
Feminist Bookstore News

Gearing up for

Black History Month & *Women's History Month*

Winter 1998
Volume 20 Number 5/6

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uestion:

Why are Black History Month and Women's History Month different from all other months?

A

nswer:

It's when the rest of the world celebrates the women we publish the rest of the time.

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Special
Double Issue

Black History Month & Women's History Month

Last fall, shortly after Rev. Jesse Jackson's march across the Golden Gate Bridge to protest the State of California's recently enacted ban on Affirmative Action, the *FBN* staff decided that the most useful thing we could do, as a group, was to turn our next issue into a special double issue on Black History and Women's History Months. We would use the issue to ask booksellers in both (all, actually) kinds of community bookstores to celebrate both Months and to use the events to remind their communities that Affirmative Action affects all of us and that we need to work together to keep Affirmative Action intact. We decided to send the issue to African American bookstores and to ask both women's bookstores and African American bookstores to cross-promote each other during these Months. Working together we can do much more to keep our segment of independent bookselling intact than we can do individually.

This issue is one of the most exciting and rewarding special issues we've ever done. Every idea led to more ideas, more articles, more features. Our deepest thanks to everyone who took our calls, recommended books, placed ads, and helped in every way imaginable to make this issue a success. We hope you enjoy it, find it affirming of the work you do, and find it useful. We'd love to hear what you think of the issue and if you'd like to see another Black History/Women's History Months issue next year.

Please note that we've also revised our schedule for the Spring Announcements issue. We're taking advantage of the rescheduling required to publish a double issue to push our deadlines for the Spring Announcements issue back a little so we can accommodate more of the Spring book announcements. Please check the revised deadlines on the next page. If

this schedule works better for you, please let us know and we'll repeat this schedule next year.

This special double issue of *FBN* honors the struggles of people of color and women for basic civil rights in this country. It celebrates — and encourages all feminist and African American bookstores to celebrate — both Black History Month and Women's History Month and honors all of the Black, feminist, progressive, and gay stores that actively work toward building a world where there is room for all of us, and the generations to follow. (See "Honoring Other Community Stores," page 5.)

Black History Month	February
Women's History Month	March
African American Women's Month*	April
National Lesbian & Gay Book Month . . .	June
* per Sisterspace. See page 8.	

Feminist and African American bookstores both evolved out of the Civil Rights Movements of the sixties and early seventies.

Both serve as community centerpieces, encouraging and creating discussion even as we reflect on current events in our communities. Both keep information flowing, and create and nurture connection among our members. Both kinds of bookstores — like any good bookstores but far more than most bookstores — bring people and ideas together in such a way that new ideas, projects, changes, and sometimes revolutions, are generated, changing and improving the situation in small and large ways.

Our stores are information centers, community

centers, the place to go if you're new in town and need to find your community; the place to go when you lose your center and need to find home.

In this special issue we take to task those who use our community celebrations and this time that is set aside to honor those who have contributed to freedom struggles as a marketing opportunity and a way to make a buck off the backs of those who have already carried too many burdens. Opportunism, in all its manifestations, is inappropriate and has no place in celebration and honor. (See "The Commercialization of Black History Month," page 6.)

Elsewhere in this issue, we look at some challenging initiatives: a college-level program designed to break down racism in mainstream publishing; a collaboration between a Black bookstore and a feminist bookstore to snag — and produce — an evening with Alice Walker. We talk with Faye Williams, the founder of Sisterspace, the country's only African American feminist bookstore, where April is African American Women's Month, and with Velma Maia

Thomas about the bookstore's role in the development of *Lest We Forget*.

African American and feminist booksellers from all over the country talk about their favorite, most important, and most popular Women's History and Black History Month titles, starting on page 19. *FBN* supplements this section with a roundup of forthcoming, new (and favorite) titles for Black History and Women's History Month. (See page 39.) For posters and sources for other materials to enhance Women's and Black History Month displays, as well as a roundup of distributors, turn to "Resources" on page 15. For books for African American lesbians and gay men, see "The African American Lesbian Section" (page 33) and "Gay Lit for Feminist Bookstores" (page 81).

We hope you find this issue to be useful and enjoyable. If this is the first issue of *FBN* you've seen, we hope you'll be joining us on a regular basis. Subscription information is enclosed and can also be found on page 57.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN DUE DATES

	Spring Announcements April - May	Summer & Sidelines June - August	Fall Announcements Sept - Oct
Articles	February 6	April 24	July 3
Ad Reservations	March 6	May 8	July 10
Ad Mechanicals	March 13	May 15	July 17
News Column Items	February 27	May 22	July 17
Letters	March 3	June 4	July 22

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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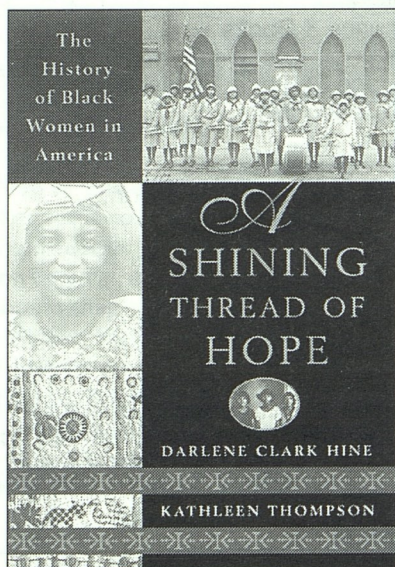
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Powerful voices, powerful lives



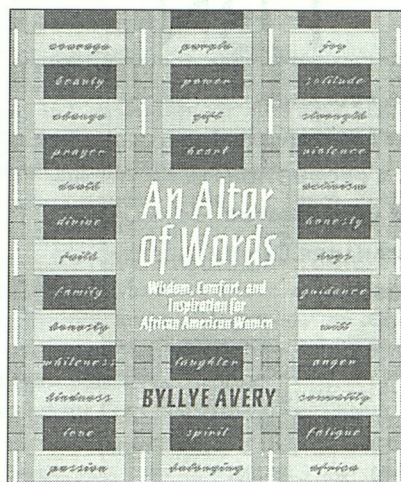
A Shining Thread of Hope The History of Black Women in America

Darleen Clark Hine and Kathleen Thompson

An unprecedented, landmark narrative — co-authored by a pioneer in African American and women's history and an award-winning writer on race and gender—sweeping from our country's beginnings to today.

“This stirring tour de force moves black women from the wings to center stage. . . . Their revealing chronicle will inspire and instruct.”
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred, boxed review)

0-7679-0110-X, \$27.50



An Altar of Words Wisdom, Comfort, and Inspiration for African-American Women

Byllye Avery

The acclaimed founder of the National Black Women's Health Project offers a personal sanctuary for renewal through this intimate collection of meditations on evocative terms.

“Byllye Avery offers us a vital guide to affirming ourselves and the world around us and tells us that we have the power to construct our worlds as we choose. A wonderful sermon on life and how we might better see and live it in the coming millennium.”—*Angela Davis*

0-7679-0079-0, \$16.00

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Honoring Other Community Stores

In California, where *FBN* is published, the Republican state government is actively dismantling affirmative action, doing its best to push the clock back, pretending that equality and equal opportunity have been achieved and, in Jesse Jackson's words, re-segregating society along both race and gender lines.

Civil rights have never *not* been under attack in this country. People of color and women — and most especially the people who are both — have had to fight for human respect and dignity since the Middle Passage, since the invasion of this land by Europeans, since the destruction of the more egalitarian, womanist societies of the distant past.

It's not a struggle we're going to see resolved in our lifetimes; the legacy of centuries of abuse and exploitation will not disappear in the generations that follow quickly upon ours. But it is our struggle and our fight, one that we will take up again and again and again, to address the many forms oppression and abuse manifest in this culture.

This winter, when affirmative action is so clearly under attack, seems to me a good time to remember and to remind our sometimes separate communities that, (awkward, frustrating and difficult as it is sometimes) we need to stand together.

Celebrate Both Black History & Women's History Months

Booksellers, especially feminist and African American booksellers, are uniquely positioned to remind our communities that we are allies in this particular fight as well as in many other aspects of the struggle for human rights. One simple, concrete, *do-able* way to make that statement is by celebrating and honoring both Black History Month (February) and Women's History Month (March) in all of our stores.

Stores that already celebrate both Months might choose to strengthen their window display by adding a sign or comment (which can be repeated in newsletters, programs, book displays) that affirmative action is essential to all of us. Or a stronger statement reflecting the politics of that particular store: that it's

one struggle with many fronts, that none of us are free until all of us are free, or highlighting local events and activism.

Honoring Each Other's Stores

Another way to celebrate and honor all aspects of both communities would be for stores to put a placard with the name and address of the local Black/women's bookstore(s) in their window display during that month. Women's stores could honor and promote the local Black store(s) during Black History Month. African American stores could do the same for the local women's store during Women's History Month. General independent bookstores could honor local African American bookstores during February and the local women's stores during March. Our communities, especially women, gays and lesbians of color who live in both communities, need to know about all of their resources and to see different parts of their communities honoring and respecting each of the other parts.

*One simple, concrete, do-able way
to make that statement
is by celebrating and honoring
both Black History Month
and Women's History Month
in all of our stores.*

Why would a small bookstore advertise another store in its window? To honor that store's work and its contribution to the larger community, because adding a sign underscores work the store already does (referring customers to other community-based stores), because what Black History Month and Women's History Month are about, when all is said and done, is honoring community. We would also do it because we stand in direct opposition to those who ignore people of color/women/whoever, until there's a sale to be

made; to stand in opposition to corporations that actively reduce these kinds of community pride events to an advertising opportunity and do self-promotion at the expense of the communities these events are intended to support.

[So are there chainstore executives reading these very words who are so embarrassed by their company's behavior in the past that they will take up this idea and require each of the hundreds or thousands of stores in their chain to post the names, addresses and phone numbers of Black, feminist, and gay stores (We're upping the ante), respectively, during Black and Women's History Months and during Gay Book Month? I doubt it! But, hey! Go ahead and prove me wrong. Make my day!]

For booksellers, honoring one another's stores and recognizing in one another the hard work and skill and tenacity it takes to run a feminist/Black community store is a(nother) step toward building community among booksellers. We who run commu-

nity bookstores specializing in the unique needs of our particular clientele understand the difficult work, the obstacles, and the everyday maddening aspects and wonderful rewards of community bookselling like no one else. Booksellers, I suggest here, need community as much as the people we're serving everyday.

But here's an even better idea: instead of just putting another store's name and address in your window, call that store and tell them that you want to honor their work and contribution to the community by putting their name and address in your window during ____ History Month and that you'd like to ask them to extend that same recognition to your store during ____ History Month. Should they be speechless (or even if you just caught them at a bad time) give them time to recuperate by filling the silence with "We need a strong community of independent bookstores that serve communities like yours and mine. The more specialty and truly independent bookstores we have, the stronger we'll all be." —CS ○

The Commercialization of Black History Month **An Opinionated Essay**

By Carol Seajay

Black History Month, Women's History Month, and similar events reflect and grow out of their communities' long, and often torturous struggles for dignity and human rights. These events recall and honor those struggles that, in the end, benefit all of us.

And yet, despite their clear focus, there has been some attempt to use these events inappropriately.

Ironically, while Black History Month has been commercialized in many venues, Women's History Month has been virtually ignored by commercial forces. Perhaps that's because Women's History Month is newer (launched in 1987, Black History Month's precursor, Black History Week began in 1916) and the opportunists just haven't caught on yet. Not likely — Gay Book Month, launched only seven years ago, is already an event on publishers' calendars and chain stores all along Fifth Avenue do gay-themed windows (most of which feature the work of white men) in June. These and similar forces are just as eager to use Black History Month to attract customers, to feign a genuine

interest in "non-white" literature, to manifest an image. It is interesting that almost none of these forces line up their song and dance routines for Women's History Month. Are women not perceived as having money to spend? Do women not buy books? Is there no value in feigning interest in women? Apparently not. Go figure.

Are we saying that it's inappropriate for publishers and non-Black, non-feminist, non-gay stores to celebrate these events? Absolutely not — as long as their events honor the respective communities. Publishers should certainly publish books during each of the Months — as long as they are also supporting those communities with good books the rest of the year, too. All bookstores should be encouraging their communities to read Black, feminist, lesbian and gay writers during these respective celebrations — and all of the rest of the year, as well.

Competing with community stores for their customer base is not, however, appropriate. Using one's larger co-op kitty or larger annual buy to snag or demand the big authors (Black/feminist/gay) or

exclusives or even “firsts” is totally contrary to the spirit of these events. It is, in the long run, self-destructive. If writers come out of particular communities, and if their work appeals to particular communities as well as general communities, then these are literatures that are nurtured and enhanced by the existence of a network of community stores. Should these community stores disappear, should the only venues for these literatures become limited to large chain stores, what will happen to the literatures? If chain stores care about nothing else, they should care that these community stores continue to exist for the sake of their contributions to a flourishing community literature — so that the chain can continue to sell the crossover books. But that presumes a commitment to long-term values. The kind of long-term values that drive civil rights work over the decades, that keep community booksellers in their communities selling books despite the financial

challenges, that nurture community-based literatures that feed the world.

If corporate entities can't respect these values, hopefully the individuals who work in such competitive environments can, and that they can and will take the initiative to see that their events don't compete with — or step on the face of — their local community stores. It only takes an extra call to say, “I'd love to have that author — but only if _____ store has already turned him/her down” or “I'll do it if we can make it a joint event” — and then to backing up joint events financially by offering to split proceeds 50/50 while splitting expenses using a ratio based on each store's income or access to co-op. There are hundreds of ways for chains — and even the larger general independent stores — to support African American, women's, and gay community events and celebrations with integrity. All it takes is a little creativity, some thought, some recognition, and a little communication. ○

Working Together

When Random House put out the call to bookstores for proposals — a contest almost — to win a place in Alice Walker's *Anything We Love Can Be Saved* tour, Book•Woman's Susan Post called Folktales' owner Rosalind Oliphant to suggest that the two stores make a joint project of bringing Alice Walker to Austin. The two stores working together could make a stronger proposal and do a better job with the event.

“I thought it was a great idea,” Rosalind told *FBN*, “because I love Alice Walker and her work. We had a lot of experience to draw on; Susan has been in the business for twenty years and I've had Folktales for seven years.”

The first step was to sit down and brainstorm the event, to have a couple of sessions of free floating talk *before* writing the proposal to consider the possibilities both technical — where to hold it, how many people to plan for, ticket prices, whether tickets should be priced to include a book — and qualitative — what kind of ambiance did they want to create, how did they want the event to feel, what did they want people to take away from it, how many volunteers would they need to pull it off in the style that they wanted.

Once the proposal was accepted, both booksellers tapped into their respective communities for volun-

teers to participate in planning and hosting the event. Committees included set-up and decorations, refreshments, hosting, and running the booksigning.

“It was a good way to work,” Rosalind recalled later, “As long as you keep the lines of communication open. We had lots of people — with lots of ideas — so that takes a lot of compromise. You have to give and take on every detail: what kind of flowers to have, your own vision of where the signing will actually take place, all of those kinds of things, because everything has to be collaborative. And you *can* compromise on all of those small things as long as the compromises all work toward the real goal: creating an elegant, exquisite, and memorable evening. And we did. It went extremely well. Customers are still telling us they had a good time.”

“It was a good collaboration because the issues we face are very similar,” Susan Post added later. “We alternated meetings between the two stores and of course things came up. We planned the event, but we also dealt with racism and homophobia, and laughed together in recognition at times when we could see that we were dealing with the same issue reflected in a different form....”

Was it worth the effort? Absolutely! The event, the evening, and, yes, the book sales. But there have been other, equally important effects. The skills learned and expanded in producing the event, a closer relationship with another bookseller, and the value to their communities.

"Black women in our community were very proud that their women's bookstore was working with the Black community to do this project. People didn't have to feel as split for that moment and felt their community, their whole community, to be

validated and honored." That alone would have made the event worthwhile for Susan.

But how deeply does this commitment run? *FBN* asked if Book•Woman's sales had declined when Folktales opened. "Of course they did," Susan answered. "But that's not the point. The real point is that we need both kinds of bookstores here. We need all kinds of stores if independent bookselling is to survive for the long run. If Folktales is here, selling books in this community, then Book•Woman is stronger, too." —CS ○

Sisterspace An African American Women's Bookstore

You can't judge a book by its cover or a bookstore by its name.

Sistahs is an obviously-loved (story in a minute) bookstore serving its African American community — men and women, in Roxbury, a primarily Black community in Boston — not a specifically woman-oriented store as one might guess from its name. Well-loved? When I called "Information" to get the phone number, I ignorantly spelled "S-i-s-t-e-r-s" to the tape-recording that answers "Information" calls these days. When the operator came on the line to give me the number, she oh-so-firmly corrected my spelling and, in the very-short exchange operators are allowed these days, conveyed that this was her store, her community, and that I'd best show it proper respect.

I was awed by her telephone skills and impressed by a store that inspires such devotion.

Sisterspace & Books, which operates under the tag-line "African American Women's Books," is the nation's only African American woman-owned and operated bookstore specializing in books by and about African American women. "So far," founder and co-owner Faye Williams hastens to add.

The store, located in Washington DC's historic U Street corridor, just celebrated its third anniversary by moving into a larger space and moving another step further toward the owners' goal of creating an African American Women's Resource Center.

The new space is a 2,000-square-foot storefront on

street level, with big, beautiful windows. It features plenty of room for meetings, workshops, movie nights, and an art gallery, as well as for books and sidelines. When the bookstore opened it shared a third-floor space with a women's consignment clothing shop. "People are glad to walk the one-and-a-half blocks to the new store instead of climbing the 30 steps to the old store." Being at street level generates more walk-in traffic, of course. "But now," Faye adds, "We've got to figure out what to do with all these white guys who are coming in...."

Sisterspace is a very activist bookstore. "Women come in and look around, and after a few visits we get to know them and their interests. We ask women if they're interested in this project or that project that we're working on and now we have a core group of about 30 women who are very involved and who are speaking out on the issues. We ask everyone to take our fliers into the community. This is a very grassroots-based store.... We're also getting a good response from the more conservative, middle-class Black women," Faye continues.

Sisterspace runs a variety of different cultural programs. A recent video-and-discussion series featured *Daughters of the Dust* and films about Toni Morrison and Alice Walker. Many of the films were borrowed from the public library, others were rented from a video store — more or less readily available, except for the wonderful and frequently intense discussions that follow viewings at Sisterspace.

Writing workshops are also popular. Last spring Sisterspace ran an African American Women Writers Conference and will do a similar conference again this year.

DC already had a women's bookstore when Faye started Sisterspace. "Why did DC need another?" *FBN* asked.

"Our focus is different. We're in the 'hood — this store is about saving our community and dealing with the issues Black women live with day to day; the issues that are directly in your face all the time." And of course, unlike the seven other African American bookstores in DC, Sisterspace's focus is on women's issues.

Being organizers, the Sisterspace team is more than willing to invent when faced with a need: When a discussion group fell to commenting on how all the Black History Month events and programs seemed to be about men and that most of what they heard during Women's History Month was about white women, and the group concluded that they needed a Black Women's Month, Sisterspace took up the idea and declared April to be African American Women's

Month and has celebrated it ever since.

Why is Sisterspace still the only African American women's bookstore?

"Financial resources, or rather the lack of them," Faye responds. "But we also have a different point of view about how to go about organizing in the Black community. We're serious feminists, for one thing. My feminism started with my mother having to take care of seven children. Now that's a bold feminist statement if there ever was one, but most people work where they're most comfortable."

"Do you think there's a fear that when Black women organize for women, or specifically about women, that they'll be called lesbians?" *FBN* asked.

"Of course. That's the first thing that happens whenever *anyone* organizes anything for women. It doesn't matter who they are. It was one of the first things we were called when we opened. We said 'So what? Some of us are. Now get over it.'"

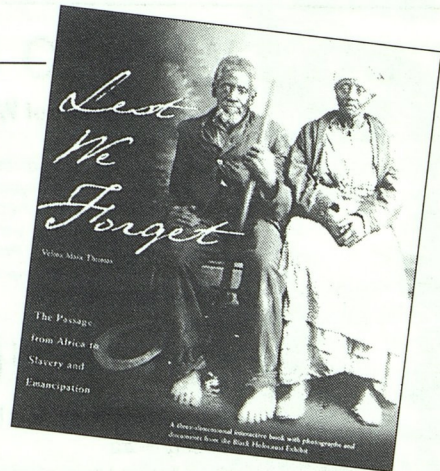
If you're in DC, visit Sisterspace at 1515 U Street. If you're not in DC, check out their Web site: www.blackpgs.com/sisterspace.html. —CS ○

Lest We Forget

Gratitude is the most common response to Velma Maia Thomas' remarkable *Lest We Forget: The Passage from Africa to Slavery and Emancipation*. Not gratitude for the story, but for the telling of it. For creating, in the book and in the Black Holocaust Exhibit from which the book evolved, a way for people to recall the brutal reality of slavery in this country and pay homage to those who suffered slavery and endured.

Maia Thomas is a bookseller and the story of the book and the exhibit begin in the Shrine of the Black Madonna Bookstore* in Atlanta. "As booksellers," she told *FBN*, "We always put out the call for out-of-print books — fiction by Black writers, Black history, books about slavery...." It was in 1991 that someone called and said they had a document, a bill of sale for a slave. Was she interested?

The document, written in a beautiful hand, recorded the sale of a six-year-old boy, Charles, for \$350. It made no mention of his parents, or any other family, but said that he would be transported from his home in Virginia to Louisiana.



Holding that document, the "deed" for a human being, was a transformative experience.

It was the beginning of a quest. As her collection of documents grew, Thomas began to exhibit them in one of the galleries in the bookstore.

Word spread and when a journalist was researching an article about ways the Black community

commemorates the generations who were enslaved, someone suggested talking to Ms. Thomas about her exhibit.

The article appeared in a Sunday edition of the *New York Times*. As luck (or perhaps the ancestors) would have it, her Random House telemarketing rep, Manie Barron (now African American Specialist, Trade Sales and Marketing at Random House) saw the article.

A few days later he called the bookseller and asked if she could make a book out of the exhibit.

She was hesitant. The documents, to her, were alive and vital; putting them between the covers of a book might not serve them or tell their story well.

A few days later Barron called again and proposed an interactive book.

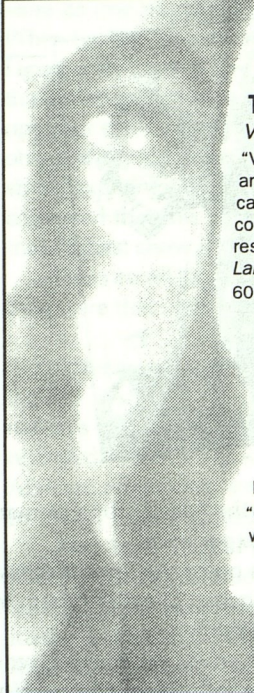
"We thought that if people could hold something in their hands, hold a bill of sale — actually hold it versus reading about it — that the book might touch them on a different level, maybe a spiritual level; that maybe they would feel pulled back into time," Thomas recalled.

The two of them met with the designer, and the rest is certainly history — history you can hold in your hands.

Public response to *Lest We Forget* has been enormous. The entire 30,000-copy first printing was gone by early December. An additional 15,000 copies were released on December 8. This is going to be a very important book for years to come.

"People take the book and read it with children — it's not specifically a children's book, but it's the children who make the adults come to grips with it. The children ask questions and make adults think about and name human nature, and how people can be driven by greed to do the inhumane," Thomas told *FBN*.

Parts of the Black Holocaust collection have been exhibited at the National Black Arts Festival, at the Shrine of the Black Madonna Bookstore in Houston, and at the South Eastern Booksellers Association meetings earlier this year. It would be wonderful if Crown could find a way to exhibit a part of this collection at BEA this spring. (Random House created

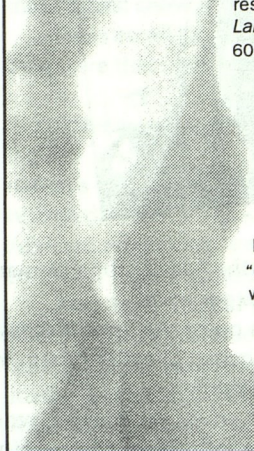


WHY SO SLOW?

The Advancement of Women
Virginia Valian

"Virginia Valian has made distinguished contributions to the science of language acquisition, and here she turns her analytical eye to another challenging problem — how the human capacity for categorization affects the perception and status of women. *Why So Slow?* is comprehensive, skillful, and well-written. It is an important advance and an indispensable resource." — Steven Pinker, Professor of Psychology, MIT, and author of *The Language Instinct* and *How the Mind Works*
605 pp., 23 illus. \$30

questions & answers



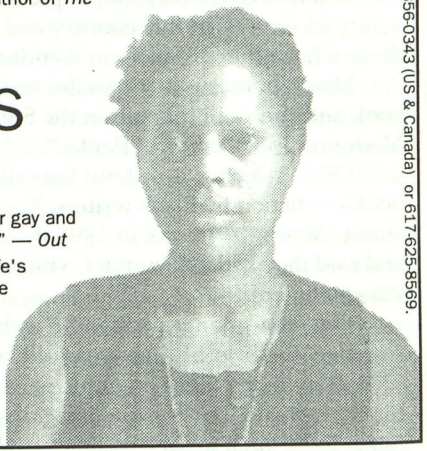
PARTICULAR VOICES

Portraits of Gay and Lesbian Writers
Robert Giard

"Giard has long been considered the photographer of record for gay and lesbian writers. *Particular Voices* is both stirring and gorgeous." — *Out*

"Giard is a unique talent, and this extraordinary collection is a life's work; indeed, the work of many lives. Giard has documented the human face of an entire world." — David M. Halperin, author, *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality* and *Saint Foucault*
332 pp., 184 illus. \$45

<http://mitpress.mit.edu>



To order books call 800-356-0343 (US & Canada) or 617-625-8569.

The MIT Press

an entire booth based on its book about the Sistine Chapel a few years ago.) In addition to lending a needed element of dignity to the entire show, it would give many of us in the book trade an opportunity to express our gratitude for this book and all the work that went into its making. —CS

*The Shrine of the Black Madonna Bookstores (Atlanta, Houston, and Detroit) are owned and oper-

ated by an African-centered Christian church of the same name, founded by Albert B. Cleage (yes, father of Pearl Cleage) in 1954. Each church features a huge mural of the Black Madonna and child, the Madonna of course as a symbol of protection and nurturance, and the child as a symbol of every child who must be nurtured. Liberation Theology credits these images as one of the several roots of contemporary womanist, woman-oriented theology and imagery. ○

A Vision and a Plan Breaking the Race Barrier in Publishing

Sometimes it just takes one person with a vision, one person to put their money where their dreams are, to turn a few things over. Walter Mosley has done it in a big way — twice — in the last two years.

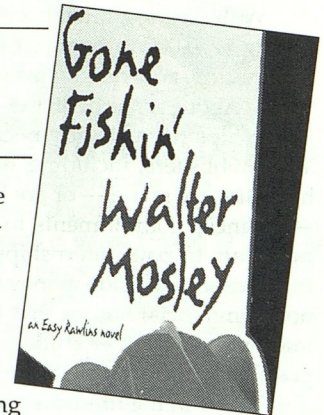
Inspired by a comment made during a PEN Open Book Committee panel that successful Black authors should occasionally publish books with Black publishers, Mosley decided to do it and placed the prequel to his bestselling, five-book Easy Rawlins mystery series, *Gone Fishin'*, with Black Classic Press. Black Classic, which publishes both long-lost treasures from African American literature and important work by contemporary authors, released the hardcover edition in January 1997. (The mass market edition will be released this February by Pocket Books.) Publisher Paul Coates and Mosley took the book — and the idea — on tour. Could Mosley have sold more copies of this book if he had stayed with a mainstream publisher? There will probably never be a final answer to that question. But one thing is clear: he kept the revenue from the book in the Black community, generated income for a Black press, and brought national attention to that particular press and to Black publishing in general. No need to ask if Mosley believes we still need Black and other community publishers. Hopefully his action will inspire other writers — Black, feminist, and gay — to do likewise.

Shortly after the *Gone Fishin'* sale was negotiated, the mystery writer decided to take action on another "mystery:" Why the New York publishing industry, located in one of the most cosmopolitan and culturally

diverse cities in the world, has such a lily-white work force. (At the managerial and professional levels, only 3.4% of employees are Black, and 1.8% are Latina/o, according to Federal figures.) White women, not to mention women of color, have also had a hard time gaining access to publishing's seats of power, as was outlined in an article in *PW's* 150th anniversary issue earlier this year. Why these barriers exist wasn't the interesting question; what to do about it, however, captured Mosley's imagination.

A graduate of the City College of New York's MFA program, he approached City College President Yolanda Moses with an idea: a publishing program to equip students with the skills they need to be successful in publishing, and a program of paid internships to get them in the door. Mosley put up \$10,000 of his own money as a seed grant to launch the program.

City College said yes, appointed David Unger (who also serves as the U.S. representative for the Guadalajara Book Fair) as the program's director and Catherine McKinley (previously of PEN's Open Book Committee and the Feminist Press, and co-editor of *Afrekete*) as associate director, and launched four classes last September. The first students will be ready to begin their internships in May. Forty-five students, ranging from undergraduates to MA's, and including



experienced journalists and community organizers, have already signed up. When the program is fully funded, it will offer 25 courses in three tracts: Editorial, Marketing & Advertising, and Design.

Will the Publishing Certificate Program challenge the too-white nature of mainstream publishing? Undoubtedly: 95% of the participants to date are Black, Latina/o or Asian. City College, Catherine McKinley points out, is a perfect venue for this program — it's a subway ride away from most NYC-based publishers and 80% of its student body are people of color.

With the program launched, the next challenge is raising \$700,000 to finance the program, internships, supervision, and visiting lectureships for the next five years. About a third of the money and eight paid internships have already been secured. Several New York publishers, including Bantam Doubleday Dell, have already made — or are in the process of making — financial commitments to the program and commitments to paid internships. The fundraising plan includes setting aside money to finance internships in non-commercial houses that don't have funds to pay interns so as to offer students access to the broadest possible range of opportunity.

To aid in the fundraising efforts, Mosley is sending personal letters appealing for support from authors in the upper tier of the literary classes —

writers such as William Styron, John Updike, Terry McMillan, and Stephen King. Mosley and City College President Yolanda Moses are also approaching top publishing executives with appeals for help and internships.

The program, in addition to offering classes in everything from publishing children's books to computer skills and intensive editing and proofreading classes, also includes the eclectic and already-popular Thursday Night Lecture Series, structured mentoring programs for students with both junior- and senior-level staff, and workshops on interviewing skills and workplace politics. The Thursday Night Series is open to the public and features one-night discussions on everything from "The Role of the Publicist" to "The Independent Press" and "Publishing the 'Unpublishable:' New Markets in Conservative Times;" from "Children's Book Editing and Trends in Multicultural Children's Publishing" to "The Role of the Literary Agent" and "How Books Are Composed and Manufactured."

Individuals, publishers, and foundations interested in supporting the program, committing to internships, providing mentoring support for students, or participating in the Thursday Night Series are encouraged to call Catherine McKinley at 212-650-7927, or David Unger at 212-650-7925. —CS ○

DocuTech

Another Approach to Movement Publishing

Paul Coates remembers Diana Press well. "They had a good crew and turned out some quality pieces," he says, in that thoughtful tone that printers use to evaluate other printers work.

"Freedom of the press belongs to those who own the presses," was what feminists learned in the sixties and early seventies. Male-run print shops (and there weren't any other print shops) could and did refuse to print feminist newspapers, articles and books, they found offensive — or just didn't like. It didn't happen often, but the threat was always there, on every issue of every publication, with every book published.

It was out of such experiences that women like the Diana Press crew started women-owned print

shops. Black-owned presses come out of a similar tradition and have a history — and a need — that goes back to the abolition movement, just as the earliest women-owned print shops go back to the early suffrage movement in places as diverse as England and Mexico.

In the seventies and early eighties, the dream was to own a web press, the large high-speed presses used to print large circulation newspapers and mass market books in quantities of tens and hundreds of thousands cheaply.

But the technology has changed again. The new dream is a long, low, comparatively quiet machine that looks for all the world like a long photocopy

machine with a computer attached — called a DocuTech — which prints entire books in a matter of minutes. Two copies of a 130-page book in two minutes. Two copies of a 270-page book in four.

Black Classic Press had the dream ("That old movement stuff gets into your blood and never leaves," Paul acknowledged). And in December, 1995, Black Classic acquired a Xerox DocuTech 135-2.


Financially it's very expensive. Politically it's very rewarding. "Having the DocuTech gives the Black community a kind of technological parity that wasn't there before. We have to do enough business to pay for the machine but, here in Baltimore, people can walk in and see the machine and talk to the operator. That creates an accessibility, not just to the technology but to possibilities, that wasn't there before."

Financing has been totally creative. DocuTechs cost about \$300,000. Xerox has a program, similar to a lease, that includes the DocuTech, trimming and binding equipment, and provides a skilled operator that costs "about the same as buying a new Honda Accord each month." Black Classic Press used a combination of personal funds, loans, community appeals and equity investment to finance the equipment. Paul, his life partner, Cheryl Waters, and son Damani Coates, also created BCP Digital Printing to work with other small presses, institutions, churches, and non-profit organizations to fill their printing needs and generate the cash flow necessary to support the DocuTech.

Ready access to short-run technology can allow publishers to successfully publish books for a small audience, to publish for direct mail customers (making it possible to order and pay for printing *after* the order is received), and to keep good books in print, even when demand is limited.

Black Classic Press used the DocuTech to print several of their Fall titles, using a traditional offset press to print the covers for the books, then using the DocuTech to print 200 copies of each "short-run" title. When those copies sold BCP printed an additional 150 copies. BCP has added a dozen titles to their list using this technology — books that don't have a general trade market, but that are important to publish and/or return to circulation. (Black Classic still uses traditional offset printing when it makes sense to print 2,000+ books at a time.)


"... a landmark project with historical value."
— CARLOS SANTANA



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Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir offer this beautiful and compelling recording characterizing the songs of slavery through its distinctive elements of simple melodies, repetitive choruses, improvised solos and African-derived musical instruments creating the very foundation for American popular music of today.

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In addition to allowing publishers to print smaller quantities profitably, publishers save on prepress costs (there is no film) and warehousing expenses. Per-book printing costs are higher (about \$4/unit), a figure that becomes viable in certain short run situations, since the number of copies printed is based on actual sales rather than projected, long-term sales.

Eventually many publishers will do a mix of traditional and on-demand printing, using offset to print the initial run, and short-run to fill orders once the initial demand is over, printing "extra" copies of the cover during the initial printing to use to bind the short-run copies, and reverting to a more library-looking binding for books that will be sold to libraries or collectors, rather than from bookstore shelves. —CS ○

Videos to Celebrate
**Black
 History
 Month**



Born in Flames

Fantasy of female rebellion. Adelaide Norris is mysteriously killed and a seemingly impossible coalition of women unite. 90 Min. \$29.95

Girlfriends

Anthology of romantic and comedic short films. 80 Min. \$29.95

Girlstown

Girls buddy movie 90 Min. \$19.95

Go Fish

Independent romantic comedy. A young girl living "the dyke lifestyle." 95 Min. \$19.95

Incredibly True Adventure of 2 Girls in Love

Delightful lesbian romantic comedy about two young girls who experience the joys of first love together. 94 Min. \$19.95

Set It Off

Queen Latifah plays a lesbian. . . 173 Min. \$19.95

She Must Be Seeing Things

A love affair between two women is tested when one reads the other's diary. 95 Min. \$29.95

She's Safe

Safe sex is fun and fun to watch. This is hilarious. 55 Min. \$19.95

When Night is Falling

"One of the most sensual films about lesbian passion ever made." *The Washington Blade* 90 Min. \$89.95

Women From Down Under

Lesbian short films from New Zealand and Australia, one of which features Xena's Lucy Lawless. 52 Min. \$29.95



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Resources

for Women's History Month & Black History Month

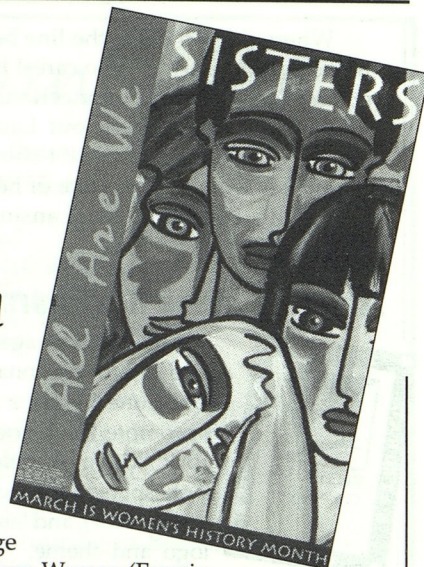
By Carol Seajay

Posters for Display or Sale

I walked into Amazon Bookstore (Minneapolis) and saw exactly the poster I had dreamed of for this issue: A multicultural, multiethnic poster in warm vibrant colors featuring four women's faces in a range of browns and tans, with a small legend reading "March is Women's History Month," and a header that declares "We are all sisters." This is the perfect backdrop for any window display whose agenda is that Women's History Month isn't just a white-girls thing. Available from the American Library Association. \$9. (See below for ordering information.)

How about a poster of Oprah reading Toni Morrison's *Beloved*? Or Whoopi Goldberg reading *Nicolas Cricket*? Have customers into Denzel Washington, Spike Lee, or Bill Cosby? Amazon has the great Rosie O'Donnell poster, but also check out Michelle Pfeiffer, Kristi Yamaguchi, Bette Midler, and Geena Davis. Feminist bookstores with Xena-fan clientele will want to stock up on the Xena poster featuring our hero reading from a scroll under the caption "Vanquish Ignorance: Read." All are available from ALA. Xena posters are \$8; others are \$10, but \$8 each for 5+. Call 800-545-2433 and press #7 to order or call the same number, extension 5046, for a free catalog. You can see a few of the images (Oprah and Xena) on ALA's Web site (www.ala.org/market/graphics/star_power.html) and (parade.html).

The National Women's History Project (founders of National Women's History Month) also offers a great collection of multicultural posters and other resources, including many designed for school use, such as the twelve-poster Women of Hope series celebrating the



talent and courage of African American Women (Fannie Lou Hamer, Alice Walker, Maya Angelou, Marian Wright Edelman, Mae Jemison), the Celebrating Black Women's History poster, the Writers and Performers of the Harlem Renaissance postcard series, multicultural Women in Science and Mathematics posters, the Harriet Tubman Game for grades 2-6, the *Telling Our Stories: Women in Science* CD-ROM that helps girls explore science careers while improving their computer skills, and a great deal more. Call 707-838-6000 for a free catalog and their wholesale price list, or visit their Web site at (www.nwhp.org).

Syracuse Cultural Workers has an extensive collection of posters, buttons, t-shirts and postcards that includes many multicultural and women's images. Recent additions to their list include new Paul Robeson and Che Guevara posters. Call or write for a catalog if you don't already get one. PO Box 6367, Syracuse NY 13217; 315-474-1132.

Northern Sun's poster collection ranges from Sojourner Truth to Audre Lorde, and includes an excellent International Women's Day poster and several of Jane Evershed's whimsical multicultural images on both posters and t-shirts. For the girls, there's New Moon's "Listen to the Girls" poster featuring Asian, African, and Northern European girls. Northern Sun Merchandising, 612-729-2001, or New Moon Publishing, PO Box 3587, Duluth MN 55803; 800-381-4743.

Where do you draw the line between "history" and "contemporary"? Who cares! If your customers celebrate the historic connections between Black women and music check out Laura Irene Wade's wonderful posters, cards, and t-shirts (for adults and kids). (See "Kids' Lit" for one of her images.) Laura Irene Wade, PO Box 23205, Lansing MI 48909; 517-267-9344.

