haunted by her mother's early death, flees to her Aunt Opal in Texas to begin a quest to understand her mother's young life. What she finds allows her to face her perennial grief and begin to live a true and present life.

Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race by Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph.D. (\$23 cl, 0-465-09127-X.) Psychiatrist Beverly Tatum (*Assimilation Blues: Black Families in a White Community*) presents the idea of race identity as a positive developmental factor and a vital component in the development of young people of color. Recognizing the unique challenges facing Black adolescents, she asserts it is all right, even necessary, for these children to have a strong sense of belonging even if it requires a period of segregation.

Nine Gates: Entering the Mind of Poetry by Jane Hirshfield. (\$20 cl, 0-06-017456-0.) In this collection of essays, which is both a primer for the general reader as well as a manual for the working writer, Jane Hirshfield illuminates the craft and mind of poetry, and shows poetry as a path to knowledge and transformation in contemporary life. Harper is also



publishing **The Lives of the Heart** (\$12 pb, 0-06-095169-9), Hirshfield's fourth volume of poetry, to coincide with the release of **Nine Gates**.

Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun by Velma Wallis. (\$12 pb, 0-06-097728-0; Harper-Perennial.) A retelling of an Athabaskan Indian legend by the author of *Two Old Women*. Previously available in an Epicenter hardcover edition.

Now in paper: **Heat Wave** by Penelope Lively. (\$12, 0-06-092855-7; HarperPerennial.) An intimate, evocative novel of love and marital infidelity set during a long, hot summer in the English countryside. "The work is Jamesian...in its complexities and its carefulness.... A lovely, lovely novel." —Fay Weldon.

For **Troubling the Angels: Women Living with HIV/AIDS** Patti Lather and Chris Smithies observed and chronicled diverse support groups for women diagnosed with HIV. These women share the common bond of living with HIV/AIDS and describe how it affects their lives. The authors weave statistics and fact boxes throughout the text that place these women's words in the greater context of the HIV/AIDS epidemic as it affects its fastest growing population. \$16 pb, 0-8133-9016-8, Westview.

For **A Revolution of Their Own: Voices of Women in Soviet History** editors Barbara Alpern Engel and Anastasia Posadskaya-Vanderbeck interviewed eight Russian women about family life, work, sexual relations, marriage and divorce, childbirth and childbearing, legalized abortion and underground abortion after abortion was outlawed in 1936. This book illuminates the harsh reality of women's daily life in the Soviet Union as well as reveals the accomplishments made possible by the expanded opportunities that the new Soviet government provided for women. Translated by Sona Hoisington. \$18 pb, 0-8133-3366-0; \$65 cl, -3365-2, Westview, December. —LM, JT

HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS

Once again, Health Communications is serving up lots of chicken soup. We're picking up **Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul** (\$12.95, 1-55874-460-6)

but skipping *Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul* as well as the series they have for children called *Chicken Soup for Little Souls*. (These may sell for many folks but just aren't our cup of soup...er...tea.) For horse lovers, there's **Horse Sense and the Human Heart: What Horses Can Teach Us About Trust, Bonding, Creativity, & Spirituality** (\$10.95, 1-55874-523-8). Also, from Robin Norwood, the author of *Women Who Love Too Much*, we get a new book called **Why? A Guide to Answering Life's Toughest Question** (\$12.95, 1-55874-522-X).

We've created a new category in our bookstore called "Inspirational Stories." This is where we put things like the chicken soup books, as well as books that tell an inspirational story but the authenticity of which is in question (e.g., *Mutant Message*). We like the fact that the word "story" is a bit ambiguous so we are not making any kind of statement about "truth." We have these books near affirmation books, and they do quite well.

—Trudy Mills
Antigone Books



HENRY HOLT

Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature by Linda Lear. (\$35 cl, 0-8050-3427-7.) A comprehensive biography of Rachel Carson, which also gives readers a more thorough understanding of how America's environmental policies evolved.

About **Inside Ms. 25 Years of the Magazine and the Feminist Movement** Gloria Steinem writes, "Mary Thom is that rarest of writers, an eyewitness to history who puts the reader into events. She is also a journalist who sees through the eyes of others. I was present during most of these events, but I, too, have learned lessons about the past and future from this important book." *Inside Ms.* is a unique insider's look into the history of this groundbreaking institution and its remarkable editors and contributors. "Inspirational, informative, and infinitely readable. Thom has

made the original Ms. live again, and aren't we lucky!" —Rebecca Walker (*To Be Real*). \$25 cl, 0-8050-3732-2.

Wounds of Passion: A Writing Life by bell hooks. "An astute eye and courageous spirit." —*The New York Times*. With the same evocative prose as her highly acclaimed girlhood memoir, *Bone Black*, bell hooks tells of her coming of age as a woman writer. From bitter-sweet romance to her involvement with feminism at Stanford, hooks reveals her personal experience while bringing her searing insights to bear on Euro-American social institutions. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$20 cl, 0-8050-4146-X.

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit: 101 Best-Loved Psalms, Gospel Hymns, and Spiritual Songs of the African American Church edited by Gwendolin Sims Warren. (\$25 cl, 0-8050-4410-8.) An inspiring compilation that celebrates the significance of African American musical tradition, this book also presents a lively history of the evolution of each song and its composer, examining how it emboldened African Americans to carry on in the face of adversity.