National Black Bookstore Week Kits



ABA will once again co-sponsor and create kits for National Black Bookstore Week (June 15–21), a national program to promote Black bookstores and their work. Maya Angelou will serve as spokesperson for the event once again (see sidebar), and last year's successful logo and theme, "Keeping Us Connected," will repeat again this year.

Do community-serving bookstores need to organize these kinds of promotional and educational events? "Absolutely," said co-organizer Clara Villarosa, founder of the Hue-Man Experience Bookstore in Denver. "If we don't let people know who we are, no one else will do it. We're strong and we're not going to give up." National Black Bookstore Week takes that message to the community and to the industry. NBBW kits will be available to both ABA member stores and non-member stores. To order copies of the kit, call 800-637-0037, ext.283.

Distributors

These distributors specialize in not-commonly-available multicultural titles. See also the independent and small press distributors listed in the "From Our Own Presses" column.

Afrikan World Books

Black-interest products including books for both adults and children, audios, videos, calendars, games. Baltimore. 410-383-2006.

Bilingual Publications

Books in Spanish, including contemporary Latin American fiction, general self-help, children's, and audios. New York. 212-431-3500.

BlaCast Entertainment

A diverse collection of cards, calendars, Kwanzaa materials (including gift wrap), plus books, 700+

videos, audio books, CDs, clip art, stationery, and more. Cambria Heights, NY. 718-712-2300. Web site: www.tike.com/ads/blacast1.htm.

Books on Wings

Literature, history, self-help and health, nonfiction, books for children, as well as audios and videos in Spanish. Books On Wings also fills special orders for books from Spain, Argentina, Chile, and the rest of South and Central America. San Francisco. 415-285-1145.

Eastwind Books & Arts

Books, CDs, videos, calendars, and stationery items on/from Chinese and Asian American cultures. San Francisco. 415-772-5899 for English titles; 415-772-5877 for Chinese titles. Web site: www.eastwindsf.com.

Fondo de Cultural Economica USA

Books in Spanish. San Diego. 800-532-3872.

Hispanic Book Distributors

Bilingual and Spanish-language books and periodicals. Tucson. 800-634-2124; 520-690-0643.

La Moderna Poesia

Spanish-language titles. Coral Gables, FL. 305-446-9884.

Libreria Del Lobo

Spanish-language books, videos, audios, CDs, and sidelines. Gaithersburg, MD. 301-438-7116. Web site: www.libreriadellobo.com.

Many Feathers Books and Maps

Native American and Southwest-regional titles. Phoenix, AZ. 800-279-7652; 602-266-1043.

Multicultural Distributing Center

Multicultural, multilingual children's books and educational materials. El Monte, CA. 800-LEP-HELP; 626-575-1000. Web site: www.greenshower.com or www.story-on-line.com.

Schoenhof's Foreign Books

54,000 titles including imported fiction, nonfiction, and children's books from Europe and Latin America in a number of languages. Cambridge, MA. 617-547-8855.

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Love Ruins Everything... the much-anticipated first novel by writer and editor Karen X. Tulchinsky.

"Ma. I'm still a lesbian."
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Love Ruins Everything features a delightful cast of characters who delve into the tempestuous minefields of family relations, love and heartbreak, and the politics of AIDS—eventually to find "the laugh in every tear."

Karen X. Tulchinsky will be touring in Boston at *OutWrite*, as well as New York, San Francisco, Oakland, Portland, Seattle, and cities across Canada.

Available February 1998

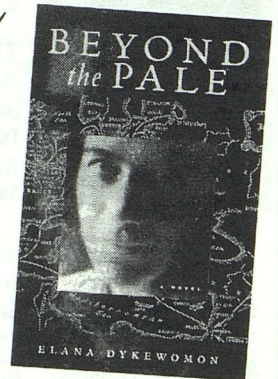
ISBN: 0-88974-082-8 \$14.95 US / \$18.95 Cdn

Stock Up for Women's History Month

Elana Dykewomon's new novel *Beyond the Pale* is the product of 10-years of research and an extraordinary gift for storytelling. *Beyond the Pale* charts the lives of Jewish women who emigrated from Russia to New York's East Side at the turn of the century.

Finalist for the 1997 American Library Association's
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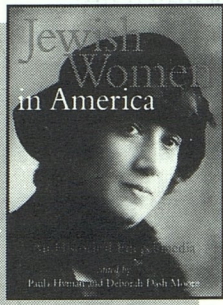


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ROUTLEDGE Celebrating Women



JEWISH WOMEN IN AMERICA

An Historical Encyclopedia
 Edited by Paula Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore

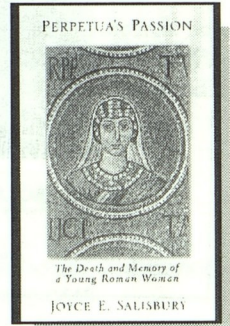
"An important contribution to U. S. history, women's history, Jewish history—and fascinating bedside reading."

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PERPETUA'S PASSION

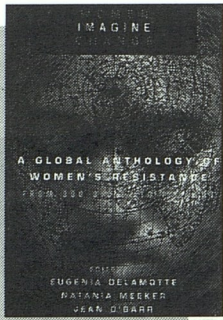
The Death and Memory of a Young Roman Woman
 Joyce E. Salisbury



"...Salisbury's well-annotated look at Perpetua's martyrdom is clear, thorough, insightful and less a portrait of the person than of the sociopolitico-religious context in which she lived and died. Salisbury's sharp analysis strips away generations of patriarchal revisionism to let the young roman matron speak for herself."

—Publisher's Weekly

240 pp 11 illus \$19.95/pb



WOMEN IMAGINE CHANGE

A Global Anthology of Women's Resistance from 600 B.C.E. to Present
 Edited by Eugenia C. DeLamotte, Natania Meeker, and Jean F. O'Barr

This anthology of works from over thirty countries combines a broad theoretical perspective on gender and resistance with vivid biographical context. Included are: Paula Gunn Allen, Susan B. Anthony, Ida B. Wells Barnett, Angela Davis, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Hildegard of Bingen, Audre Lorde, Fatima Mernissi, Cherré Moraga, Hiratsuka Raicho, Mab Segrest, Ruby Thompson, and Mary Wollstonecraft.

480 pp \$29.99/pb

Chicana Feminist Thought

The Basic Historical Writings
 Edited by Alma M. Garcia
Chicana Feminist Thought recovers the historical contributions of a generation of Chicana feminists whose activism forged a collective struggle to overcome the gender contradictions, tensions, and conflicts within the Chicano Movement.

416 pp \$24.99/pb

Community Activism and Feminist Politics

Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender

Edited by Nancy A. Naples

"...proof that progressive, exciting, rigorous feminist social science is alive and well, as are the continuing and often successful everyday efforts of women to better their communities."

—Sandra Morgen, Oregon University
 368 pp \$22.99/pb

The Second Wave

A Reader in Feminist Theory
 Edited by Linda Nicholson

This volume collects many of the major essays of feminist theory of the past forty years. The essays included here are those which have made key contributions to feminist theory during this period and which have generated extensive discussion.

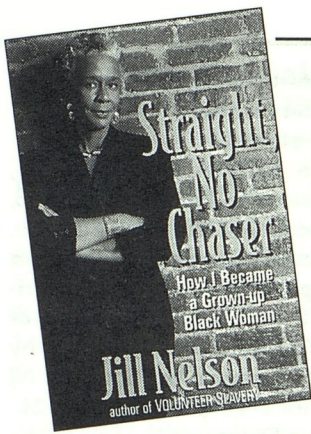
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Booksellers Recommend...



To supplement our roundups of new books for Black History and Women's History Months, we asked a number of feminist and African American booksellers what books they thought other booksellers should know about and promote in their displays.

We weren't necessarily looking for bestsellers, but for booksellers' favorite books — the books they like to hand-sell, books that others might not know about, books they feel are important and simply must be stocked in a comprehensive Women's Studies or Black History section year-round, and books that are simply a good read.

To generate a rich and varied list, we asked different booksellers different questions. Some responded with passionate annotations, some sent lists of books that speak for themselves. Some focus on Black History Month, some on Women's History Month, and some on both. All of the responses were generous and in the spirit of cooperation and mutual support between our bookselling communities.

African Spectrum Bookstore Atlanta, GA

Suggestions contributed by Nemasengere Mutota.

Black History Month

The Between: A Novel by Tananarive Due. This very complex book is a supernatural mystery. It's the first book of this type written by a Black person. Not quite Stephen King — it's about a guy living between two worlds: dream and real. \$13 pb, 0060927267, HarperPerennial.

My Soul to Keep by Tananarive Due. Another supernatural mystery; this one is about an immortal. \$24 cl, 0060187425, HarperCollins.

Don't Believe the Hype: Fighting Cultural Misinformation About African Americans by Farai Chideya. \$11.95 pb, 0451170960, Plume/Penguin USA.

Black Empire by George S. Schuyler. This is not a traditional book. It's a novel about a doctor who had a plan to transform the Black community. Written in the 1930s, most people considered it science fiction. Until recently, no one knew that the author was a Black person. Part of the Northeastern Library of Black Literature series. \$15.95 pb, 1555531687, Northeastern University Press.

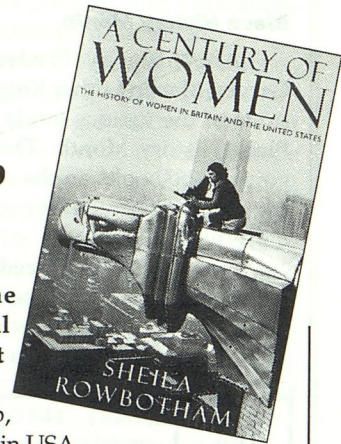
Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race from 4500 B.C. to 200 A.D. by Chancellor Williams. A book that deals with issues of African American history. \$16.95 pb, 0883780305, Third World Press.

Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America by Lerone Bennett. A classic that everyone should have and read. \$16.95 pb, 0140178228, Penguin USA.

Developmental Psychology of the Black Child by Amos N. Wilson. One of the few books that explores the psychological development of Black children. \$10 pb, 0686241835, Africana Research Publications.

The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution by C.L.R. James. A history of Haiti, including the Haitian revolution. \$14 pb, 0679724672, Vintage/Random House.

Sisters of the Yam: Black Women and Self-Recovery by bell hooks. \$14 pb, 0896084566, South End Press. Distributed by LPC/InBook.



Afrocentric Bookstore Chicago, IL

Suggestions contributed by Wally Haastrup.

Black History Month

Anything by Frederick Douglass, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King, Jr. — historical books are some of the various kinds of books we focus on for Black History Month. The biggest thing in 1998 is going to be books on the *Amistad*. We're also expecting a lot of inventory covering different slave narratives.

From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans by John Hope Franklin. This is an older book, and I think it's important to have in any collection of works on Black history because Franklin covers

a lot of areas that others touch on briefly. \$45 cl, 0679430873, Knopf/Random House.

Books by Ivan Van Sertima:

African Presence in Early America (\$20 pb, 0887387152), **African Presence in Early Asia** (\$20 pb, 0887387179), **African Presence in Early Europe** (\$20 pb, 0887386644), **Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern** (\$20 pb, 0878559418), **Egypt Revisited: Journal of African Civilizations** (\$20 pb, 0887387993), **Egypt: Child of Africa** (\$20 pb, 1560007923). All books published by Transaction Publishers, 390 Campus Dr., Somerset NJ 08873; 888-999-6778. 30% for 1-4 copies, 40% for 5-24.

Books by Cheikh Anta Diop:

Precolonial Black Africa: A Comparative Study of the Political and Social Systems of Europe and Black Africa (\$9.95 pb, 1556520883. Africa World Press, 11-D Princess Road, Lawrenceville NJ 08648; 609-844-9583), **Civilization or Barbarism: An Authentic Anthropology** (\$17.95 pb, 1556520484, Lawrence Hill & Co. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group), **The African Origin of Civilization: Myth or Reality** (\$14.95 pb, 1556520727, Lawrence Hill & Co.).

Books by Dr. Yosef A.A. Ben-Jochannan:

African Origins of Major Western Religions (\$24.95 pb, 0933121296), **Black Man of the Nile and His Family** (\$24.95 pb, 0933121261), **Africa: Mother of Western Civilization** (\$34.95 pb, 0933121253). All books published by Black Classic Press, PO Box 13414, Baltimore MD 21203; 410-358-0980. Distributed by PGW.

I also recommend books by Anthony Browder.

Amazon Bookstore Minneapolis, MN

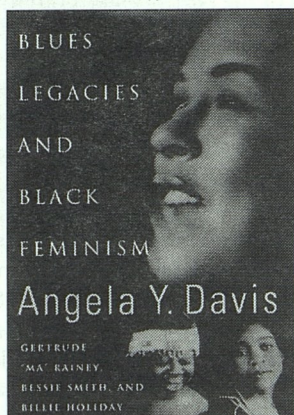
Suggestion contributed by Mev Miller.

Women's History & Black History Months

Race, Gender & Work: A Multicultural Economic History of Women in the United States by Teresa L. Amott and Julie Matthaei. This is my personal pick for both Women's History Month and Black History Month. The book is a multicultural history of the U.S. told from the perspective of women and people of color which provides a good historical overview of how this country was built on the backs of women and people of color. It is an economic history, as well as a history of work, race and gender. \$21 pb, 0896085376, South End Press. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

Blues Legacies and Black Feminism:

Gertrude "Ma" Rainey,
Bessie Smith, and
Billie Holiday



Angela Y. Davis

In a brilliant reinterpretation of the tradition of Black women blues singers, Angela Davis proposes that the popular music given

voice by Gertrude "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, and Billie Holiday represents a black working-class, feminist ideology and historical consciousness, and a celebration of non-middle-class, non-heterosexual values.

Pantheon 0-679-45005-X, hardcover, \$27.50/C\$38.50

Poster available: 0-676-53792-8

BlaCast Entertainment (distributor) Cambria Heights, NY

Suggestions contributed by Edna Swan.

Black History Month

Here is a list of some of the current bestsellers and books we at BlaCast find interesting:

Kwanzaa: Everything You Always Wanted to Know But Didn't Know Where to Ask by Cedric McClester. \$5.95 pb, 0936073241, Gumbs & Thomas Publishers.

One Better by Rosalyn McMillan. \$22 cl, 0446522422, Warner Books.

The Original African Heritage Bible Study Bible/King James Version by Eileen Seitz. \$32.50 cl, 1555237118, Winston-Derek Publishers.

Sister Rules by Delene Millner. \$9.95 pb, 0688156894, Quill/William Morrow & Co.

Sister to Sister: Devotions For and From African American Women edited by Suzan D. Johnson Cook. \$10 pb, 0817012214, Judson Press.

Spook Who Sat By the Door: A Novel (African American Life Series) by Sam Greenlee. \$6.95 pb, 1880800017; \$39.95 video, D&J Books and Video.

We also recommend all books by J. California Cooper, E. Lynn Harris and Iyanla Vanzant.

[Above books are available from BlaCast Entertainment. Ordering information in the resources section of this issue.]

Black Images Book Bazaar Dallas, TX

Suggestions contributed by Emma Rodgers.

Black History & Women's History Months

Coming of Age in Mississippi by Anne Moody. Anne Moody demonstrates courage throughout her entire life. She has something within that makes her have the courage to stand up for herself and find a way to pursue a college education with her talents. She is also a major player in the Civil Rights Movement of the sixties. If you could only read one autobiography, Anne Moody's **Coming of Age in Mississippi** gets my vote. \$6.99 pb, 0440314887, Laurel/Dell.

Faces at the Bottom of the Well: The Permanence of Racism by Derrick Bell. Bell presents snapshots of encounters that are real for many people in our race-

conscious society. Read Chapter 9 first, "The Space Traders." It sets the tone for the book as it is the story of African Americans being traded and transported to outer space in exchange for gold, oil, and a pollution-free country. \$12 pb, 0465068146, Basic Books.

The Good Negress by A.J. Verdelle. The teacher, Miss Gloria Pearson, challenges Denise Palms' intellect, just as the author challenges readers' intellect with her symbolism. In this debut novel, Verdelle shows that she writes in the vein of Toni Morrison. \$12 pb, 0060976837, HarperPerennial.

The Hand I Fan With by Tina McElroy Ansa. Through her supernatural lover, Herman, Lena is able to get her physical and spiritual needs fulfilled beyond her wildest dreams. Herman also helps Lena to see how she can let the townspeople of Mulberry become more self-reliant, and less dependent on her generosity. \$23.95 cl, 0385475993, Doubleday/BDD.

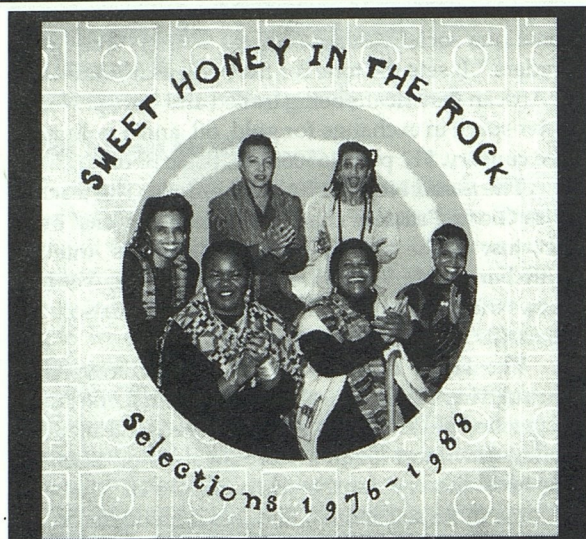
In Search of Satisfaction by J. California Cooper. One man, a freed slave, two families — one Black, one white — and two destinies for each of his daughters. The book covers the seven deadly sins and can be used as an instructional guide by which to live. \$10.95 pb, 0385467869, Anchor Books/BDD.

Magic City by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Rhodes presents a fictionalized account of true events that occurred in 1921 that led to the demise of the "Negro Wall Street" in the Greenwood section of Tulsa, Oklahoma. A white woman and a Black man cross paths and become pawns in a game of death and destruction. \$23 cl, 0060187328, HarperCollins.

Nervous Conditions by Tsitsi Dangarembga. A coming-of-age story set in Zimbabwe. Many women's issues are raised by not only the central female character, but also by strong secondary characters and passive women as well. \$12 pb, 187806777X, Seal Press. Distributed by PGW, and available from various wholesalers.

Only Twice I've Wished for Heaven by Dawn Turner Trice. Classism, sexism and survival are central themes of this coming-of-age story set in Chicago in 1975. \$23 cl, 0517704285, Crown Publishers/Random House.

Rattlebone by Maxine Clair. A coming-of-age collection of eleven stories that interrelate to comprise a novel set in an African American community outside of Kansas City, Kansas. \$9.95 pb, 0140248250, Penguin USA.



**DOUBLE ALBUM SET FROM ONE OF THE WORLD'S
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The repertoire of this powerful ensemble of African-American women singers covers an unprecedented range of original and traditional songs based in their people's historical legacy of resistance against oppression. This double album set is a stunning collection of some of their finest recordings.

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Jan. 18	New York, NY
Jan. 23	Santa Rosa, CA
Jan. 24	Berkeley, CA
Feb. 13-14	Indianapolis, IN
Feb. 15	Greencastle, IN
Feb. 20-21	Atlanta, GA
Feb. 24	Greensboro, NC
Feb. 26	Gainesville, FL
Feb. 27-28	San Antonio, TX
March 1	Savannah, GA
March 6-8	Minneapolis, MN
March 27	Northampton, MA



Part of the Rounder Records Family of Labels
<http://www.rounder.com>

These Same Long Bones by Gwendolyn M. Parker. On the eve of the 50s civil rights movement, the African American community in Durham, North Carolina is self-contained with a mix of classes living in the same neighborhood. Sirius McDougald is the most prosperous Black and has the welfare of his community at the pinnacle of his investments. The white power structure, however, manipulates the townspeople by using a divide-and-conquer technique to stir up the community. \$10.95 pb, 0452274281, Plume/Penguin USA.

Tumbling by Diane McKinney-Whetstone. At the dawn of gentrification in the 50s, a South Philadelphia neighborhood fights to retain its integrity. The book is layered with subplots in which characters struggle to keep their balance and find their identity. \$12 pb, 0684837242, Scribner/Simon & Schuster.

**Brigit Books
St. Petersburg, FL**

Suggestions contributed by Patty Callaghan.

Black History Month

Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison. I know everyone's heard of it now because of Oprah, but it's one of my five favorite books ever and I have to include it. \$11.95 pb, 0452260116, NAL/Penguin USA.

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston. Rediscovered by Alice Walker, Zora Neale Hurston's novel of growing up in Florida. First published in 1937. \$13 pb, 0060916508, HarperPerennial.

Zami: A New Spelling of My Name by Audre Lorde. Growing up in Harlem — Black and lesbian — in the 50s. \$14.95 pb, 0895941228. Crossing Press, Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019; 800-777-1048. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T.

Jambalaya: The Natural Woman's Book of Personal Charms and Practical Rituals by Luisah Teish. A priestess of Oshun, Teish gives us the wisdom of Afro-American folk beliefs, ancient knowledge and ritual. \$14 pb, 0062508598, HarperSanFrancisco.

Cultural Etiquette by Amoja Three Rivers. Recommendations for all races about correct cultural behavior: "Everyone speaks with an accent." "Exotic," when applied to human beings, is racist." \$6 pb, no isbn. Market Wimmin, Box 28, Indian Valley VA 24105. 40% for 10+ copies, plus \$1.50 postage; \$2.50 postage on 11-20.

Women's History Month

When God Was a Woman by Merlin Stone. Women's real history before it was almost blotted out by the patriarchy. \$11 pb, 015696158X, Harcourt Brace.

Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years: Women, Cloth, and Society in Early Times by Elizabeth Wayland Barber. Shows women's vital role in pre-industrial societies in the making of fabric — a craft that made civilization possible. \$13 pb, 0393313484, W.W. Norton & Co.

The Burning Times (video). How millions of women were murdered because of their healing powers — witches, midwives and crones — in Europe from the fifteenth through the seventeenth centuries. \$34.95, Direct Cinema.

**Charis Books & More
Atlanta, GA**

Suggestions contributed by Sara Look.

Customers ask if we have a history section, and we do have one tiny women's herstory shelf but it's frustrating: people just don't buy books out of this section. Because of this we have these books mixed in with other books all over the store: in Black Studies, Global Concerns, Lesbian & Gay Studies, etc.

Women's History Month

Carryin' On In the Lesbian and Gay South edited by John Howard. A new book on gay & lesbian history; I think it's a really groundbreaking book as the South is a region that is often ignored. The book includes an article about Charis and the history of feminist bookstores. \$18.95 pb, 0814735606, NYU Press.

Everyday Acts & Small Subversions: Women Reinventing Family, Community, and Home by Anndee Hochman. This book changed my life. It's about creating history, and the different ways women do family, community and work. \$12.95 pb, 0933377258, Eighth Mountain Press. Distributed by Consortium.

To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors After the Civil War by Tera W. Hunter. This book was brought to our attention by a customer, who raved about how wonderful and important it was. \$29.95 cl, 0674893093, Harvard University Press.

The Very Inside: An Anthology of Writings by Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians and Bisexual Women edited by Sharon Lim-Hing. Full of poetry, essays and stories; this book is another first of its kind. It's a wonderful, thought-provoking book. \$19.95 pb, 0920813976, Sister Vision Press. Distributed by LPC/InBook. Available from Ingram, BP.

Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology edited by Barbara Smith (\$15.95 pb, 0913175021, Kitchen Table Press) and **This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color** edited by Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzuldúa (\$11.95 pb, 091317503X, Kitchen Table Press) are two books that totally shaped my feminism. They have to be on all feminist bookstore shelves. Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, PO Box 40-4920, Brooklyn NY 11240.

[Note: Kitchen Table titles are available from distributors and, we are told, by direct order (mail order only; no phone calls at this time). Allow extra time for direct orders.]

Witches, Midwives and Nurses: A History of Women Healers by Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English. This is such a good, little, brief history of women and healing, and women's spirituality and the history of healing and the connection to witches. \$5.95 pb, 0912670134, Feminist Press. Distributed by Consortium.

**Crazy Ladies Bookstore
Cincinnati, OH**

Suggestions contributed by Laura Smith.

Women's History Month

What Every American Should Know About Women's History: 200 Events That Shaped Our Destiny by Christine Lunardini. Great for someone who needs a resource for a project on women's history in the U.S. \$10.95 pb, 155850687X, Adams Media Corp. Available from Koen, Ingram.

The American Women's Almanac: An Inspiring and Irreverent Women's History by Louise Bernikow. Amusing, little known snippets for women's history fans. Good for someone preparing a presentation, and also just an interesting read. \$16.95 pb, 0425156168, Berkeley Publishing Group.

History of Women for Children by Vivian Epstein. A good way to explain women's history to children. Written and illustrated (and published) by

Epstein. \$6.95 pb, 0960100237; \$13.95 cl, 0960100237. VSE Publisher, 212 So. Dexter St., Denver CO 80246; 303-322-7450. 40%, no minimum order.

does your mama know? An Anthology of Black Lesbian Coming Out Stories edited by Lisa C. Moore. A familiar FB-Net Catalog book. We sold out of these after the National Women's Music Festival. A much-needed collection of personal accounts that make up an important historical document. \$19.95 pb, 0965665909. Redbone Press, PO Box 861, Decatur GA 30031; 404-815-8391. 40% for 3+ copies, free freight.

And Then She Said: Quotations From Women Around the World compiled by J.D. Zahniser. Great quotes for any use...and an interesting way to learn about history. \$10.95 pb, 0962483672. Caillech Press, 482 Michigan St., St. Paul MN 55102; 612-225-9647. 45% for 5+ copies. Available at BP, B&T, Koen.

Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years by A. Elizabeth Delany and Sarah Louise Delany. Many people have encountered the Delany sisters either through theatre or their books. This book is a wonderful way to understand the history of these two amazing women and Black history in general. \$11.95 pb, 0385312520, Delta/BDD.

Full Circle Books Albuquerque, NM

Suggestions contributed by Alice Trabauda, Jan Lee, Helene Vann, and Janet Newton.

Black History & Women's History Months

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Linda Brent. \$9 pb, 0156443503, Harvest/Harcourt Brace.

Why History Matters: Life and Thought by Gerda Lerner. \$30 cl, 0195046447, Oxford University Press.

Memoirs from the Women's Prison by Nawal El Saadawi. This is a startling fictional account of an Egyptian woman's fight against injustice. \$13.95 pb, 0520088883, University of California Press.

Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High by Melba Pattillo Beals. This book gives the reader a much needed perspective on the Civil Rights Movement from those who were most affected by it. \$12 pb, 0671866397, Pocket Books.

An Interrupted Life by Etty Hillesum. An extraordinary personal diary of Etty Hillesum's experiences during World War II, leading up to her extermination in

a concentration camp. [Note: The Pocket Books edition of this book is currently out of stock. There is no reprint date set, but it is unlikely that they will let this book go out of print. There is a different hardcover edition currently available — **Etty Hillesum: An Interrupted Life and Letters from Westerbork: The Diaries, 1941–1943**, with an introduction by Eva Hoffman. \$27.50 cl, 0805048944, Henry Holt & Co.]

The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions by Paula Gunn Allen. \$15 pb, 0807046175, Beacon Press.

Hue-Man Experience Denver, CO

Suggestions contributed by Clara Villarosa.

Black History Month

A Pictorial History of African Americans: From 1619 to Present, edited. Quick and easy information with illustrations. \$40 cl, 0517596660, Crown Publishers/Random House.

Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America by Lerone Bennett. Comprehensive history book. \$16.95 pb, 0140178228, Penguin USA.

The Shaping of Black America: The Struggles and Triumphs of African Americans, 1619 to 1990s by Lerone Bennett. The forces that transformed Africans into African Americans. \$13.95 pb, 0140175687, Penguin USA.

Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock Central High by Melba Pattillo Beals. The story of the nine teenagers who braved the mob to go to an integrated school. \$12 pb, 0671866397, Pocket Books.

Mutiny on the Amistad by Howard Jones. The events that inspired the major motion picture of a slave revolt directed by Stephen Spielberg. \$12.95 pb, 0195038290, Oxford University Press.

Women's History Month

When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America by Paula Giddings. A comprehensive history of Black women. \$14 pb, 0688146503, William Morrow & Co.

A Shining Thread of Hope: The History of Black Women in America by Darlene Clark Hine and Kathleen Thompson. \$27.50 cl, 076790110X, Broadway Books/BDD.

Marcus Books San Francisco, CA

Suggestion contributed by Karen Johnson.

Black History Month

Stolen Legacy by Professor George G.M. James, and with an introduction by Asa G. Hilliard, III. "I have seen the enemy and it is us." —Pogo. With self-esteem issues the predominate theme-of-the-day for getting "right" with the world, what better time then now to back-up our growing self-respect with some African *megahistory*! How 'bout arming ourselves with the knowledge that the African continent civilized the Western world by giving it the Arts and Sciences, Religion and Philosophy? Not true, you say. Then you need a copy of **Stolen Legacy** by George

G.M. James. In the Julian Richardson Associates publication, there is an introduction by none other than the great scholar, Egyptologist, psychologist, and educator, Dr. Asa G. Hilliard III. In this popular book, George G.M. James tears apart the veil of historical deception of the notion that the Greeks brought "the light" to the world. What is thoroughly proven in **Stolen Legacy** is that the light that Greece held up to Europe was but a candle lit from the torch of the incredible wisdom of the Mystery System of the Blacks of North Africa, commonly called Egyptians by the Greeks.

Theory by theory, the so-called Greek philosophy is traced to its African origin. The "science of sciences" of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and Pythagoras are dwarfed against their African origin, to a time as far back as five thousand years before there even was a

HISTORIES

GENDERED JUSTICE IN THE AMERICAN WEST

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ANNE M. BUTLER

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A rare glimpse into the world of female prisoners in the early West. Drawing on prison records as well as the words of the women themselves, Butler's investigation is shocking and poignant.

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Foreword by William L. Andrews*

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In a novel rejected by a major publisher in the late nineteenth century as too shocking for its time, Charles W. Chesnutt brings us both a romance and a mystery involving two characters who walk on both sides of the color line.

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THE FEMALE ECONOMY

The Millinery and Dressmaking Trades, 1860-1930

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Women who weren't hemmed in

Gamber helps overturn the portrait of wage-earning women as docile souls who would find fulfillment only in marriage and motherhood.

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*The African-American
Great Migration Novel*

LAWRENCE R. RODGERS

Moving up North

The Great Migration—the exodus of more than six million blacks from their southern homes hoping for better lives in the North—is a defining event of post-emancipation African-American life and a central feature of twentieth-century black literature.

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A HARD FIGHT FOR WE

Women's Transition from Slavery to Freedom in South Carolina

LESLIE A. SCHWALM

"A pleasure to read! Briskly and pointedly written." — Stephanie McCurry, author of *Masters of Small Worlds*

The courage and vigor with which African-American women fought for their freedom during and after the Civil War are firmly at the center of this groundbreaking study.

Illus. Cloth, \$49.95; Paper, \$24.95


www.press.uillinois.edu • UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS • 1325 South Oak Street • Champaign, IL 61820 • 800/545-4703

"Greece." This book has inspired much-heated debate amongst current historians because it proves Africa, not Greece, is the Mother of Western Civilization. Asa G. Hilliard III, in the introduction to **Stolen Legacy** says: "Mental bondage is invisible violence.... In **Stolen Legacy**, the questions which are pursued are so straightforward and parsimonious, one wonders why they had not been asked before in this combination. Who were the Greek scholars? Where did they go to school? What did they learn in school? How old was the subject matter which they learned? Who were their teachers?"

In the chapter "Social Reformation Through the New Philosophy of African Redemption," Professor James states, "In this way, the Greeks stole the Legacy of the African Continent and called it their own and, as has already been pointed out, the result of this dishonesty has been the creation of an erroneous world opinion; that the African Continent made no contributions to civilization, because her people are backward and low in intelligence and culture.

This erroneous opinion about Black people has seriously injured them through the centuries up to modern times...."

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e-mail USGames@aol.com



Truth requires the courage to be free. You can do it! \$8.95 pb, 0917138090. Julian Richardson Associates, Publishers, 1712 Fillmore St., San Francisco CA 94115; 415-346-4222. 30% for 1-9 copies, 40% for 10-49.

**Marrow of Tradition
Akron, OH**

Suggestions contributed by Nathan Oliver.

Black History & Women's History Months

Anything by bell hooks, but especially **Sisters of the Yam** (\$14 pb, 0896084566, South End Press, distributed by LPC/InBook); Angela Davis; Alice Walker; Zora Neal Hurston, especially **Their Eyes Were Watching God** (\$13 pb, 0060916508, Harper-Perennial).

**Meristem
Memphis, TN**

Suggestions contributed by Audrey Jane May.

These are in no particular order and are not divided by category (fiction, non-fiction, etc.) There's more non-fiction here than fiction — most of the fiction writers are better known.

The usual suspects: Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Audre Lorde, Alice Walker, Nikki Giovanni, the Delany Sisters, bell hooks. Also:

Coming of Age in Mississippi by Anne Moody. \$6.99 pb, 0440314887, Laurel/Dell.

Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock Central High by Melba Pattillo Beals. \$12 pb, 0671866397, Pocket Books.

Silver Rights by Constance Curry. \$13 pb, 0156004798, Harcourt Brace.

Meridian by Alice Walker. Wonderful and usually overlooked. \$6.99 pb, 067172701X, Pocket Books.

Dinner at Aunt Connie's House by Faith Ringgold. \$4.95 pb, 0786811501; \$16.95 cl, 1562824252, Hyperion. Ages 4 to 8.

Brothers and Sisters by Bebe Moore Campbell. \$6.99 pb, 0425149404, Berkley Publishing Group.

Jubilee by Margaret Walker. \$6.99 pb, 0553273833, Bantam Books.

Cultural Etiquette by Amoja Three Rivers. \$6 pb, no isbn. Market Wimmin, Box 28, Indian Valley VA 24105. 40% for 10+ copies, plus \$1.50 postage; \$2.50 postage on 11-20.

The Black and White of It by Ann Allen Shockley. \$7.95 pb, 0930044967, Naiad Press. Available at various wholesalers.

For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf: A Choreopoem by Ntozake Shange. \$5.95 pb, 0020248911, Macmillan.

Afrekete: An Anthology of Black Lesbian Writing edited by Catherine McKinley and L. Joyce Delaney. \$14 pb, 0385473559, Anchor Books/BDD.

Just Us Women by Jeannette Caine. \$5.95 pb, 0064430561, HarperTrophy. Ages 4 to 8.

Anything by Virginia Hamilton (Afro-centric children's books and folk tales).

Life Notes: Personal Writings by Contemporary Black Women edited by Patricia Bell-Scott. \$12 pb, 0393312062, W.W. Norton & Co.

Double Stitch: Black Women Write About Mothers and Daughters edited by Patricia Bell-Scott. \$13 pb, 0060975032, HarperPerennial.

Pushed Back to Strength: A Black Woman's Journey Home by Gloria Wade-Gayles. Short essays by Audre Lorde, Barbara Smith and Jewelle Gomez. \$11 pb, 038072426X, Avon Books.

The Gilda Stories: A Novel by Jewelle Gomez. \$11.95 pb, 093237994X, Firebrand Books. Available from LPC/InBook and various wholesalers.

Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia edited by Darlene Clark-Hine. \$49.95 cl, 0253327741, Indiana University Press. Available from Ingram.

The Black Woman's Gumbo Ya-Ya: Quotations by Black Women edited by Terri L. Jewell. \$10.95 pb, 0895945797, Crossing Press. Available from various wholesalers.

Yours in Struggle: Three Feminist Perspectives on Anti-Semitism and Racism by Elly Bulkin, M.B. Pratt and Barbara Smith. \$11.95 pb, 0932379532, Firebrand Books. Available from LPC/InBook and various wholesalers.

Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology edited by Barbara Smith. \$15.95 pb, 0913175021, Kitchen Table Press.

This Bridge Called My Back edited by Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzuldúa. \$11.95 pb, 091317503X. Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, PO Box 40-4920, Brooklyn NY 11240.

[Note: Kitchen Table titles are available from distributors and, we are told, by direct order (mail order

only; no phone calls at this time). Allow extra time for direct orders.]

Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment by Patricia Hill Collins. \$18.99 pb, 0415905974, Routledge.

Speaking Truth to Power by Anita Hill. \$24.95 cl, 0385476256, Doubleday/BDD.

Pauli Murray: The Autobiography of a Black Activist, Feminist, Lawyer, Priest and Poet by Pauli Murray. \$18.95 pb, 0870495968, University of Tennessee Press.

But Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies edited by Gloria T. Hull, Patricia Bell-Scott, Barbara Smith. \$15.95 pb, 0912670959, Feminist Press. Available from Consortium and various wholesalers.

The Memphis Diary of Ida B. Wells edited by Miriam DeCosta-Willis. \$14 pb, 0807070653, Beacon Press.

Erotique Noire: Black Erotica edited by Miriam DeCosta-Willis, Reginald Martin, Roseann P. Bell. \$14.95 pb, 0685423098, Anchor Books/BDD.

Everyday Acts Against Racism: Raising Children in a Multiracial World edited by Maureen Reddy. \$15.95 pb, 187067850, Seal Press. Distributed by PGW, and available from various wholesalers.

From the Mississippi Delta: A Memoir by Endenesha Ida Mae Holland. \$23 cl, 0684810115, Simon & Schuster.

Phenix Information & Entertainment Center San Bernadino, CA

Suggestions contributed by Joann Roberts.

Black History Month

Black Labor, White Wealth: The Search for Power and Economic Justice by Claud Anderson. This particular book speaks a lot about African Americans doing for themselves, creating jobs, owning and possessing things so we are not dependent upon federal money. \$14.95 pb, 1878647148. Duncan & Duncan, 2809 Pulaski Hwy, Edgewood MD 21040; 410-538-5579. 20% for 1-4 copies, 40% for 5-24. Available from Ingram.

Bible Legacy of the Black Race: The Prophecy Fulfilled by Joyce Andrews. Kind of self-explanatory; background information on Blacks in the bible. \$12.95

"Compelling . . . an honest, inside view of one of America's most controversial religious movements."—KIRKUS REVIEWS



Growing Up in the Nation of Islam

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 HarperSanFrancisco
A Division of HarperCollins Publishers

N O W I N P A P E R B A C K

pb, 1555235514. Winston-Derek Publishers, 1722 West End Ave., Nashville TN 37203; 615-321-0535. 20% for 1-9 copies, 35% for 10-24, 45% for 25+. Available from Ingram.

God Made Me Beauty-Full: Building Self-Esteem in African American Women by Terri McFaddin. This is a book about building self-esteem in African American women, which is so important right now. The author also sheds light on how African American women have a distorted standard for defining our own beauty. \$12 pb, 1884743056, Quiet Time Pub.

Mis-education of the Negro by Carter Godwin Woodson. This book is a classic, and something everyone should have on their shelf and read. Woodson is the father of Black History Month. \$9.95 pb,

086543171X. Africa World Press, 11-D Princess Road, Lawrenceville NJ 08648; 609-844-9583.

Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America by Lerone Bennett. Gives all the basics from Africa through the middle passage to the latest knowledge on lynchings. This is the sixth edition of this classic which was first published in the 1960s and is updated every ten years. \$16.95 pb, 0140178228, Penguin USA.

Power, Passion & Pain of Black Love by Jawanza Kunjufu. This book discusses the current condition of African American male and female relationships. \$10.95 pb, 0913543365, African American Images. Available from Ingram.

And I'd like to add two fun books:

Sister, Sister by Eric Jerome Dickey. This is similar to a Terry McMillan novel, except it was written by a man; *Waiting to Exhale* from a male point of view. Dickey's new book, *Friends and Lovers* (\$23.95 cl, 0525941274, Dutton/Penguin USA), is also good. \$5.99 pb, 0451188020, Signet/Penguin USA.

Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made by Virginia Deberry, Donna Grant. This is basically a novel by and about best friends. \$6.50 pb, 0312963130, St. Martin's (mass).

A Room of One's Own Madison, WI

Suggestions contributed by Sandi Torkildson.

Women's History Month

All the books by Gerda Lerner are important to keep in stock. **The Creation of Patriarchy** (\$13.95 pb, 0195051858, Oxford University Press) and **The Creation of Feminist Consciousness: From the Middle Ages to Eighteen-Seventy** (\$15.95 pb, 0195090608, Oxford University Press) cover the origins of the collective dominance of women by men and give us a grand historical framework of the subordination of women. Lerner documents a 1200-year struggle of women to free their minds from patriarchal thought, to create Women's History.

Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work, and the Family from Slavery to the Present by Jacqueline Jones looks at the complex interface of work, sex, race and class. \$15 pb, 0394745361, Vintage/Random House.

A Century of Women: The History of Women in Britain and the United States. This book by British historian Sheila Rowbotham is a readable narrative that charts the remarkable changes and interchanges in the lives of British and American women over the last 100 years. \$34.95 cl, 0670874205, Viking/Penguin USA.

Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol by Nell Irvin Painter is a blend of scholarship and sympathetic understanding that goes beyond the myths to uncover the life of a complex woman. \$14.95 pb, 0393317080, W.W. Norton & Co.

Sisterspace and Books — African American Women's Books Washington D.C.

Suggestions contributed by Faye Williams.

Black History & Women's History Months

Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment by Patricia Hill Collins. In spite of the double burden of racial and gender discrimination, African American women have developed a rich intellectual tradition that is not widely known. In **Black Feminist Thought**, Patricia Hill Collins explores the words and ideas of Black feminist intellectuals as well as those of African American women outside academe. She provides an interpretive framework for the work of such prominent Black feminist thinkers as Angela Davis, bell hooks, Alice Walker, and Audre Lorde. The result is a superbly crafted book that provides the first synthetic overview of Black feminist thought. \$18.99 pb, 0415905974, Routledge.

Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol by Nell Irvin Painter. Now, in a masterful blend of scholarship and sympathetic understanding, eminent historian Nell Irvin Painter goes beyond the myths, words, and photographs to uncover the life of a complex woman who was born into slavery and died a legend. \$14.95 pb, 0393317080, W.W. Norton & Co.

Daughters of the Dust: A Novel by Julie Dash. Julie Dash's acclaimed film, *Daughters of the Dust*, was a cause for celebration, a lyrical portrait of a family of complex, independent African American women. Now she returns to the rich Gullah culture on the Sea islands in a remarkable new novel that reacquaints us

with her fascinating characters, expanding their story in deeper and even more magically compelling ways. \$24.95 cl, 0525941096, Dutton/Penguin USA.

Dorothy Dandridge: A Biography by Donald Bogle. The biography documents the story of a troubled but strong family of women and vividly recreates Dandridge's relationships with an array of personalities such as Otto Preminger, Sammy Davis Jr., Pearl Bailey, Harry Belafonte, Diahann Carroll, Peter Lawford, Ava Gardner, and many more. Always at the center, though, is Dorothy Dandridge, magnetic and compelling. \$27.95 cl, 1567430341, Amistad Press. Distributed by St. Martin's Press. Available at Ingram, B&T.

The Serpent's Gift by Helen Elaine Lee. This unforgettable novel lyrically portrays the stories of two African American families who are united by death but go on to live, love, and survive. These memorable characters lives are a testament to the strength of family, the power of storytelling, and the transformation achieved through both joy and sorrow. \$12 pb, 0684801604, Scribner/Simon & Schuster.

My Soul to Keep by Tananarive Due. Jessica is about to find out. She's a Miami investigative reporter with a beautiful daughter, Kira, and a husband, David, so loving, brilliant, and attentive that she calls him Mr. Perfect. Suddenly, however, her life takes a terrifying turn. Her best friend is brutally and mysteriously murdered and Jessica discovers an ancient, unimaginable danger that will shatter her life and family — forever. \$24 cl, 0060187425, HarperCollins.

The Norton Anthology of African American Literature edited by Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Nellie Y. McKay. A dazzling and rich overview of the African American literary tradition, with the work of 120 authors from 1746 to the present writing in all genres — poetry, short fiction, novels, drama, autobiography, journals, and letters. \$49.95 cl, 0393040011, W.W. Norton & Co.

Ain't I A Woman: Black Women and Feminism by bell hooks. **Ain't I A Woman** examines the impact of sexism on Black women during slavery, the historic devaluation of Black womanhood, Black male sexism, racism within the recent women's movement, and Black women's involvement with feminism. hooks refutes the antifeminist claim that Black women are not victims of sexist oppression nor in need of an autonomous women's movement. She pushes

feminist dialogue to new limits by claiming that all progressive struggles are significant only when they take place within a broadly defined feminist movement which takes as its starting point that race, class, and sex are immutable facts of human existence. \$12 pb, 089608129X, South End Press. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

The Afro-American Woman: Struggles and Images by Sharon Harley and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn. Civil Rights activists, educators, writers, artists, and workers — these are the women of **The Afro-American Woman: Struggles and Images**, an excellent anthology of essays that provides a more accurate image of the Black woman and her place in history and in the cultural development of our society. Originally published in 1978, **The Afro-American Woman** includes essays that highlight historical experiences common to Black women. \$10.95 pb, 1574780263. Black Classic Press, PO Box 13414, Baltimore MD 21203; 410-358-0980. Distributed by PGW.

Words of Fire: An Anthology of African American Feminist Thought edited by Beverly Guy-Sheftall. In this pathbreaking collection of articles, Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall has taken us from the early 1830s to contemporary times. Only since the seventies have Black women used the term "feminism." And yet, it is that concept that she uses to bring into the same frame the ideas and analyses of Maria Stewart, Sojourner Truth and Frances W.E. Harper of the early nineteenth century, and the work of women such as the late Audre Lorde, Barbara Smith, and bell hooks, who stand on the threshold of the twenty-first century. \$21.95 cl, 1565842561, The New Press. Distributed by W.W. Norton.

Toronto Women's Bookstore Toronto, ONT Canada

Suggestions contributed by Anjula Gogia.

Note: Canadian titles are noted with an asterisk.

Black History Month

does your mama know? An Anthology of Black Lesbian Coming Out Stories edited by Lisa C. Moore. A unique and timely anthology which includes several Canadian voices, **does your mama know?** is funny, passionate, angry and joyous. \$19.95/C\$28.95 pb, 0965665909. Redbone Press, PO

Box 861, Decatur GA 30031; 404-815-8391. 40% for 3+ copies, free freight.

Harriet's Daughter * by Marlene Nourbese Philip. This charming and humorous tale of adolescence explores the friendship of two young Black girls, and deals with issues of race, immigration, exile and generational conflict. \$8.95/C\$8.95 pb, 0889611343, Women's Press/Canada. Distributed by LPC/InBook in the U.S., University of Toronto Press in Canada.

No Burden to Carry: Narratives of Black Working Women in Ontario 1920s to 1950s * by Dionne Brand. A watershed in African-Canadian historical scholarship, this book is an indispensable resource for anyone interested in reclaiming the history of Black women in Canada. \$17.95/C\$17.95 pb, 0889611637, Women's Press/Canada. Distributed by LPC/InBook in the U.S., University of Toronto Press in Canada.

Land To Light On * by Dionne Brand. One of Canada's foremost poets and writers, Dionne Brand was recently awarded the prestigious Governor-General Award for Poetry for her latest collection. Stunning, powerful, beautifully written. C\$12.99 pb, 077101645X, McClelland and Stewart.

The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde. This will surely become a timeless classic, a gorgeous collection of Audre Lorde's poetry, including a handwritten poem written in 1952. \$35/C\$45 cl, 0393040909, W.W. Norton & Co.

Nervous Conditions by Tsitsi Dangarembga. Set in colonial Rhodesia in the 1960s, this brilliant first novel explores a young girl's coming of age and the devastating human loss involved in the colonization of one culture by another. \$12/C\$16.95 pb, 187806777X, Seal Press. Distributed by PGW, and available from various wholesalers.

Women's History Month

Most of these are anthologies, of one type or another.

Women of the First Nations: Power, Wisdom, and Strength * edited by Christine Miller and Patricia Chuchryk. This important work examines the lives of Aboriginal women in Canada from a variety of theoretical and personal perspectives. \$18.95/C\$18.95 pb, 0887556345, University of Manitoba Press.

Making Face, Making Soul/Haciendo Caras: Creative and Critical Perspectives by Feminists of Color edited by Gloria Anzaldúa. Another seminal anthology featuring essays and creative pieces by women of colour, by one of the co-editors of the ground-breaking *This Bridge Called My Back*. \$15.95/C\$23.95 pb, 1879960109, Aunt Lute Books. Distributed by Consortium.

The House that Jill Built: A Lesbian Nation in Formation * by Becki L. Ross. A valuable contribution to the study of lesbian history in Toronto. \$21.95/C\$20.95 pb, 0802074790, University of Toronto Press.

Women Writing in India, Volume I: 600 B.C. to the Early 20th Century edited by Susie Tharu, K. Lalita. An incredibly rich and diverse look at the history of women's writing in India, offering over 140 texts from 13 languages. \$29.95/C\$43.50 pb, 1558610278, The Feminist Press. Distributed by Consortium.

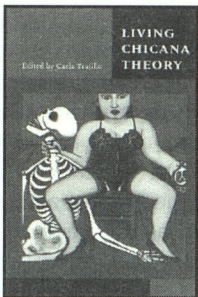
Women Imagine Change: A Global Anthology of Women's Resistance, from 600 BC to the Present

edited by Eugenia Delamotte, Natania Meeker, Jean O'Barr. Truly global and historical in scope, this latest anthology by Routledge stands out as a "great monument to women's resistance." \$29.95/C\$39.95 pb, 0415915317, Routledge.

And Still We Rise: Feminist Political Mobilizing in Contemporary Canada * edited by Linda Carty. This collection grounds Canadian history in the struggles of diverse communities of women across the country. "This is the feminism which is relevant for today and tomorrow." \$20.95/C\$24.95 pb, 0889611777, Women's Press/Canada. Distributed by LPC/InBook in the U.S., University of Toronto Press in Canada.

Such Hardworking People: Italian Immigrants in Postwar Toronto * by Franca Iacovetta. The author examines the changes that many Italian immigrants faced during their transition from Italy to Canada, weaving together ethnic, labour and women's histories. Insightful, perceptive and sensitive. \$19.95/C\$19.95 pb, 0773511458, McGill-Queens Press.

Series in Chicana/Latina Studies



Living Chicana Theory edited by Carla Trujillo

The most vital and pioneering voices of Chicana feminism come together in this landmark anthology, a collection that redefines the ways that theory is written, talked about, and practiced. Covering a range of disciplines—from psychology to art, religion, history and literature—these essays address

topics as diverse as sexuality, border issues, motherhood, spirituality, and class dynamics. What emerges is a new kind of theory: one that encompasses the everyday concerns of the women who create it. It is a language of survival, a bold and invigorating challenge to the conventions and systems that have long sought to silence or subvert.

448 pp., paper, ISBN 0-943219-15-9, \$24.95

Máscaras edited by Lucha Corpi

Máscaras (Masks) brings together the top fifteen Latina writers in the United States. These essays illuminate the ways life and craft are entwined. Autobiographical in nature, their work sheds light on the historical, economic, social, and linguistic realities that have shaped them as women and writers of color in the United States. Their lucid prose gives insight into the discipline and hard work necessary to reclaim, as Michelle Cliff might say, an identity they taught us to despise. They are a courageous testament to the odds Latina writers must overcome to clear the space and achieve a voice in our society.

204 pp., paper, ISBN 0-943219-14-0, \$16.95



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Women & Children First Chicago, IL

Suggestions contributed by Ann Christophersen and Jeanine Weekes.

Black History Month

Divided Sisters: Bridging the Gap Between Black Women & White Women by Midge Wilson and Kathy Russell. Co-authored by a Black woman and a white woman who are colleagues, friends, and teachers, this book takes an unstinting look at the issues that complicate relationships between Black women and white women and suggests ways to work through them. \$14 pb, 0385473621, Anchor Books/BDD.

"Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" And Other Conversations About Race by Beverly Daniel Tatum. "Conversations" is the operative word in this explanation of how racial identity develops. An argument for talking about the political as well as psychological significance of racial identity in the United States. \$24 cl, 046509127X, Basic Books.

Restoring Hope: Conversations on the Future of Black America by Cornel West. Scholar-theologian-activist Cornel West asks nine prominent Americans from music, literature and politics about hope for the African American community. The conversations that ensue are insightful, thought-provoking, and most of all, deeply moving. \$23 cl, 0807009423, Beacon Press.

Women's History Month

Where Courage Is Like a Wild Horse: The World of an Indian Orphanage by Sharon Skolnick (Okee-Chee) and Manny Skolnick. Fueled by dreams of her past, artist Sharon Skolnick writes of the difficult emotional landscape of her Apache childhood in Oklahoma. \$25 cl, 0803242638, University of Nebraska Press. Available from Ingram.

Women in Exile by Mahnaz Afkhami. The executive director of the Sisterhood is Global Institute, Mahnaz Afkhami had collected and retold the stories of thirteen women forced into exile by political events. Each individual account is moving and compelling, and taken together provides a testament to the courage and hope of women reconstructing their lives from the rubble of chaos and displacement. \$12.95 pb, 0813915430, University Press of Virginia.

Rocking the Boat: Union Women's Voices, 1915-1975 edited by Bridget O'Farrell and Joyce L.

Kornbluh. Profiles of eleven women from different unions and an overview of women's contributions to the struggle to gain and protect the rights of working people fill in significant gaps in the history of the labor movement in this country. \$17.95 pb, 0813522692, Rutgers University Press.

A Century of Women: The History of Women in Britain and the United States by Sheila Rowbotham. An ambitious and readable account of the remarkable ways in which women have shaped not only their own history but the history of the century. \$34.95 cl, 0670874205, Viking/Penguin USA.

Why History Matters: Life and Thought by Gerda Lerner. Gerda Lerner merges her considerable powers as an original thinker and scholarly, professional historian with interpretations of her own experience as an immigrant, a woman, and a Jew. The result is a unique and powerful argument for studying and understanding history. \$30 cl, 0195046447, Oxford University Press.

Children's Books for Women's History Month

Listen To Us: The World's Working Children by Jane Springer. Want kids to understand what's wrong with buying Nikes? Read this book with them. The stories of kids across the world whose exploited and unprotected labor turns profits for unscrupulous local businesses as well as multinational corporations is both tragic and motivating. The book opens with an account of a Pakistani carpet weaver who, at the age of ten, escaped the factory he was forced to work in and became a spokesperson against the kind of abuse he and other children suffered. He was murdered at the age of twelve, but became a martyr and inspiration to others like him. There is a lot of information on the special situations girls face, too — particularly as sex and domestic workers. A very important book. Illustrated with numerous photos. Ages 9 and up. \$24.95 cl, 0888992912, Groundwood Books. Distributed by PGW.

Seven Brave Women by Betsy Hearne, illustrated by Bethanne Anderson. *The* book for Women's History Month. The first account of what is essentially a family history begins "My great-great-great grandmother did great things." It moves through the generations until arriving at the present: "I am not a woman yet, but I can do great things." Substantial and inspiring. Ages 5 to 10. \$15 cl, 0688145027, Greenwillow/William Morrow & Co. ○

The

African American Lesbian

Section

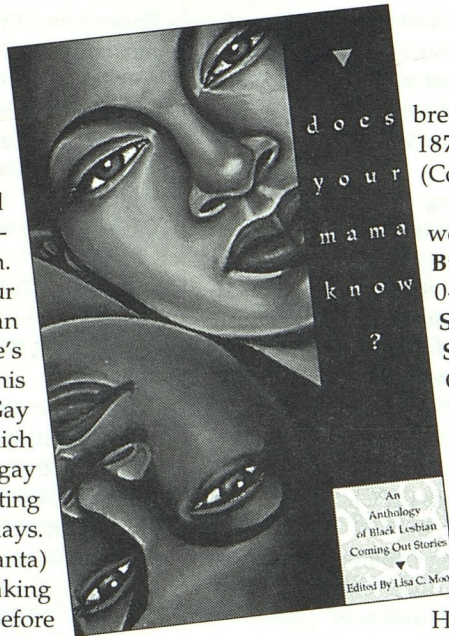
Black lesbian writing gives voice to an experience which is too often excluded, or at least relegated to the margins of both African American and gay/lesbian communities. The following titles help address that exclusion. Titles marked with an * should, in our opinion, be included in every African American, feminist and gay bookstore's African American lesbian section. This list, combined with titles from the "Gay Lit for Feminist Stores" page 81 (which focuses, this issue, on books by/about gay men of color) also offers a perfect starting point for Gay Book Month (June) displays.

Sara Look of Charis Books (Atlanta) committed a major act of love by making time to compile this list thirteen days before Christmas. Additions and annotations brought to you by "A Motley Collection of Dykes."

Anything by Audre Lorde.

Another mother of us all, Audre Lorde (1934-1992) inspired a generation of women with her clear-eyed analysis and absolute commitment to addressing the unspeakable: from breast cancer to lesbianism to everyday racism.

The forthrightness and ferocity with which Audre Lorde greeted every social injustice is in full force in ***The Cancer Journals**, her courageous exploration of breast cancer and mastectomy. Using the journal, memoir, and essay forms, Lorde gave voice to her "feelings and thoughts about the travesty of prosthesis, the pain of amputation, the function of cancer in a profit economy, confrontations with mortality, the strength of women loving, and the power and rewards of self-conscious living." First published in 1980, when almost no one was acknowledging the



breast cancer epidemic. \$12.95, 1879960516, Aunt Lute Books (Consortium).

Lorde's essays are always worth reading and rereading: **A Burst of Light: Essays** \$9.95, 0-932379-39-7, Firebrand, and **Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches** \$12.95, 089594-141-4, Crossing Press.

With **Zami**, Lorde created a new form, biomythography, combining elements of history, biography and myth, to write about growing up Black, female, Grenadian, and woman-loving in Harlem in the forties and fifties.

\$12.95, 0895941228, Crossing Press.

Our Dead Behind Us: Poems outlines Lorde's identities as a lesbian, mother, Black woman, and cancer survivor, and notes the tension created by the often conflicting drives of these identities. \$9, 0393312380, Norton.

Audre Lorde published ten volumes of poetry and five works of prose, was a recipient of many distinguished honors and awards, and was named New York State Poet in 1991. **The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde** provides proof of the lasting power of one of this country's most important and influential voices. \$35, 0393040909, Norton.

By turns funny, passionate, angry, and joyous, ***does your mama know? An Anthology of Black Coming Out Stories** edited by Lisa Moore reflects the complexity of emotions that accompany a Black lesbian's coming out. Forty-nine short stories, poems, interviews and essays make up a powerful collection.

An elegant and beautifully designed book. Essential for any bookstore's family section. \$19.95, 0965665909, Redbone Press (PO Box 861, Decatur GA 30031; 404-815-8391).

***A Piece of My Heart: A Lesbian of Colour Anthology** edited by Makeda Silvera. The fifty-plus contributors, Canadian and American lesbians of color from many differing cultural, racial, national, and class backgrounds, present a range of lesbian experiences from coming out to coming into our own power. \$16.95, 0920813658, Sister Vision Press (LPC).

In **Plural Desires: Writing Bisexual Women's Realities**, edited by the Bisexual Anthology Collective, 35 contributors use fiction, poetry, comics, the visual arts, and inventive non-fiction to address bisexual women's realities in all their diversity. Emerging from an anti-racist, feminist framework that links struggles against homophobia and heterosexism with other liberation movements, it explores the plurality and fluidity of desire and identity proving again that there are indeed more than two sides.... \$19.95 pb, 0-920813-19-4, Sister Vision Press (LPC).

Featuring America's long-celebrated authors James Baldwin, Audre Lorde, Alice Walker, Richard Wright — as well as the works of a new generation of critically-heralded writers, including Sapphire, Jacqueline Woodson and Charles Harvey, ***Go the Way Your Blood Beats: An Anthology of Lesbian and Gay Literary Fiction by African American Writers** examines Black lesbian and gay identity from inside the closet and out. Through thirty-two stories, nearly half in print for the first time, writers from the Harlem Renaissance to the present examine such issues as homophobia, bisexuality, AIDS, cross-dressing, and accepting one's self. Edited by Ruff Shawn Stewart. \$16.95, 080504437X, Holt.

***Afrekete: An Anthology of Contemporary Black Lesbian Writing** edited by Catherine McKinley and L. Joyce Delaney. Provocative, funny, and elegant, this anthology showcases the depth and variety of Black lesbian writing — from Linda Villarosa's essay

on coping with attacks from the religious right to Michelle Parkerson's science fiction and excerpts from Audre Lorde's *Zami*. \$14, 0385473559, Doubleday.

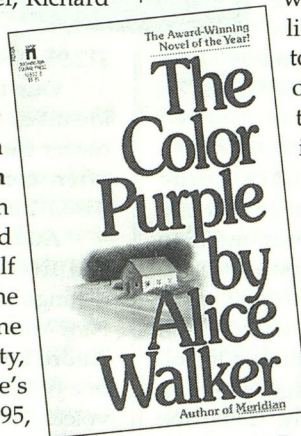
***This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color** edited by Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa. Originally published in 1981 by Persephone Press, **This Bridge** remains one of the most powerful statements on the experience of being "other" in America. Contributions by African American, Asian American, Latina and Native American lesbians and feminists document this experience and give rise to the hope of a different way of forging community. \$11.95, 091317503X, Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press (LPC).

***The Color Purple** by Alice Walker. Celie wouldn't have made it without Shug. \$6.99, 0671727796, Pocket.

***Serpent's Gift: A Novel.** Helen Elaine Lee's richly detailed novel brings to life some of the most memorable characters in recent fiction: the matriarchs, Ruby Staples and Eula Smalls; LaRue Smalls, a rebel, storyteller, and chronicler of his people; Oudia Staples, a dynamic beauty who chooses to live with another woman; and Vesta Smalls, intimidated by life but determined to keep her family together. Lee traces their entwined lives over almost a century and creates a world that is starkly real and magically haunting. \$12, 0684801604, Simon & Schuster.

Soul Kiss, an eloquent first novel from well-known African American playwright Shay Youngblood, is an uncommon coming-of-age, set in rural Georgia in 1968. After a difficult beginning, seven-year-old Mariah Kim Santos and the aunts with whom she's been left form a harmonious threesome. But Mariah still dreams of her mother's return, eventually learns of the existence of her father, and grows to question both familial and sexual identities. \$21, 1573220639, Putnam.

And not to be missed is Youngblood's short fiction, ***The Big Mama Stories**. "If you don't remember nothing else I tell you, baby, you remember this: If you got



to dance or dream or anything at all, take it a step at a time and don't let nothing and nobody get in your way when you doing right. I ain't saying it's gonna be easy, but we all got a dance to do. You remember this, you hear?" With advice like this, how can a girl go wrong? \$8.95, 0932379575, Firebrand (LPC).

Her: A Novel by Cherry Muhanji. A rowdy irreverent novel set in Detroit in the late 50s and 60s about the Black migration north to work in the automobile industry assembly lines. Cherry Muhanji explores the spectrum of relationships between women — as friends, as lovers, and as mothers and daughters — and how women hold each other up and, sometimes, let each other down. The splendid cover photograph by Haruko of an elegantly dressed young butch is worth the price of the book alone. \$9.95, 0-933216-63-7, Aunt Lute Books (Consortium).

***The Gilda Stories: A Novel** by Jewelle Gomez. A marvelous and long-awaited collection of interconnected stories about literature's first Black lesbian vampire heroine, her lives from slavery-times to the present, and her passion for integrity and justice in an enormously difficult and unjust world. Gilda is the quintessential outsider seeking community. Selections from the book have been staged under the title "Bones and Ash" by Urban Bush Women, with music by Toshi Reagan. \$11.95, 093237994X, Firebrand (LPC).

Gomez' **Oral Tradition: Selected Poems, Old and New** is sexy and dykey: The long narrative piece "Gilda Sings" brackets each of the four sections, giving new insight and depth to everyone's favorite lesbian vampire. \$9.95, 156341063X, Firebrand.

And don't forget Gomez' essays, **Forty-Three Septembers: Essays**. Black, lesbian, Native American, raised poor, ex-Catholic, and writer — as Gomez honors the mythic heroism of ordinary people. \$10.95, 1563410370, Firebrand (LPC).

In Another Place, Not Here by Dionne Brand. Alternating between Toronto and a Granada-like country, the intensely political **In Another Place, Not Here** offers an account of organizing sugar cane workers, a failed revolution, immigration, and the love

between two Caribbean women — one Canadian, the other a sugar cane cutter. Brand never coddles readers or offers fiction more gentle than real life. \$24, 0802116221, Grove/Atlantic (PGW).

Sans Souci: And Other Stories.

Brand's characters, in this collection of stories set in the Caribbean and Canada, deal with issues pervasive in both cultures, including alienation, sexism, racism and homophobia. Characters struggle with injustice, though survival skills come at a high price. \$8.95, 0932379702, Firebrand (LPC).

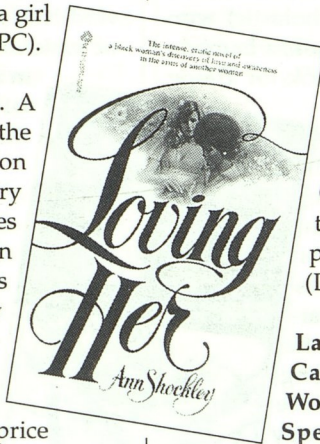
Brand's other work includes **No Language Is Neutral, No Burden to Carry: Narratives of Black Working Women in Ontario 1920s-1950s; Sight Specific: Lesbians & Representation; We're Rooted Here and They Can't Pull Us**

Up: Essays in African Canadian Women's History; and Bread Out of Stone: Recollections, Sex, Recognitions, Race, Dreaming, Politics.

I Tell on Stephen Foster by The Shirley is a novel about Black women and slavery with strong lesbian themes. \$15.95, 096372715X, I.B. Bold Publications, PO Box 35082, Louisville KY 40232.

Anything by Jacqueline Woodson is wonderful. ***Autobiography of a Family Photo**, Woodson's first adult novel, explores childhood and growing up lesbian in a tight, confused, coming together and sometimes falling apart family — along with racism, incest, spousal abuse, sexism, love, The (Vietnam) War, lead paint, the generation gap, sex, poverty — and other everyday issues. \$9.95, 0452270987, Penguin.

All of Woodson's YA novels address issues that challenge teens, often with characters that mess with the stereotypes, i.e., middle-class Marie and poor-white Lena cross both color and class lines to build a friendship and find a way to help Lena escape her father's sexual abuse (**I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This**, \$3.99, 0440219604, Laurel Leaf). Lesbian characters are incidental, but not invisible in ***The Dear One** (\$3.99, 0440214203, Laurel Leaf). Some of Woodson's other YA titles deal more explicitly with lesbian and gay themes: **Growing up is hard enough**



for 14-year-old Melanin Sun but then suddenly his mother turns into a lesbian right before his eyes. Not just a lesbian, but a lesbian dating a white woman. How's a kid supposed to deal? ***The Notebooks of Melanin Sun** (\$3.99, 0590458817, Scholastic) won the 1996 Coretta Scott King Honor Book, a Lambda Literary Award, and an ALA Best Book for Young Adults.

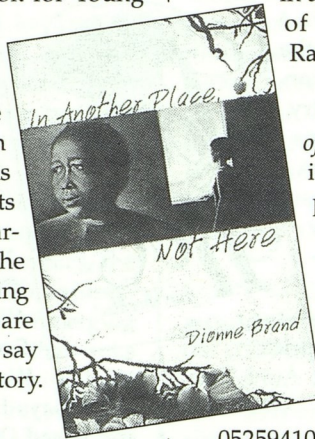
Still in hardcover, ***The House You Pass Along the Way**: Thirteen-year-old Staggerlee (Evangeline, until she gave herself a fiercer name) has always been different — set apart by the tragic deaths of her grandparents in an anti-civil rights bombing, by her parents' interracial marriage, and by her family's retreat from the world — and now by her confused longing for her friend Hazel. Woodson's novels are never simplistic and even learning to say the word "gay" is hardly the end of the story. \$14.95, 0385321899, Doubleday.

Penny Mickelbury's mysteries address hard issues of race and class in the pursuit of serial killers of prostitutes (***Night Songs**, \$10.95, 1562800973, Naiad) and closeted lesbians and gay men (***Keeping Secrets**, \$9.95, 1562800523, Naiad). These mysteries are well written, dynamic, and hard hitting — and reflective of Mickelbury's career as a newspaper, radio, and television reporter. Her forthcoming mystery, **One Must Wait**, will introduce a new detective, Carole Ann Gibson, a brilliant, hard-edged Black defense lawyer who habitually defends white-collar criminals, and her husband, an equally brilliant corporate attorney who devotes his skills to helping his high-powered firm's greedy clients subvert environmental laws. Mickelbury's depiction of ecological destruction and the relationship between environmental politics and racism, we've been told, informs her novel with a depth and anger that parallels Carole Ann's search for her husband's murderer. Lesbian content? Don't know. Gotta wait for the book. \$22, 0684837412, Simon & Schuster.

Push, Sapphire's brilliant novel about growing up poor, angry, illiterate, raped, incested, and pregnant in Harlem, includes a strong secondary character who is lesbian, the literacy teacher who

inspires Precious to reflect on and synthesize her experiences through learning to write. \$11, 0679766758, Random House.

With **American Dreams**, Sapphire delivers the verdict on the urban condition, sexual assault, domestic violence, street crime — and spiritual renewal — in a sensual, propulsive, and prophetic book of poetry and prose. \$12, 0679767991, Random House.



Julie Dash's celebrated film, *Daughters of the Dust*, became an instant classic with its lyrical evocation of a family of complex, independent African American women. Now, in the novel **Daughters of the Dust**, Dash puts her vision to the page, penning a rich and magical new work that reacquaints readers with the marvelous film characters, including, of course, the enigmatic woman who so clearly loves other women. \$23.95,

0525941096, Penguin.

Black Back-Ups. Kate Rushin's first collection of poetry captures the faces, voices, feelings, words, and stories of her African American family, people in the neighborhood and town where she grew up — people raised by a generation born in bondage in the 19th century. Rushin uses the image of African Americans who sing back-up vocals for white entertainers as a metaphor for all those pushed into the shadows. \$9.95, 1563410257, Firebrand (LPC).

Lovers' Choice. In the second collection of short stories by Philadelphia writer Becky BIRTHA, an older lesbian mourns the loss of her lover; a 14-year-old tomboy discovers that there are grown women like her; a poor mother takes her family on an all-night bus ride to keep from freezing.... These stories play upon the unexpected and, together, form a richly evocative collection. \$10.95, 1878067419, Seal Press (PGW).

And don't miss BIRTHA's **The Forbidden Poems: a journey of loss and mending**. Beginning with poems about confronting racism and her empowerment as an African American and as a lesbian-feminist, BIRTHA then explores the realm of personal grief at the loss of a longtime lover. \$10.95, 1-878067-01-X, Seal Press.

Thereafter Johnnie by Carolivia Herron. Hailed from its publication as a modern classic of African American literature, this visionary novel is the story of a middle-class Washington family that is at once torn apart and hideously fused by incest. "A swirling and terrifying epic...stunning and incandescent... luminous and visionary." —*Los Angeles Times Book Review*. \$10, 0679741887, Random House.

Free Enterprise by Michelle Cliff. In 1858, two Black women meet and later join John Brown's doomed raid on Harper's Ferry, barely escaping with their lives. Michelle Cliff places an actual historical figure (Mary Ellen Pleasant) at the center of this powerful novel, which brings to life the passionate struggle for liberation that began not long after the first slavers landed in Virginia. \$9.95, 0452271223, Penguin.

Abeng, Cliff's first novel, explores the contradictions of class and color, blood and history in a colonized country as experienced by the 12-year-old, light-skinned daughter of a Jamaican middle-class family. \$11.95, 0452274834, Penguin.

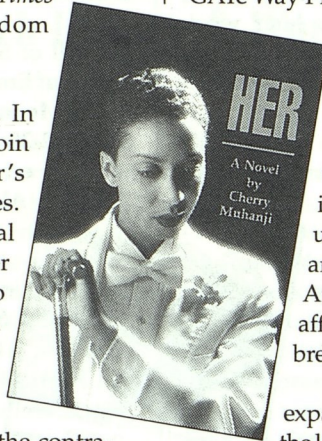
Her Head a Village and Other Stories by Jamaican and Canadian writer Makeda Silvera challenges stereotypes and addresses the issue of being an "outsider" from diverse perspectives. Silvera makes effective use of Jamaican English in these compelling stories. \$12.95, 0-88974-056-9, SisterVision (LPC).

Pearls of Passion: A Treasury of Lesbian Erotica edited by C. Allyson Lee and Makeda Silvera. Risqué, exciting, daring and dangerous, this anthology collects work from 25 lesbian writers celebrating the place of passion, desire and, yes, lust. \$12.95, 0920813992, SisterVision (LPC).

Speaking in Whispers: Lesbian African-American Erotica by Kathleen E. Morris. Eighteen unflinchingly erotic stories exalt lesbian sexuality and sensuality in all its varied forms and celebrates the diversity in shape, style and passion, of African

American lesbians. \$11.95, 1879427281, Third Side Press (Consortium).

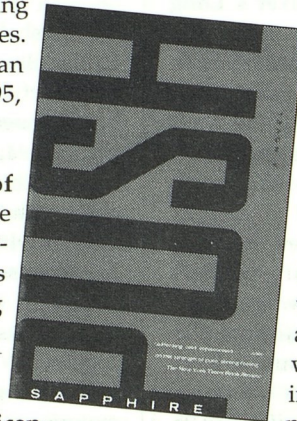
3 the Hard Way by Adrienne. Three short, erotic stories about three Black (lesbian) executives in the NYC music industry. \$12.95, no ISBN, direct order only, GATe Way Press, PO Box 56952, Atlanta GA 30344.



Kissing God Goodbye: Poems, 1991-1997. June Jordan's many selves, poet, essayist, feminist, and activist, come together in this collection of poetry that is alternately lyrical, magical, shockingly spare, pungently political, yet universally resonate. Beautiful love poems are interspersed with poems about Bosnia, Africa, urban America, Clarence Thomas, affirmative action, her mother's suicide, and breast cancer. \$12, 0385490321, Doubleday.

In **Haruko/Love Poems**, June Jordan expands and redefines the traditional idea of the love poem. Taking from the haiku its purity and economy and patterned after Neruda's *Twenty Love Poems*, the Haruko poems are at once urgent, passionate, and complex. Following the Haruko poems is a selection of Jordan's love poems that bear witness to the depth and breadth of her poetic brilliance. \$13.99, 1852423234, Serpent's Tail (Consortium).

—And don't forget Jordan's other collections of poetry, **Things that I Do in the Dark** and **Living Room**, and her essay collections, **Civil Wars** and **Technical Difficulties**.



Movement in Black by Pat Parker. Audre Lorde wrote in her introduction that Pat Parker's final collection, "would not need any introduction except for the racism and heterosexism of a poetry establishment.... [T]he plain accuracy of her visions encourages an honesty that may be as uncomfortable as it is compelling. Her words are womanly and uncompromising." Parker was a woman with a long political memory who was never willing to let anyone compartmentalize her soul for the sake of their own political comfort. Mother, feminist medical administrator, lover of women, softball devotee, and general progressive troublemaker, she

died of breast cancer in 1989. \$8.95, 0932379745, Firebrand (LPC).

Living As a Lesbian: Poetry by Cheryl Clarke. Clarke writes variations on the themes of Blackness, anger, violence, loss, loneliness, lesbianism, and sex. The images are strong, the impact stunning. (\$7.95, 0932379745, Firebrand.) See also her later work **Experimental Love** (\$8.95, 1-56341-035-4, Firebrand) and **Humid Pitch: Narrative Poetry** (\$8.95, 0-932379-66-4, Firebrand/LPC).

Rice by Nikky Finney. "Like the nourishing grain whose name graces this collection, **Rice** feeds readers who are hungry for the deep love and lyricism that imbues Black life. Nikky Finney is a writer who carries the traditions of her ancestors with the exquisite care they deserve." —Evelyn C. White. \$15.95, 0920813216, Sister Vision (LPC).

Voodoo Chile and Soquee Street Poems by poet and performance artist doris davenport. \$10, no ISBN, SSP/DD, PO Box 490, Sautee GA 30571.

Home for her high school reunion, Virginia Kelly's parents still wish she'd just meet the right man. But nothing is that simple, not sexual identity nor love nor loss, or even memory, in Nikki Baker's **Long Goodbyes** (\$9.95, 1562800426, Naiad). As in her previous mysteries, **The Lavender House Murder** and **In the Game**, Baker explores the social and racial fabric of lesbian life in the nineties — including the ways families are committed to misreading cues about their lesbian daughters' lives.

Loving Her by Ann Allen Shockley. Recently republished by The Northeastern Library of Black Literature, **Loving Her**, published in 1974, was not only the first African American novel written with an explicitly lesbian theme, it was the first to feature a Black lesbian as its protagonist, portraying an interracial relationship between a musician and a writer. \$12.95, 1-55553-329-9, Northeastern University Press.

Shockley's second novel, **Say Jesus and Come to Me**, is the story of closeted and charismatic evangelist Myrtle Black and her attraction to a successful singer

who comes to Nashville and stays for a sermon at Myrtle's church (\$8.95, 0930044983, Naiad).

Shockley's other books include **The Black and White of It**, **Afro-American Women Writers, 1746-1933**; **An Anthology and Critical Guide**; and **Living Black American Authors: A Biographical Directory**.

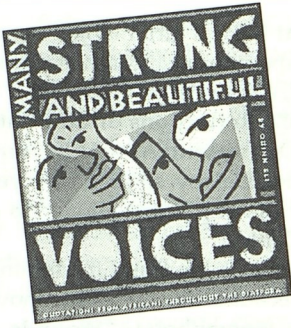
All of SDiane Bogus' poetry: **Dyke Hands and Sutras of Erotic Love** (\$12, 0934172218, WIM), **Woman in the Moon** (\$9, 0-934172-01-3), **Are You a Poet** (\$10, 0-934172-20-X), and **For the Love of Men**, all published by **Woman in the Moon**, 1409 The Alameda, San Jose, CA 95126.

No collection would want to be without ***The Black Women's Health Book: Speaking for Ourselves** edited by Evelyn C. White (\$16.95, 1-878067-40-0, Seal Press) and ***Body & Soul: The Black Women's Guide to Physical Health and Emotional Well-Being** edited by Linda Villarosa. \$20, 0060950854, HarperCollins.

The Black Woman's Gumbo Ya-Ya: Quotations by Black Women, edited by Terri L. Jewell. Thoughts, observations, songs, poetry and dreams from 350 Black women the world over. A wonderful gift and a useful resource. \$10.95, 0895945797, Crossing Press.

***Asha's Mums** by Rosamund Elwin and Michele Paule, illustrated by Dawn Lee. After nearly a decade of peaceful circulation, this children's story had just been banned in a British Columbia school district, proving, once again, how much school authorities want to mess with Asha's family. Asha, an African Canadian child with two moms, gets called on the carpet by her teacher who won't let her go on the class trip because her permission slip isn't signed "correctly." Asha's quite happy in her two-mum family, but apparently the teacher has never heard of two women raising kids together. What sets this book apart from other books for kids with gay parents is that the kids are obviously experienced in dealing with stupid (and racist) authorities and so turn to each other to work their way through this one. At the end, the teacher is still a jerk but the kids, Asha and her schoolmates, are fine. \$5.95, 0-88961-143-2, Women's Press/Canada (LPC). ○





A **Roundup** of titles for **Black History & Women's History Months**

We had originally envisioned organizing this roundup of titles into three tidy sections: Black History Month, Women's History Month, and books pertinent to both. However it quickly became apparent such clear-cut categories did not exist, that every bookseller would define the categories a little — or a lot — differently but, when reviewing the list, every bookseller would immediately recognize the books that are suitable for her/his own store. Our hope, in presenting this list, is that each bookseller will find a few titles that she/he wouldn't previously have considered for her/his store.

Art

Eye to Eye — Women edited by Vanessa Baird offers a unique introduction to the rich variety of women's writing in the countries of the South. It is a pleasure to read — and a feast for the eyes: full-color photos complement each writer's selection. Contributors include Nawal El Saadawi, Isabel Allende, Bessie Head and Gita Mehta. Introduction by Anita Desai. \$29.99 pb, 1-85242-581-4, Serpent's Tail. Distributed by Consortium.

In bold, simple line drawings and accompanying text in journal form, **Women Against Hunger: A Sketchbook Journey** records Betty LaDuke's visits to Freedom from Hunger project sites in Africa. Freedom from Hunger is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to eradicating chronic hunger and malnutrition by encouraging and supporting women in their efforts to organize and become self-sufficient. \$21.95 pb, 0-86543-606-1, Africa World Press, Inc.

Africa: Women's Art, Women's Lives is a continuation of artist/scholar Betty LaDuke's efforts to document the art of women of color around the world. LaDuke provides a view of the artists' consciousness of their own agency and their sense of themselves as contributing to social and political change and to the

dismantling of old boundaries and stereotypes. B&W photos throughout. \$24.95 cl, 0-86543-434-4, Africa World Press, Inc.

Gendered Visions: The Art of Contemporary Africana Women Artists edited by Salah M. Hassan was produced in conjunction with an art exhibit held at the Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Cornell University. The book (as did the exhibit) features work by six contemporary women artists of African descent who live and work in the West: Elisabeth T. Atnafu from Ethiopia, Xenobia Bailey from the U.S., Renee Cox from Jamaica, Angele E. Essamba from Cameroon, Houria Niata from Algeria, and Etiye Dimma Poulsen from Ethiopia. It includes essays focusing on the artists, providing insightful readings of the artists' works in relation to their life stories, aesthetics, and socio-cultural background. B&W photos throughout. \$24.95 pb, 0-86543-620-7, Africa World Press, Inc.

Biography, Autobiography & Memoir

Singing Away the Hunger: The Autobiography of an African Woman — Mpho 'M'atsepo Nthunya, edited by K. Limakatso Kendall, brings to print a voice rarely heard, a voice from within the struggle of "ordinary" African women to negotiate a world that

For a more complete selection of books, see also:

Booksellers Recommend	19
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Music	83
Mysteries	91
Science Fiction	95

incorporates both ancient pastoral ways and the congestion, brutality, and racist violence of city life in South Africa. \$12.95 pb, 0-253-21162-X; \$29.95 cl, -33352-0, Indiana University Press.

For Women and the Nation: Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti of Nigeria by Cheryl Johnson-Odim and Nina Emma Mba is a rare full-length biography of an African woman activist. Ransome-Kuti, a Nigerian activist born in 1900, fought for suffrage and equal rights for her countrywomen long before the second wave of the women's movement in the United States. She also championed the cause of the poor as she joined the anticolonial movement struggling for Nigeria's independence. \$19.95 pb, 0-252-06613-8, University of Illinois Press.

Tanure Ojaide, author of **Great Boys: An African Childhood**, writes "I consider myself fortunate to have experienced traditional African culture firsthand before its transformation by modernity. **Great Boys** is about my upbringing in the Niger Delta area of Nigeria. My grandmother who raised me told me the beginning of my life, including my father's visit to seek my mother's hand and why my father at my birth

reported to relatives that I was a girl. I took over my story from when I was about three-and-a-half years." \$22.95 cl, 0-86543-574-X, Africa World Press, Inc.

On My Own at 107: Reflections of Life Without Bessie by Sarah L. Delany with Amy Hill Hearth is a memoir of the elder Delany sister's first year without her sister and lifelong companion. \$18 cl, 0-06-251485-7, HarperCollins.

In Wounds of Passion: A Writing Life, feminist intellectual bell hooks recounts her life as she moves from adolescence into womanhood. "**Wounds of Passion** wraps us in a bountiful blanket of finely textured, artfully woven memories that surround our hearts, warm our souls, and comfort our minds." —Julia A. Boyd, *In The Company of My Sisters*. \$20 cl, 0-8050-4146-X.

Ella Baker: Freedom Bound by Joanne Grant is the inspiring story of a remarkable woman who rose from poverty and oppression to become a hero of the civil rights movement. She was one of several founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. \$24.95 cl, 0471020206, Wiley.

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Selma, Lord, Selma: Girlhood Memories of the Civil Rights Days by Sheyann Webb and Tachel West Nelseon, as told to Frank Sikora, is their first-hand account of the 1965 voter rights demonstrations in Alabama. \$17.95 cl, 0817300317, University of Alabama Press.

Faye Wattleton, the former president of Planned Parenthood tells her story in **Life on the Line**. \$14.95 pb, 0345416570, March, One World/Ballantine.

Blending memoir, essay, and political analysis, Jill Nelson's (*Volunteer Slavery*) **Straight, No Chaser: How I Became a Grown-up Black Woman** is a provocative look at Black women's struggle for voice and visibility. Nelson also relates her own experiences in this hard-hitting book, and whether growing up in the house of her father, or being assaulted by a lover, or struggling to control rage in the face of injustice, she draws a vivid picture of not only the obstacles confronting Black women, but the possibility of transformation. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14262-2, Putnam.

Trespassing: My Sojourn in the Halls of Privilege by Gwendolyn M. Parker (*These Same Long Bones*). By objective accounts, Gwendolyn M. Parker was a success: college at Radcliffe and law school at NYU; she was first employed by a prestigious New York law firm and later by American Express. At 26 she quit, feeling that the cost of being the token African American woman was not worth the price. Parker began her working life anew: she lobbied for welfare mothers, helped small businesses incorporate, designed marketing plans for domestic violence shelters, and advised older divorced women on their wills and taxes. "The real value of Gwendolyn Parker's story is to document the loss we all experience when we try to navigate life's challenges solely as autonomous, free-floating individuals who forget the power that comes from feeling connected to a larger cause or a loving community." —Lani Guinier. \$23 cl, 0-395-82297-1, Houghton Mifflin.

Little X: Growing Up in the Nation of Islam is Sonyrea Tate's personal account of her upbringing as a Black Muslim in America. Tate recreates the rhythms and sensations of daily life among the hundreds of other inner-city "Little Xs," and chronicles her family's multi-generational experience within the Nation's strict culture and her growing disillusionment and eventual

break with the Nation due to its attitude toward women. \$12 pb, 0-06-251135-1, HarperSanFrancisco.

From Mine Eyes is Attallah Shabazz' memoir of her life as a the eldest child of Civil Rights leader, Malcom X. Shabazz evokes her fascinating family life in vivid detail, personalizing both the triumphs and the tragic events of the era. \$24 cl, 0-688-15188-4, March/April, Morrow.

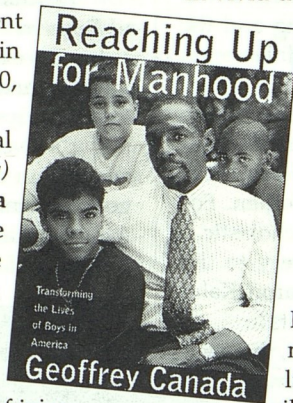
In **Never Question the Miracle: A Surgeon's Story** Rose-Marie Toussaint, M.D., tells the story of how she, a Black female immigrant, became a prominent surgeon in the United States. Written with Anthony E. Santaniello. \$24.95 cl, 0-345-40723-7, Ballantine.

In **My Rose: An African American Mother's Story of AIDS** Geneva Bell tells a moving story of her gay son, and how he lived with and died from AIDS-related illness. This personal account of Bell's devastation, her shame, and anger at God is also a story of courage and the faith that enabled her to come to terms with this tragedy, even without the full support of her church. \$12.95 pb, 0-8298-1160-5. Pilgrim Press, 700 Prospect Avenue East, Cleveland OH 44115. Available from Ingram.

Running the gamut from welfare reform and the presidency to the Pope and oral sex, Whoopi Goldberg has a comment on it all. **Whoopi Goldberg: Book** is filled with the hard-earned wisdom, savvy sense of humor, and wide-ranging, keen observations that have made Whoopi Goldberg a household name. \$22 cl, 0-688-15252-X, Rob Weisbach/Morrow.

Don't Block the Blessings: Revelations of a Lifetime by Patti LaBelle (with Laura B. Randolph) chronicles the phenomenal success of this artist who is known not only for her music, but also for her tireless charity work and devotion to her fans. \$24.95 cl, 1-57322-039-6, Riverhead Books/Putnam.

Deloreese Patricia Early was 13 when she landed her first professional tour, singing backup for Mahalia Jackson, and by the time she was 22 she was in New York with a recording contract. She is now the star of the hit television series "Touched by an Angel." **Angels Along the Way: My Life with Help From Above** is Della Reese's story of her life, one with its share of personal tragedy, but also one filled with joy and inspiration. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14342-4, Putnam.



Children's & Young Adult Books

For **Finding Our Way: The Teen Girls' Survival Guide** Allsion Abner and Linda Villarosa interviewed girls from diverse backgrounds and wove their stories into a guide for girls, parents, and teachers. Issues discussed range from self-esteem to dating and the dramatic physical changes that occur in adolescence. \$13 pb, 0-06-095114-1, HarperPerennial.

Tonya Bolden presents biographies of ten women who refused to let racism or sexism stand in the way of their dreams in **And Not Afraid to Dare: The Stories of Ten African American Women**. For ages 9–14, \$16.95, 0590480804, February, Scholastic.

In **Brave Black Women: From Slavery to the Space Shuttle** Ruthe Winegarten and Sharon Kahn trace the history of Black women for students in grades 4 to 8. In addition to famous women, the book also profiles teachers, businesswomen, civil rights leaders, community activists, doctors, nurses, athletes, musicians, artists, and political leaders. \$24.95 cl, 0-292-79106-2; \$12.95 pb, -79107-0, University of Texas Press.

In **Our Own Image: An African American History**, edited by the People's Publishing Group and the Rochester City School District, provides a definitive account of African Americans who, through their achievements and tribulations, had great impact on American history: Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Booker T. Washington, Marcus Garvey, Ida B. Wells, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes and many others. Grades 4–6. \$21.95 pb, 1-56256-029-8, Peoples Publishing. Distributed by Red Sea.

African American History: A Journey of Liberation by Molefi Kete Asante will help older readers (grades 7–12) gain a comprehensive understanding of the scope of African American history, with its rich legacy, dark moments, and the ongoing struggle for liberation and enrichment. \$34.95 pb, 1-56256-903-1, Peoples Publishing.

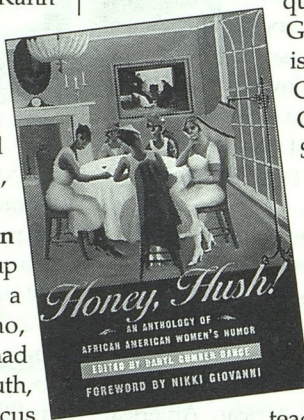
Child Rearing & Children's Issues

In Madeleine Wright's **Sisters Helping Sisters**, the author suggests ways to organize and manage mentoring programs for African American girls. \$14.95 pb, 0913543535, Africa World Press, Inc.

She Say, He Say: Urban Girls Write Their Lives

by Brett Elizabeth Blake examines public and private writings of low-income, urban, pre-adolescent girls illuminating ways that girls' voices are often silenced in schools and society. \$14.95 pb, 0-7914-3480-X; \$44.50 cl, -3479-6, State University of New York Press.

Reaching Up for Manhood: Transforming the Lives of Boys in America by Geoffrey Canada. "In a voice rich with experience, [Canada] speaks about fathers and sons and shows specifically what it means for men to love boys, what it is like to be a boy wanting a father's love, and why we as a society urgently need to change our culture of manhood if we want men to be good fathers and boys to reach manhood. Focusing on the everyday, talking about sex, drugs, and faith, as well as self-worth and work, Canada has written a quietly revolutionary book." —Carol Gilligan, *In a Different Voice*. Canada is the East Coast coordinator for the Children's Defense Fund's Black Community Crusade for Children. \$22 cl, 0-8070-2316-7, Beacon Press.



The State of America's Children: A Report of the Children's Defense Fund, 1998, introduction by Marian Wright Edelman (founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund), is a must-have handbook for child workers, activist parents,

teachers, speechmakers, media professionals — anyone looking for hard data and moving stories to help them fight for children's well-being in America. \$16 pb, 0-8070-4147-5, Beacon.

Nothing's Impossible: Leadership Lessons from Inside and Outside the Classroom by Lorraine Monroe. Using stories from her own life growing up in Harlem as well as her experiences as a teacher and a principal, Lorraine Monroe describes how caring instructors, an atmosphere of disciplined creativity, and a refusal to accept mediocrity can transform the lives of inner-city children. \$23 cl, 0-8129-2904-7, Times Books/Random House.

Cooking & Commentary

Ntozake Shange offers an eclectic tribute to Black cuisine in **If I Can Cook/You Know God Can**, reflecting the tenacious spirit and powerful history of a people.

Here, Shange instructs the reader in the nuances of a cuisine born on the slave ships of the Middle Passage, spiced by the jazz of Duke Ellington, and shared by all members of the African diaspora. Foreword by Vertamae Grosvenor. \$20 cl, 0-8070-7240-0, Beacon.

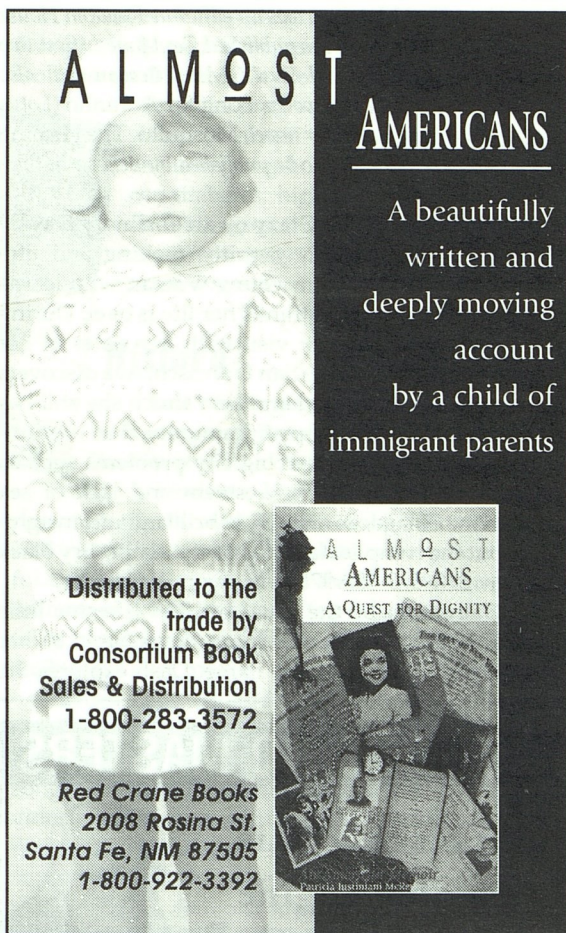
Dorinda Hafner collects recipes and stories from all over America in **United Tastes of America: Recipes and the Cultural Origins of Your Favorite Dishes**. Equal parts cookbook and history lesson, Hafner presents a unique patchwork of American cuisine. \$25 cl, 0-345-41981-2, Ballantine.

In **The African-American Kitchen: Cooking From Our Heritage** Angela Shelf Medearis collects 250 recipes, including native African dishes, Caribbean-influenced foods, Southern and soul food staples, and contemporary favorites. The author enlivens the text with African and Southern adages, quotations from 19th-century cooks' manuals, and personal and family reminiscences. \$14.95 pb, 0-452-27638-1, Plume.

Low-Fat Soul by Jonell Nash, Food Editor for *Essence*, collects easy-to-make meals for every day, holiday fare, and elegant dinner parties and includes simple tips for stripping the fat from recipes ranging from catfish and gumbo to sweet potato pie and pineapple upside-down cake. \$14 pb, 0-345-41363-6, One World/Ballantine.

Fiction

In **Paradise**, Toni Morrison's first novel since winning the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993, four young women are brutally attacked in a convent near an all-Black town. Each a singular provenance, the women suggest the vicissitudes of the era — of the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War, the counterculture, generational conflict. While the inexorableness of the attack and efforts to avert it lie at the heart of the novel, **Paradise** also reveals the interior lives of individual townspeople, their collective dramas, and sweeping incongruities in American society. "A revolution and a revelation, not only for the intensity of its portrayal of human complexity, but also for the relentless force of its narrative form. A bountiful treasure of a novel." \$25 cl, 0679433740, February. Also in audio, read by the author (\$25.95, 0375401792) and large print (\$25 tp, 0-375-70217-2).



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The story of Harlan Jane Eagleton's transformation from a minor rock star's manager to a traveling faith healer, **The Healing** by Gayl Jones is a lyrical and at times humorous exploration of the struggle to let go of pain, anger, and even love. \$23 cl, 0-8070-6314-2. Beacon is also republishing **Corregidora** as part of their Blue Streak series (writings by women of color). **Corregidora** is an account of blues singer Ursa, consumed by hatred of the 19th-century slave master who fathered both her grandmother and mother. "**Corregidora** is the most brutally honest and painful revelation of what has occurred, and is occurring in the souls of Black men and women." —James Baldwin. \$12 pb, 0-8070-6315-0, Beacon Press. Distributed by Ballantine.

Note: Toni Morrison was an editor at Random House in the early 1970s when she published Gayl Jones's first two novels, Corregidora and Eva's Man. Beacon will also republish her book-length poem, Song for Anninho (Lotus Press), and publish another novel, Mosquito. The Healing is the first original novel to be published by Beacon in their 143-year history.

What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day by Pearl Cleage is the funny, gritty, moving and life-affirming story of Ava, a young woman who learns she is HIV-positive and thinks her life is over. During what was to be a quick visit with her sister in her hometown on her way to San Francisco, Ava discovers how much she is needed and how much she still has to give to this once-sleepy community that is crumbling under the weight of big city problems such as joblessness, crack, low self-esteem and lack of sex education. Cleage, as always, is brilliant and insightful about the complicated lives of contemporary Black women. \$20 cl, 0-380-97584-X, Avon Books.

Daughters of the Dust by film director Julie Dash has been transformed into a novel based on her acclaimed film of the same name. Dash explores the

rich but little-known Gullah culture of the South Carolina Sea Islands tracing generations of an African American family. \$24.95 cl, 0525941096, Dutton.

Evie and Janey, both ten years old, are best friends with much in common: absent fathers, brothers who are indefinitely away, both are being raised by their mothers. Evie is white and Janey is Black, and for years the inequities of race so permeate their lives that they remain invisible to Evie though certainly not to Janey. It is only later in life that a startling series of events forces Evie to ask Jane for forgiveness. Set in Georgia against the backdrop of the Civil Rights movement of the 50s and 60s, **Night Talk** by Elizabeth Cox charts the course of Evie's evolving consciousness about the impact of racism on both of their lives. \$23.95 cl. 1-55597-267-5, Graywolf Press. Distributed by Consortium.

Eric Jerome Dickey's **Sister Sister**, a #1 Blackboard Bestseller, has been praised as "A high-spirited celebration of Black Sisterhood. Brims with humor, outrageousness, and affection." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$5.99 pb, 0-451-18802-0, Signet/Penguin USA.

One Better by Rosalyn McMillan is the story of Spice Witherspoon, a successful restaurateur and respected community leader in Detroit who privately struggles to hold her family together. McMillan's previous book, *Knowing*, was a national bestseller. \$22 cl, 0-446-52242-2, Warner Books.

Lady Moses: A Novel by Lucinda Roy tells the story of a young biracial woman and her struggle to overcome adversity and forge her own identity. \$23 cl, 0-06-018244-X, February, HarperFlamingo.

Sharon Mitchell's novel, **Nothing But the Rent: A Novel About Four Vibrant African American Women Who Renew Their Determination to Face the Trials of Modern Life With Humor...** tells the story about a friendship that sustains.... \$23.95 cl, 0525943064, Dutton.

He Say, She Say by Yolanda Joe is a novel of love and life: Sandy is a rising young radio executive looking for love. Her best friend Bebe, a bank supervisor, is working her way through a self-imposed man sabbatical. Joe uses alternating voices to let her characters teach each other about life and love, responsibility and fulfillment. \$6.50 pb, 0446605700, February, Warner; \$21.95 cl, 0385485077, Doubleday.

Flight of the Blackbird, Faye McDonald Smith's debut novel, offers a detailed portrait of the dreams

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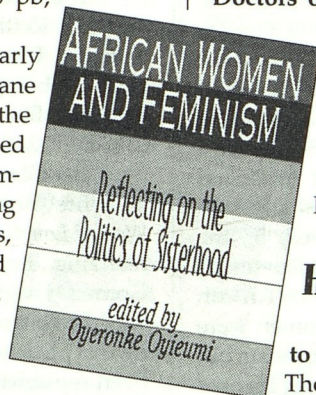
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and fears of middle-class African Americans who face systemic racism compounded by the harsh economic realities of life in the nineties. \$6.50 pb, 0446605611, Warner.

Set in west Philadelphia in the early sixties, **Tempest Rising: A Novel** by Diane McKinney-Whetstone (*Tumbling*) tells the story of three adolescent sisters raised financially privileged in the Black community. Still, when their father's catering business collapses and he disappears, their mother suffers a breakdown and the girls land in foster care. \$23 cl, 0-688-14994-4, Morrow.



Health & Healing

The Black Women's Health Book: Speaking For Ourselves edited by Evelyn C. White features works by authors from bell hooks to Toni Morrison. Topics include menopause, breast-feeding, holistic healing, fibroids, the evolution of the African American diet, skin color issues, and HIV infection. \$16.95 pb, 1-878067-40-0, Seal Press. Distributed by PGW and available from BP.

Body and Soul, edited by Linda Villarosa, foreword by Angela Davis and June Jordan, is a Black woman's guide to physical health and emotional well-being. Sponsored by the National Black Women's Health Project and drawing on the expertise of Black female scientists, academics, health care practitioners and writers, **Body and Soul** addresses issues and concerns including coping with illness, sexual abuse, AIDS, the healing power of spirituality, and more. \$20 pb, 0-06-095085-4, HarperPerennial.

Mama's Little Baby: The Black Woman's Guide to Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Baby's First Year by Dennis Brown, M.D. and Pamela A. Toussaint is not only an informative, straightforward guide covering everything a pregnant woman needs to know about conception, prenatal care, labor, delivery, and baby care; it also offers the reader a wealth of cultural and historical information and inspiration. The pictures and drawings are descriptive and useful, and the quotes from expectant mothers and fathers, which appear throughout the book, give the book a friendly, down-to-earth feel. Good for both expectant mothers and fathers. \$23.95 cl, 0-525-93989-X, Dutton/Penguin.

Health & Healing for African-Americans: Straight Talk and Tips from More Than 150 Black Doctors on 100 Health Concerns

edited by Sheree Crute features advice and information for Black women and men on concerns including alcoholism, anemia, breast cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, lupus, sinus allergies, thyroid problems, and vaginal infections. \$29.95 cl, 0-87596-365-X, Rodale Press. Distributed by St. Martin's.

History

Lest We Forget: The Passage from Africa to Slavery and Emancipation by Velma Maia Thomas is a three-dimensional interactive book with reproductions of historic papers, memoirs, personal effects, and photographs from the Black Holocaust Exhibit. It's difficult to convey how powerful this book is — it makes the lives of some of the millions of Africans who suffered the horrors and brutality of slavery very specific and personal. \$29.95 cl, 0-609-60030-3, Crown.

Blues Legacies and Black Feminism: Gertrude "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, and Billie Holiday by Angela Y. Davis. Davis' illuminating analysis of the songs performed by Rainey, Smith and Holiday provides readers with a compelling and transformative understanding of their musical and social contributions, stating that the artists represent a Black working-class, feminist ideology and historical consciousness. \$27.50 cl, 0-679-45005-X, Pantheon.

Generations: A Century of Women Speak about Their Lives by Myriam Miedzian and Alisa Malinovich. Sweeping in scope, and yet rooted in the details, emotions, and dilemmas of everyday life, this fascinating and compelling book is a collection of narratives by individual women from diverse backgrounds — snapshots — that, together, make up a portrait of what life has been like for women in the 20th century. \$27.50 cl, 0-87113-678-3, Atlantic Monthly Press.

Inheritors of the Spirit: Mary White Ovington and the Founding of the NAACP by Carolyn Wedin is the story of a remarkable woman whose vision, courage, and passion for justice left an indelible mark on the 20th century. It is also the biography of an organization, portraying the evolution of the NAACP from a small,

mostly white volunteer staff to a well-honed bureaucracy of lawyers, accountants, field secretaries, and lobbyists run for and by African Americans. \$30 cl, 0-471-16838-6, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

To Serve My Country, To Serve My Race: The Story of the Only African American WACs Stationed Overseas During World War II, by Brenda Moore, is the story of the historic 6888th, the First U.S. Women's Army Corps unit composed of African American women to serve overseas. Under political pressure from legislators like Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., the NAACP, the Black press, and even President Roosevelt, the U.S. War Department was forced to deploy African American women in early 1942. These women were eager to serve not only out of a sense of patriotism but out of a desire to "uplift" the race and dispel bigoted preconceptions about their abilities. \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-5587-9, New York University Press.

The Comfort Woman: Japan's Brutal Regime of Enforced Prostitution in The Second World War by George Hicks is a non-fiction account of the lives of Korean "comfort women." "This solidly-researched, fascinating work unearths buried history, and also exposes the connection between militarism, economics, and sexual violence — lessons as yet tragically unlearned." —Robin Morgan. \$14.95 pb, 0-393-31694-7, W.W. Norton.

White Women, Black Men: Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South by Martha Hodes draws on sources which suggest that in the slave South, whites were not overwhelmingly concerned about such liaisons beyond the racial and legal status of the children that were produced. Only with Black freedom did the issue become a much more serious taboo than it had ever been before. \$30, 0-300-06970-7, Yale University Press.

Humor

The poems, songs, memoirs, stories, cartoons and one-liners in **Honey, Hush! An Anthology of African American Women's Humor** edited by Daryl Cumber Dance celebrate the humor and insight that has enabled Black women to survive and thrive, often against all odds. Contributors include Zora Neale Hurston, Rita Dove, Audre Lorde, Alice Walker, Whoopi Goldberg, and Terry McMillan. Foreword by Nikki Giovanni. \$30 cl, 0-393-04557-9, W.W. Norton.

Lesbian & Gay

In One More River to Cross: Black and Gay in America Keith Boykin, the Executive Director of the National Black Gay & Lesbian Leadership Forum, explores being Black and gay and the relationships between Blacks and gays in America. \$14.95 pb, 0385479832; \$23.95 cl, -9824, Anchor.

"For Black lesbians, [reading Ann Allen Shockley's first novel, **Loving Her**], was like reading *The Well of Loneliness* for the first time as teenagers and realizing there were 'others' out there." —Jewelle Gomez. Originally published in 1974, **Loving Her** was the first novel by an African American author to deal explicitly with interracial lesbian love. It has just been republished, with a new foreword by Alycee J. Lane, in the Northeastern Library of Black Literature series. \$12.95 pb, 155553-329-9, Northeastern University Press.

Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John by Sally Cline. "Cline notes that ridicule, and accusations of lack of humour, have always been a homophobic weapon against lesbians. So she makes the brave but risky decision to take Hall on her own terms, and treat her as the heroine she wanted to be. Cline's commitment to presenting Hall's career, not as a one-book scandal, but as a hard-working professional life, is impressive. Above all, she places her thoughtfully and carefully in lesbian history, showing how attitudes of same-sex love changed during her lifetime." —Hermoine Lee. \$27.50 cl, 0-87951-831-6, The Overlook Press.

Mystery

In Gone Fishin': An Easy Rawlins Novel, Walter Mosley (*Devil in a Blue Dress, A Red Death, RL's Dream*) introduces readers to Ezekiel Easy Rawlins and Raymond Mouse Alexander, providing a glimpse into the genesis of their close, complicated relationship. "A powerfully raw, lyrical coming-of-age story.... This late encounter with the early Easy offers an extra dimension to readers who have met, in previous stories, the man he grew to be." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$22 cl, 1-57478-025-5, Black Classic Press.

Cook-housekeeper-amateur sleuth Blanche White sorts out a scandal that starts in the stiff, hypocritical politician's household where she is working

and moves to the center of her own community in **Blanche Cleans Up** by Barbara Neely. Blanche doesn't take any attitude from anybody, whether she's doing domestic work for others, watching out for her own kids or confronting homophobia: You don't mess around with Blanche's people! "Barbara Neely has forever transformed the mystery novel with a heroine-detective who is a real woman: middle-aged, African American, working class, plump, feisty, funny, feminist!" —Robin Morgan. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-87626-7, Viking.

One Must Wait by Penny Mickelbury introduces Black criminal defense attorney Carole Ann Gibson, a partner in a high-priced law firm who resigns when she realizes how cynical she has become. Alain, her husband, is a high-powered corporate lawyer waging his own battle with his principles. He also resigns — and then is murdered. Carole Ann's search to find out why takes her from Washington, D.C. to the backwater swamps of Louisiana, and along the way she discovers secrets about Alain, his death, and her own history. \$22 cl, 0-684-83741-2, Simon & Schuster.

Black Heat by Norman Kelley. Nina Halligan, a resourceful private investigator, searches for the missing daughter of a slain civil rights leader. "Kelley pushes a heavy thumb on hot-button issues of Black politics: Afrocentrism, the appeal of televangelism, what it means to be authentically Black, and FBI dirty tricks against civil rights leaders." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$12.95 pb, 1-887276-03-3, Cool Grove Press.

Poetry & Literature

Like the Singing Coming off the Drums (Love Poems) is the latest book by scholar, activist, and poet Sonia Sanchez. Divided into three sections — Naked in the Streets, Shake Loose My Skin, and In This Wet Season — Sanchez takes the reader from the most intimate landscapes of passion to its public celebration in love poems to icons of our age, including Ella Fitzgerald and Tupac Shakur. \$16 cl, 0-8070-6842-X, Beacon Press.

Renaissance by Ruth Forman (*We Are the Young Magicians*). "Ruth Forman's poetry is potent, passionate, high-energy, and uncompromisingly Black.... An

absorbing and transforming collection of poetry that not only upholds the traditions of the 'sistapoets' in whose steps Forman follows — Audre Lorde, Alice Walker and Sonia Sanchez — but also boldly blazes brand new trails." —*Quarterly Black Review of Books*. \$18 cl, 0-8070-6840-3, Beacon Press.

Nikki Giovanni's poetry collections *My House* and *The Women and the Men*, will be re-packaged for February release. *My House*, first published in 1972, added a personal and autobiographical dimension to Giovanni's political philosophy. (\$7 pb, 0-688-05021-2.) The poems in *The Women and the Men* cover a larger period of Giovanni's life and display her gifts of warmth, precision, passion, and wit. (\$7 pb, 0-688-07947-4.) Quill/Morrow.

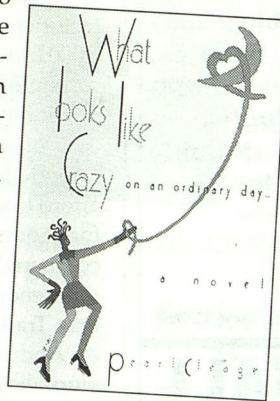
Harlem's Glory: Black Women Writing, 1900–1950, edited by Lorraine Elena Roses and Ruth Elizabeth Randolph. \$17.95, 0-674-37270-0, Harvard University Press.

Examining the work of such artists as Dionne Brand, Makeda Silvera, Audre Lorde, Rosa Guy, Michelle Cliff, and M. Nourbese Philip, **Searching for Safe Spaces: Afro-Caribbean Women Writers in Exile** by Myriam J.A. Chancy shows how these Afro-Caribbean feminists examine the complex issues of race, nationality, gender, sexuality, and class that limit women's lives. \$19.95 pb, 1-56639-540-2, Temple University Press.

Women of Color: Mother-Daughter Relationships in 20th-Century Literature edited by Elizabeth Brown-Guilty explores the mother-daughter relationship as it appears in the works of African, African American, Asian American, Mexican American, Native American, Indian, and Australian Aboriginal women writers. Writers include Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Maxine Hong Kingston, Cherríe Moraga, Leslie Marmon Silko, and Amy Tan. \$14.95 pb, 0-292-70847-5; \$40 cl, -70846-7, University of North Carolina Press.

Gender in African Women's Writing: Identity, Sexuality, and Difference by Juliana Makuchi Nfah-Abbenyi develops African-centered gender analysis of works of sub-Saharan women writers. \$14.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21149-2, Indiana University Press.

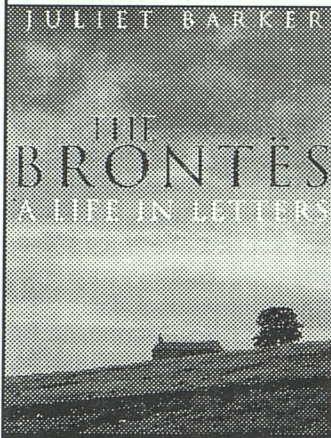
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Politics & Organizing

Over one-third of New York's 6,500 clothing factories are sweatshops, as are 90% of Los Angeles' 5,000 factories and 80% of Miami's 500. Still, companies continue to shift clothing manufacture to offshore production where their costs are even cheaper: more than 60% of garments sold in the U.S. today have been imported. It's not, of course, that these companies can't afford to pay living wages: Michael Jordan earned more for endorsing Nike running shoes than all 30,000 of the company's Indonesian workers in a year. Who is all of this benefiting, and at whose cost? **No Sweat: Fashion, Free Trade and the Rights of Garment Workers** edited by Andrew Ross is a collection of essays by activists, journalists, human rights workers, and academics that answer these questions very clearly. It's also a beautifully-designed, powerfully-illustrated book, with high-fashion ad layouts juxtaposed with photographs of the interior of garment factories in New York's Chinatown, Thai workers released from captivity in a California sweatshop, nine-year-old factory workers, and twelve-year-old child activists. \$19 pb, 1-85984-172-4, Verso. Distributed by W.W. Norton.

Out of print since the 80s, **The Afro-American Woman: Struggles and Images** edited by Sharon Harley and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, a classic collection of essays which analyzes Black women's experiences from an historical and Black nationalist perspective, has been republished by Black Classic Press. \$10.95 pb, 1-57478-026-3. Distributed by PGW.

The contributors in **African Women and Feminism: Reflecting on the Politics of Sisterhood** edited by Oyeronke Oyewumi, confront issues raised by the (mis)representation of African women by both Black and white American feminists and question the idea that a common anatomy can form the basis of

solidarity amongst women of different colors, cultures, classes, nations, and religions. Contributors also discuss the uses and abuses of female circumcision in the global feminist discourse, problems with the criminalization approach to eradicating female circumcision, the effect of development policy on African woman, and gender imperialism as encountered by African women in the academy. \$21.95 pb, 0-86543-628-2; \$79.95 cl, -627-4, Africa World Press, Inc.

On Being Female, Black, and Free: Essays by Margaret Walker, 1932–1992, edited by Maryemma Graham, brings to one volume the previously uncollected essays that represent Walker's creative and philosophical vision. Author of *Jubilee* and winner of the 1942 Yale Younger Poets Series, Walker writes on a range of topics including her personal perspectives, on subjects from the role of a Black woman artist to the distinctiveness of African American cultural life and the importance of education in the fight for political change. \$16 pb, 0-87046-981-5, University of Tennessee Press.



Psychology, Relationships & Healing

Willow Weep for Me: A Black Woman's Journey Through Depression by Meri Nana-Ama Danquah chronicles a woman's descent into despair and offers a powerful meditation on courage and survival. \$23.95 cl, 0393045676, Norton.

In What the Blues Is All About: Black Women Overcoming Stress and Depression Angela Mitchell looks at depression among African American women and offers resources that empower readers to be more informed, enlightened, and better equipped to cope. \$12.95 pb, 0399523766, Perigee.

In the Meantime: Finding Yourself and the Love That You Want by Iyanla Vanzant (*Acts of Faith* and *The Value in the Valley*) reaches out to anyone who yearns for love, showing women how to view relationships as an ongoing process of discovery and growth, and how relationships can help women reach new levels of awareness, spiritual growth, and fulfillment. \$23 cl, 0684841363, Simon & Schuster.

In Men We Cherish Brooke Stephens collects 30 essays, memoirs, and love letters by African American women about the everyday heroes in their lives. \$14.95 pb, 0385485328, Anchor.

In Brothers on the Mend: Understanding and Healing Anger for African-American Men and Women Ernest H. Johnson, Ph.D., helps Black men — and those who care about them — identify anger related to race and gender and offers a variety of prescriptive measures, from the practical to the spiritual, for managing anger, coping with stress, and reducing conflict in relationships. \$24 cl, 0-671-51145-9, Pocket Books.

In Succeeding Sane: Making Room for Joy in a Crazy World Bonnie St. John Deane — a disabled, African American Olympic ski medalist, Rhodes scholar, former White House official, and businesswoman — shares her personal strategy for making it to the top without sacrificing the things most important. \$23 cl, 0-684-81853-1, Simon & Schuster.

Confronting Racism

The Black Notebooks: An Interior Journey, begun as series of journal entries, offers an intimate record of Toi Derricotte's encounters with family, neighbors, friends, students, and colleagues where she is forced to question what it means to be a Black woman living in a racially-divided world. "Where are the adjectives for a work that tears out your heart and brings you to the broken dreams of your childhood, adolescence and adulthood over and over again? **The Black Notebooks** is not just one of the best books on race I have ever read but is just simply one of the best books I have ever read." —Sapphire, *Push*. \$21.95 cl, 0-393-04544-7, W.W. Norton.

"Through maternal, autobiographical reflection, Jane Lazarre confronts the white racism that has shaped American society and remains our harshest tragedy and deepest challenge." —Sara Ruddick. Recalling events that opened her eyes to her sons' and husband's experience as Black Americans and her own revealing missteps, Lazarre describes a movement from silence to voice, to a commitment to action in **Beyond the Whiteness of Whiteness: Memoir of a White Mother of Black Sons**. \$12.95 pb, 0-8223-2044-4, Duke University Press.

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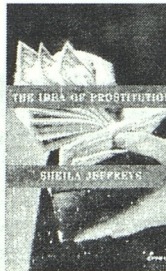
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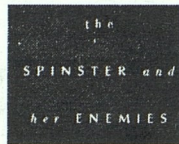
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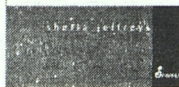
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In **Killing Rage: Ending Racism** bell hooks addresses the psychological trauma of racism including internalized biases in the movies and media, the complex struggles between Black and white women, Black anti-Semitism, and the possibility of finding — in one's rage against repeated acts of racism — the seeds of strength. \$12.95 pb, 0-8050-5027-2, Holt.

The Color of Privilege: Three Blasphemies on Race and Feminism (Critical Perspectives on Women & Gender) by Aída Hurtado explores how women of different ethnic/racial groups conceive of feminism. Hurtado advances a theory of relational privilege to explain that the different responses to feminism by white women and women of color reflect differing relationship to white men and their privilege rather than personal or cultural differences. \$13.95 pb, 0-472-06531-9, University of Michigan Press.