The Women's Sports Encyclopedia edited by Robert Markel, Susan Waggoner and Marcella Smith. (\$30 cl, 0-8050-4494-9.) A comprehensive reference which includes more than 650 biographies that profile past and present female athletes from all over the world, record sections, numerous sidebars and close-ups. It also contains an appendix of "famous firsts," which provides a timeline of women's sports from 500 B.C. to the present.

Polite Lies: On Being A Woman Caught Between Cultures by Kyoko Mori. (\$22.50 cl, 0-8050-4079-X, January.) Kyoko Mori (*Shizuko's Daughter*) spent her childhood in Japan and now lives in the Midwest. In this collection of essays she writes about love, marriage, the body, death, family, a woman's place, and language and gossip in two cultures.

Cabbage and Bones: An Anthology of Irish-American Women's Fiction edited by Caledonia Kearns. (\$15 pb, 0-8050-5200-3; Owl Books.) Organized chronologically from writings at the turn of the century to the present, this collection includes selections from Alice McDermott, Anna Quindlen, Tess Gallagher, Maureen Howard, Mary McCarthy, Valerie Sayers, and other writers who are not (yet) so well known. A paperback original.

Now in paper: **Bone Black: Memories of Girlhood** by bell hooks. (\$11.95, 0-8050-5512-6.) African American

feminist intellectual bell hooks' powerful account of growing up in the South which details the unfolding of female creativity and one strong-spirited child's journey toward becoming a writer.

When Women Call the Shots: The Developing Power and Influence of Women in Television and Film by Linda Seger. (\$14.95, 0-8050-5505-3; Owl Books.) Through interviews with such key players as Sherry Lansing, Dawn Steel, Meg Ryan, Liv Ullman, Nora Ephron and others, script consultant and seminar leader Linda Seger shows how the growing influence of women in the TV and movie industries will change what we see in both mediums.

—LM, DH, JT

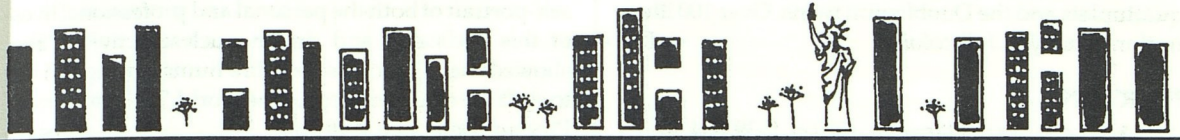


HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

West Wind by Mary Oliver. "Language is, in other words, not necessary, but voluntary. If it were necessary, it would have stayed simple; it would not agitate our hearts with ever-present loveliness and ever-cresting ambiguity; it would not dream, on its long white bones, of turning into song." —Mary Oliver in "Three Songs," from **West Wind**. Oliver's poems never sway from sheer elegance and excellence. In **West Wind**, she continues in her devotion to the natural world — of which she writes with mesmerizing fascination and love — and hints at the intense passion found in her love affair with words. From the subtle symbolism of her maples and foxes to her more overt pleas to push away from the desk and look (really look) out the window, Oliver eagerly prescribes nature as a cure for the ways in which moving through an unfeeling world ail us. \$21, 0-395-85082-7.

The Reader's Companion to U.S. Women's History edited by Wilma Mankiller, Gwendolyn Min, Marysa Navarro, Barbara Smith, and Gloria Steinem. More than 300 contributors are represented. Includes a very brief piece by Carol Seajay on the history of women's bookstores and feminist publishers. \$45, 0-395-67173-6, December.

Trespassing: My Sojourn in the Halls of Privilege by Gwendolyn Parker. (\$23, 0-395-82297-1.) A bittersweet and graceful memoir, evoking the dignity of Parker's family and the hurts and triumphs



of a woman successfully struggling against gender bias and racial discrimination.

Aquamarine by Carol Anshaw. "I found myself wishing I could...start a discussion group to debate all the questions this astonishing novel provokes." —Dorothy Allison. Carol Anshaw traces three possible paths for Olympic swimmer Jesse Austin after she is seduced and consequently edged out of a gold medal by her Australian rival. "The most original novel in years." —*Chicago Tribune*. Winner, Carl Sandburg Award for Fiction. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$11 pb, 0-395-87755-5.

In **Seven Moves** by Carol Anshaw, Christine Snow, a successful Chicago therapist, sets out to find her vanished lover, travel photographer Taylor Hayes. Forging a trail that leads into the heart of Morocco, **Seven Moves** tracks Christine's gradual recognition that no one can ever really know another's soul. Funny, hip and laser-sharp, this is a "tightly told tale that resists the bookmark as well as any thriller." —*Chicago Sun-Times*. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$11 pb, 0-395-88519-1.—*DH and Janet Newton*
Full Circle Books/Albuquerque



HYPERION

Between Each Line of Pain and Glory: My Life Story by Gladys Knight. (\$24.95 cl, 0-7868-6326-9.) At age seven, Gladys Knight was on tour opening for such musicians as Ike and Tina Turner, Sam Cooke and Jackie Wilson. Her last solo album went gold in 1995, and last year she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Here Knight relates her thoughts on her Atlanta childhood and early stardom, her vivid memories of racism and her phenomenal professional success. —*LM*

LITTLE, BROWN

Where She Came From: A Daughter's Search for Her Mother's History by Helen Epstein. Helen

Epstein's mother was the only one in her family to survive the Holocaust. When she died, Epstein (*Children of the Holocaust*) set out to discover her mother's story — and found survivors who had known her mother and grandmother, and a trove of archival material that, together, brought her ancestors back to life. A moving chronicle with the narrative pull of fiction. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$24.95 cl, 0-316-24608-5.