Making Meaning of Whiteness: Exploring Racial Identity with White Teachers by Alice McIntyre describes how a group of white female student teachers examined their "whiteness" and developed ways of thinking critically about race and racism in educational practice. Their teaching strategies were aimed to disrupt and eliminate the oppressiveness of white privilege in education. \$18.95 pb, 0-7914-3496-6; \$57.50 cl, -3495-8, State University of New York Press.

In Color-Blind: Seeing Beyond Race in a Race-Obsessed World Ellis Cose (*The Rage of a Privileged Class*) probes the depths of "the American mind" and exposes the contradictions, fears, hopes, and illusions embedded in our society's perceptions of race. Drawing on the experiences of South Africa and Latin America, Cose illustrates why it has been impossible for the United States to move directly from race relations hell to utopia without passing through a purgatory where most legal barriers have dropped away, but racial misunderstanding and deeply ingrained prejudices persist. \$13 pb, 0-06-092887-5, February, HarperPerennial.

The narratives in **As We Are Now: Mixblood Essays on Race and Identity** edited by William S. Penn, explore the untamed territory of race and mixblood identity in North America. These writings cross racial, national, and disciplinary boundaries in their experimental approaches to writing culture. \$45 cl, 0-520-21072-7; \$16.95 pb, -21073-5, University of California.

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Black, Jewish, and Interracial: It's Not the Color of Your Skin, But the Race of Your Kin, and Other Myths of Identity by Katya Gibel Azoulay blends historical, theoretical, and personal perspectives to explore the possibilities and meanings that arise when Black and Jewish identities merge. Azoulay challenges deeply-ingrained assumptions about identity and moves toward a consideration of complementary racial identities. \$15.95 pb, 0-8223-1971-3; \$45.95 cl, -1975-6, Duke University Press.



essays representing the latest work in African American studies. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-4228-9, NYU Press.

Displacing Whiteness: Essays in Social and Cultural Criticism edited by Ruth Frankenberg is a collection of essays by academics from a range of disciplines which examine contemporary meanings of whiteness. The authors labor to resituate whiteness from its unspoken status as the "unmarked marker:" to displace and then re-place it. \$17.95 pb, 0-8223-2021-5; \$49.95 cl, -2011-8. Duke University Press.

Her Majesty's Other Children: Sketches of Racism from a Neocolonial Age by Lewis R. Gordon is a collection of essays which challenge the reader to theorize about the essential lived-experience of anti-Black racism. "A brilliant blend of philosophy, memoir, and cultural analysis, **Her Majesty's Other Children** reflects Lewis Gordon's ongoing commitment to pursue critical scholarship that cuts across academic disciplines and geographic borders, straight to the heart of the urgent questions we face on the cusp of the new millennium." —Angela Y. Davis. \$17.95 pb, 0-8476-8448-2, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Distributed by National Book Network.

The House That Race Built: Essays by Toni Morrison, Angela Davis, Cornel West, and Others on the State of Race and Gender Relations in America Today, edited and introduced by Wahneema Lubiano, examines the crisis of democracy represented by the recent, ominous shift toward a renewed white racial nationalism. \$14 pb, 0679760687, March, Vintage.

In **Black on White: Black Writers on What it Means to Be White**, editor David R. Roediger brings together the voices of significant Black writers throughout history to explore the question: What does it really mean to be white in America? Contributors include James Baldwin, bell hooks, Jamaica Kincaid, Amiri Baraka, W.E.B. DuBois, Frederick Douglass, Langston Hughes, and Toni Morrison. \$24 cl, 0-8052-4146-9, Schocken.

What is the significance of race, Blackness, and African American culture in American society as America exits its first century without chattel slavery and enters its first century without codified segregation? **Race Consciousness** edited by Judith Jackson Fossett and Jeffrey A. Tucker is a collection of original

Science

Our Mothers of Invention: Women in Science — Medicine & Inventors, Ancient to Modern by Edna M. Swan looks at 100 women of African descent and from Africa who have invented and created in fields of science and medicine. Swan provides names, dates, accomplishments, biographical sketches, photos, patent drawings, and personal statements. \$14.95 pb, BlaCast Entertainment.

Spirituality & Inspiration

Embracing the Spirit: Womanist Perspectives on Hope, Salvation and Transformation edited by Emilie M. Townes (*A Troubling in My Soul: Womanist Perspectives on Evil and Suffering*) brings together essays by leading womanist theologians, interweaving a concern for matters of race, gender, and class, as they impact the survival and well-being of the African American community. \$20 pb, 1-57075-140-4, Orbis Books. Distributed by Westminster/John Knox Press.

Many Strong and Beautiful Voices by Quinn Eli collects a multitude of quotations from Africans and people of African descent who are dispersed throughout the world. Strong and beautiful, these voices speak of what it means to live among a myriad of vibrant cultures and still preserve a distinct identity. The words reverberate with the pain of the past and present — fighting hatred and ignorance — resound with pride and empowerment, and are filled with hope and confidence. \$12.95 cl, 0-7624-0168-0. Running Press, 125 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia PA 19103. Available from BP.

In **Black Profiles in Courage: A Legacy of African American Achievement** basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and black history scholar Alan Steinberg offer an introduction to Black history that focuses on the inspiring true stories of extraordinary men and women who typified the virtues of integrity, discipline and self-respect. The profiles include Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Peter Salem, a volunteer soldier who turned the tide at Bunker Hill, and Joseph Cinque, the leader of the daring revolt on the slave ship *Amistad*. \$6.99 pb, 038073060X, Avon; \$22 cl, 0688130976, Morrow.

The Wisdom of the Elders by Robert Fleming collects 150 unedited writings and speeches from such luminaries as Sojourner Truth, W.E.B. Du Bois, Martin Luther King, Jr., Elijah Muhammed, Lorraine Hansberry, Zora Neale Hurston, Mary McLeod Bethune, Barbara Jordan, and Paul Robeson. \$12 pb, 0-345-40975-2, One World/Ballantine.

Sports

Venus to the Hoop: A Gold-Medal Year in Women's Basketball by Sara Corbett chronicles the year-long journey of twelve extraordinary women basketball players from the time they were chosen for the 1996 Olympic team through months of practice and learning to play as a cohesive unit and dealing with the pressures of being media-hyped women athletes. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-48682-0, Doubleday.

No Bull is Dan Bickley's unauthorized biography of Chicago Bulls star Dennis Rodman. \$23.95 cl, 0312171196, St. Martin's.

Travel

In **Go Girl! The Black Woman's Guide to Travel and Adventure** Elaine Lee collects 52 tales that cover the globe and explore the spectrum of reasons for traveling. This guide provides sister-to-sister advice on everything from how to travel inexpensively and safely to staying healthy on the road and creating a travel fund. The stories also explore issues of particular concern to Black women such as dealing with racism, overcoming fears, and claiming entitlement. Contributors include Alice Walker, Maya Angelou, Jill Nelson, Evelyn C. White, Linda Villarosa, Gloria Wade-Gayles, Opal Palmer Adisa, and Lucinda Roy.

\$17.95 pb, 0-933377-42-8, \$24.95 cl, -43-6. Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214; Consortium.

In **The African-American Travel Guide** Wayne Robinson highlights sights and attractions of particular interest to African Americans: landmarks, museums/exhibits, galleries, churches, colleges, specialty shops, bookstores, clothing stores, restaurants, jazz clubs, comedy clubs, lodgings/bed & breakfasts, heritage tours, travel agents, radio stations, newspapers and magazines. Includes a calendar of events, maps, photos, and an index. \$15.95 pb, 1-55650-797-6. Hunter Publishing, 130 Campus Drive, Edison NJ 08818; Ingram and B&T.

Work

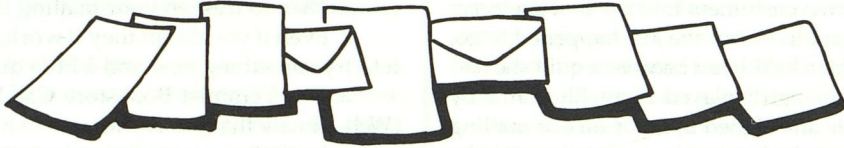
In **Sister CEO: The Black Woman's Guide to Starting Your Own Business** Cheryl D. Broussard (*The Black Woman's Guide to Financial Independence*) combines practical information and instruction with dozens of real-life stories, showing the reader how to take control of "your destiny by being in command of the work you do." \$12.95 pb, 0-14-025302-5, Penguin.

Earl G. Graves, Founder and Publisher of *Black Enterprise Magazine*, provides encouraging, concrete advice in **How to Succeed in Business Without Being White: Straight Talk on Making it in America**. "A clarion call for African Americans to pick up the gauntlet thrown down by the forces in this nation that believe Black Americans cannot — even, dare not — succeed." —Colin Powell. \$25 cl, 0-88730-808-2, HarperBusiness.

Black Women in the Academy: Promises and Perils, edited by Lois Benjamin, contains provocative essays exploring the themes of identity, power, and change. Thirty-three Black woman academics and administrators from around the country discuss their experiences with America's institutions of higher education. \$49.95 cl, *short discount*, 0-8130-1500-6, University Press of Florida.

In **Becoming Gentlemen: Women, Law School, and Institutional Change** Lani Guinier, Michelle Fine, and Jane Balin dare readers to question what it means to be qualified, what a fair goal in education might be, and what can be learned from the experience of women law students about teaching and evaluating all students. \$12.50 pb, 0-8070-4405-9, Beacon. ○

LETTERS



The Women's Bookstop
333 Main Street West
Hamilton, ONT L8P 1K1
Canada

Dear FBN,

Just a note to say we love *Feminist Bookstore News*. Of everything related to this business, your input is the most useful, blunt, demystifying, progressive, no-nonsense, and above all, feminist.

If there is ever a danger of losing you (heaven forbid!), please let us all know so we can help to keep you strong.

Renee

3420 Pillsbury Avenue S.
Minneapolis MN 55408

Dear FBN,

Kudos for kicking butt in your coverage and conversation about the entire Penguin antitrust debacle. It was most illuminating, as was the conversation with Joan about distribution rethink.

Donna Niles

Inklings
1846 Richmond Avenue
Houston TX 77098

Dear FBN,

We are so proud! Annise Parker, co-founder and half-owner of Inklings Bookshop, has just been elected to Houston City Council. Annise is an open lesbian, the first-ever open lesbian or gay man to be elected to public office here in the nation's 4th-largest city. Annise, winning after two previous attempts fell short, got 58% of the vote city-wide. This means she represents a larger constituency than any other openly

gay elected official in the country, except for one in L.A. and one in Cook County, IL.

This is an especially sweet victory for me. It was 1975 when we started the Houston Gay Political Caucus in my living room — one lesbian, three gay men, and a small dog. In 1976, I ran for a very small public office as an open lesbian. *Only* 21 years later, Annise got 144,000 votes in a relatively civil campaign.

Change does happen.

Pokey Anderson

Amazon Bookstore
1612 Harmon Place
Minneapolis MN 55403

Dear Booksellers,

I'm so excited! Here's a lesson in the power of threes. Or is it just plain serendipity? Really, new and old things can work powerfully together!

As you know, Amazon is in Minneapolis and St. Paul is the "twin" city just on the other side of the river. It's only 10-15 minutes away, but many people here act as if it was a full day's trip! (Perhaps the folks traveling between San Francisco and Oakland understand the psychology of it!)



Anyway, we often hear from our customers that coming from St. Paul to Minneapolis is just too much — they like the store but just don't make it that often because they have to cross the river. Well, you know me, always big on ideas and willing to try something new! We decided that on a trial basis we would offer a pick-up site in St. Paul (my house since I live there). Customers could call in their orders to the store and

we'd take the merchandise to St. Paul for them to pick-up. (They could look with no obligation to buy.) We only had two folks take us up on it — but it was worth the try.

One of the two customers told me that she *never* goes into Minneapolis — but she just happened to go, last September, for a health fair because a quilt she had worked on was being displayed there. She came by the Amazon table and signed up to be on our mailing list — she had heard of us but had never been to the store. (This was one of those exhibits that we did for good will and advertising, lost money, and hope that it has some future benefit.)

So, she received our holiday mailing that had the Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog in it — and the mention that we would deliver to St. Paul. She was extremely grateful *and* she bought more than \$150

worth of books just from the Catalog!

Here are the lessons I re-learned:

1. Risky exhibits or ones that seem unprofitable are sometimes just worth doing — if for no other reason than to freshen your mailing list.

2. Even if you doubt they'll work, it's often worth it to try something new and a little quirky.

3. The Feminist Bookstore Catalog *really works*. (Well, I knew that but it was nice to have such a clear example of it!)

For very little work, we made just about \$200 from only two customers and we have a new feminist customer who will probably stay with us for some time! I think I'll keep delivering to St. Paul for awhile!

My spirits are lifted!

Mev (Miller)

mev@winternet.com

Responses to the Distribution Articles

Responses to the two distribution articles we ran in the last issue are still coming in as we go to press. We're running the first responses here, and will run more responses in the next issue. The first article, "Distribution: Does It Work?" was intended to launch a conversation that will continue in a variety of forums as well as in the pages of *FBN*. The second, "The Mathematic\$ of Distribution and Wholesaling," outlined who gets what percentage of the distribution dollar, and the effect on publishers of "double discounting" (when a publishers sells to a distributor who then sells to a wholesaler who, finally, sells to the bookstore) on publishers' bottom lines. Both articles were co-written by Joan Pinkvoss (Aunt Lute Books) and Carol Seajay (*FBN*). If you didn't receive this issue and would like a copy, please call *FBN*; 415-642-9993.

Some of the most meaningful responses (to me) have been from booksellers who have called to say, "I've been in the business for eight years (another caller said eighteen years), and I didn't know how distribution worked, or the impact of my own buying decisions." "Reading this article has changed where I order books from feminist publishers — I need to support our publishers in this way." "I read the articles over the weekend, then came in and wrote separate orders to LPC, Consortium, and PGW — and it took all day!"

I've also heard from booksellers in general inde-

pendent bookstores, and have been told that copies of this article are being circulated to store buyers.

These articles have also called up larger questions that have not yet been answered:

- Have sales among feminist presses dropped in the last two years?
- Have increased sales offset the cost of double discounting or has publisher income actually dropped?
- One publisher pointed out that her distributor has built in a series of extra charges or increased charges that take effect during negative balance months (due to more returns than sales), which offset the distributors' cost, but that publishers may want to reconsider during these times.
- (How) are publishers changing what they publish in these high-return times?
- Are distributors (in general or specifically) paying less attention to feminist presses than in years past? Doing less promotion and/or letting feminist press titles sink lower on the sales lists (as new publishers are added, or for other reasons)?
- Are chains ordering and keeping fewer feminist press titles in stock now than in years past? If so, is this part of the larger picture of chains' tightening their inventory control or are chainstore buyers

who normally buy independent and literary presses titles simply discriminating (based on their own tastes and perceptions?) against feminist press books? Are chainstore buyers locked in a seventies-early-eighties perception that women aren't very interesting?

- Why aren't feminist press books appearing on chains' (free) "discovery" programs? Are distributors and/or chains (increasingly) reticent about promoting lesbian books?
- If Ingram devotes one warehouse primarily to fulfilling B&N orders, what percentage do publishers receive from distributors' sales to Ingram for the books sold to B&N through this channel?

Hopefully we'll get written elaboration on some of these issues in time for the next issue. In the meantime, here are some of the responses we've received.

Carol

Orlando Books Ltd.
10640 Whyte Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2A7
403-432-7633

Dear Carol & Joan & *FBN*,

Loved your article about distribution. I agree it's time to be more proactive about all of this.

From my Canadian perspective:

On the whole I like the formula of

50% nonreturnable

40% with 20% returnable

20% fully returnable

For ordering direct from publishers. It's simple and straightforward, especially if each order can be treated differently — i.e., if we can choose which discount option we want per order. Alternatively, frontlist titles would have to be treated differently from backlist, i.e., I'm happy to buy all backlist at 50% nonreturnable and frontlist at 40% returnable.

One problem with bypassing distributors: none of this works for Canada unless U.S. publishers get GST accounts with Revenue Canada. Otherwise we have to have things shipped through the mail since the post office charges only \$5.00 to clear a shipment through Customs [if the GST has not been charged] and other carriers such as UPS charge us about \$25.00 to clear through Customs, which we can't afford.

Shipments by mail take up to six weeks to get here and the invoice is due as soon as we get the books, but faster methods are prohibitive price-wise.

I do like forming a relationship with each publisher.

I also like the idea of delayed billing for large orders, especially if everyone's offer doesn't come at the same time of year. Some flexibility would be nice so all the delayed bills aren't due at the same time — i.e., it would be nice if we could stagger our orders and not have everyone's offer be, e.g., in April only.

In terms of political considerations, I find that my store works quite well incorporating left wing books, queer studies, postcolonial studies, since my definition of feminism does include issues of race, class, gender, sexual orientation. I think all these areas nurture each other and make for a rich human rights dialogue. I think that including these areas means that feminism is continually renewed and continues to reach a new and younger market.

I also like the idea of a joint catalogue featuring all the new feminist press titles, which includes ordering information — directing readers to feminist bookstores, of course.

Thanks for all your thinking.

Jackie (Dumas)

orlando@compusmart.ab.ca

980 Yonge St. #609

Toronto Ontario M4W 3V8

Dear Carol and all at *FemBkNews*,

Loved your take on "Mathematic\$ of Distribution and Wholesaling" but didn't you leave out the author's royalty from "cost of production"? If the writer gets her fair share, about 10% of list price, usually, then the publisher has even less margin left after all those discounts. Of course, as in your last paragraph, sell the whole printing as "hurts" and, in most cases, the publisher doesn't have to pay royalties.

Eve Zaremba

Not chopped liver but author of six Helen Keremos detective novels published by Second Story Press.

[*Ed. Note: We did include a \$.70 royalty on our mythical \$10 book in the cost of production, but Eve's point that authors don't get royalties on "hurts" underscores another problem in the off-kilter eco-system of the contemporary publishing situation.*]

Laugh Lines Press
PO Box 259
Bala Cynwd PA 19004

Dear Carol and *FBN*,

Thanks for tackling this awful topic.

Here are my thoughts in no particular order: Laugh Lines has offered a 50% discount with no minimum order (we pick up postage on + 5 orders) to all bookstores for several years now. Only a very few stores have ever taken us up on this and ordered directly from us, even though we ship books out within a day of receiving any order.

I can only conclude that the ease of dealing with middlemen and the value of being able to delay payment make most booksellers prefer to order through middlemen, even if a larger discount is available with a direct order from a publisher. Given the ungodly amount of paperwork that direct ordering from scads of publishers would require, who can blame them?

(With respect to requiring payments with orders, my own experiences with allowing booksellers to delay payment rather than paying with their order have not been happy ones. Some stores pay promptly. Most do not.)



Unhappily, based upon the print-outs provided to me by my largest distributor (LCP Group) it appears that the majority of Laugh Lines titles being ordered are being ordered by chains. I don't want this to be true, but it is. If it weren't for the chains (even taking into account their ludicrous return rates) this press would be kaput. I would be selling so few books that there would be no point in continuing.

One title in particular, *Who Cares If It's A Choice*, is routinely ordered in fairly large numbers by one of the chains and is selling through. I am pleased that *Who Cares If It's A Choice* is selling strongly. It is a good, lesbian/gay-positive and (I hope) subversive book.

I would be happier if these sales were via independents rather than thru a chain.

But these sales are keeping this press alive.

I do not embrace the chains. (Borders returned close to 200 copies of one of my titles recently.) (*Thanks a lot, schmucks!* I thought but did not say to them, having been raised by my mother to be polite.)

Yet, my reality is that any system wherein Laugh Lines would sell only to independents and would refuse to sell to chains would be financial suicide for this press.

Distribution is a nightmare. And it's getting worse. I have cut back on my print runs and on the number of titles I publish yearly, but this means the world to me and I am in it for the long run.

My heart always leaps with joy when I get a new *FBN* in the mail. You have no idea how important it is to read it and to feel that I am not alone. You are doing really crucial work and don't ever forget it!

Best,

Roz Warren

RozWarren@aol.com

PS: The publication party for Laugh Lines' new title, *The Joy of Soy: Vegetarian Cartoons* by Vance Lehmkuhl, was held yesterday at a local independent bookstore and it was a great success. We sold 20 copies, which is an entire 1% of our print run, and had lots of fun.

Bluestocking Books

PO Box 50998

Irvine CA 92619

714-835-5595

Dear Carol and *FBN*,

Thank-you for the new Publishers' column in *FBN*. Working in a one-woman press can be rewarding but is also very isolated. I did join the BookBabes list but we never seemed to say much on it and then it closed. [*Ed. Note: BookBabes has since reopened.*]

Regarding your article on distributors: I am still pondering getting a distributor because my sales are so slow I would take the risk of losses and returns in order to get the books circulating. About two months ago I contacted three other feminist presses and they said that even though the distributor sales were bad, these sales were still approximately 50% of their income. However after reading that Rising Tide and Papier Mache have cancelled distributor contracts, both of these being experienced presses, I must stop and do some more thinking.

I like the discount schedule proposed by Aunt Lute. A modification I would make is that I would require all sales be pre-paid. I am changing my rate schedule in January and am considering going to:

50% discount

pre-paid
no refunds
shipping \$3.00 flat charge no matter how big the order.

After buying an accounting system this year that gives me detailed aging reports I realized that on net-30 orders from library jobbers, the jobbers were taking 3-4 months to pay. On net-30 orders to *feminist bookstores(!)*, some bookstores have taken as long as five months to pay, and I have had to call them 3-4 times to receive payment!

On your idea about having a master order list for all feminist presses, it would be a huge amount of work. After I published *Lesbians-In-Print* I talked to a librarian who is one of the nation's specialists in feminist books. When I said I might do a feminist bibliography next she almost died laughing and then explained that we were talking tens-of-thousands of books. Of course we were talking about all feminist books, not feminist books by feminist presses, so listing only books by these presses may be viable.

Do you know how many presses are out there and how many titles are involved? Isn't that part of what

Feminist Bookstore News is — a listing of books from these presses? Perhaps you could create a yearly index of the books listed in your own publication and this would become a feminist press list. You are already sitting on the information you are proposing to gather.

Margaret Gillon
publisher@bluestocking.com

And a later email from Roz/Laugh Lines:

The LPC Group has decided to discontinue Laugh Lines along with some other fine woman-owned presses as of next June. As a result, I am scrambling around to find alternative routes for getting my books into bookstores.

Right after I emailed that Borders = Schmucks rant, my local Borders ordered 50 copies of one of Laugh Lines' new titles, on a nonreturnable basis. The seesawing between large returns (Ouch!) and large orders (Hurrah!) means it's inevitable that a small press like Laugh Lines is destined to enjoy a severe love-hate relationship with the chains.

Roz

○

Subscribe!

Check all the boxes you can and mail to Feminist Bookstore News, P.O. Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188 or fax 415-642-9995. Please make checks payable to Feminist Bookstore News.

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Business Name or Affiliation _____

Address _____

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- Plus \$23 for international postage.
- Plus \$10 for Canadian postage.
- Half year — \$35.
- Sample copy — \$6.

- Publicist
- Reader/Bibliophile
- Writer
- Other _____

- General independent
- Alternative/political
- Spiritual, Wiccan, New Age

I am/We are:

- Bookseller (see also column 3)
- Publisher
- Periodical
- Librarian

Bookstores, Publishers, and Periodicals:

Is your focus primarily:

- Feminist
- Lesbian
- Lesbian & Gay
- Gay

Bookstores:

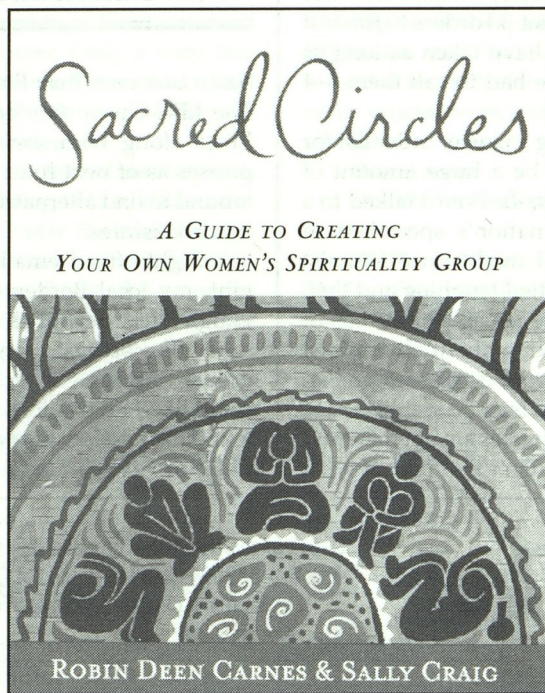
- We have one store only
 - Multiple locations: # of stores: _____
- Owned by:
- women men both
- ____% of stock by/for/about women
- ____% of staff are women
- Year opened: 19 _____

*Individual and single store rates

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News News News

\$1,000 to Every Bookstore from Penguin Settlement —Claims Due February 28—

Every independent bookstore that bought Penguin books (even one) during calendar year 1996 and was a member of ABA at any time between November 28, 1995, and September 29, 1997, is eligible for a minimum of \$1,000 as its share of ABA's recent \$25 million antitrust settlement with Penguin.

The settlement came about after Penguin acknowledged that it had given approximately \$77 million in preferential (and illegal, under antitrust laws) discounts to chain stores after it had signed the consent decree with ABA.

To be eligible for the payout, stores must have been regular members of ABA while the litigation or investigation were underway, and must have purchased at least one book published or distributed by Penguin USA in 1996, either direct from Penguin or from any distributor or wholesaler.

Believing that *every* ABA-member store is disadvantaged by these violations, and in recognition of members' support of ABA's assertive legal stance regarding antitrust violations, the minimum payment per store has been set at \$1,000, an amount that will surely be a boon to smaller stores. Stores may also apply to receive a larger part of the settlement.

ABA has established the ABA Claims Center in Washington, D.C., to administer the claims, and a claims packet was sent to stores in December.

The claims packet includes both a "short form" and a "full documentation claim form." To receive the \$1,000 "minimum documentation claim," stores must affirm that they were regular members of ABA during the above period of time and that they purchased at least one book published or distributed by Penguin USA during 1996. The only documentation required

for the short form claim is a photocopy of a publisher or wholesaler invoice or a cancelled check or a wire transfer receipt.

Alternately, stores may file the longer form, which requires providing data on direct and indirect purchases of Penguin books. Full details (including lists of Penguin imprints and distributed lines during 1996) are included in the claims packet, as well as a list of wholesalers that will provide 1996 co-op reports to help booksellers document indirect purchases. Although ABA cannot advise booksellers in making the decision about which form to file, it is expected that bookstores with annual sales of less than \$250,000 are unlikely to benefit from filing the longer form. Any eligible bookstore that submits the longer form will receive at least the \$1,000 minimum payment.

Minimum documentation claims will be distributed first. Once all of these claims have been processed, the remainder of the \$12.5 million distribution will be divided proportionally among members who submitted the longer form based on their documented Penguin purchases.

FBN's understanding is that stores that have closed, but were open and members of ABA during this time period, are also eligible for these payments.

If you have not received your claims packet or if you have further questions, call the ABA Claims Center Hotline at 800-481-1730.

Independent Bookstores' Bestsellers List Launched and Ready for Your Input

Sanj Kharbanda and the folks at Wordsworth not only think it's time for a bestseller list that reflects sales at independent bookstores (which are notoriously different from the "bestsellers" reported by chain stores), they've launched it. It's up and running

and posted at {www.notachain.com}. (You've gotta love that domain name.) *Bookselling This Week* and several other journals have expressed interest in publishing the list, which is likely to grow in stature to rival the NYT *Bestseller List* in industry influence.

All independent stores — including feminist, African American, and gay specialty stores — are encouraged to participate so that the list will truly reflect the books that the diverse community of independent bookstores is selling.

Highlights of the first lists include Seal Press' *Nowle's Passing: A Novel* by Edith Forbes, *Bound Feet & Western Dress* by Pang-Mei Natasha Chang, a very feminist reflection on her great-aunt's life and her own, and *Black Odyssey: The Case of the Slave Ship Amistad* by Mary Cable. Margaret Atwood's *Alias Grace*, which received short shrift on the more chain-oriented bestseller lists when it was released in hardcover, also appears on this list.

Participating in this list may be one of the most efficient and effective ways that feminist and other passionately involved booksellers can draw national attention to the books that are most important to us and our customers. In this era of corporate publishers canceling books due to low advance orders from chain buyers, it is essential to find new ways to convince publishers of the salability of the kinds of books that sell best in independent and specialty stores. Strong participation in this list could turn the tide.

Stores can send their bestsellers via Internet (just fill out the form at www.notachain.com) or fax ISBN's and sales figures for the four categories (fiction — paperback and hardcover, nonfiction — paperback and hardcover) to 617-492-4516. The goal is to get sales figures for the previous week by Tuesday afternoon and to post each week's new list by Wednesday morning. Participating stores will be credited for their contributions, and the site will include links to contributing stores' Web pages. For more information contact Sanj Kharbada at 617-354-5201.

Fine Print in Liquidation

Little concrete information is available as we go to press but Fine Print Distributors is reported to have moved from Chapter 11 bankruptcy to Chapter 7 liquidation. Fine Print filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

last March. The distribution company specialized in small press and alternative periodicals and has been one of the few distributors to carry a wide-ranging collection of work from otherwise hard-to-obtain publications.

Martha Stewart, Sacred Circles, V-Day, Vaginas And Other Authorless Events

Authorless events are all the rage among publishers. Obviously there's a lot in these events for the publishers — i.e., it's cheaper to create and send out event kits than to fly authors around the country, but more importantly, stores that are off-the-beaten track or that don't have a big enough annual buy from a publisher to get authors can also benefit from the programs.

Bookstores in non-destination cities have, of course, been doing authorless events for years before the concept was a buzzword (see almost every "Bookstore News" column *FBN* has run for the last three years) but the enthusiasm from publishers should result in useful special events kits, some ideas we wouldn't have otherwise invented, and co-op funds to help finance the events and the extra staff time it takes to generate them.

Event kits aside, much of the initiative for these events is on the bookstores. Barnes & Noble is all excited about doing authorless Martha Stewart events where customers create wreaths and such from her books. Borders has run "how to write personal ads" events. Publishers are increasingly willing to create authorless event kits if they have a reason to believe that a group of stores will utilize them well. The trick is to get to the publishers with these requests early enough to give the publishers time to develop and distribute them, which means jumping on ideas as soon as the new season's books are announced — or even before.

HarperSanFrancisco is encouraging stores to hold "Sacred Circle" events in conjunction with their Women's History Month title *Sacred Circles: A Guide to Creating Your Own Women's Spirituality Group*. The premise of the book is that women both enjoy and benefit from on-going, long-term groups, be they spirituality-based groups, book groups, or

even those good old consciousness-raising groups. The theme for the *Sacred Circle* events is inviting women to come to your store to launch their own sacred circle groups. Harper's packet will include suggestions for setting up the events and creating an environment in which they will be successful. Call Margery Buchanan at 415-477-4477 to request a copy of the event packet.

Some of the most successful authorless event ideas come from the authors. Eve Ensler, who has been collecting, writing, and performing *The Vagina Monologues* material for the past several years, was inspired, during one performance in Oklahoma, to launch V-Day — a national day to celebrate women and end violence toward women. The first V-Day will be Valentine's Day, 1998; the event will continue every Valentine's Day thereafter. V-Day's goals are:

- to launch a campaign to end violence against women and girls,
- a one-night benefit performance of *The Vagina Monologues* to raise money for the cause,
- a proclamation that every Valentine's Day be a day to celebrate women, and
- a clarion call to re-energize the public's commitment to end abuse.

The V-Day initiative will include two nationally televised public-service announcements — featuring celebrities — with an 800-number that will invite viewers to donate to the V-Day Fund, which will provide grants to established local, national, and international organizations that combat violence against women. These announcements will run on MTV, CNN, and Showtime.

Other organizations are invited to use V-Day to raise money and consciousness in their own communities and to benefit from the back-up of the PSAs and other national media.

How is all of this a tie-in to *The Vagina Monologues*? It's a logical progression: If you're going to spend years of your life collecting and uncovering stories about the hidden and silenced regions of the vagina, you're also going to hear many, many, many tales of violence against women. Ensler said it was the "almost mundane acceptance of the pervasiveness of the violence" that terrified her and inspired the vision of a day "to celebrate women and demand an end to this violence, [to] make the issue as serious and as real as it is."

Creating in-store events, possibly in association with other women's groups dedicated to eradicate violence against women, is a natural for feminist bookstores. Look for co-op money to help finance the extra preparations and publicity. It could be a win-win situation all around.

For more information contact your RH sales rep, call RH publicity, or check the V-Day Web site at www.feminist.com/vday/html.



Mary Farmer, Sarah Schulman Receive Stonewall Awards

Mary Farmer, Sarah Schulman, Cornelius Wilson and Barry Pack are the recipients of this year's Stonewall Awards. The awards recognize contributions to the gay/lesbian community by individuals in the United States. Each Stonewall Award carries a prize of \$25,000.

Mary Farmer was honored for her work as a lesbian feminist activist and political and cultural organizer. Mary started spending time at Lammas Bookstore (DC) when it opened in 1973 and recalls, "I fell in love with the world of feminist books and politics." She bought the store a year later and ran it until 1993, as both a bookstore and a center for women's cultural and political work.

"From my vantage point as a feminist bookstore owner," she said, "I saw a tremendous need for cultural events reflecting women's lives and for women's political networks." Mary also co-founded Iris Films in 1974, to produce and distribute women's films through a network of local women's production companies. She was instrumental in the formation and early development of the Feminist Bookstore Network and the national network of women's music distributors, as well as being one of the visionaries

and organizers of the groundbreaking 1981 Women In Print Conference for feminist booksellers, publishers, periodicals, printers, and distributors. In 1994, equipped with 20 years of organizational skills, Mary became director of finance and administration at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and played a critical role in guiding the Task Force through a period of organizational transition.

Sarah Schulman is the prolific and award-winning author of seven novels, two nonfiction books, ten plays, and hundreds of articles. Her themes have included lesbian and gay life in New York, homelessness, and the AIDS crisis. Sarah's fiction ranges from experimental writing to detective novels, and many of her works have been translated into other languages. She will publish two new books next September: *Shimmer*, a novel about McCarthyism set in New York in the late 40s, and *Stagestruck: Theater, AIDS and Marketing*. She is also writing the book for a musical, *Red, White and Black*, about the McCarthy-era blacklist.

Sarah has received many awards, among them Revson and Fulbright fellowships, the ALA Gay and Lesbian Book Award for *After Dolores*, and the Ferro-Grumley Award for Gay/Lesbian Fiction for *Rat Bohemia*. Deeply committed to lesbian visibility and writing, all of Schulman's creative work includes primary lesbian characters but, the author notes, "Pressure is increasing in publishing to obscure or code lesbian content. My dream is that some day quality fiction with primary lesbian content will be accepted as part of American fiction and its practitioners will no longer be excluded from mainstream American intellectual life."

Believing passionately that literary contribution does not exempt writers from activism, Schulman has served as a front-line activist in CARASA (Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse), ACT-UP, and the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization. She was one of the founders of Lesbian Avengers and co-founded the Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival, now known as MIX.

Cornelius Wilson was honored for his groundbreaking AIDS education, awareness and support work in Detroit's Black gay and bisexual communities; Barry Pack, the director of the Oregon-based Right to Pride, for his innovative political organizing and energetic lobbying against anti-gay legislation.

Avin Domnitz Named New ABA Executive Director; Five-Year Strategic Plan Approved

Avin Mark Domnitz, who served as the American Booksellers Association's interim executive director, will assume full-time duties in the position on January 1.

Domnitz, who has a three-year contract, played an important role in ABA's recent \$25 million settlement with Penguin and other antitrust work and legislation. He left a legal practice to become a bookseller in 1979 and merged his store with the Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops in Milwaukee in 1984. He was elected to the ABA board in 1988 and served as president from June 1994 to June 1996, after having held the offices of treasurer and vice-president.

Domnitz will cease active participation in the Schwartz Bookshops and his stock in the company, which is in his wife's name, will be put into a trust. He will also end his consultancy arrangement with Ingram.

On accepting the position, Domnitz stated that the future of independent bookselling is "more positive than it has been in many years," adding that it is "alive and well and I intend to do anything and everything I can to maintain its rightful place in the bookselling and publishing world."

The ABA Board also unanimously approved a five-year strategic plan that focuses on advocacy; the establishment of a series of partnerships and alliances; education, training, and skills development; research; systems and software development; business support services; and the creation of new business models. The plan was developed over the last year by a strategic-planning committee with input from a strategic-planning consultant and ABA-member stores from across the country.

Unionizing at B&N, Borders; Writers Support the Union

Barnes & Noble employees have begun the unionizing process at an Arlington, Texas B&N, citing lower than prevailing wages for retail clerks in their area as the motivation. As far as *FBN* knows, this is the first attempt to unionize a B&N store.

Meanwhile, on the Borders front, employees at the Evanston store, in conjunction with the UFCW, have asked the National Labor Relations Board to schedule an election.

Employees at Borders' distribution center in Harrisburg lost their union election last year, but filed this fall for a second vote. The union has won 50% of union elections at Borders to date.

Borders employees around the country have also been asking prominent authors to sign a petition requesting that Borders respect its employees' right to organize. Writers who have signed the petition include Grace Paley, Barbara Kingsolver, Adrienne Rich, Margaret Atwood, Sandra Cisneros, Michele Cliff, Marge Piercy, Diane di Prima, Maxine Hong Kingston, Annie Dillard, and Studs Terkel.

The petition reads in part: "...In support of employees at Borders...[we] urge Borders management to negotiate in good faith with said workers in order to reach a fair contract. Writers have a long history of supporting the attempts of workers to achieve just rewards for their labors, and as Borders employees help bring our works to the attention of the public, we feel a special tie to their struggle.... We stand in solidarity with booksellers, musicsellers, and café workers of the Borders stores."

The Literary Congress Gearing Up for First Show

Information and registration booklets for The Literary Congress (TLC) will arrive in January. TLC has been created on the premise that "this industry needs a little more T.L.C. and a lot more information," and was launched to provide an alternative to BEA that is more responsive to both bookseller and publisher needs, including a rotating show venue.

The first TLC will be held in Nashville, May 8-10. It is the first time a national book event has been held in the south since ABA was in Miami Beach five years ago.

Workshops will be held in the mornings, the trade show will be held in the afternoons. A series of dinner/discussion events organized around topics (Unionization in Bookstores, Working with Mid-List Authors, Returns, Theft Prevention and Store Security, Sales Reps vs. Telemarketing, Trends in Minimum Order Values, Employee Benefits, and Successful

Sidelines) will take place in the evenings. Workshops for both booksellers and publishers will be available and cluster around five tracks: marketing, promotion, sales, operations, and publishing.

Publishers that have signed on include Warner Books, Thomas Nelson, Word Inc., Fulcrum Publishing, Cedco, University of Tennessee Press, AAUP, Augsburg Fortress, Brodart Co., Winston Derek, Soundprints, Health Press, MacMurray & Beck, Dover, Eastern News Distributors and the Book Industry Study Group.

Dorothy Holland and Donna Paz will lead a special workshop on the easiest access to publisher co-op programs.

For more information, contact TLC, 2667 Hyacinth St., Westbury NY 11590; 516-338-6312, fax 516-333-0689.

Free Freight from S&S

Effective January 1, the Simon & Schuster Consumer Group will offer free freight as part of its terms of sale for all of its divisions. S&S Trade Division President Carolyn Reidy said that S&S had visited 300+ bookstores and talked to 1,000 booksellers over the last few years and, as a result of these talks, made a number of changes in terms and policies to make it easier for booksellers to do business with S&S. "We are very pleased to move to free freight and maintain competitive terms," she added.

Publishing Triangle Awards

The Publishing Triangle established the Judy Grahn Award and the Randy Shilts Award this year to recognize the enormous contribution of nonfiction writers in presenting the gay and lesbian experience. *Love Between Women: Early Christian Response to Female Homoeroticity* by Bernadette Brooten won the Judy Grahn Award. Other nominees were *The White Blackbird* by Honor Moore and *Transgender Warriors* by Leslie Feinberg. *Thomas Mann: Eros and Literature* by Anthony Heilbut won the Randy Shilts Award. Other nominees for this award were *Heaven's Coast* by Mark Doty, and *One More River to Cross* by Keith Boykin.

Other awards given at the same time include

Armistead Maupin's 1997 Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement in Lesbian and Gay Literature. Paula Vogel, whose play "How I Learned to Drive" is currently running off-Broadway, won the playwrighting award from the Robert Chesley Foundation. The Ferro-Grumley Awards went to *Sunnybrook* by Persimmon Blackbridge and *The Beauty of Men* by Andrew Holleran. Other nominees were *Old Love* by Margaret Ehrhart, *Love and Death and Other Stories* by Jenifer Levin, *The Captain's Fire* by J.S. Marcus, and *The Death of Friends* by Michael Nava.



Valerie Taylor
1913–1997

Valerie Taylor died in her sleep on October 22, 1997 in Tucson. She was 84 years old.

One of the most significant writers during the fifties and sixties era of lesbian pulp novels, Valerie's books included the series: *Journey to Fulfillment*, *A World Without Men*, *Stranger on Lesbos*, and *Return to Lesbos*, as well as *The Girls in 3-B*, *Unlike Others*, and *Whisper Their Love*. *Whisper Their Love* and *Stranger on Lesbos* were also published in hardcover in England by Neville Spearman in 1959 and 1960 respectively. Titles published during the lesbian-feminist publishing era include *Love Image*, *Prism*, *Ripening*, and *Rice and Beans*. Some of her poetry was published in *Two Women Revisited* (Jeanette H. Foster and Valerie Taylor), but much of her poetry is still unpublished. Her work also appears in numerous anthologies

including *Intricate Passions* and *The Poetry of Sex: Lesbians Write the Erotic*. Studs Terkel interviewed her for *Coming of Age*.

Valerie came out of the leftist socialist tradition and was an ardent feminist and peace activist. She was one of the founders of the Chicago Mattachine Society in the sixties, co-founder of the Chicago Lesbian Writers' Conference in the seventies and, more recently, did public speaking as a lesbian Gray Panther.

Tee A. Corinne is her literary executor. Valerie is survived by two sons, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a legion of admirers.

Kathy Acker
1944–1997

Prolific writer, all-around gender provocateur, and performance artist Kathy Acker died peacefully on November 30, surrounded by friends, after fighting a fierce and public battle against breast cancer.

She began her writing career as a self-published novelist, hawking her work to New York bookshops, but achieved fame — and notoriety — with the 1984 publication in Britain of her novel, *Blood and Guts in High School*, a work that shocked many with its strong language and unconventional style. Acker was initially published in Britain by the feminist press, Pandora, and by Picador, later in the U.S. by Grove Press, briefly by Pantheon, and more recently by Arcadia Books and Serpent's Tail. She also performed and recorded her novel, *King of the Pirates*, as a CD with the punk band, the Mekons.

Acker supported herself during the early part of her career as a dancer and stripper in New York's sex districts, an experience that opened her eyes to the sex industry as lived at the street level. She became part of the early 1980s New York scene that included Robert Mapplethorpe — who photographed her memorably — and Patti Smith. She moved easily in and out of the contemporary art and music worlds, and between the U.S. and Britain, and was supported in part by a family trust fund. San Francisco bookseller Thomas Gladysz (The Booksmith) described her as "always interested in the plight of independent bookstores and the free flow of ideas. I think she understood the relationship between the two." ○

Can you imagine a magazine for lesbians featuring articles on politics, activism, health, family, work, parenting, youth, legal issues, arts, media, literature, culture, film, education, sports, fitness, and international issues?

Interviews with Elizabeth Birch, Alison Bechdel, Debra Chasnoff, Helen Cohen, Robin Morgan, Kate Kendell, Kerry Lobel, Sylvia Sichel, Carol Seajay, Celeste West and Urvashi Vaid?

Essays by Carolyn Gage, Paula Ettelbrick, Chai Feldblum, Ellen Bass, Laura Davis, and Patricia Nell Warren?

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Tenth Annual *LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS*

Nominations due January 23

Nominating Procedure: Nominations are now open for this year's "LAMMYS." You may nominate in as many or as few categories as you like, as often as you like, but even a single nomination means that the book will be considered. To be eligible books must be published in 1997 and distributed in the United States.



A finalists committee will survey the nominations and determine five finalists in each category. Finalists will be announced on February 2. A panel of judges from around the country will select the recipients from the finalists. Recipients will be announced at the May 29 awards banquet in Chicago.

For more information on the Lambda Literary Awards, call the LAMMYS Line at 202-462-7924.

Nominating Form

LESBIAN FICTION _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY MEN'S FICTION _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
LESBIAN STUDIES _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY MEN'S STUDIES _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
LESBIAN POETRY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY MEN'S POETRY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
LESBIAN MYSTERY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY MEN'S MYSTERY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
LESBIAN BIO/AUTOBIOGRAPY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY MEN'S BIO/AUTOBIOGRAPY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G ANTHOLOGIES/FICTION _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G ANTHOLOGIES/NON-FICTION _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G PHOTO/VISUAL ARTS _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G HUMOR _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G SPIRITUALITY/RELIGION _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G SF/FANTASY _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
L/G DRAMA _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
CHILDREN'S/YA BOOKS _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
TRANSGENDER BOOKS _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____
GAY AND LESBIAN SMALL PRESS BOOK _____	AUTHOR _____	PUBLISHER _____

Mail completed nominating forms (copies welcome) to *Lambda Literary Awards*,
 PO Box 73910, Washington DC 20056, Fax 202-462-5264; or email LBREditor@aol.com.

Sponsored by Lambda Book Report & the Lambda Literary Foundation

News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

By Carol Seajay

Honors

Herland Sister Resources (Oklahoma City) received the Human Rights Award from the American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma for its work to eliminate the oppression of women, including providing a safe meeting place for women, a bookstore, food pantry, newsletter and a legal defense fund. The ACLU noted in particular Herland Legal Defense Fund's assistance in the Fox v. Fox court case that has helped pave the way for lesbian and gay parents throughout the state. Congratulations, Herland!

Turning the Tables

On November 14, Book•Woman (Austin) hosted Turning the Tables: A Feminist Literary Feast, a "far-from-ordinary Thanks-Giving celebration featuring great food and fabulous entertainment." Local writers, famous and not-as-famous, were invited to bring a favorite dish and read to the rest of the diners. One friend of the store loaned folding tables, another roasted enough lamb to feed the assembled book-lovers. Book•Woman staff cooked the rest of the food, all of which kept expenses to an absolute minimum. Seventy-five women dined in two seatings, and the event raised about \$1,500. "It was an older crowd," Book•Woman staffer Sue Burns noted, "there was also an Ani DiFranco concert that night."

Keys to success? Making a lot of calls to solicit readers and food. (Almost everyone said *yes*, right off the bat.) Eight women read for ten minutes at each seating, with breaks to allow people to mill around and socialize.

The event was inspired by Charis' "Cooking With Honey" event last June.

Mama Bears (Oakland) always hosts a big potluck-plus-turkey on Thanksgiving so that women

will have a place to go on the holiday.... They do the same at Christmas and have done so for two decades.

"While chain stores are simply about the power of money, My Sisters' Words is about the power of community, the power of commitment, the power of words, the power of women speaking the truth."

—Radell Roberts in *My Sisters' Words*
10th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Holiday Events

Herland (Oklahoma City) hosted their first-ever Herland Holiday Bazaar December 5–7. The event featured a fabulous variety of unusual and unique gifts: feminist, gay, lesbian, bi and goddess t-shirts; jewelry; candles; artwork; music; and books, as well as entertainment and a potluck dinner. Proceeds went to Herland's general operating fund to support the spring and fall Herland retreats, lending library, bookstore, coffeehouses, newsletter, etc.

This Christmas Amazon (Minneapolis) invited women in St. Paul and other areas east of the river to phone, fax or email orders to the store ("anything we have in stock") for delivery in St. Paul. See "Letters" for more info.

Every year Amazon holds a holiday raffle for a gift basket. The basket is stuffed with books, music, calendars, jewelry, candles and other items worth over \$200, and is on display in the store. Raffle tickets

Why is it important...

to save an independent feminist bookstore? Well, for starters, Full Circle Books is the location where the women's community gathers and builds community. Secondly, independent book dealers like Full Circle have always supported small independent book publishers that often produce writings considered radical or "fringe" in nature. Once the big retailers and publishers realized there was a market, they began printing these books, putting lots of little presses out of business. The end result is that written ideas and literature vital to our feminist movement and the lesbian community are being controlled by large corporations. When these large corporations decide that "fringe" is not profitable, they will stop and we will be left with neither the independent publishers nor the independent stores. What is at stake here is the control of our own ideas as a feminist community. Full Circle helps preserve these small and independent publishing houses, and gives access to diverse ideas and literature.

—from Full Circle's newsletter.

are a dollar each and the proceeds, this year, went to a local nonprofit that provides services for homeless and low-income women recovering from addiction — and their families.

Book groups that meet at the store were also invited either to make a holiday donation to Amazon's Women Leading Through Reading groups or to adopt one of Amazon's early-literacy book groups. The donations are used to defray the cost of books and transportation so that low-income women can participate in Amazon's literacy programs without facing financial barriers.



Nonprofits & Web Sites

The MuSe Lodge (Newport Beach CA), a new feminist bookstore focused on feminist spirituality, creativity, drumming — and books — has just filed for nonprofit status. Their goals include expanding their

teaching of Goddess Studies, Women's Herstory, Creative Awareness, Drumming and Self-Discovery classes and groups. Recent store events included appearances by Riane Eisler and Layne Redmond, the MuSe's second annual Winter Solstice and Yule Party, and their ever-growing drumming circle that has become so large it had to be moved off-site. In February, MuSe will host A Festival of Lights: A Womyn's Winter Retreat.

The New Words bookstore community (Cambridge) is launching New Words Live!, a support group similar to the Charis Circle that will raise money to support programming and other services. New Words is also launching a Web site that should be up by the time you read these words. Look for it at {www.NewWordsBooks.com}.

New Sections

Brigit Books (St. Petersburg) has created a Girls' Development section highlighting books like *Reviving Ophelia*, *The Body Project* and *Girls Speak Out* that address self-esteem, the patriarchal culture, and how to make the world safe for girls.

Birthdays and Celebrations

Sisterhood (L.A.) celebrated its silver anniversary with a day-long Speak-Out for all authors, speakers and writers who have appeared at Sisterhood over the last 25 years. An afternoon program/fundraiser, titled *Still Here*, featured Gloria Steinem, bell hooks, Sheila James Kuehl (Speaker pro Tempore of the California Assembly), Congresswoman Maxine Waters, comedienne Emily Levine, poets Eliose Klein Healey and Michelle Serros, and music by Ladies Choice String Quartet. A buffet luncheon was served, donations for the event were \$100. The invitations read, "All donations will benefit Sisterhood Bookstore. Although Sisterhood is not legally structured as a nonprofit organization, in its operations the bookstore closely resembles this kind of institution. It is a mission-driven business, devoted to providing access to feminist and progressive content in literature and music in a women-friendly environment. Changes in the publishing industry and the proliferation of corporate-owned bookstores has made it nearly impossible for Sisterhood to survive. Your donation

See Bookstore News, page 73.

ON FEMINIST PUBLISHING

Compiled by Carol Seajay

Feminist Publishing is a new column that offers a round-up of news, tidbits, and trivia from feminist publishers and periodicals, and occasionally takes an in-depth look at a particular issue. Publishers, please send us your news for this column and call if there's a topic you'd like to address. —CS

Heard It At the WNBA

I had the good fortune to hear Nora Rawlinson (Editor in Chief, *Publishers Weekly*) address the San Francisco chapter of the Women's National Book Association on the occasion of WNBA's 20th anniversary. Most New York publishers, she said, being publicly held corporations with a strong mandate to make the bottom line look good at the end of the quarter, will be cutting back the number of titles they publish over the coming years. That's the bad news. The good news is that this opens more room for independent publishers and university presses and that corporate publishers will, increasingly, be turning to independent presses to buy "regional" titles with proven track records to repackage and publish. She cited, as examples, Calyx' sale of *Into the Forest* to Bantam for \$350,000 and the sale of a Chronicle Books title under similar circumstances.

Interesting, hopeful perhaps, but certainly a new approach to financing independent press publishing — after-the-fact rights sales to big publishers for a cash influx. What the mega-publishers get out of this, of course, is that someone else takes the risk and test drives the books first....



Lee discovers a better way to off-load 28,000 pounds — two trucks full — of books. "Women need to learn that you don't have to be 6' and 250 pounds, or a rocket scientist, to operate a forklift," she advises and adds that she's looking forward to the next time.

Rising Tide in Tucson

Rising Tide has arrived in Tucson.

"Moving everything all at once — personal, business [publishing company and mail-order bookstore], banking, selling the house, managing all the details of everything — was hair-raising," Alice Frier said two days after they were set up enough to begin shipping books again, adding, "It took three guys 13 hours just to pack everything into the trucks in Long Island. Then we drove all the way to Tucson in six days to get there before the trucks to supervise the unloading and make sure that everything was delivered to the appropriate location.... [Home and office will no longer be upstairs and downstairs from one another.] It was quite a reminder of what a huge country this is!"



After the off-load endeavor: top left: Lynn Yamaguchi (*Tomboys*, Alyson), Karen Barber (*Bushfire*, *After Glow* and *Testimonies*, Alyson), and Betty Graham (co-owner of Nancy Drew Printing). Bottom left: Lee Boojamra, Nancy Drew (real name, co-owner of Nancy Drew Printing), and Alice Frier.

"We are eternally grateful to the lesbian community on Long Island and in Arizona for all the support they extended us," Lee added. "Without their love and support, we would never have survived this move."

Rising Tide and Womankind will be hiring staff with experience in bookselling and publishing to work in their new offices in "the Southwest lesbian/gay Mecca" as well as freelance editors and graphic art designers. If interested, call Lee at 520-888-1140.

Before moving, they also prepared a new catalog for Womankind and mailings that could be dropped as soon as they were able to ship books again. One staff person remained in New York to answer phones, send out catalogs, and explain the hiatus to callers. The businesses were "down" from October 20 to November 26. (See "Thataway" for Rising Tide's new address/phone/fax.)

Naiad Press Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Naiad Press celebrates its 25th anniversary on January 1, 1998, with the launch of its new Web site (www.NaiadPress.com) and a total publication of 400

books, audio books, videos and CDs. For the first nine years, Barbara Grier and Donna J. McBride ran the press without taking any salary. In 1982, Barbara quit her day job to become Naiad's first paid employee. Naiad now boasts a full-time staff of eight, two part-timers, the equivalent of six full-time suppliers, and over 100 authors earning royalties from their work. Asked about future plans, Barbara said, "No one has come close to matching what we do.... I suspect we will keep on doing what we do best, publishing books that make lesbians feel proud of their lives, proud of their loves. I can't think of a richer legacy."

Calyx Sells Archives for \$10,000

Calyx has found a home for its archives where they will be cherished — to the tune of \$10,000. The University of Oregon Library System, which is collecting archives of publishing enterprises in Oregon, already held archives for the first few years of Calyx's existence. This collection, which covers the years 1980 to 1990, includes correspondence with authors published by Calyx Books and *Calyx Journal* as well as original manuscripts and layouts. Many authors first published by Calyx have gone on to receive national and international acclaim and awards. The 40 boxes, which comprise the archives, have been stored in a facility that narrowly escaped flooding in the 1996 floods. Calyx's Board of Directors and staff are delighted to have found a safe home for Calyx's valuable and unique archives.

The recent Calyx newsletter reports that Calyx's 20/20 Vision fundraising campaign was "a smashing success." During 1996 Calyx raised \$30,000 from individual supporters, including \$6,000 from the phone-a-thon. (See "Some Nuts and Bolts for Fundraising" in *FBN* Vol. 19 #6.)

HUES to New Moon

New Moon Publishing has entered into an agreement to acquire and, eventually, to publish the multiculturally focused magazine, *HUES*. *HUES*, which stands for "Hear Us Emerging Sisters" is a magazine for young women "of all cultures, shapes and lifestyles" that takes multiculturalism — and feminism — as the norm. Typical of *HUES'* approach to issues that challenged their elders is their "Ask the Love Doctress" column, which features two advisors — one for "girls who like boys" and the other for "girls

who like girls" — all on the same page because, of course, everyone wants to know what advice everyone else is getting. Every feature is strong, well-designed, insightful and addresses issues of importance to young women: what to think about before you get a tattoo, what to wear when you're premenstrual (answer: outrageous red costumes that reflect your emotions), how to love one's own body (as in both liking it and masturbating), college culture shock, using credit cards, discussion circles (most recently on feminism, womanism, and O.J.), good humor on what an older generation would call "fat oppression" and the intersection of sexual objectification and racism. Heavy issues? You bet! And so well wrapped that the package is irresistible to women from 15 to 50.

"We want to offer a fresh magazine to readers who've outgrown *New Moon*," *New Moon's* Nancy Gruver explained. "*HUES* brings the spirit of *New Moon* to an older audience. Like *New Moon*, *HUES* is peer-written and edited."

Founded in 1992 by twin sisters Ophira and Tali Edut, and their "spiritual triplet" Dyann Logwood, *HUES* grew from a local zine into a full-scale, full-color publication distributed throughout the world. *HUES'* Advisory Board includes Gloria Steinem and author/activist Rebecca Walker. The *HUES* Collective, an Ann Arbor, Michigan-based group of multiethnic young women ("and a few good men") meets regularly to plan, produce, and promote the magazine.

HUES will continue to be edited in Ann Arbor; marketing and subscriptions will move to Duluth in April. In early 1998, founding publisher Tali Edut will establish a second branch of the *HUES* Collective in New York City. *New Moon* Publishing (*New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams* and *New Moon Network: For Adults Who Care About Girls*) will add two full-time staff people to handle the additional workload from this expansion.

Papier Mache: Marketing & Distribution

Papier Mache has come up with a brilliant new marketing scheme: They are co-sponsoring a sweepstakes with Continental Airlines with the same title as Papier Mache's new book, *There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays*. The prize is four free round-trip tickets on Continental Airlines. Entry forms are bound into the back of the book, stickers on the front of the book draw attention to the contest as do the

point-of-sale displays and header cards. The book also features a discount coupon worth up to \$200. People who would buy the book anyway get a bonus and, hopefully, the book will also be sought out by people who would buy it for the coupons and the contest. In keeping with Papier Mache's commitment to make the promotion effortless for booksellers, the program requires participants to mail entry forms, rather than expecting the retailers to collect and forward them. Priced at \$9.95, the book is designed to be the perfect impulse buy.

Papier Mache titles are available through all the standard wholesalers, but Papier Mache is now doing its own distribution, selling to wholesalers and chains through Dan Haldeman & Associates, and telemarketing the top 1,200 stores in the country four times a year. Papier Mache, which had previously been distributed by LPC, projects that hiring their own reps and doing telemarketing in-house will save \$150,000–\$200,000 per year.



Attic Sold to CUP

Róisín Conroy, Attic Press co-founder and publisher writes that, with her blessing, Attic has been acquired by Cork University Press (CUP): "As a natural response to the huge changes Ireland has experienced, I feel it is time for Attic Press to pass the pen to a new and younger generation of women at Cork University Press and elsewhere, who are emerging with fresh ideas and approaches. These are the minds that now need to demand the further changes necessary for women into the next century." CUP publisher Sara Wilbourne added, "As a young woman in publishing in England, I was very conscious of Attic's international profile. Its impact was way beyond its size and country borders. Attic created waves and precedents." CUP plans to publish Attic's forthcoming *Biography of Hanna Sheehy Skiffington* by Dr. Margaret Ward under the Attic Press imprint in December.

Attic Press co-founder Mary Paul Keane wrote, "Attic Press has played an essential part in the change

in attitudes toward women and their rights which have taken place in Ireland. Attic became the catalyst for mainstream publishing in Ireland to take on board women authors and women's issues."

Róisín also noted that the decline in sales to the U.S. market, the collapse of Inland and Attic's subsequent loss of both money and stock, and the failure of any similar distribution system to emerge, along with high discounts, high freight costs, and difficult credit terms, had all contributed to Attic's financial struggle.

Attic thus far has published over 200 titles. The press was formally launched in 1984 with *The Best of Nell* (journalist Nell McCafferty), and grew out of an employment and job-training scheme for women. Other titles included *Smashing Times: A History of the Irish Suffrage Movement*, *Personally Speaking* (the first Irish women's studies book), the shocking *Lyn: A Story of Prostitution*, the polemical and provocative LIP pamphlet series edited by Aibhe Smyth, the Bright Sparks series for teenagers, and the international Feminist Fairytales collections, as well as fiction by Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Leland Bardwell, Evelyn Conlon, and Eithne Strong.

Attic's archives and the archives of the closely associated Irish Feminist Information (IFI) have gone to the Boole Library, University College Cork. IFI, founded in 1978 by Róisín Conroy and Mary Doran, published the first *Irishwomen's Calendar: An End and a Beginning* and then the annual *Irish Women's Diary and Guidebook*. IFI went on to run two highly successful Women in Community Publishing courses, and it was within this context that Attic Press emerged to become a driving force in feminist, social, political, and historical publishing, and a voice that was respected in Ireland and internationally. In connection with the deposit of the archives, Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, acknowledged Róisín Conroy's "very important contribution to women's studies over the past twenty years," adding her particular pleasure that the papers and records of Attic Press will be available to researchers in the future.

Attic's titles will continue to be sold through CUP; international distribution arrangements will remain in place (ISBS in the US, Central Books in the UK, Gill and Macmillan in Ireland; Brigitte Aster remains as European rights agent). See "Thataway" for Attic's new address.

Circles Goes National

Published as a free magazine in Colorado for the last year, publisher Kit McChesney has decided to take *Circles* to a national audience beginning with the February issue. Editorial focus will continue to be on issues of interest to lesbians, featuring articles on politics and activism, culture, arts, literature, legal issues, workplace and business issues, parenting, family, youth, health, fitness, sports, travel, and humor. *Circles* will feature national and regional advertising, be audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations, and run a parallel Web site (www.circlesmagazine.com).

Circles has an impressive track record to date: one 72-page and five 48-page issues, and articles featuring interviews with NCLR executive director Kate Kendell, NGLTF current and previous executive directors Kerry Lobel and Urvashi Vaid, as well as Robin Morgan, Alison Bechdel, Jill Posener, Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen (*It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School*), Patricia Nell Warren, Donna Minkowitz, and FBN's Carol Seajay. *Circles* has a fierce commitment to feminist bookstores and publishing. *Circles*, 825 S. Broadway Ave., Suite 40, Boulder CO 80303; 303-499-2636, fax 303-499-2615; circles@indra.com).

New Presses

This section will feature "new" feminist/womanist presses that have launched recently that might not yet be recognized as feminist presses.

Frustrated that certain things needed to be published but weren't, Caitlin Gannon took matters into her own hands and started Javelina Press. Javelina's first book, *Southwestern Women: New Voices*, a collection of will-be-known writers, was published in 1995, has sold 1,200 copies and will soon go back to press. Javelina's second book, *The Emperor Has a Body*, will be published this Spring. Javelina titles are available through wholesalers (Ingram and BP) and direct from the publisher. Address: PO Box 42131, Tucson AZ 85733; 520-326-1286, caitlin@azstartnet.com).

Note to *gringas* and non-desert dwellers: The "j" sounds like an "h" to us. A javelina is a small desert creature — a long-term survivor that is both maternal and territorial, and is fierce in defense of her children: a perfect name for a feminist press.

FEMSPEC: A New Journal

Batya Weinbaum and Robin Reid are launching a new, interdisciplinary journal, *FemSpec*, dedicated to critical and creative works in the realms of science fiction, fantasy, magical realism, and other supernatural genres. They're interested in presenting a variety of feminist approaches, and aim to be inclusive of ethnic and cultural diversity, utilizing internationalist and interdisciplinary perspectives. *FemSpec* grew out of a

discussion in the SF Area Task Force of the Popular Culture/American Culture Association about the non-feminist nature of most sf journals and the lack of interest in non-realistic writing in women's journals of criticism. If you want to help fill this void as a contributor, by serving as a reader, or by being on the advisory or editorial board, please contact (Robin-Reid@tamu-commerce.edu) or (batyawein@aol.com) or write to Batya at PO Box 679, East Montpelier VT 05651. ○

Bookstore News, continued from page 68.

helps to support Sisterhood's mission and ensure that Sisterhood Bookstore remains 'still here.'"

One of the highlights of FBN staffers Danielle Bauter and Jenn Tust's recent trip to Los Angeles was stopping in at Sisterhood and seeing Adele Wallace back on her feet and working in the store! Go Adele!

Full Circle (Albuquerque) is using its 24th birthday party to launch "FUNdrive," part of a larger project to raise money to buy the bookstore from its long-term owners and make it a community-owned bookstore. The party featured a 10% discount on everything, 25% off calendars, and a chance to meet the task force members who are developing the Full Circle Community Foundation. See sidebar for Full Circle's statement on the importance of feminist bookstores.

And are these birthday extravaganzas worth all the effort? "Absolutely," says Mary Ellen Kavanaugh of My Sisters' Words' (Syracuse) three-day celebration and 10th Anniversary Commemorative Book. "It was the single most positive reflection of the effect of my work and of what the store is to this community... Lovely things have come out of it and those insights energize my work every day." FBN just received a copy of the commemorative book — 80 pages of history and memories, reflections, blessings, good wishes, thank-you's — and ads to help pay for it.

"At first, I was not going to read any of the submissions until the book was published," Mary

Ellen wrote in the introduction. "Then it became clear that the submissions needed to be keyed-in.... So I began entering them on the computer. It became a therapy session of the highest sort for me. I laughed, I cried, I had to stop typing quite a few times. While I move through the world believing that this store would not exist without all of us, reading these submissions has helped me to see that I (me — Mary Ellen Kavanaugh) have indeed created something quite wonderful — something that allows all of us to

work together to create and continue community. My thanks to each of you who took the time to put your words to paper. In committing this radical act, you have given me a gift beyond those words. My heart and soul are lighter for all of this."

It was clearly a lot of work — but I'd wish such a collection on every bookseller in this country...

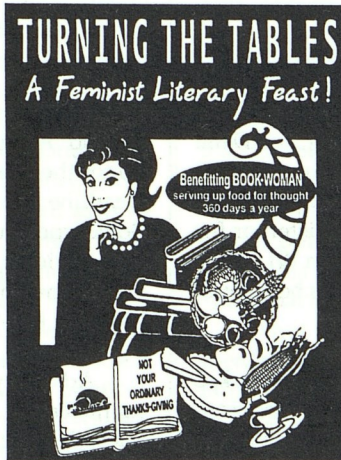
Events

Charis (Atlanta) sold 150+ copies of *Daughters of the Moon* at their Indigo Girls event and collected names of women young and old who would like a mentor or to be mentored.

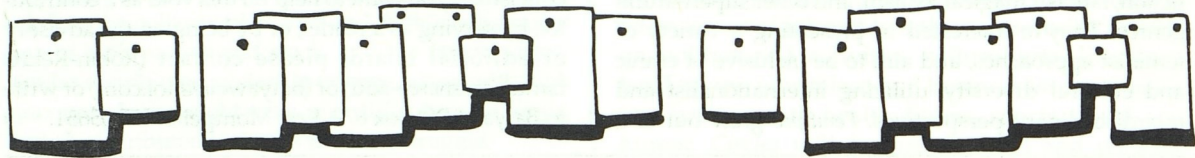
(Match-making to be done post-holidays.) See also their event photo in *PW's* 12/8/97 issue.

So Who Needs Women's Bookstores?

Lesbians of color, that's for sure: When Lisa Moore set out to document Black women's coming-out experiences (*does your mama know?*) she sent out a call for submissions and received only two. Then she sent fliers to women's bookstores...and added 39 wonderful pieces to her collection. —from *Girlfriends* ○



ANNOUNCEMENTS



By Carol Seajay and Jenn Tust

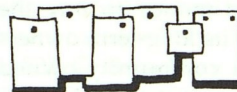
The National Women's Music Festival is moving! The Bloomington auditorium is being renovated, so this year the Festival will be held June 25–28 at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, one hour north-east of Indianapolis. NWMF's mailing address stays the same: PO Box 1427, Indianapolis IN 46205. Phone 317-927-9355, email <wia@indy.net>, Web site <www.a1.com/wia>.

WisCon22: The Gathering of the Feminist Science Fiction Community will be held May 22–25, Memorial Weekend, in Madison, Wisconsin. Guests of Honor are Sheri S. Tepper, Ellen Kushner, and Delia Sherman. The Tiptree award will be presented at ReaderCon, July 10–12, but plenty of Tiptree-related events are planned for WisCon22. To register, or for more information: SF3, Box 1624, Madison WI 53701; 608-233-8850, email <wiscon.concom@lists.best.com>, Web <www.sf3.org/wiscon>.

Nominations for the 1998 Gregory Kolovakos Award are due now. This award honors an American literary translator, editor, or critic whose work, in meeting the challenge of cultural difference, extends Kolovakos' commitment to the richness of Hispanic literature and to expanding its English-language audience. Work from all languages will be considered. \$2,000 prize. Deadline: January 15. Send to: The Gregory Kolovakos Award, PEN American Center, 568 Broadway, New York NY 10012.

Publishers Weekly seeks nominations for its Rep of the Year Award. The Award is based on: general knowledge of books and the publishing industry,

specific knowledge of publishers' policies and ability to resolve problems quickly, interest in helping use available resources to help stores successfully display and sell more books, follow-through on promises, empathy for the demands on booksellers' time, and commitment to achieving mutually beneficial results. Send to PW Rep of the Year Award, c/o Paz & Associates, 2106 Twentieth Ave. S., Nashville TN 37212; fax 615-298-9864, email <dpaz@pazbookbiz.com>.



Independent Publisher is seeking entries for the Second Annual Small Press Book Awards, which honor the year's best independently published titles. Deadline: March 31. The awards will be presented at BookExpo on May 29. For guidelines, or to send in nominations: Independent Publisher, 121 E. Front Street, Fourth Floor, Traverse City MI 49684; 616-933-0445, fax 616-933-0448, Web <www.smallpress.com>.

Advisory and editorial board members and manuscripts are being sought for *Femspec: A New Journal*, which is dedicated to critical and creative works in SF, fantasy, magical realism, and other super-natural genres. For more information contact: Batya Weinbaum <batyawein@aol.com> or <Robin Reid@tamu-commerce-edu>.

The Border Book Festival takes place each year in Las Cruces, New Mexico. This year's theme is "Stories of War, Stories of Peace/*Cuentos de la Guerra, de la Paz.*" It will run March 20–22. The festival is collaborating with the Women's Studies Program at NMSU

See Announcements, page 79.



CANADIAN CONTENT

By Jacqueline Dumas
Orlando Books/Edmonton AB, Canada

My recent involvement in a support group for lesbian and gay youth has led me to ponder the isolation that many of these children experience. It's hard enough for a heterosexual teenager to develop a sense of self-worth, but gay students encounter an ongoing barrage of negative and demeaning images from media, other students, and even teachers — images which are based on stereotypes of what homosexuality is and means. Everyone is affected. Heterosexual students have gay parents, gay siblings, and gay teachers, most of whom are invisible in the system. School libraries often carry homophobic magazines like *Alberta Report*, but few, if any, books for gays, let alone mainstream publications like *The Advocate*. History, social studies classes, English, sex education — all assume heterosexuality. When youth from racial minorities encounter racism, they can usually go home and receive support. But home can be the least safe place for gay youth, and a disproportionate number of them drop out of school and end up on the street. Suicide is the leading cause of death for sexual minority youth — 30% of completed teenage suicides are by gay youth.

So when students from Strathcona Composite High School approached me and asked if I would place an ad in their newspaper, I obliged with this facing ad, wishing to advise youth that our store is a gay positive space where they can get information and books that reflect a positive image.

A few days later, the editor of the paper called to say that there was a problem with the ad. Was it the wrong size? No, she said, the problem was the line about gay youth. She offered to run the ad with the line deleted. Absolutely not, I said. A short time later, the faculty advisor to the student newspaper called

ORLANDO
BOOKS

10640 WHYTE AVENUE
EDMONTON AB T6E 2A7

(403) 432-7633



*Books for lesbian and gay youth
and their friends.*

and said the problem was that the newspaper goes out to all students and their parents. I still didn't understand what the problem was. It's school policy, he said. The ad is not inclusive — it does not include heterosexual students. I asked him to send me a letter outlining this policy, but he said that only the school administration could do so. He offered to run the ad for free if I deleted the offending phrase. What is this teacher teaching his students? I wondered.

The next day I spoke with the principal, who reiterated that the ad would not be run because of school policy. He also refused to outline in a letter what this policy is, and said it was actually his "personal decision" not to run the ad.

What if I had advertised "Books for children", thereby excluding adults, or "Religious books for all faiths", thereby excluding nonreligious people, or "Princess Di books", thereby excluding most of the people that I know? More and more, the word "equality" is being used when "sameness" is what is meant. "Sameness" usually means white, heterosexual, middle class, and often male. Doesn't the public school system have a mandate to accept diversity and to make the hallways safe for all its students?

It seemed somehow fitting that as I approached the school to retrieve my ad, the word *Fag* was scratched out in the door at eye level. A homophobic environment is hurtful to all, no matter what the individual sexual orientation or family makeup.

—Excerpted from *Orlando Books newsletter* ○

BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Jenn Tust

Rights Sold

Calyx sold its archives to the University of Oregon for \$10,000 and a party. Calyx also sold *Second Sight* by Rickey Gard Diamond to HarperCollins for five figures. Harper will reissue it in cloth in 1998 and Calyx retains movie and foreign rights.

Steve Stabler (Motion Picture Corp. of America) has optioned the film rights to Nicole Conn's *Angel Wings* (Simon & Schuster). The deal was brokered by Matthew Snyder, Todd Stern, and Jillian Manus.

Back to Press

Women and Aging (Calyx) went back to press for 101,000 copies in print.

New Victoria's *Barbie Unbound* has gone back for a third printing for a total of 20,000 copies in print.

Alyson's *Out of the Closet and Nothing to Wear* by Leslea Newman went back for a third printing bringing its total to 8,000. *Early Embraces* by Lindsay Elder made its fourth trip to press.

Rename

"Blue Streak" is the new name for Beacon Press' excellent Black Women Writers series — under its new name and new direction the series will include "women writers of all colors."



Deals

Rob Weisbach, who edited Ellen DeGeneres' book at Bantam, has acquired a book from Betty DeGeneres for his Morrow imprint. Ellen's mom will write about coming to terms with her child's homosexuality and her new role as a spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign. The advance for this book is rumored to be \$150,000.

Awards

Ruth Gundle and Judith Barrington were awarded the Stuart H. Holbrook Award for outstanding contributions to the literary community for their work on behalf of women writers (Flight of the Mind Writing Workshops for Women; Soapstone, a Writing Retreat for Women; and The Eighth Mountain Press).

Grace Paley and Anne Michaels won Lannan Foundation Literary Awards, which recognize a body of work, rather than a single book. The Awards carry a \$75,000 purse.

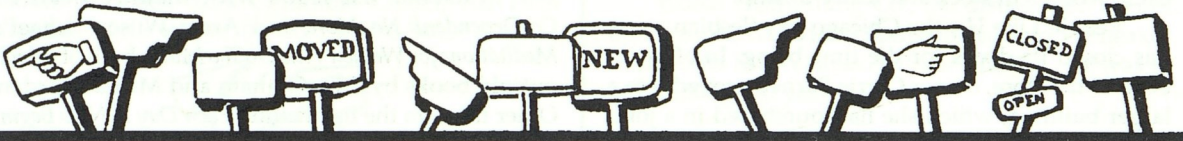
Canada Council's Governor General's Literary Awards carry a \$10,000 prize. The 1997 winners include, fiction: Jane Urquhart for *The Underpainter* (McClelland & Stewart); poetry: Dionne Brand for *Land to Light On* (McClelland & Stewart); nonfiction: Rachel Manley for *Drumblair — Memories of a Jamaican Childhood* (Alfred A. Knopf Canada); and translation: Howard Scott for *The Euguelion* (Alter Ego Editions), the English version of *L'Euguelionne* by Louky Bersianik (Editions La Presse).

Han Nolan won the National Book Award for Young People's Literature for *Dancing on the Edge* (Harcourt Brace). Hers was the only NBA awarded to a woman this year.

Carolyn Ferrell won the John C. Zacharis First Book Award for *Don't Erase Me* (Houghton Mifflin), which features eight first-person stories portraying the lives of poor Black girls. The Award honors a best debut book, and carries a \$1,500 prize.

SageWoman is a finalist for *Utne Reader's* Ninth Annual Alternative Press Awards for Spiritual Coverage. Other finalists in the new category include *Sojourner*, and *Lilith*. Other feminist titles that have been nominated include *Daughters* for Best New Title, *Bust* and *Ms.* for Writing Excellence, *Bust* for Cultural Coverage, *On The Issues* for Political and Social Issues, and *Hip Mama* for Lifestyle Coverage. ○

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Carol Seajay and Jenn Tust

New Store

The Bookstore Androgyny, the new lesbian and gay book and gift store in Youngstown, Ohio, held a pre-opening sale before Christmas and is scheduled to open early this year. Stacy L. Meadows, a carpenter by trade and owner of several rental properties, is the primary owner, and she will be backed by Martie Troy, a full-time student and mental health worker, and their friend Bill Boila, a retired-steel mill worker, who will work in the store. An hour from both Pittsburgh and Cleveland, the 2,500-square-foot Bookstore Androgyny is located above a lesbian bar and next-door to a men's club. The Bookstore Androgyny, 10 E. La Clede #2, Youngstown OH 44507; 330-788-2727, fax 330-788-2730.



Not So New, But...

On November 14, Crone's Cupboard celebrated its second year as a feminist and lesbian book and gift store in Boise, Idaho. Jeanine F. Parker, the owner of this 1,000-square-foot shop located on a main street, wants to buy the building (her shop is an add-on to a home) and open a women's bed and breakfast. The store and products focus on female empowerment and specialize in spirituality, and art by local artists, including Parker's own metal sculptures, is displayed. Crone's Cupboard, 3013 Overland Road, Boise ID 83705; 208-333-0831.

Closed

Two Internet "bookstores" specializing in women's books have closed, The Daremore Book-

Everywomans/Victoria Closes

On November 22, Victoria women said good-bye to a shop that is as much the heart of a female network as it was a place to buy books. After more than 22 years, Everywomans Books, the last remaining volunteer-run feminist bookstore collective in Canada and probably North America, closed its doors for the last time.

Everyone was saddened by the decision to close but given Everywomans' troubled financial situation for the last two years and an overburdened volunteer collective, the decision was regrettably made. A lot of customers of the store, both young and older, are in shock. One customer said Everywomans has been here as long as she has been alive.

Everywomans Books will be able to close with integrity and pay off its current debts and liabilities due to a hugely successful fund-raising auction held October 28. Many thanks to Victoria's feminist/lesbian community for their generous contributions.

The last public event was a book launch and farewell party November 28, with Press Gang Publishers' authors Persimmon Blackbridge, Sheila Norgate and Sheila Baxter reading from their latest works.

Jahnet Hewsick
on behalf of Everywomans Books

store (www.daremore.com) and Robyn's Bookmark (www.robynbooks.com), both citing a lack of Internet sales and/or lack of profits as the reason. Daremore will continue to sell self-protection items, goddess tattoos, and t-shirts. Both specialized in a

few, hand-picked titles promoted on their Web sites rather than extensive inventories. Both existed only as Web sites, rather than being backed up by a fully inventoried store with a wide range of books of interest to women in stock and ready-to-ship.