MORROW

The Shared Heart: Portraits and Stories Celebrating Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Young People, photographs by Adam Mastoon. (\$25 cl, 0-688-14931-6.) The young women and men featured in this book come from diverse racial, economic and family backgrounds. Their brief, eloquent and powerful essays about coming out to family and friends are accompanied by beautiful full-page duotone photographs. "**The Shared Heart** is profound in its simplicity and directness. These young people are an inspiration to us all, no matter what our individual sexuality. They celebrate diversity and the strength of the human spirit. For every story there is a face, a picture of a strong young person, making the world a better place for us all. This book will save lives." —Emily Saliers, the Indigo Girls. A book that should be available in every bookstore and library. 9¼" x 11¼", 40 photographs.

Miss Ophelia by Mary Burnett Smith. (\$24 cl, 0-688-15234-1.) Belly, a strong-willed and free-spirited eleven-year-old, is sent off to take care of her mean Aunt Rachel who is recovering from surgery. Set in rural Virginia during 1948, this coming-of-age story explores the issues of abortion, illegitimacy, adultery and skin color.

Sister Sets: Sisters Whose Togetherness Sets Them Apart by Emily Gwathmey and Ellen Stern. (\$19 cl, 0-688-15331-3.) Yet another sister book! With photographs, paintings, movie stills, song sheets, posters, ads and other ephemera, **Sister Sets** is a tribute to such siblings as the Delany sisters, Jackie and Lee, Dear Abby and Ann, Joan and Olivia, the Dionne

quintuplets and the Doublemint twins. Over 100 illustrations, many in full color. —LM

NORTON

Adèle by Mary Flanagan. (\$23 cl, 0-393-04547-1.) The mystery of Adèle infuses this erotic novel, which starts in decadent 1930s Paris and ends in today's brash London. A provocative and original novel by a literary writer who steps beyond the boundaries of what we know as male and female. Now in paper: Flanagan's **The Blue Woman: Stories**. (\$13, 0-393-31726-9.) "**The Blue Woman** bursts with insight about male-female relations, women growing older and the small dramas that affect us all. In unflaggingly crisp, witty prose that displays a wide range of styles and points of view, the tales range through the different life stages of women." —*Publishers Weekly*.

The Black Notebooks: An Interior Journey by Toi Derricotte. (\$21.95 cl, 0-393-04544-7.) In a book which began as sketchy journal entries over 20 years ago when she moved into an all-white neighborhood near New York City, Derricotte describes encounters with family, neighbors, friends and colleagues where she is forced to question what it means to be a light-skinned Black woman living in a racially divided world. A brilliant meditation about the complexity of race in this country, it is also a book about uncovering the denied and shameful aspects of the self, and the author's journey toward self-acceptance.

Honey, Hush! An Anthology of African American Women's Humor edited by Daryl Cumber Dance. (\$30 cl, 0-393-04557-9.) This unique collection brings together a wonderful assemblage of contributors, from slave narrators to contemporary political commentators, from antebellum poets to Audre Lorde, from the earliest novelists to Toni Morrison. Foreword by Nikki Giovanni.

Now in paper: **Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol** by Nell Irvin Painter. (\$14.95, 0-393-31708-0.) "An exquisitely detailed study of a brilliant and powerful life." —*San Francisco Chronicle*. **Wise Women: Over Two Thousand Years of Spiritual Writing by Women** edited by Susan Cahill. (\$15, 0-393-31679-3.) A rich and diverse collection of memoirs, stories, poetry, letters, prayers and theologies representing a tradition of the prophetic and practical wisdom of women's spirituality. **A Desperate Passion: An Autobiography** by Helen Caldicott. (\$13.95, 0-393-31680-7.) A candid

self-portrait of both the personal and professional lives of this dedicated and driven nuclear activist. "She showed me what one set-on-fire human being can do to shift the consciousness of the world." —Sister Helen Prejean (*Dead Man Walking*). —LM



PENGUIN/VIKING

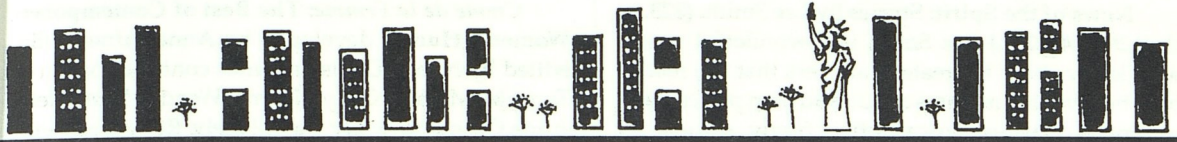
The New Intimacy by Barbara Cully. A National Poetry Series 1996 Competition winner. "She is a poet reading the world for the brutality of its inequities, aware of the flattening compression of historical memory and the dissolution of the body...Cully locates her hope in a present glimmering with futurity, and also turns us away from the seductions of despair toward an impassioned interdependence. Cully's poetry is profoundly political, tragic and comic, and well worth a look." \$14.95, 0-14-02648-0-9.