People Like Us, the Chicago gay/lesbian store, has closed its doors for the time being. In effort to expand the store, owner Carrie Barnett moved it to a larger building, which she had purchased in a joint venture with several other women. The new location was located a couple blocks off the main drag of Chicago's "Boy-Town" gay district and not enough customers were willing to go those extra blocks, perhaps proving the truism that feminist/lesbian stores tend to be destination stores, but stores oriented toward gay male customers need to be "on the path." People Like Us had also suffered from the initial cash-flow problems common to bookstores that purchase buildings, and so was never able to implement its much-touted cyber-cafe.

Moved

Sisterspace in DC has moved to a bigger store...only 1½ blocks down on U St. The new space has 2,300 square feet and is located at street level. The new street number is 1515. The zip code, phone, and fax numbers remain the same.

Rising Tide Press and Womankind Books have moved to Tucson! The new address for both the publishing company and the mail-order bookstore is 3831 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson AZ 85705. Phone: 520-888-1140. Fax: 520-888-1123. Email address stays the same: <RTPress@aol.com>. Rising Tide also announces a new discount policy: 50% on 10+ books (mixed titles), non-returnable. They welcome and encourage (and actively solicit) direct orders!

Attic's new address is Attic Press, c/o Cork University Press, Crawford Business Park, Crosses Green, Cork, Ireland. Tel: (+353 1) 021-902-980; fax (+351 1) 021-315-329; email <s.wilbourne@ucc.ie>.

Putumayo World Music has moved. Its new address is 324 Lafayette Street, Seventh Floor, New York NY 10012; 212-625-1400.

Anniversaries

HarperSanFrancisco, a division of HarperCollins, celebrated 20 years of San Francisco-based publishing. HarperSF's mission is to provide

resources and inspiration for the country's growing and changing spiritual consciousness, and its lists have included many feminist and pagan-based titles. Twelve of its twenty bestselling titles are by women. The bestseller list leads with Melody Beattie's *Co-Dependent No More* and Anne Wilson Schaefer's *Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much*, both of which outsold books by Billy Graham and Michael Jordan. Other titles on the list include *Each Day A New Beginning* (in this case Anonymous, the editor, was a woman), *The Chalice and the Blade*, *The Woman's Comfort Book*, and *Spiral Dance*.



Books Get Around

Naiad's *Second Fiddle* by Kate Calloway and *Forbidden Fires* by Margaret C. Anderson have been translated into German and published by Frauenoffensive.

The Island of Floating Women, originally published by the now defunct Clothespin Fever Press in 1993, (1-878533-10-X), is now available from the author Batya Weinbaum. \$10 retail cover; \$6 wholesale to bookstores. Minimum order, three. Plus \$3 mailing for 5 or fewer copies. Batya Weinbaum, PO Box 69, East Montpelier VT 05651; <Batyawein@aol.com>.

Kuumba (see FBN 20 #4 pg. 89), is available from Koen, Bookazine, and Ubiquity, along with BLK Publishing's other magazines: *BLK*, *Black Lace*, and *Blackfire*.

Newly Acquired

Lambda Literary Foundation has acquired the *James White Review*. Based in Minneapolis, the *James White Review* is the oldest and largest gay men's literary quarterly. Publisher Phil Wilkie, who began the quarterly in 1983, will continue to oversee the magazine until July. LLF plans to publish its first issue of the *JWR* in October. The *JWR* publishes quarterly; subscriptions are \$14.

Wholesalers Close

Seattle-based Moving Books closed its doors in September. The company is liquidating rather than declaring bankruptcy as estimated liabilities and assets are nearly balanced. Claims were to have been

filed by December 5. For further information write or fax Jay Schupack at Moving Books or the attorney handling the liquidation and distribution of assets to creditors, Craig S. Sternberg, Sternberg Thomson Okrent & Scher, 3210 Columbia Center, 701 Fifth Avenue, Seattle WA 98104; fax 206-386-5488.



Wholesalers/Distributors Add Publishers

Consortium has added three new publishers to its list: Zoland Books, Soft Skull Press, and, oddly enough, HarperCollins Publishers Australia. That HarperCollins/Australia, a part of one of the world's largest and most far-reaching publishing empires, needs an independent press distributor to

get its books distributed in the U.S. says more about the need for independent presses and distributors than any corporate critique I've read anywhere.

—CS.

Words Distributing Co., the distribution arm of Bookpeople, has added Spinsters Ink and Whiteaker Press to its list. Whiteaker Press' *Stealing Fire* was in our Catalog last year.

Electronic News

Woman's Place's (Calgary) new email address is <Womansplbk@aol.com>.

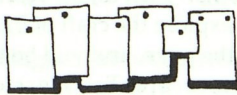
Bluestocking Books' Web site has moved. Check it out at: <www.bluestocking.com>, and its email address is <publisher@bluestocking.com>.

Naiad Press is up on the Web: <www.Naiad Press.com>. ○

Announcements, continued from page 74.

Ana Castillo, Barbara Kingsolver and Keith Wilson will be awarded the *Premio Fronterizo*. Highlights of the program include the Emerging Voices series and an associated writers workshop for women. (See "Writing Wanted" for details). For information about exhibiting or other parts of the program, contact Anne Marie Mackler, Border Book Festival, 422 N. Alameda, Las Cruces NM 88005; 505-524-1499.

April is National Poetry Month and the Academy of American Poets urges bookstores to participate in the celebration by offering special readings, contests, discounts, and store and window displays. The Academy reports that stores that were actively involved in last year's campaign increased poetry sales by 25-30% during the promotion.



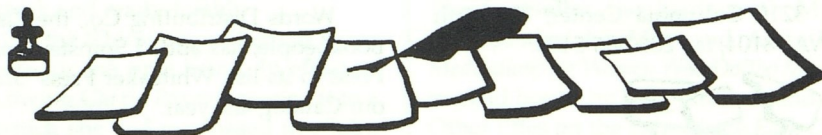
Which is more cost effective: ordering from wholesalers at 40% or ordering direct at higher discounts? Leonard Shatzkin argues that the former is better in *The Mathematics of Bookselling*, a 60-page monograph published by Sun River Press, if orders are placed as frequently as daily and only for immediate needs. "As 'real life' proof of this contention, Shatzkin cites the experience of the Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop (Wisconsin) which realized a margin 50% higher

from books bought from wholesalers at 40% than from books bought from publishers at 46%. Moreover, by buying in small quantities, Schwartz sold enough copies early enough to pay the wholesaler's invoices before they were due.... The mistake of striving for higher discounts results in lower margins and in much higher returns of unsold books. A return rate of 20%, for example, costs the bookseller the equivalent of ten percent profit on the store's total sales."

Not available in bookstores (or from any of the wholesalers whose use is advocated by Mr. Shatzkin). \$10/copy + \$3 s&h from The Butterick Company, PO Box 1752, Altoona PA 16603.

Indexes are now available for the long-running feminist newspaper, *New Directions for Women*. The indexes cross-reference the complete contents of the paper and provide a running account of feminist actions, philosophies and events, issue by issue, year by year as reported in the paper's pages and provide invaluable aid to historians and researchers. The first index (Volumes 1 through 10, 1973 to 1981) costs \$10 plus \$3 s&h; the second index (Volumes 11 through 22, 1982 to 1993) is \$20 plus \$5 s&h. Both indexes ordered together are \$25 plus \$5 s&h. The indexes are distributed by the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, 3306 Ross Place NW, Washington DC 20008. Back issues of *New Directions for Women* are also available from WIFP as well as from University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor MI 48106. ○

WRITING WANTED



By Jenn Tust

Down There Press is seeking stories for an anthology, *Still Doing It: Women and Men Over Sixty Write About Their Sexuality*. Stories could describe topics such as the writer's current sexual activity, starting again after a "dry spell," overcoming physical limitations, dealing with family reactions, or challenging expectations about or prohibitions against older people being sexual. Length: 15 pages max. Deadline: February 1. Send to Joani Blank, PO Box 8263, Emeryville CA 94662, or email <jeblank@ic.org>.



Gynergy Books seeks essays for *Women and the Millennium*. Topics can include feminist activism in change; welfare, homelessness and poverty; economic restructuring and migration; cyberspace and communication; girls' organizing and popular culture; Native women and land claims; the future of women's studies; women and health; violence against women; future lesbians; and others. Send proposal for approval (two copies, 250 words max.). Deadline for completed essays: March 28. For more information, or send proposal to Somer Brodribb, Women's Studies, Box 3045, University of Victoria BC, Canada V8W 3P4; 250-472-4277, fax 250-721-7210, email <brodribb@uvvm.uvic.ca>.

Bluestocking Books seeks feminist book-length fiction and nonfiction for its 1999 list. No erotica please. For guidelines, send SASE to Bluestocking Books, PO Box 50998, Irvine CA 92619, or view their Web site <www.bluestocking.com>.

Metis: A Feminist Journal of Transformative Wisdom, an annual interdisciplinary journal devoted to feminist consciousness and theory, seeks essays for its 1998 issue on Self and Nature. Possible topics include: gender, nature, and power; the ecological self; self in ecofeminist psychology; intersubjectivity; spiritual experience in the natural world; self and "other"; nondualistic conceptions of self; and the categories "nature/culture." Deadline: March 15. Send to Candice Chase, Editor, Metis, CIIS, 9 Peter Yorke Way, San Francisco CA 94109; 415-674-5500, ext. 454, email <candicec@ciis.edu>.

Stories (fiction and nonfiction), poetry, drawings, and photos addressing the fear of recurrence or metastases from persons who have had breast cancer are being sought for the anthology *Breast Cancer: Fear of Recurrence*. Deadline: April 30. For guidelines, send SASE to Anthology, Pioneer Valley Breast Cancer Network, PO Box 536, Leeds MA 01053.



Writing Women's Lives, conference and writing workshop, will explore the craft of bringing women's perspectives to the page, and will be held May 19-24. Featured authors are Toi Derricotte, Melissa Pritchard, Pamela Painter, Demetria Martinez, and Kay Leigh Hagan, and other distinguished guests will also be present. Small group workshops, lectures, panel discussion, readings and other events will comprise the activities. For more information contact: Recursos, Writing Women's Lives, 826 Camino del Monte Rey, Santa Fe NM 87505; 505-982-5464, fax 505-989-8608, email <recursos@aol.com>, Web site <www.santa-fe.com/recursos/>. ○

GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstores

I wouldn't go so far as to say that the high and low literature of the African American community is as commonplace by now as lesbian and gay literature has become, but the number of titles available is vastly greater than a decade ago. Here are some of those titles for the core of a good queer male section.

Yesterday Will Make You Cry by Chester Himes is a welcome reissue of his 1937 first novel, a then-shocking narrative about a smart (white) loser with its "frank and affecting depictions of prison-bound homosexual romantic love" — so frank, in fact, that Himes rewrote the book four times before it was finally published, much tempered, in 1952 as *Cast the First Stone*. This edition restores its original text, which deals as much with tension between races as it does with punk love. Norton, \$25 cl, 0-393-04577-3.

Lush Life: A Biography of Billy Strayhorn by David Hajdu — Paper edition of a true word-of-mouth hardcover bestseller, about the jazzman behind the legend of Duke Ellington. The stories of his openly gay life are both sweetly personal and historically rich, providing a literate insight into the veiled world of mid-century urban Black gays. North Point, \$15 pb, 0-86547-512-3, June.

Langston Hughes: Short Stories edited by Akiba Sullivan Harper — Here's a hefty 320-page compilation of the work of a major figure from the Harlem Renaissance whose visibility has increased in recent years. Includes 47 short stories. Hill & Wang, \$14 pb, 0-8090-1603-6.

Photographs by Rotimi Fani-Kayode and Alex Hirst — Posthumous publication of a 90-image collection of the male-nude work of Nigerian-born Fani-Kayode in collaboration with his partner Hirst, and including the photographer's prescient essay on

gay elements in rap, hip-hop, film, and photography. Editions Revue Noire/DAP, \$50 cl, 2-909571-17-3, March.

James Baldwin: Early Novels and Stories and **James Baldwin: Collected Essays**, both edited by Toni Morrison — With these two weighty tomes (totalling 1,890 pages), Baldwin joins the ranks of Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Frederick Douglass as African American authors whose complete works are now available in fine, last-ing editions. Baldwin's early novels comprise the first volume, from *Go Tell It On the Mountain* (1953) to *Going to Meet the Man* (1965); the second volume collects decades of his essays and reviews, many never before available in book form. Library of America, \$35 cl each, 1-883011-51-5; -52-3.



Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone by James Baldwin — And in conjunction with the Library of America collections comes a new edition of the story of a Black actor's life, including his affairs with a white woman and a younger Black man. Vintage, \$14 pb, 0-375-70189-3.

Words in the Wind by Demon L.A. Wood — This is a dandy fantasy/adventure based on the legends and myths of the ancient Nubians and Cushites of Africa. ProCord Publishing/Bookazine, \$19.95 pb, 096484021.

Sky Daddy by Canaan Parker — Second novel by the author of *The Color of Trees* (also Alyson), telling the delicate and moving story of a mid-40s man in New York whose white lover is about the same age as his son. Alyson, \$10.95 pb, 1-55583-398-5.

Gym Rats by Eric Saunders — There's no shortage of boy-party novels with loads of sex: here's another near-first, a speedy look at the lives of three

Black men from New York, Los Angeles and Washington, respectively, whose lives and limbs inter-twine one summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. "Told with a tongue of Ebonics commonly spoken in the streets of any Black community in America, **Gym Rats** is the story for, by and about 'down brothas' with a body, a brain and a dream." UEG Books, \$14.95 pb, 0-9658610-0-7, Alamo.

Honey, Honey, Miss Thang: Being Black, Gay and on the Streets by Leon E. Pettitway — The lives of five African American gay hustlers, Shontae, China, Keisha, Detra and Monique, are chronicled by the author, an associate professor of criminal justice; they discuss family past, hustling present, future dreams, the drive first to survive and then to reclaim their lives. It's a book full of revelations about life lived on the streets, but not a sombre one. Temple University Press, \$19.95 pb, 1-56639-498-8.

One of the Children: Gay Black Men in Harlem by William G. Wakeswood — From an anthropologist's (and insider's) perspective, this is a study based on two years of living within contemporary Harlem's Black gay culture, where Wakeswood became a part of the often-hidden fabric of the community, and explains its class structures, its "family" network, and how AIDS has hit home. University of California Press, \$15 pb, 0-520-20212-0.

Skin Deep by John R. Gordon — One of the few recent novels to deal with both interracial relationships and the friendship of Black gay men. Gay Men's Press, \$14.95 pb, 0-85449-246-1, BP/BZ.

If This World Were Mine by E. Lynn Harris — I can't imagine a lesbian, gay, feminist, or progressive store that doesn't already carry Harris' latest (as well as his backlist): he's probably close to Armistead Maupin as one of the very few gay writers whose work has crossed over into the non-gay reading community, and his work is building bridges between Black gay and straight communities. Doubleday, \$23.95 cl, 0-385-48655-3.

If Only for One Nite by James Earl Hardy — Book three in Hardy's telling of the life of Mitchell Crawford (*B-Boy Blues*, *2nd Time Around*) takes its hero back to high school for a reunion fraught with memories of a first love and confusion over being the same fool twice. Alyson, \$17.95 cl, 1-55583-373-X.

To Mardi Gras, Wit' Love... by K. Rhydel Watson — Two African American men plot to (creatively) take

control of New Orleans' annual Mardi Gras; this is a wicked novel with great broad gay humor at its core. By Sheken Publishing, \$19.95 pb, 0-9657964-0-X; call 888-784-9197.

Low-Hanging Fruit by G. B. Mann — "...about encounter and exploration, about the contradictions, beauty and pain that is the sexual landscape of African American men loving." GrapeVine Press, \$18.95 cl, 0-9655117-0-7, Alamo.

One More River to Cross: Black and Gay in America by Keith Boykin — Paper edition of a valuable book in which the author interviews a spectrum of his community, from Baptist ministers to passionate activists, dispelling the myth that gay is a "white thang" and working to reconcile the African American community and its gay members. Bantam, \$14 pb, 0-385-47983-2.



And some other new titles for a people of color section include:

Pier Queen by Emanuel Xavier — Brooklyn-born Xavier, raised by the many houses of New York's legendary Westside Highway piers, is a dazzling new voice. His poetry is strong and smart, perceptive and unflinching, comic and profound, and bursting with a politic which transcends the polemic, transmuted anger into vision. Hmmm, sounds like a blurp; well, it's that good a book. Pier Queen Productions, \$6.99 pb, 0-9658708-3-9, distributed by Alamo Square.

The Innocent by Robert Taylor — The author, a former U.S. Army captain with Vietnam service, writes with a rare sensitive insight about the impact of an American military presence in Vietnam during the 1960s — and about his own fictionalized romance with a Vietnamese man. Fithian Press, PO Box 1525, Santa Barbara CA 93102; \$14.95 pb, 1-56474-230-X.

Mala Noche: Johnny by Walt Curtis — With an introduction by film director Gus Van Sant, this series of short stories and vignettes recounts the Portland street lives of a number of Mexican street kids. Bridge City Books, \$14.95 pb, 0-9623683-4-2, distributed by Alamo Square.

A Thousand Wings by T.C. Huo — Laos-born Huo, who immigrated to the U.S. in 1979, has a wholly
See Gay Men's Lit, page 114



MUSIC NEWS

Compiled by Barb Smalley
Original reviews written by Laurie Fuchs

"You must write about Oumou Sangare and the African American women from the audience who danced on stage with her!" commanded my at-home editor after we saw Oumou's performance last week that moved the editor to tears. Oumou is a diva from Mali who sings about the everyday lives of women in her country. As an audience, we had to stretch across a significant cultural span as the entire performance had perhaps four words of English spoken, and none sung. This was at least one reason I left with a deep feeling of awe and joy over how much in the world I simply don't know but can still hope to understand by listening. And I resolved to write here about the music and performances of divas (which seems to me a difficult, not always feminist, fact of women in music) and about women's music which builds communities. I hope we can understand some of the bridges between the worlds of Black and European women's history this way.



Worotan/Oumou Sangare. From their perspective, birds can see things that escape humans; in Wassoulou, it is believed that certain birds can communicate their view of the world to humans. In this title, Oumou is the songbird who expresses her anger about injustices toward women with strength and vitality, stunning vocals and insightful lyrics. In an ironic tone, she sings about the "big men" in a polygamist culture, she reveals the unfairness of a system that defines a good wife as a submissive woman, and she sings out against violence towards women. Joined

by a host of traditional and non-traditional instruments on this 1996 release, Oumou is an amazing force! World Circuit Music 045.

Tribu/Sally Nyolo. A former member of Zap Mama (and the only one who spent her childhood in Africa), Nyolo brings to her music the same inventiveness, attitude and adventurousness as the world-famous ensemble with whom she has toured the world. Fans of Zap Mama will find much to appreciate on this 1997 album, although Nyolo's music is stylistically unique. Performed in her native tongue of Eton and fueled by influences from her home country of Cameroon, her music reveals a cosmopolitan diversity, thanks to the years she has spent in Paris absorbing sounds from all over the globe. Fabulous rhythms, upbeat melodies! Tinder 4679.

Susana Baca/Susana Baca. Her voice was first revealed to the world on the compilation *The Soul of Black Peru* and later on *Divine Divas*. Here Susana presents us with her 1997 full-length worldwide debut, heralding not only the return of an evocative voice, but also the arrival of a veritable cultural treasure. She has dedicated herself to the preservation of the history and culture of her people, African-descended Peruvians. Luaka Bop 46627.

Dark City Sisters/Flying Jazz Queens/Dark City Sisters/Flying Jazz Queens. This title has been a staple of our African section. In the history of modern South African music, the Dark City Sisters form the crucial link between Miriam Makeba and Mahlathini & the Mahotella Queens. The Sisters loosened up the 4-part harmonies of groups like these and poured in a distinctly Zulu vocal style. Their sound, known as jive, has echoed in the vocal harmonies of virtually every South African pop group of the past 30 years. Released in the U.S. in 1993, this is a collection of 14 of this historic group's

most popular singles from the 1960s, as well as two hits by the Sisters' friendly rivals, the Flying Jazz Queens. Earthworks 31.

Baduizm/Erykah Badu. Okay, so maybe you have heard this artist on commercial radio (not usually our realm!). There are few artists who can record a debut album and instantly have it considered a classic, but that is exactly what Erykah has done on this 1997 release. Her style is so fresh, her voice so beautiful (she's been compared to Billie Holiday), that as soon as I first heard this album, nothing else went into my CD player for weeks. Her songs are positive, loving, spiritual, funny and poignant. During a time when so much of current R&B is wallowing in a wasteland of name-dropping and label-flashing, **Baduizm** is such good food for the soul it'd be a crying shame to miss it. Universal 53027.

Live/Erykah Badu. This follow-up 1997 release was recorded live in-studio before an enthusiastic audience. Accompanied by her 3-piece band and background singers, she recorded six new unreleased tracks, including the original song "Tyrone," dubbed

by *Rolling Stone* a "feminist anthem-in-waiting"...plus live versions of favorites. Universal 53109.



The Verve label has a newly released series of the best blues and jazz soloists.

Ultimate Billie Holiday/Billie Holiday. Vocalist/pianist Shirley Horn had a difficult time selecting her favorite Billie Holiday songs for this release. She settled on 16 songs, each one a signature tune which Billie so personalized that they became hers. Includes "Strange Fruit," "Don't Explain," "God Bless the Child," "Lady Sings the Blues," "Fine" and "Mellow." Verve 539051.

Ultimate Dinah Washington/Dinah Washington. Both Abbey Lincoln — who assembled and annotated this collection — and her subject, known as the "Queen of the Blues," share a healthy spirit of defiance in their music. Includes 16 of her classic songs: "The Bitter Earth," "Cry Me a River," "Blue Gardenia" and "Since I Fell For You." Verve 539053.

Ultimate Ella Fitzgerald/Ella Fitzgerald. "She always told a story like she was telling it for the first time.... Songwriters would stand in line to get her to sing their songs." So said vocalist Joe Williams, who selected these 16 very classic tracks for this 1997 issue. Includes "Bess, You Is My Woman Now," "Lullaby of Birdland," "A-Tisket, A-Tasket," "Oh, Lady Be Good!" and more. Verve 539054.

Ultimate Nina Simone/Nina Simone. Dianne Reeves, who selected the songs for this edition, explains, "I understand why they called Nina the High Priestess of Soul. To me, she has a tear in her voice. It is rich and dark and beautiful. Her sound is undeniable." Many of her lyrics tell of women yearning for freedom; includes "Four Women," "See-Line Woman," "Wild Is the Wind," "Take Me To the Water" and more. Verve 539050.

Ultimate Sarah Vaughan/Sarah Vaughan. Sarah Vaughan has stood as an inspiration to anyone aspiring to vocal jazz excellence. The influence she had on the celebrated vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater, who selected the songs for this volume, was deep, profound and unmistakable. Includes "Summertime," "Shulie A Bop," "Little Girl Blue" and "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes." Verve 539052.



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Compilation 1986–1996/Faith Nolan. This lesbian singer/songwriter/activist incorporates music into her political work, which springs from a politics firmly rooted in her identity as a working-class African Canadian woman. Her excellent 1997 retrospective brings together 22 of her most prolific and political songs from her first four releases: *Africville*, *Sistership*, *Freedom to Love* and *Hard to Imagine*. Faith's original compositions, as well as her covers, are strongly rooted in the cultural language of Black North American music: spiritual, gospel, jazz and blues...each song a tool to inspire social change for a better world. Faith N' Faith 1164.



Shakin' a Tailfeather/Linda Tillery, Taj Mahal et al. Children and adults alike will be swinging and grooving to this unique 1997 collection of classic danceable tunes performed by Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir, Taj Mahal and Eric Bibb. Contemporary sounds such as "Shortnin' Bread" in hip-hop style join with classic rock 'n' roll like "Rockin' Robin"...plus "Ask Grandma," "Oh Mary Mack," "Little Sally Walker," "The Name Game," "Follow the Drinking Gourd," "Land of 1,000 Dances" and more. Music For Little People 72940.

Mammas/Mammas. This is a must-hear recording! Absolutely one of the most haunting, entrancing and exciting pieces we've encountered in a long time — read on! An exquisite blending of Mediterranean cultures, rhythms and textures, it reflects the backgrounds of the four incredible women vocalists who make up the ensemble: Lucilla Galeazzi (Italy), Yiota Vei (Greece), Equidad Bares (Spain/Southern France), and Hayet Ayad (Algeria). The lyrics are in the singers' native languages, so you may not understand all the words, but the intense beauty of the music will speak to you and move you — the passion, the diva-esque voices (they rotate lead), the ancient to atmospheric acoustic instrumentation (percussion, accordion, charango, bouzouki, violoncello, oboe, oud, violin, rebec, clarinet and much more). Organized by French producer Phillipe Eidel, the songs were created for a French production entitled *Sud*, and the album was recorded in France between 1993 and 1997. Way, way recommended! La Bande Son 47770.

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Womyn with Wings/Carlen Wijnen & Friends. All Libana-lovers and Goddess-chant lovers will love this one. Subtitled *Frauen singen Heilungs — und Kraftlieder*, this German import features a 17-woman (mostly) a cappella ensemble performing 18 of the best-loved Goddess and circle chants — 14 in English. Recorded in a church, their reverberating harmonies sound glorious indeed! Includes many Libana favorites, such as "A River of Birds in Migration," "Old Woman Is Watching (Weave and Mend)," "We All Come From the Goddess," "Mother Ocean, Rainbow Woman," "Our Magic Is Our Give Away" and the classic by Naomi Littlebear Morena, "Like A Mountain," a.k.a. "You Can't Kill the Spirit (Old and Strong)," (which still travels the world over without credit to its source). With excellent arrangements **Womyn with Wings** undoubtedly includes a few rounds and chants which will be new to the listener — truly a demonstration of the global women's spirituality community. Carlen Wijnen & Friends 1.

Different Angels/Choeur Maha. This feminist choir from Montreal, which formed in 1991, comes
See Music, page 114.

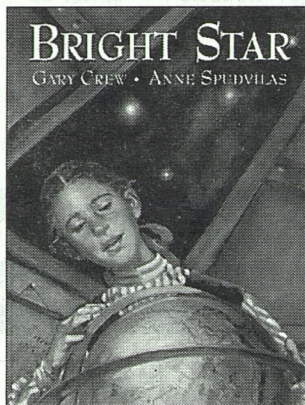


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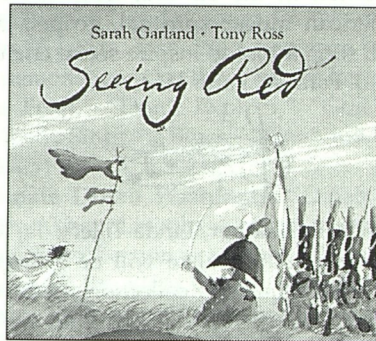


Notable Children's Book 1997
Smithsonian Magazine

Bright Star by Gary Crew
Full color illustrations by Anne Spudvilas
8½ x 11, 32 pages ages 5-9
Hardcover ISBN 0-916291-75-8, \$13.95

Kirkus Review October 1997

"This lovely book...doesn't feel like a lesson, though it contains all the elements of one. Instead Crew focuses on a child's dreams and the moment she realizes that her fate is in her hands. Spudvila's glowing oil paintings capture Alicia's expressions, conveying with the text, a message of affirmation..."



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Seeing Red by Sarah Garland
Full color illustrations by Tony Ross
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KIDS' LIT

By Linda Bubon
Women & Children First/Chicago

New Titles for Black History Month

African Beginnings by James Haskins and Kathleen Benson, paintings by Floyd Cooper. A *beautiful* book, the first of a series of seven on African American history: a new one will release each January. This volume introduces children to ancient Africa, various tribes and regions, religion, culture, trade, slavery and colonization. Floyd Cooper's illustrations are sweeping and personal at the same time. The authors are veterans. All ages. \$16, 0688-10256-5, Lathrop, Lee & Shepard (Morrow).



Running Girl: The Diary of Ebonee Rose by Sharon Bell Mathis. Fictionalized diary, a whole genre in itself these days, of an 11-year-old track star who's preparing for the all-city meet. Lots of details about running and various track and field events with built-in suspense. The best part of this book is that Ebonee Rose knows a lot about famous women track stars and calls on them for strength. Her very supportive family and a great coach help Ebonee to know that she is part of a great tradition. Ages 9-12. \$17, 015-200674-5, Browndeer Press (Harcourt).

Africa Brothers and Sisters by Virginia Kroll, illustrated by Vanessa French. From Ashanti weavers to the beautiful turbaned women of the Wolof, Jesse and her father celebrate more than twenty different African peoples as they honor their connections to

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

the cultural traditions of Africa. \$5.99, 0689-81816-5, Simon & Schuster.

Uncle Jed's Barbershop by Margaree King Mitchell, illustrated by James Ransome. I loved this book when it was first published and am delighted to see it in paperback. Mitchell tells the story of an itinerant barber in the segregated South, patiently saving up for his own shop. Because of his generous spirit, his dream is deferred until late in life. When he finally achieves his dream, you'll cheer along with the little girl, grown to a woman, who remembers Uncle Jed's love and perseverance. \$5.99, 0689-81913-7, Simon & Schuster.

From Miss Ida's Porch by Sandra Belton, illustrated by Floyd Cooper. Tales told on the porch about Duke Ellington, who stayed at Miss Ida's when he was shut out of "whites only" hotels, and Marian Anderson, whose two historic concerts in Washington, D.C., 25 years apart, testify to the power of the civil rights movement. A personal introduction to the issue of racial segregation. \$5.99, 0689-81802-5, Simon & Schuster.



Breaking the Chains: African-American Slave Resistance by William Loren Katz. There are several books out on the Amistad rebellion to capitalize on the Spielberg movie, but this book, which draws on primary sources, gives a bigger picture. Accounts of daylight warfare and nighttime escapes, and portraits of individual courage and group determination paint a picture of struggle that spanned centuries. \$10 pb, 0689-81919-6, Simon & Schuster.

A Street Called Home by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson. Art between two covers. Robinson *shows* us

the tumult of life on Mount Vernon Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, in the 1940s. This is an accordion book with flaps that recreates the rich life and culture on a self-sufficient street where people bought, sold and bartered, played and danced. \$18, 015-201465-9, Harcourt Brace.

Favorite Black History Month Titles

The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles. Beautifully told and illustrated, this is an inspiring story for ages 5–10. We like to sell this with the charismatic Susan Salidor's second cassette (or CD) *By Heart* which includes her tribute song "Ruby B." *By Heart* and *Little Voices in My Head* are available from Rounder Kids. Susan's tapes outsell every other kids' music tape, and it's not just because she's local — she's a gifted singer who knows what kids like; never sticky-sweet. Our staff enjoys listening to her, too, and she's a feminist to boot. \$13.95, 05905-7281-4, Scholastic.

Lift Every Voice and Sing by James Weldon Johnson, illustrated by Elizabeth Catlett. Beautiful woodcuts accompany this stirring anthem. \$6.95, 080277-442-3, Walker & Co.



Barefoot: Escape on the Underground Railroad by Pamela Duncan Edwards, illustrated by Henry Cole. This is a compelling picture book that follows one slave's escape through woods and marshes. The heron cries out warnings that "the heavy boots" are nearby, a little mouse shows him ripe berries, and an "army of mosquitoes" chases the slave catchers away, leaving the runaway unbitten. He reaches a safe house, fireflies helpfully lighting the way. While young children (4 to 10 year olds) are trying to understand the horror of slavery, they can take some comfort in the benevolence of the animal kingdom. \$14.95, 006-027137X, HarperCollins.

Encounter by Jane Yolen. The story of Columbus' invasion from the point of view of a Taino Indian boy. This is a "heavy" one, for kids 8 and up. Exquisite paintings. \$6 pb, 015-201389X, Harcourt Brace.

The Day Gogo Went to Vote: South Africa, April 1994 by Elinor Batezat Sisulu, illustrated by Sharon Wilson. Beautifully told story about South Africa's first election. A little girl narrates how her grandma

celebrated on the day she awaited all her life. Powerful reminder to young people (and their elders!) about the importance of voting. For ages 5–10. \$14.95 cl, 0316-70267-6, Little, Brown.

A Way Out of No Way: Writings About Growing Up Black in America edited by Jacqueline Woodson. Inspiring stories and poems by the best: Toni Morrison, James Baldwin, Rosa Guy, June Jordan, Jamaica Kincaid, Gwendolyn Brooks and others. For junior high to adult. \$4.50, 0-449-70460-2, Fawcett.

New Titles for Women's History Month

19th Century Girls and Women by Bobbie Kalman. Particularly nice trade history of the time for 3rd to 6th graders, illustrated with Victorian paintings and drawings. Includes thumbnail sketches of women who made a difference. \$7.95, 0-86505-464-9, Crabtree Publishing Company.

Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution by Natalie S. Bober. Wonderfully told biography for ages 12 and up. This could work in your adult biography section, too. Starred reviews from *Booklist* and *School Library Journal*. "The intelligence, inner strength, and vitality of Abigail Adams emerge with bold strokes of [the] pen." \$9 pb, 0689-81916-1, Simon & Schuster.

My Grandmother's Journey by John Cech, illustrated by Sharon McGinley-Nally. Eastern European immigrant story based on the author's mother-in-law's life. A survivor of the Russian Revolution and the devastation of World War II, Grandmother never lost her longing for freedom. \$5.99, 0689-81890-4, Simon & Schuster.

There are two new titles in the Dear America historical diaries series from Scholastic. **Dreams in the Golden Country: The Diary of Zipporah Feldman, a Jewish Immigrant Girl, New York City, 1903** by Kathryn Lasky. Kathryn Lasky is one of our best writers of historical fiction and has won the Newberry Honor and the National Jewish Book Award, so I'm sure this will be one of the best in the series. We are selling the Dear America series *very* well this season, and I expect to continue to do so (\$9.95, 0-590-02973-8). The second release in Spring is **West to a Land of Plenty: The Diary of Teresa Angelino Viscardi, New York to Idaho Territory, 1883** by Jim Murphy (\$9.95, 0-590-73888-7).

American Diaries #9: Celou Sudden Shout by Kathleen Duey. This story is set in 1827 and features a young woman, the daughter of a French trapper and

a Shoshone woman, who struggles to save a boy's life. The American Diaries are well-written historical fiction for 8 to 12 year olds, each featuring a young girl. Though not as classy in presentation as the Dear America series from Scholastic, American Diaries are inexpensive and are a good follow-up to the American Girls books (7 to 9 year olds). \$3.99, 0-689-81622-7, Simon & Schuster.



Pioneer Girl: The Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder by William Anderson, beautifully illustrated by Dan Andreasen. For ages seven and up, the biography of the creator of the Little House books. \$15.95, 006-027243-0, HarperCollins.

We Shall Not Be Moved: The Women's Factory Strike of 1909 by Joan Dash. New in paperback, a stirring telling of the beginning of the women's labor movement. \$5.99, 0590-48410-9, Scholastic.

Winning Ways: A Photohistory of American Women in Sports by S. Macy. Great book for sports fans, ages 9 and up. \$5.99, 0590-76336-9, Scholastic.

One final new paperback to remember is **The View from Saturday** by E.L. Konigsburg, which won the Newberry Medal in 1997. Coming mid-January from Aladdin Paperbacks, this is a terrific story about four sixth graders who win their state's Academic Bowl competition. \$4.50, 0689-81721-5, Simon & Schuster.

Isadora Dances by Rachel Isadora. No one illustrates dancers better than Rachel Isadora, and her new biography for ages 3-8 is a perfect introduction to the woman who "dreamed of a different dance" and forever changed the course of dance. \$15.99, 0670-87893-6, Viking.

She's Been Working on the Railroad by Nancy Smiler Levinson with photos collected and taken by Shirley Burman. Eye-opening account of women railroad workers over the past 150 years. Truly a groundbreaking history with never-before-seen photos, Nancy Levinson is a children's history writer, but this book will be of interest to adult historians and railroad buffs, too. She is very interested in promoting this book and can be reached at 310-276-1412. \$16.99, 0-525-67545-0, Viking (Lodestar, actually, an imprint of Viking, now axed).

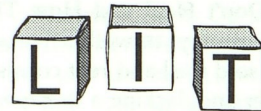
Favorite Women's History Month Titles

Bloomers by Rhoda Blumberg. For ages 4-8, this is a colorful, well-told story about the beginnings of the suffrage movement and the woman who invented the first clothes a woman could ride a bike in. A great way for little girls to connect the issue of personal freedom with political freedom. Remember, less than a hundred years ago, girls couldn't wear pants anywhere. Girls today (and for the past 20 years) can wear pants to school. All thanks to Amelia Bloomer. \$5.95, 0-689-804555, Simon & Schuster.

The Ballot Box Battle by Emily Arnold McCully. Wonderfully told story for ages six and up which shows Mrs. Stanton (Elizabeth Cady) taking her young neighbor Cordelia, who has been taking riding lessons with her, to the polls to demand to vote. Cordelia is at first embarrassed by the outspoken Mrs. Stanton who is laughed at and disparaged by the men at the polls. But Mrs. Stanton's courage, dignity, and intelligence inspire Cordelia, turning her embarrassment to respect. \$17, 0679879382, Knopf.

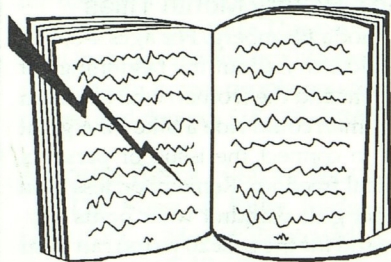
Breaking Barriers: The Feminist Revolution from Susan B. Anthony to Margaret Sanger to Betty Friedan. For junior high — readable and focused feminist history. \$5.99, 0140379681, Puffin.

Introducing Feminism by Susan Watkins. For middle schoolers and up. \$9.95, 1874166048, National Book Network.



Seven Brave Women by Betsy Hearne, illustrated by Bethanne Andersen. If you missed my glowing review of this book last time, I will simply tell you that this is my personal favorite for ages 6 and up. Betsy Hearne tells the stories of seven of her ancestors, brave women who lived through wars "but did not fight in them." In seven paragraphs, each beautifully illustrated, she tells "herstory," the women who planted, painted, sang, stitched quilts, birthed babies and midwifed farm animals — in short created family, culture and society in the past two centuries. This book stirs the soul! \$15 hc, 0688145027, Greenwillow (Morrow).

Scholastic Encyclopedia of Women in the U.S. Comprehensive, colorful; a must for every school library and great to have on hand for school reports. \$17.95, 0590227920. ○



NEW MEDIA

AUDIO • VIDEO • CD-ROM
ELECTRONIC BOOKS

AUDIO & VIDEO

By Donna Niles

At Amazon, Caroline Myss (pronounced "mace") is a word-of-mouth bestseller. Myss is a medical intuitive and healer who believes illness serves vital emotional and psychological needs. She has a six-cassette audio set available from Sounds True that sells for \$59.95. All her books and other audio titles (about four) consistently sell well. [Feminist book-sellers] gotta know about these!

The Energetics of Healing by Caroline Myss. (\$49.95, two-part video, 156455418X, Sounds True.) This is another insightful set of videos that will sell if properly displayed and promoted. It's highly rentable, and will likely cause a stampede of book sales. Myss also has **Anatomy of Spirit** (\$14, 0609-800-140, Random), and **Why People Don't Heal and How They Can** (\$25, 0609-600907, Harmony), as well as five books on audiotape that have sold well and rent consistently. Myss is not a New Ager and, lacking a therapeutic demeanor, she can be a challenge to those who want lulling. Salt-of-the-earth and no-nonsense in her approach, her guided tour of the hidden dimension of the human body is life-challenging and exciting. It's a relief from the belief that we are totally responsible for incurring and healing all illness.