The 25th anniversary reissue of **Memoirs of an Ex-Prom Queen** by Alix Kates Shulman (*Drinking the Rain*) is "told with astringent wit, explores every facet and cliché of what it means to grow up female and beautiful.... We are convinced that this is exactly what it's like to exist as a bright and beautiful sex object in the world's oldest game.... A challenging and bitter brew of a novel." —*San Francisco Chronicle*. Includes a new introduction by the author. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-026571-6.

"To put it simply, we are here, first to develop ourselves, then to be ourselves, and finally to extend ourselves to each other." In **Loving Men More, Needing Men Less** Judith Sills, Ph.D., shows women that by refocusing (on ourselves), reframing (what makes us happy) and responding differently (changing how we act) we can change how we feel. "Love isn't something you get — by picking the right man, or fixing the one you have — it's something you do." \$11.95 pb, 0-14-024223-6.

The Rest of Us: Dispatches from the Mother Ship by Jacquelyn Mitchard. (\$22.95 cl, 0-670-87662-3, Viking.) From the author of *The Deep End of the Ocean*, a collection of essays from her nationally syndicated newspaper column.

Gertrude Stein, Writings 1902-1932 (\$40, 1-883011-40-X, March); and **Writings 1932-1946** (\$40, 1-883011-41-8, March) edited by Catharine



Stimpson and Harriet Chessman. The two volumes of this set from The Library of America are available individually. **Writings 1902–1932** takes Stein from her initial, more traditional fictional works to the exuberant and astonishing experiments of the early Paris years. It includes *Q.E.D.*, *Four Saints in Three Acts*, *Lifting Belly*, *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas* and numerous portraits of friends and collaborators, Matisse, Mabel Dodge Luhan and Picasso among them. **Writings 1932–1946** includes such works as *Stanzas in Meditation*, *Lectures in America*, *The World is Round* and *The Mother of Us All*. —DH, LM, JT



PLENUM

The Feminist Dollar: The Wise Woman's Buying Guide by Phyllis A. Katz and Margaret Katz. Fun to read, easy to use, **The Feminist Dollar** provides the basic facts about gender fairness and equity as it is — or is not — practiced by corporations and governments. "Register your opposition to sexist attitudes and behaviors in the marketplace...and put your money where it can reward those who respect the dignity and potential of women." —Letty Cottin Pogrebin (*Deborah, Golda & Me.*) Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$19.95 pb, 0-306-45563; \$29.95 cl, -45562-5.

PUTNAM

Violette's Embrace by Michele Zacheim. Fictional biography that evokes an era, a place, a woman, and a literary phenomenon. Shelve with Leduc's own autobiographical writing for a wonderful fact/fiction combination. \$12, 1-57322-608-4, Riverhead.

La Batarde by Violette Leduc. Poignant and frank, this is an obsessive and revealing self-portrait of a remarkable woman who felt herself humiliated by the circumstances of her birth and by her physical appearance, and who carried on a long search for her own identity through a series of agonizing and

passionate love affairs with both men and women. \$14, 1-57322-609-2, Riverhead.

The Seeing Glass: A Memoir by Jacqueline Gorman. When a rare optic condition strikes Gorman, colors one by one vanish from her view, and her vision begins to falter. She quickly finds herself in a race against the encroaching darkness, studying family photos, committing them to memory. A heartbreaking account of loss and renewal, blindness as metaphor, and the healing, eternal light of love. \$22.95 cl, 1-57322-061-2, Riverhead.

The Woman Who Walked on Water by Lily Tuck. A tale of a woman's spiritual journey, with a troubling dark side. Adele leaves behind her family to follow a guru to India. \$11, 1-57322-583-5, Riverhead.

Prairie Reunion by Barbara Scot. A bittersweet homecoming story, tracing the author's return, in middle age, to the puritanical farming community where she grew up — where she tries to piece together the puzzle of her parents. \$12, 1-57322-582-7, Riverhead.

Awakening at Midlife: A Guide to Reviving Your Spirit, Recreating Your Life, and Returning to Your Truest Self by Kathleen Brehony. For folks who are having a challenging time transitioning into mid-life, this is a guide to reviving enthusiasm for life, which offers stories, strategies and exercises to transform and enrich the ongoing search for wholeness. \$14, 1-57322-632-7, Riverhead.

Aliens in America by Sandra Tsing Loh. (\$10 pb, 1-57322-627-0; Riverhead.) About her one-woman show from which this book was drawn, *The New Yorker* wrote, "Humorist Sandra Tsing Loh's ill-matched parents — a cheap, passive-aggressive, serial-marrying Chinese father and a towering, peach schnapps-drinking, party-loving German mother — were brought together by the vagaries of history and a shiny Buick; Loh, a typically Southern Californian daughter, wonders where she figures in the equation. The three engaging vignettes in her autobiographical monologue are driven by intelligence and the healing power of expressive fury." A paperback original.

News of the Spirit: Stories by Lee Smith. (\$23.95 cl, 0-399-14281-9.) Lee Smith is a wonderful writer who knows how to create characters that the reader both believes in and cares about, and then places them in stories that are lyrical, often funny, sometimes heartbreaking and always wise.

The Seamstress: A Memoir of Survival by Sara Tuvel Bernstein. (\$24.95, 0-399-14322-X.) The memoir of an intelligent, independent and resourceful young Jewish woman who left school in Budapest at age 14 to apprentice as a seamstress, determined to control her own destiny. While the Nazis encircled and began bombing Hungary, she supported her family, and then took care of her younger sister and two close friends when the four were deported together to a concentration camp. The publisher notes that this is a book suitable for young readers.

Singing in the Comeback Choir by Bebe Moore Campbell. (\$24.95 cl, 0-399-14298-3, January.) Maxine McCoy, a Black woman raised by her grandmother in a working-class Philadelphia neighborhood, is a successful television producer in Los Angeles who worries about the social value of her work. She is called back to Philadelphia and finds her once happy, joyful grandmother has grown bitter, and the striving neighborhood she remembers has become a blighted, crime-infested area. After a few days there, Maxine realizes that both her grandmother and her old neighborhood have been the source of her own strength and success, and she is moved to help both reclaim their glory. —DH, LM



RANDOM HOUSE

In **The Body Project: An Intimate History of American Girls** Joan Jacobs Brumberg (*Fasting Girls: A History of Anorexia Nervosa*) shows how American girls came to define themselves more and more through their bodies, so that today the body has become a girl's primary project, leading to the social and emotional problems identified by Mary Pipher (*Reviving Ophelia*) and Carol Gilligan (*In a Different Voice*). Included are girls' diaries and a photo essay that underscores how girls' bodies have changed over the last century. "Looks great! The 32-page photo essay isn't included in the galley I have, but I'm looking forward to it." —JT. \$23 cl, 0-679-40209-7.

Creme de la Femme: The Best of Contemporary Women's Humor developed by Anne Safran Dalin, edited by Nancy Davis, includes contributions from Terry McMillan, Kathy Najimy, Wendy Wasserstein, Anna Quindlen, Mary Kay Blakely, Ruby Dee, Anne Lamott, Gloria Steinem, and Jane Wagner. This collection also includes many of the authors that were in Roz Warren's pioneering anthologies *Women's Glib*, *Women's Glibber*, *Glibquips*, and *The Best Contemporary Women's Humor*, et al. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$16.95 pb, 0-375-70056-0.



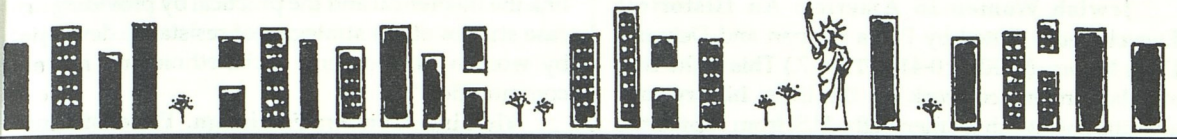
The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye: Five Fairy Stories by A.S. Byatt. (\$19 cl, 0-679-42008-8.) A small (4 5/8 x 6 5/8) illustrated hardcover containing a handful of imaginative historical and contemporary fairy stories for grown-ups.

Cold Blood by Lynda La Plante. (\$23 cl, 0-679-44104-2.) Lorraine Page, ex-police lieutenant, ex-hooker, ex-wife and mother, has recovered from the alcoholism that nearly destroyed her life and has set up her own private investigation agency in Los Angeles. In this sequel to *Cold Shoulder* Page lands her first high-profile case. La Plante is the author of the "Prime Suspect" TV series with Helen Mirren.

The Novellas of Hortense Calisher. (\$19 cl, 0-679-60249-6; Modern Library.) The seven novellas in this collection include *A Tale for the Mirror*, *Extreme Magic*, *The Last Trolley Ride* and the previously unpublished *Women Men Don't Talk About*, a story of women who live slightly apart from the society of men.

Landscapes of the Heart: A Memoir by Elizabeth Spencer. (\$23 cl, 0-679-45739-9.) Spencer (*Light in the Piazza*) is a thoughtful, quiet writer. In this finely detailed memoir, she tells of her youth in Mississippi, the time she spent in Italy and Canada, and of finally going "home" to North Carolina.

Nothing's Impossible: Leadership Lessons from the Front Lines by Lorraine Monroe. (\$23 cl, 0-8129-2904-7, Times Books.) Lorraine Monroe is a legendary African American educator who has over 30 years' experience as a teacher and administrator in the New York City public schools. Here she offers her leadership lessons to guide and inspire all those who



struggle to succeed amid seemingly impossible situations.

Joni Mitchell: Lyrics & Poems. (\$25 cl, 0-609-60008-7; Crown.) The first collection of Mitchell's poetic lyrics, this book is annotated with commentary from the artist and includes a selection of her line drawings.

Lest We Forget: The Passage from Africa to Slavery and Emancipation by Velma Maia Thomas. (\$29.95 cl, 0-609-60030-3; Crown.) This uniquely designed book by the manager of the Shrine of the Black Madonna Bookstore in Atlanta is based on the Black Holocaust Exhibit. It includes a pre-Colonial map of Africa with a pull tab that changes to a map of the modern continent, a reproduction of a 150-year-old receipt for the purchase of a human being, manumission papers stored in an embossed tobacco can and other documents housed in the Exhibit. Accompanying the documents is fascinating text by Thomas, who is also curator of the exhibit, as well as the moving words of slaves themselves. 10" x 10", 32 pages, b/w photos; printed two-color throughout. (Display copy available: \$13.48 cl, 0-609-89806-X.)

In **Beyond Beauty: Girls Speak Out On Looks, Style, and Stereotypes** 25 notable teens from actresses Natalie Portman and Christina Ricci to tennis star Martina Hingis, from R&B singer Monica to Olympic gold medalists Oksana Baiul and Dominique Moceanu reveal to Jane Pratt how issues of physical appearance have affected them. They delve into how their experiences, accomplishments, and pressure from friends, family, and skinny girls in glossy magazines have shaped their impressions of what it means to be beautiful. Pratt includes some diversity, but you won't find any fat or average-looking girls here — no one is "average" in this book. The hip design and 300 color photos are great, and what the girls have to say is very interesting, intriguing and informative, but I think it will act like another glossy girls' magazine, causing girls to stress out about how they measure up or don't. The price is steep at \$30, but stores should definitely carry **Beyond Beauty** — it will sell! Pratt is the

founder of *Sassy* and the much-anticipated *Jane* coming from Fairchild Publications. 0-609-80148-1, Clarkson Potter Publishers. —LM, JT



ROUTLEDGE

Jews and Feminism: The Ambivalent Search for Home by Laura Levitt. "Original and imaginative, [Laura Levitt] challenges her readers to reconsider what it means to be a feminist and a Jew at the end of the 20th century." —Nancy K. Miller. Levitt looks at what it means to claim a Jewish feminist identity in the midst of the conflicting visions, material conditions and promises of home that exist in America today. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$18.95 pb, 0-415-91445-0.

Creating Sanctuary: Towards the Evolution of Sane Communities by Sandra Bloom. "A rare, original, once-in-a-lifetime book that could save lives. Here is a psychiatrist and activist whose programs help adults to uproot the original trauma and stop repeating the violence that was done to them. Dr. Bloom shows us how to save future children from abuse, empty our over-crowded jails and rescue this nation from leaders who see violence as normal." —Gloria Steinem. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$17.95 pb, 0-415-91874-X.

Femme: Feminists, Lesbians and Bad Girls edited by Laura Harris and Elizabeth Crocker. Through provocative essays and interviews, contributors including Barbara Cruikshank, Madeline Davis, Heather Findlay, Jewelle Gomez, Amber Hallibaugh, Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy, Joan Nestle and Minnie Bruce Pratt, highlight the importance of listening to femme voices as an essential part of queer, feminist and lesbian thought. **Femme** offers an alliance between many communities of women previously excluded by feminism. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$17.95 pb, 0-415-91874-X.

Jewish Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia edited by Paula Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore. (\$250 cl, 0-415-91934-7.) This is the first standard reference work on the lives, history, and activities of Jewish women in the U.S. from 1654 to the present. It will be included in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog, and despite its steep price, I believe it will sell. Order accordingly!

Nine Black Women: An Anthology of Nineteenth-Century Writers from the United States, Canada, Bermuda and the Caribbean edited by Moira Ferguson. (\$18.95 pb, 0-415-91905-3; \$69.95 cl, -91904-5). The subtitle says it all.

Re-thinking Abortion: Psychology, Gender, Power, and the Law, Mary Boyle. (\$17.95 pb, 0-415-16365-X; \$65 cl, -16364-1). If books on abortion sell for you, you may want to stock one. This one claims to be an analysis of the debates and legislation.



DECEMBER TITLES

Social Perspectives on Lesbian and Gay Studies: A Reader edited by Peter Nardi and Beth Schneider. (\$24.95 pb, 0-415-16709-4; \$74.95 cl, -16708-6.) This is a comprehensive reader bringing a social science perspective to an area previously dominated by the humanities. Offers readers a look at how sociology came to engage with lesbian and gay issues. Looks good for both academic and general audiences.

And Then I Became Gay: Young Men's Stories, Ritch Savin-Williams. (\$17.95 pb, 0-415-91677-1; \$65 cl, -91676-3.) For stores that stock gay men's titles, this presents three young men and their coming-of-age in North America in the 80s and 90s.

Sexual Subjects: Lesbians, Gender and Psychoanalysis, Adria Schwartz. (\$19.95 pb, 0-415-910093-5; \$69.95 cl, -91002-7.) The catalog says this is a "...psychoanalytic book informed by gender theory, queer theory and feminism" addressing the "tensions inherent in writing about lesbians and sexuality in the postmodern age." Good if you have academics looking at lesbian lives.

Community Activism and Feminist Politics: Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender edited by Nancy Naples. (\$22.95 pb, 0-415-91630-5; \$74.95 cl, -91629-1.) Looks fairly academic. "The contributors

link the theoretical and the practical by providing rich case studies of the strategies of resistance developed by women from diverse racial-ethnic and regional communities."

Yielding Gender: Feminism, Deconstruction and the History of Philosophy, Penelope Deutscher. (\$17.95 pb, 0-415-13945-7; \$65 cl, -13944-9.) Explores and reconsiders the tensions that deconstruction poses for feminist philosophy.

A Trial of Witches: A Seventeenth Century English Witchcraft Prosecution, Gilbert Geis and Ivan Bunn. (\$19.95 pb, 0-415-17109-1; \$69.95 cl, -17108-3.) An in-depth study of the trial of two women hanging in Lowestoft in 1662.

JANUARY TITLES

My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely, Kate Bornstein. (\$16.95 pb, 0-415-91673-9; \$59.95 cl, -91672-0.) My guess is that this will be a huge hit. [FYI: for those of you still clinging to the myth that Syracuse, NY, is a hick little upstate place, EON (Expressing Our Nature), a national organization for the transgendered, regularly has its national conventions here!] At any rate, this promises to be somewhat off the beaten path for Routledge: it appears to be a highly accessible, hands-on (gloved or ungloved) guide to having your own unique gender. I'll eat my boia if I'm wrong on this one.

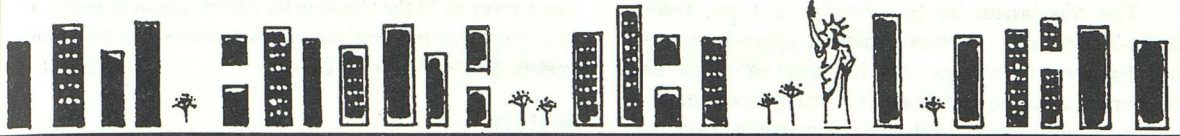
Vested Interests: Cross-dressing and Cultural Anxiety, Marjorie Garber. (\$23 pb, 0-415-91951-7.) This is a reprint of a somewhat popular title Harper-Collins let go out of print.

Moral Understandings: A Feminist Study in Ethics, Margaret Urban Walker. (\$17.95 pb, 0-415-91421-3; \$69.95 cl, -91420-5.) If you have a philosophy section, try one or two.

Feminism and Ecological Communities: An Ethic of Flourishing, Chris Cuomo. (\$18.95 pb, 0-415-15806-0; \$65 cl, -15805-2.) Here's a first: a look at postmodern feminist arguments against ecofeminism and strong new arguments for ecofeminism. If you have a clientele reading about ecofeminism, you'll need one or two.

FEBRUARY TITLES

Men Doing Feminism edited by Tom Digby. (\$18.95 pb, 0-415-91626-7; \$69.95 cl, -91625-9.) Looks



like a serious exploration of the questions that arise around men and feminism. *Not* out of the Men's Movement thinking, but out of a feminist theory.

Body Talk: The Material and Discursive Regulation of Sexuality, Madness and Reproduction edited by Jane Ussher. (\$18.95 pb, 0-415-15364-6; \$69.95 cl, -15363-8.) A collection of works looking at the body from a variety of academic approaches. Ussher is also the editor of the Routledge series *Women and Psychology*. —*Mary Ellen Kavanaugh My Sisters' Words/Syracuse NY*

ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

Sex, Nation, and Dissent in Irish Writing edited by Éibhear Walshe examines Irish gay and lesbian writers and the relationship between nationalism and sexual identity. She argues that literary expressions of sexual dissidence in Ireland cannot be abstracted from Ireland's experience of colonization. This collection shows how Irish lesbian and gay writers engaged with the complex socio-political changes in Ireland during the 19th and 20th centuries. Work by such writers as Oscar Wilde, Mary Dorcey, Emma Donoghue, Anne Fogarty and Declan Kiberd are explored. \$19.95 pb, 0-312-17447-0; \$55 cl, -17446-2. —*JT*



SIMON & SCHUSTER

Kate Burke Shoots the Old West by Jerrie Hurd. Don't let the floral and feather cover of this historical novel scare you off. Although there is a bit of romance novel here, there's a lot more of the herstory of women in the West. Portrays the relations between men and women and between whites and Native Americans around 1891. I was entranced. \$5.99, 0-671-51910-7, Pocket.

The Skull of Charlotte Corday: And Other Stories by Leslie Dick. A collection of short stories that descends into the deeper recesses of the human mind and maps the bizarre and troubling byways of human

history. Returns insistently to the innermost dilemmas of femininity, spinning strange tales of medical humiliation, sexual betrayal, perverse eroticism, and the unsettling traumas of child rearing. From contemporary motherhood in Los Angeles to computer sex in Paris, these stories explore people, places and emotions with an uncanny eye for detail and a sharp insight into the grand outrageousness of life. \$22 cl, 0-684-83439-1, Scribner.

My Mother Was Right: How Today's Women Reconcile with Their Mothers by Barbara McFarland and Virginia Watson Rouslin. After surveying 170 women across the U.S. and Canada, the authors examine perhaps the most fundamental and complicated relationship of them all. They show us that it is only after we come to terms with our mothers that we are able to come to terms with ourselves. \$25 cl, 0-7879-0875-4, Scribner.

No Regrets: The Life of Marietta Tree by Caroline Seebohm. Tree was a political activist, witness to the last years of FDR, the founding of the UN, and knew Winston Churchill and Marilyn Monroe. \$27.50 cl, 0-684-81008-5.

Courtney Love: The Real Story by Poppy Z. Brite. "Shocking, wrenchingly honest portrait of controversial rocker," this book uses Love's own journal entries and letters, interviews with friends, and exclusive photos. \$23 cl, 0-684-84506-7.

In the Meantime: Finding Yourself and the Love You Want by Iyanla Vanzant. A book about relationships that can help us reach new levels of awareness, spiritual growth and fulfillment. Vanzant is a leading authority on spirituality and empowerment. Here she helps us to break free of our fantasies and view a relationship as an ongoing process of discovery and growth. \$23 cl, 0-684-84136-3.

One Must Wait by Penny Mickelbury. Mickelbury received a Lambda Award nomination for her most recent mystery, *Night Songs*. Here she introduces Black criminal defense attorney Carol Ann Gibson, whose husband is murdered for his principles. Go for it. \$22 cl, 0-684-83741-2.

The Visitation by Sue Reidy. (\$11 pb, 0-684-83954-7; Scribner.) "Other children played Mothers and Fathers, Cowboys and Indians, or Cops and Robbers. Catherine and Theresa Flynn played Martyrs and Suffering Virgins." When the Virgin Mary appears to the Flynn girls and asks them to buy her suitable clothes for her earthly mission (a campaign for birth control), it's an assignment they've been readying themselves for for years. A paperback original.

Now in paper: **Crows Over a Wheatfield** by Paula Sharp. (\$14, 0-671-01164-2.) This powerful, insightful and compelling novel which deals with the issue of domestic violence was a favorite in the FBN office.

The Healing Choice: Your Guide to Emotional Recovery After an Abortion by Candace De Puy, Ph.D., and Dana Dovitch, Ph.D. The abortion debate frequently overshadows the feelings of the millions of women who have made this sometimes difficult decision. This helpful, commonsense book provides vital guidance and reassurance to those whose lives, even years later, may still be affected by the experience. "In this important book women of every ilk and belief will find a sensitive, learned and original guide for the post-abortion process." —Ms. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$12 pb, 0-684-83196-1, Fireside. —DH, LM



WARNER

Musclebound by Liza Cody. (\$22 cl, 0-89296-601-7; Mysterious Press.) The third book in the series featuring London professional wrestler and sleuth Eva Wylie.

Enterprising Woman: An Inspirational and Informational Guide to Every Woman Starting, Running, or Redefining Her Business by Mari Florence. For large and small businesses, this book is an essential tool for every woman business owner. Combines business information with profiles of successful role models. \$14.99, 0-446-67275-0.

Feminine Healing: A Woman's Guide to a Healthy Body, Mind, and Spirit by Jason Elias and Katherine Ketcham. Unique guide to the power of feminine methods of healing that have long been overlooked by western medicine. Originally published in

hardcover as *In the House of the Moon*. Jason is an expert in alternative medical practices. Gentle effective treatments. \$14.99, 0-446-67271-8. —DH, LM

WILEY

Women of Taste: Recipes and Profiles of Great Women Chefs by Beverley Russell. In this salute to the culinary genius of 32 great women chefs, readers will be inspired by the artistry and hard-won battles of some of the world's most talented chefs. Lavish full-color photographs of the chef's signature recipes, portraits of each woman, an overview of their restaurants, and a special interview with Julia Child make **Women of Taste** one of the season's gustatory delights. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$35 cl, 0-471-17943-4.

Stolen Women: Reclaiming Our Sexuality, Taking Back Our Lives by Dr. Gail Elizabeth Wyatt. "Dissects the myths...unshackles our minds." —Bebe Moore Campbell, bestselling author of *Brothers and Sisters*. In a groundbreaking work of uncompromising honesty, the nation's leading expert on Black female sexuality tells the authentic story of African American women's sexual experience, based on in-depth interviews with hundreds of women ages 18 to 80 and featuring case histories from her own practice. Advertised in the Feminist Bookstore Network Fall Catalog. \$24.95 cl, 0-471-12450-8. ○

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Mysteries, continued from page 73.

Linda Grant's first mystery since the gripping, feminist *A Woman's Place*. Here, corporate P.I. Catherine Saylor looks into foul play at a Berkeley genetics lab, a timely subject indeed. (\$5.99 pb, 0-804-11558-3, Ivy.)

On a completely different note, here are some literary mysteries. **Unbound** by Julie Kaewert looks interesting. This is a paperback original, described as a "booklover's mystery," about sleuthing publisher Alex Plumtree, head of a prestigious British press. (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57715-8, December, Bantam.) Jane Austen is back as a sleuth in **Jane and the Man of the Cloth**, which I liked even better than *Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor*. Author Stephanie Barron's style is an uncanny match for Austen's own, and the plot moves briskly through scenes of 19th century society both high and low. (\$6.50 pb, 0-553-57489-2, December, Bantam.) Finally, there's **Quieter Than Sleep** by Joanne Dobson, subtitled "An Emily Dickinson Mystery," about murder at a conference of Dickinson scholars. (\$21.95 cl, 0-385-48692-8, Doubleday.) ○

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COMIX

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