A Passion for the Possible by Jean Houston. Here is the woman who created a media frenzy when they found out she was "channeling" Eleanor Roosevelt for Hillary in the White House. Hardly a channeler, Houston is in fact a very wise woman, with a dramatic speaking style. She tells stories of her time spent with such visionaries as Margaret Mead, Helen Keller, Mother Teresa, and others. A student of Joseph Campbell, she carries a feminist vision of mythology. Houston is an explorer of changing human capacities, a philoso-

pher and bestselling author. Promote this as a rental, then stock her books and watch 'em move out of the store. \$34.95, two-part video, 156176390X, Mystic Fire. Also available from New Leaf, BP, Ladyslipper.



VIDEO

By Liz Wermcrantz

Women & Children First/Chicago

All Over Me. Totally cool, refreshing movie about young women living in Hell's Kitchen, New York. Brought to us by the producers of *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love*, this movie tops my list. We witness the angst and frustration of being a young dyke in love with her somewhat-straight best friend. The friendship holds all the naive promise most of us have experienced at one time or another. Ultimately, the young women deal with a lot of hardcore issues like drugs and murder and absent parents as they bumble along trying to make sense of their worlds. It is funny, poignant, upsetting: you won't be the same after viewing it. Interspersed with great music by women like Ani DiFranco, you must get this movie! \$79.95. Available from both Wolfe Video and Naiad Video.

Around the World the Lesbian Way. Another collection of lesbian shorts brought to you by Naiad Press. I was just reading the newly published book from Seal Press, *Film Fatales*, which includes several pages devoted to Barbara Grier. This I didn't know: Naiad, under the direction of Barbara, joined forces with Northern Arts Entertainment for one reason: to get lesbian short films out there for public consumption as opposed to living their lives as short runs at film

See New Media, page 94.



MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater
Cape & Dagger/Provincetown, MA

Yes, even in the mystery section, you can celebrate African American History Month and Women's History Month! The most essential tool for promoting African American mysteries is Paula L. Woods' excellent collection, **Spooks, Spies, and Private Eyes**, now available in paper from Doubleday. Woods includes both forefathers and foremothers of the African American mystery, and she devotes a whole section to contemporary "Sistuh in Crime." Woods discovered that the very first mystery story published by an African American writer was the 1900 "Talma Gordon," a locked-room mystery about miscegenation, by Pauline E. Hopkins, making her the founding foremother of the African American mystery. Of course any celebration of African American mysteries has to include the male pioneers like Rudolph Fisher (author of the 1932 novel *The Conjure Man Dies*), Chester Himes, Walter Mosley, and Gar Anthony Haywood. In this column, however, we will concentrate on the women. \$12.95 pb, 0-385-47955-7, Doubleday.



The reigning queens of African American mystery writing are Eleanor Taylor Bland, Barbara Neely, and Valerie Wilson Wesley. Bland's latest, **See No Evil**, is the sixth in her series featuring tough but tender Illinois police detective and widowed mom

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

Marti MacAlister in workmanlike police procedural. Here she investigates the death of a young woman whose drug-dealing boyfriend — and probable murderer — may be putting a homeless man and Marti's own family at risk. Bland's previous books, all available in mass market paper, include *Keep Still, Done Wrong, Gone Quiet, Slow Burn*, and (the first in the series) *Dead Time*. \$22.95 cl, 0-312-16910-8, February, St. Martin's.

My personal favorite of these three writers is Barbara Neely, who blasts stereotypes with her portrait of the sharp and sympathetic domestic worker, Blanche White, while also playing with the traditions of the cozy whodunit. In **Blanche Cleans Up**, set in Neely's native Boston, Blanche is filling in as cook-housekeeper for a Boston Brahmin politician when she uncovers a scandal that touches her own community of Roxbury. **Blanche Cleans Up** may not ship in time for African American History Month, but, with her strong feminist and anti-racist sensibility, Blanche is welcome anytime. Viking is offering a limited number of autographed copies of **Blanche Cleans Up**, so talk to your sales rep. Neely's previous books, available in paper from Penguin, are *Blanche Among the Talented Tenth* and *Blanche on the Lam*. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-87626-7, April, Viking.

Valerie Wilson Wesley writes excellent, lean and mean *noir* novels about Newark, New Jersey private eye Tamara Hayle, another single mom struggling to protect her son in a community where violence and despair claim too many young men. In the recent **No Hiding Place**, Tamara agrees to search for the murderer of good-for-nothing Shawn Raymond, because Shawn had been a friend of Tamara's beloved brother, who committed suicide some years before. Ultimately the investigation leads to Newark's upper class, challenging Tamara's assumptions about crime and

community. Wesley's previous novels, all available in mass market paper, are *Where Evil Sleeps*, *Devil's Gonna Get Him*, and *When Death Comes Stealing*. \$21.95 cl, 0-399-14318-1, Putnam.

Lately, every season brings new African American women into the mystery field. In the last FBN, I reviewed the jazz-influenced *noir* novel, **Rhode Island Red** by Charlene Carter (\$15.99 cl, 1-85242-5664-4, *Serpent's Tail*) and the light-hearted baseball mystery, **Caught in a Rundown** by Lisa Saxton (\$21 cl, 0-684-82967-3, Simon & Schuster). Author Chassie West is carving out a Southern Gothic sub-genre, with African American heroines who uncover evil secrets in small towns. Her Harper paperbacks are *Sunrise* and **Loss of Innocence**. (\$5.50 pb, 0-06-108111-6, Harper.) A favorite in our store is **Do Not Go Gently** by Judith Smith-Levin, which introduced Massachusetts police lieutenant Star Duvall in the hunt for a serial killer preying on Black professionals. Smith-Levin was herself the first female uniformed patrol officer in Worcester, Massachusetts, and her experience shows in the authentic details of police procedure. (\$5.99 pb, 0-06-101109-6, Harper.)

Good Cop, Bad Cop by Barbara D'Amato

An illegal raid on the Black Panthers in the '60s comes back to haunt the Chicago Police Department in the '90s.

Chicago police officer Susannah Maria Figueroa suspects that her fellow patrol cop, brother of the Superintendent of Police, is hiding a fatal secret. As she searches for the truth, she is faced with the question of whether to accuse a fellow officer of murder.

"A gritty portrayal of day-to-day police activity, complete with vividly realized supporting characters and realistic moral dilemmas."

— Publishers Weekly

Forge, March 1998, \$22.95
ISBN 0-312-86562-7

Just in time for African American History Month are entries by two Atlanta residents: former *Naiad* author Penny Mickelbury and children's book author Evelyn Coleman. In **What A Woman's Gotta Do** by Evelyn Coleman, Atlanta reporter and martial arts student Patricia Conley uncovers a vast and sinister conspiracy centered on the contents of a safe deposit box left to her by her missing fiancée: a computer disk, a red diamond, and a mysterious locket. Conley makes an interesting heroine. A cynical, sober alcoholic raised in foster homes, she trusts no one, least of all the ancient African spirit guides who begin appearing to her in visions that help her solve the mystery. Ultimately this would-be thriller was too rich a mixture for me, but "X-files" fans might love it. \$23 cl, 0-684-83175-9, March, Simon & Schuster.



One Must Wait by Penny Mickelbury introduces the first Black female criminal defense attorney in fiction. Hot shot lawyer Carol Ann Gibson resigns from her profitable D.C. law firm in a crisis of conscience only a few days before her husband is murdered on a city sidewalk. Is it connected to his last meeting with an unscrupulous client? The answers may lie in the bayous of Louisiana, or they may be a lot closer to home. With the help of good friends, some of them cops, Carol Ann investigates. Mickelbury mixes courtroom drama, environmental politics, and old-fashioned police work in a smooth and suspenseful brew. This mainstream novel may bring more readers to Mickelbury's lesbian mysteries, *Keeping Secrets* and *Night Songs*. \$22 cl, 0-684-83741-2, Simon & Schuster.

Cop turned graduate student Mali Anderson is the heroine of the well-received **If I Should Die**, by Grace Edwards, a mystery rooted in Harlem neighborhoods and involving a fictionalized Harlem Boys' Choir (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57631-3, March, Bantam). Edwards has a new hardcover, **A Toast Before Dying**, coming from Doubleday in April. Norah DeLoach introduces an African American Miss Marple in **Mama Stalks the Past**. "Mama" is widowed Grace Covington, amateur sleuth of her very own St. Mary

Mead, in this case a small town called Otis, South Carolina. (\$21.95 cl, 0-553-10662-7, Bantam.) Being young and Black at Harvard can be murder, prompting an African American economics professor to turn sleuth in **A Darker Shade of Crimson** by Pamela Thomas-Graham. This is billed as "an Ivy League mystery," and apparently Thomas-Graham already has plans to bring her heroine back for another murder, this time at Yale. (\$22 cl, 0-684-84526-1, April, Simon & Schuster.)

And what about Women's History Month in the mystery section? One approach would be to feature "women's history mysteries," the growing number of feminist historical mysteries that combine suspense with historical background on women's issues such as suffrage and paid work. The prime practitioner here is Miriam Grace Monfredo, whose series about librarian Glynis Tryon begins in Seneca Falls in 1848, with Glynis working beside Elizabeth Cady Stanton to organize the world's first women's rights convention (**Seneca Falls Inheritance**, \$4.99 pb, 0-425-14465-8). Luckily for readers, Seneca Falls was a hotbed of American radicalism, allowing Monfredo to deal with slaves on the Underground Railroad (**The North Star Conspiracy**, \$5.50, 0-425-14720-7), racism against the Iroquois (**Blackwater Spirits**, \$5.99, 0-425-15266-9), and the radical abolitionism of John Brown (**Through a Gold Eagle**, \$5.99 pb, 0-425-15898-5). In the new hard cover, **The Stalking Horse**, Glynis helps her niece Bronwen, now a Pinkerton agent, foil an assassination plot on the eve of the Civil War. (\$21.95 cl, 0-425-15783-0, March, all from Berkley.)

My new favorite among feminist historical writers is Sarah Smith, who is writing a very literary trilogy set in the early twentieth century. The first two of these novels are available in trade paper; the third has not yet been published. **The Vanished Child**, set in 1906, introduces us to the Baron Von Reidsen, a driven young scientist studying neurology in Switzerland, and Perdita Halley, a nearly blind, remarkably gifted pianist from Boston. These two are brought together in a mystery about the Baron's origins: is he the vanished child of the title, grandson of the wealthy, murdered William Knight? Or is the child dead, himself a victim of the same murderer? Strong characters and atmosphere are brought to bear in the service of big themes: memory and reality, art and science, biology and destiny. (\$12 tp, 0-345-

41805-0, Ballantine.) The sequel, **The Knowledge of Water**, is even more remarkable — and more explicitly feminist — but mystery fans will want to read them in order so as to maintain the suspense. Set in Paris and culminating in the flood of 1910, **The Knowledge of Water** rejoins some of the same characters, along with fictional representations of Colette, Gertrude Stein, and Picasso. Here the big questions are about women and art. Can a woman be a mother, make a home, and also be a serious artist? What makes art "authentic" and when is art forgery? These questions, separate at the beginning of the narrative, are so neatly tied together by the end that they're inextricable. Sarah Smith is doing amazing things, certainly transcending the suspense genre, and these books are well worth recommending in any month. (\$12 tp, 0-345-40963-9, Ballantine.)



On a much lighter note, feisty feminist Fremont Jones is an entertaining guide to early twentieth-century women's history in the mystery series by Dianne Day. As *The New York Times* said, "After leaving home in 1905 to see the world...Dianne Day's fearless heroine turns up in **The Bohemian Murders** tending the Pinos Point lighthouse on the storm-tossed coast of Monterey Bay." Of course a body washes up, and Fremont Jones sets out to investigate. (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57412-4, March, Bantam.) The whole series is really nicely packaged, with intriguing cover art and great blurbs ("A special treat. Highly recommended."—*Chicago Tribune*). Customers will thank you if you stock them all, including **Fire and Fog** (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-56922-8, Bantam) and **The Strange Files of Fremont Jones** (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-56921-X).

For British women's history, there's **Dance on Blood** by Gillian Linscott, featuring "no-nonsense, passionate suffragette" Nell Bray. Nell is unknown to me, but she has apparently already appeared in *Dead Man's Sweetheart* and *Crown Witness*, published in hardcover by St. Martin's Press. Here she gets involved in a dangerous plot with a Greek exotic

dancer and German spies. (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-18075-6, April, St. Martin's Press.) Going back a few centuries, Patricia Finney's critically lauded **Firedrake's Eye** concerns a plot to assassinate Elizabeth I (\$13 tp, 0-312-18094-2, Picador/St. Martin's), and her new novel, **Unicorn's Blood**, centers around a private diary kept by the young Elizabeth which could destroy the government if it fell into the wrong hands (\$25 cl, 0-312-18201-5, Picador/St. Martin's). This is very literary historical fiction, more Umberto Eco than Ellis Peters, but it has enough intrigue to qualify for this column.

Stephanie Barron continues her uncanny recreation of the "real" Jane Austen in **Jane and the Wandering Eye**, in which a masquerade ball leads to murder. Barron seamlessly unites historical details of Austen's life with fictional mysteries, all in a close approximation of Austen's own lively, gossipy style. This is the third in a series that includes *Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor* and *Jane and the Man of the Cloth*, both available in mass market paper from Bantam. \$22.95 cl, 0-553-10204-4, March, Bantam.

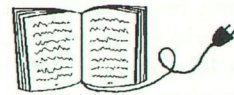
Historical or not, you can't afford to miss the new Russell/Holmes novel by Laurie R. King. In **The Moor**, partners in crime detection Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes return to the scene of "The Hound of the Baskervilles," Devonshire, England, where they investigate another ancient family curse. I hate it that independent, hard-headed, feminist Russell is married to Holmes, but it certainly won't stop me from scarfing up King's wonderful adventures. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-16934-5, St. Martin's.) **King's A Letter of Mary**, which manages to combine Russell and Holmes, biblical archaeology, and feminism, is now available in paper from Bantam. (\$5.99, 0-553-57780-8.)

Another sleuthing duo featuring a feminist-before-her-time, Harriet Vane and Lord Peter Wimsey, are brought back to life in **Thrones, Dominations** by Dorothy L. Sayers and Jill Paton Walsh. The catalogue says Walsh worked from Sayers' outline to complete Harriet and Lord Peter's final adventure, set in 1939. Finishing an unfinished manuscript is a tricky business, but Booker finalist Walsh seems like a good choice for the job. Many of us have been longing for more Sayers mysteries for years, and this is as close as we're likely to get. \$23.95 cl, 0-312-18196-5, February, St. Martin's. ○

New Media, continued from page 90.

festivals. This particular collection, thanks to Barbara, includes a wide variety of ideas and genres. There are five films with topics ranging from baton twirlers and bull dykes to sexual conquests and more. A definite must for our stores. \$29.95. Available from Northern Arts/Naiad Video.

Everything Relative. A feature-length film by Sharon Pollack, *Everything Relative* is about the notion of families, the chosen kind. Billed as a lesbian *Big Chill*, it focuses on a long-time group of friends as they are reunited for a special occasion. Spent mostly at a summer home on a lake, the women fight and connect, have sex and skinny dip, and ultimately come to terms with their radical 70s feminist backgrounds in a 90s world. Entertaining and funny. Be sure to stock up on this one as it's included in our current Feminist Bookstore Network Catalog. \$79.95. Available from Wolfe Video.



Goodbye Emma Jo. The film opens in the asphalt wake of a red VW pulling up to a gravestone. Told initially in recollections, we witness a scene of grief and anger interspersed with sexual flashbacks. The woman is remembering her dead girlfriend and talking aloud to a tombstone — something about how the pain never goes away. She leaves. Her car won't start and a cute girl named Haley in yard work garb saves the day. Crying Girl is rude, but Haley offers her a foldout couch to sleep on anyway and a mechanic friend to fix her car. Crying Girl makes it known she's only saying yes because she has no other options. What ensues is a rather cliché transformation from animosity to sexual tension. Like most erotic films, the story itself is forgettable, but this one is different in that the sex scenes are, as the women at Wolfe told me, what lesbians have been asking for. Gone are the soft focus cheesy gazes and suggestively warm skin-on-skin nuances. Instead, they are traded for some real-to-life dirty (in a good way) sex scenes as Crying Girl learns to let go of the past and embrace someone new. \$29.95. Available from Wolfe Video.

Liz Wermcrantz is a twenty-something feminist bookseller and writer with a minor obsession with People magazine and other forms of cheesy pop culture. ○



SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

By Laura Quilter/The Exploratorium, CA and
Heather Whipple/Swarthmore College Library, PA

You'll notice a strong skew in the column this month — due to Laura's 2,000-mile move and the logistics of getting on publishers' mailing lists, our information sources are still coming in, and Tor is extremely well represented this time. While it's true that Tor publishes many good feminist fantasy and science fiction authors, we promise to include more titles from other publishers next time.

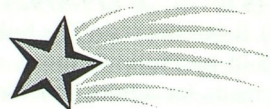
If you're including one SF title in your Black History Month and Women's History Month displays, make it Octavia Butler's alternate history/time travel novel **Kindred** (\$13 tp, 0-8070-8305-4, Beacon) in which a contemporary African American woman inexplicably finds herself moving back and forth between the present and the past — where she is a slave, owned by the white man who is also one of her ancestors.

Or try Jewelle Gomez' **The Gilda Stories**, an elegant, sensual, and naturalistic fantasy. Gilda, a Black vampire seeking community, travels from Southern slavery to environmental devastation 200 years later. \$9.95 pb, 0-932379-94-X; \$20.95 cl, -95-8, Firebrand.

You may also want to consider Tananarive Due's taut, intricate, and psychologically compelling first thriller, **The Between** (\$12.50 tp, 0-06-092726-7, Harper), a well-plotted, African American work of horror and the supernatural set in Miami, and her second, **My Soul to Keep** (\$24 cl, 0-06-018742-5, Harper).

And be sure to watch out for the July publication of Nalo Hopkinson's **Brown Girl in the Ring**, the winner of Warner Aspect's Novel Contest for new and unpublished SF/fantasy novelists. Hopkinson's

novel was chosen from a field of nearly a thousand manuscripts submitted from Australia, Germany, Qatar, the U.K., and the U.S. Hopkinson, who grew up in Jamaica, Guyana and Canada, says of this novel, "I use Afro-Caribbean spirituality, oral history, culture and language in my stories but place my characters within contemporary fantasy. I see it as subverting the genre, which speaks so much about the experience of being alienated, but contains so little writing by alienated people themselves." \$12.99 pb, 0446674338, July, Warner Aspect.



DUFOUR

Back in print: Anna Kavan's **Ice** (\$21 tp, 0-7206-1029-X, Peter Owen). First published in 1967, this classic surreal novel by the respected cult writer Kavan takes place in a grim post-holocaust future. The world does not end by fire, but by ice — great sheets and walls of ice that accompany a nuclear winter. Two men seek a young woman in this grim world. Kavan wrote a number of books, but feminist SF readers will be particularly interested in this one. Distributed in the U.S. by DuFour Editions, Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005.

GRIFFIN (ST. MARTIN'S)

Literally a perennial favorite, this tenth annual edition of **The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror** (\$17.95 tp, 0-312-15701-0), edited of course by Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling, is a great source for wonderful stories from new as well as well-known authors. This year's collection includes stories by Angela Carter, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Patricia McKillip, and Jane Yolen. Note: A printing error dropped two manuscript

pages from Tanith Lee's story (p. 47). To get the missing text, send your mailing address to Gordon Van Gelder, St. Martin's Press, 175 Fifth Ave, New York NY 10010 or email <gordonvangelder@stmartins.com>.

HEINEMANN

Prolific author Melissa Scott shares her experience and teaching skills in **Concerning the Heavens: Creating the Science Fiction Novel** (\$16.95 tp, 0-435-07008-8). This handbook for writers emphasizes the importance of good writing for all genres but also guides the novice science fiction author through realistic world-building. Characterizing science fiction as the one genre based on the premise that change happens, Scott helps writers bring their own visions of other worlds to vivid realization.



KNOPF

Like all great children's books, **The Golden Compass** (\$20 cl, 0-679-87924-2; \$5.99 mm, 0345413350, Ballantine) and **The Subtle Knife** (\$20 cl, 0-679-87925-0) by Philip Pullman are gripping and satISfying reads for adults, too. Not for the faint of heart, these books are well worth the agony of having to wait for the concluding volume to be published (also known as the His Dark Materials trilogy). Eleven-year-old Lyra journeys through her world and into other worlds, accompanied by her "daemon," an external manifestation of her own self that charmingly exists in shapeshifting animal forms. Lyra is on a quest she doesn't quite understand — and can only survive by *not* knowing what lies ahead. Already winning prizes and commendations in the U.K. and the U.S., these books are intense, absorbing, suspenseful fantasy with wonderful cover art. **The Subtle Knife** is one of *Publishers Weekly's* best books of the year for 1997. Highly recommended.

POCKET BOOKS

With advance praise from Ursula K. Le Guin, Jean Auel, Nicola Griffith, and Robin McKinley, **The Moon and the Sun** (\$23 cl, 0-671-56765-9) by Vonda McIntyre is a vibrant alternate history of 17th-century France. Historical and fictional characters intermingle in a tale of science or "natural philosophy," the search for

immortality, and encounters with sea monsters. Named a 1997 Best Book of the Year by *Publishers Weekly*.

SHAMBHALA

SF fans will be interested to know that Ursula K. Le Guin has just completed a new translation (with the assistance of J.P. Seaton) of Lao Tzu's **Tao Te Ching: A Book About the Way and the Power of the Way** (\$20 cl, 1-57062-333-3). Le Guin is — since Judith Merril's passing — the grande dame of SF, and anything by her is of great interest. But the **Tao Te Ching** informs all of her work, and such classics as the Earthsea trilogy are truly reflective of Le Guin's Taoist philosophies. Additionally, Le Guin has accomplished this translation with a full feminist consciousness, and looked carefully at the use of pronouns and gender-specific language. As Le Guin said: "I wanted this version to be inviting to my half of the human race."

TOR

Catherine Asaro's **The Last Hawk** (\$25.95 cl, 0-312-86044-7) is a sequel to **Primary Inversion** (\$5.99 mm, 0-812-55023-4) and **Catch the Lightning** (\$5.99 mm, 0-812-55102-8) that also stands on its own. Asaro's writing is clean, and the story is fascinating. An heir from the Skolian Empire crashes on a restricted world; he initially struggles to leave but eventually his life becomes entwined with the lives of the women who rule the world. Yes, this world is a matriarchy, and there is both humor and pleasure to be found in seeing the roles reversed. Asaro also weaves nano- and biotechnologies and artificial intelligence into the plot, so there's plenty of fodder for those who like to speculate about the future of technology. Central to the plot and the world's society is a "dice" game. As Kelwin's "marriages" give him greater and greater influence in the game, he begins to understand the patterns that support and maintain the society he has come to love. Highly recommended.

A new Marian Zimmer Bradley (MZB) book is always received gratefully by her devoted fans, and **Gravelight** (\$24.95 cl, 0-312-86503-1) should be no exception. A companion novel to **Witchlight** (\$13.95 tp, 0-312-85831-0, St. Martins) and **Ghostlight** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-85881-7), this third in MZB's contemporary fantasy series will be as sought after as all other MZB titles. Sinah Dellon's search to uncover the mysteries

of her own past lead her to her own psychic powers, conflicts with parapsychology researchers, and a struggle to escape from evil paranormal forces.

Molly Gloss, who won the 1996 Whiting Writer's Award, recently published the wonderful **The Dazzle of Day** (\$21.95, cl, 0-312-86336-5). The book is broadly staged in the not-too-far future, when Earth's environmental problems seem not-solvable. A group of Quakers have constructed a balanced ecosystem in a torus-shaped vessel, and plan to travel to another world to begin anew. The mass of the book takes place toward the end of the first leg of their journey, when they have encountered a human-habitable planet. Gloss leads us into the complex lives of a number of related people as they struggle to make their lives and their choices meaningful. A Quaker sensibility informs the entire novel, and just as decisions are arrived at by a process of statements and pauses for reflection, so too is this novel paced. Utterly realistic in its portrayal of how humans interact and live, this book was a very great pleasure to read.

In Nancy Kress' **Maximum Light** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-86535-X) the future of the human species is once again at stake. Kress looks at two current scientific issues: the decline in human sperm, possibly caused by the complex of chemicals and synthetic hormones which humans produce in such overabundance, and the fear people have of genetic manipulation and cloning. Kress extrapolates from these trends to arrive in a surprising but frighteningly possible future: one in which 80% of the world is sterile. Far from overpopulation being a problem, people are doing almost anything to get a baby in a world with severe legal restrictions. Intense regulation has prevented research on human cloning. Kress has woven a mystery, which brings together the lives of an older male scientist, a young female troublemaker, and a young gay male dancer. No one of these people has the answers, but as they work together to solve the mysteries of their own lives, they begin to arrive at answers that may relate to the larger problem facing the world — the possible extinction of the human race.

Kress has once again told a fascinating story with marvelous scientific and human observation.

The new Tanith Lee novel, **Red Unicorn** (\$20.95 cl, 0-312-86265-2), is the third in a young adult SF trilogy. Tanaquil, daughter of a sorceress, this time visits an alternate universe where she must struggle with her own double. Tanith Lee's sensual dark writing has made her very popular among both adults and youth.

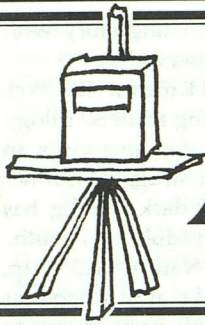
Stephanie A. Smith's **Other Nature** (\$13.95 tp, 0-312-86352-7) looks at a not-too-far future, where people have chosen to make what community they can here on earth. Initially the reader is drawn into a world that seems almost whole and slowly realizes how much has changed and disintegrated. The frightening truths of what has happened with the environment and human society are slowly revealed, often in poignant flashes such as the normalcy of one character's near-illiteracy. As we understand more and more of what has happened to the world, the effects on the children come into greater and greater focus. And eventually we realize that this novel is not about the past, and what has happened to humans, but the future, and what is happening. As with much of the best SF, here are lots of interesting ideas about all kinds of things: community, violence, what makes us human, how people live. And for those of



us interested in the possibilities of human sexual arrangements, Smith's characters also explore polyamory and lesbian relationships. Smith's writing is dreamlike, almost hallucinatory, and **Other Nature** is an unforgettable book.

Patricia Wrede has also released a sequel for young adults, **The Magician's Ward** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-85369-6). In a Regency England setting, a young woman works with magic and deals with high society.

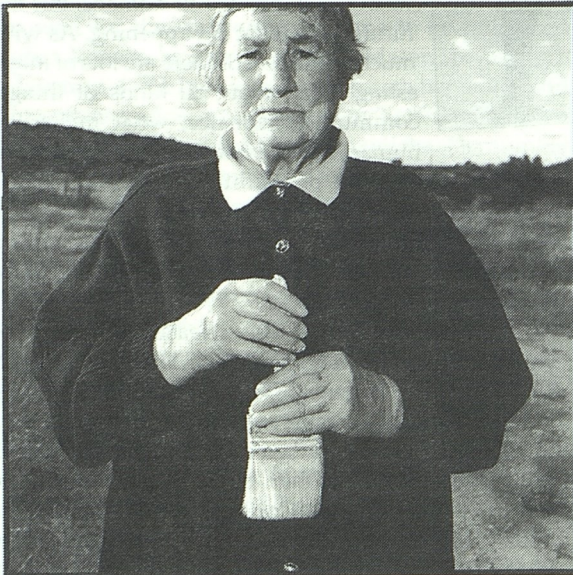
Chelsea Quinn Yarbro's **Writ in Blood** (\$26.95 cl, 0-312-86318-7) is her latest novel about the centuries-old vampire Count Saint-Germain. This book places Saint Germain in Europe on the brink of World War I. A strong historical novel with a twist, Yarbro's tale will be popular with the booming cadre of vampire fans. ○



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

Living Color: A Writer Paints Her World by Natalie Goldberg shines with the same kind of clarity exhibited in her books on writing, *Wild Mind* and *Writing Down the Bones*. She writes, "I was delighted one day to paint an adobe house blue. Stepping through the belief that I must paint mud brown, I experienced an explosion of energy and freedom. It was as though that blue paint were a sword slashing through illusion, bringing me into direct connection with the house's essence. Objects began to dance unhinged from their proper pigment." She writes of her own art journey, of her response to other artists, and what she learns of how they work. Perhaps the



Photograph by Mary Ellen Mark, in *Portraits* (Smithsonian Institution Press)

most important quality of this book is the freedom she gives through her words and through the examples, offering permission to each person to find the artist in herself. \$16.95 pb, 0-553-35489-2, Bantam.

In **Cold Starry Night: An Alaska Memoir** by Claire Fejes, the artist writes, "Never in my dreams had I wanted to go to Alaska.... My burning desire was to be an artist. I had longed to share a studio loft in downtown Manhattan." In 1946 Fejes went to Alaska to join her husband and stayed to become one of Alaska's most well-known artists. **Cold Starry Night**, the candidly told story of her first few years, includes delightful line drawings and rich word pictures of people she encountered. \$19.95 pb, 0-945397-55-0, Epicenter Press.

Nuns As Artists: The Visual Culture of a Medieval Convent by Jeffrey F. Hamburger is a scholarly and fascinating study of devotional imagery produced in Germany around 1500. The pictures, reproduced in black and white and in color, are intricately constructed and well served by the text. \$55 cl, 0-520-20386-0, University of California Press.

The Story of Rose O'Neill: An Autobiography, edited by Miriam Formanek-Brunell, presents the life of a woman (1874-1944) who became wealthy initially through her illustrations, then through the creation and marketing of the immensely popular Kewpie dolls. She exhibited in galleries and published four novels and one book of poetry. O'Neill's voice draws the reader into her story and charms her in much the same way she must have charmed her contemporaries. \$24.95 cl, 0-8262-1106-2, University of Missouri Press.

A descriptive subtitle for Cindy Sherman's self-portraits might be "recreating myself as someone I'm not." For the past twenty years she has photographed

See **Art Books**, page 100.

HUMOR

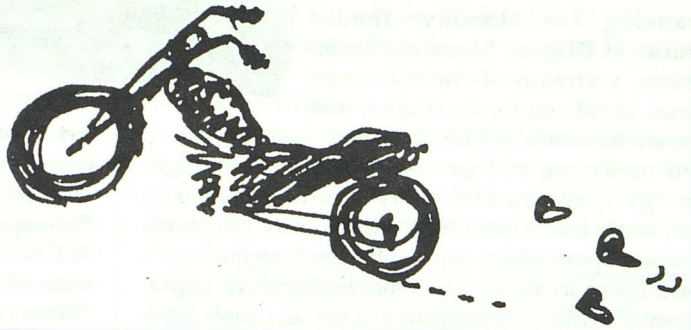
By Roz Warren
Laugh Lines Press

These are good times to be a women's humor fan. There's a wealth of great new books and recordings, with more in the pipeline.

Honey, Hush! An Anthology of African American Women's Humor is a gloriously comprehensive and deliciously subversive collection of wit and wisdom, poetry and prose, cartoons and jokes, song lyrics and comedy routine excerpts, all selected for and presented to the reader by editor Daryl Cumber Dance (*Shuckin' and Jivin'*), who truly knows her stuff (and who herself happens to be a good, funny writer). Included in this 680-page treasure are Alice Walker, Moms Mabley, Whoopi Goldberg, Audre Lorde, Rita Dove, Maya Angelou, Zora Neale Hurston, Barbara Brandon, and many others. There are 287 selections in all, covering 200 years of material. Each section (the material is arranged topically) is illuminated by a readable and well-informed introduction, and there's a terrific foreword by Nikki Giovanni. As a (former) women's humor anthologizer myself, I am awed (and thrilled and moved and delighted) by what Dance has accomplished with this book. You will be too. \$30 cl, 0-393-04557-9, Norton.

Women Out of Line collects the work of 15 talented women cartoonists currently working in the U.K. An oversized book with a full-color cover and glossy pages, **W.O.O.L.** includes a selection of material by, and a brief autobiographical statement from,

I WENT ON A BIKE RIDE TO SEE SOME FRIENDS IN ARIZONA. I WANTED TO SEE WHAT TRUE LOVE LOOKED LIKE + WHY EVERYONE ELSE WAS SO HAPPY all THE TIME.



From *Lap Dancing for Mommy* by Erica Lopez (Seal Press)

each artist. The focus is primarily on story-telling (i.e., a multi-page format rather than single panel or four panel) and the material ranges from bleak to hilarious. Highlights include Annie Lawson's "The Xylophone" — a hilarious and bawdy send-up of the movie *The Piano* in which a xylophone stands in for the piano, and a stuffed bear named Sooty stands in for Harvey Keitel; Kate Charlesworth's advice-mongering "Agony Dyke;" and Grizelda Grizlingham's "The Story of Doris Gray and Her Sanitary Towel Shop" — the heartening saga of a young woman who turns her obsession with sanitary napkins into a thriving financial empire. **Women Out of Line** is a must for anybody who loves women's comics or is at all curious about what creative women across the pond are up to. \$16.95 pb, 0-86166-128-1. Carol Bennett, 10 Acklam Road, London W10 5QZ. Distributed in the U.S. by Last Gasp; 415-824-6636.

Roz Chast's new book, **Childproof: Cartoons About Parents and Children** collects delightfully acerbic, reality-based cartoons that do not sugar-coat the parenting experience. Highlights include an album of "Blues for Babies" with tunes like "Why Can't I Stand?" and "Sick of All My Toys," as well as an advertisement for a realistic "family-style" restaurant whose menu includes "All You Can Throw At Your Sister or Brother" and "All You Can Order and Then Not Take One Single Bite Of." \$15.95, 0-7868-6244-0, Hyperion.

Light years away from Chast but just as clever is Erica Lopez' **Lap Dancing For Mommy: Tender Stories of Disgust, Blame and Inspiration**, a stream-of-consciousness series of riffs on topics ranging from lesbian literature and home-made menstrual pads to bad mothering and gay porn, all told with high-energy graphics and witty bits of prose, and frequently interrupted by a wide variety of cartoon penises. I particularly enjoyed the blurb on the book's back cover in which "a Catherine Deuveve impersonator" writes "I think your title makes people think I'm a sexy French lesbian, so I will have to sue you." \$14 pb, 1-878067-96-6, Seal Press.

In another great development for laughter-loving women, Uproar Entertainment has begun recording live shows by popular lesbian and gay comedians and making them available on compact disc. **Marga Gomez: Hung Like A Fly** showcases the work of this wise and funny Latina lesbian, whose politically astute comedy specializes in mocking people and political groups who take themselves too seriously. (Her bit about "The Serious People's Collective" will have you howling.) Topics covered include gay pride marches, the politics of pockets, and flying with a woman pilot. \$15.95, 06442-3776-2.

Suzanne Westenhofer: Nothing In My Closet But My Clothes presents the enjoyable, light-hearted wit of a gorgeous lesbian famous for being the first lesbian comic to hone her act in straight comedy clubs, and includes material about lesbians on televi-

sion, lesbians who don't carry purses, lesbians who squash bugs, heckling the 700 Club, and more. \$15.95, 06442-3772-2.

Finally, **Margaret Cho: Drunk With Power** brings us the kind of humor by the star of the now-defunct sitcom "All American Girl" that you'd never find on network television. Free-wheeling and vulgar, the show includes blow-job jokes, butt jokes, ball jokes, bowel-movement jokes, fat jokes, vagina-washing jokes, and jokes about uncircumsized weenies, as well as more thoughtful material about racism. Not for the easily offended. \$15.95, 06442-3770-2.

Uproar Entertainment, 3663 Twin Lake Ridge, Westlake Village CA 91361; 818-889-3757. Available from Goldenrod and Ladyslipper. ○



Art, continued from page 98.

herself in a variety of guises and styles. Images from this period are gathered in **Cindy Sherman: Retrospective** with essays by Amanda Cruz, Elizabeth A.T. Smith, and Amelia Jones. The book ends with a series of still lifes she created in answer to the question, "What could I possibly do when I want to stop using myself and don't want 'other people' in the photo?" The book is a collection of odd, bizarre, wonderfully creative images. \$34.95 pb, 0-500-27987-X, Thames and Hudson. Distributed by W.W. Norton.



Women in Italian Renaissance Art: Gender, Representation, Identity by Paola Tinagli, although highly intellectual, is very inviting. It includes portraits, nudes, and a section on the work of painter Sofonisba Anguissola. \$19.95 pb, 0-7190-4054-X; \$59.95 cl, -4053-1, St. Martin's Press.

I haven't yet seen a copy, but read recently that **Portraits**, photographs by Mary Ellen Mark, text by Mary Panzer, is now available. Mark is one of our best known senior photojournalists and her work is always complex and compelling. \$24.95 cl, 156098720-0, Smithsonian Institution Press; 800-782-4612. ○

FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Jenn Tust

Editor's Note: This is a between-seasons issue so this column, normally one of the highlights of FBN, lists only a few titles. Our Spring Announcements Issue will feature all the Winter/Spring books from the feminist presses.

GIRL PRESS

Cool Women is the ultimate book of role models for girls, with femme fatales, heroines, and troublemakers from all walks. Think Amelia Earhart, Mary Richards, and Cleopatra all in one place and you've got the right idea. Breezy writing and high design make it all fun and accessible. A girl reading **Cool Women** will come away thinking that Madame Curie was brilliant, sure, but also that Madame Curie *rocked*. One dollar from the sale of each copy is being donated to Girls Inc. \$19.95 cl, spiral-bound, 0-9659754-0-1, March.

40%. Girl Press, 8273 Clinton, Los Angeles CA 90048; 213-651-0880, email (girls@girlpress.com), Web (www.girlpress.com). Distributed by LPC Group.

—Girl Press

LAUGH LINES PRESS

Pacifists in Bomber Jackets: Cartoons by Isabella Bannerman offers funny, feminist single-panel cartoons about contemporary life by popular cartoonist Isabella Bannerman, whose work has appeared everywhere from *Ms.* to *The Funny Times* to *The New York Times*. Bannerman, editor of the feminist comic book anthology series *Girl Talk*, is especially good at portraying the ups and downs of the contemporary career woman, as well as mocking cell phones, rollerblades, videocams, the Internet, and the people who love them. You'll enjoy her wry take on topics ranging from "Telephone Sex in New England" and "Evolution of a Backpack" to "The Nihilist Deli," as

well as the invaluable "How to Tell if There Are Too Many Coffee Shops In Your Neighborhood." Isabella Bannerman spots the absurdities of urban life and turns them into wonderful cartoons that make you want to re-examine the difference between failure and success to see which is funnier. \$8.95 pb, 1-889594-04-0, March. Laugh Lines Press, PO Box 259, Bala Cynwyd PA 19004. Available from BP. —Laugh Lines Press

NAIAD PRESS

The Naiad Press celebrates its 25th anniversary as the oldest and largest lesbian publishing company by going online. Web site architect Linda Hill (*Never Say Never* and *Class Reunion*) has donated her skills to



PERHAPS SALLIE HAD MADE HER
BOOKSHOP TOO COMFORTABLE.

Cartoon by Isabella Bannerman, from *Pacifists in Bomber Jackets* (Laughlines Press)

making this possible for us. Beginning January 1, you can browse our entire catalog at (www.naiadpress.com).

We promise to do it well and to keep the site updated and to continually remind our customers where their stores are. Stores who have email should let us know and provide your store name and your email address on a 3x5 card.



In **Possessions**, the second Maris Middleton mystery, a sadistic serial killer is on the loose, and independent crime scene specialist Maris Middleton must follow the bloodstained trail into the dark recesses of the killer's mind — a journey that endangers her life and her dearest love. As in her bestselling debut novel, *Devil's Leg Crossing*, professional criminalist Kaye Davis draws on her 20 years of experience in evidence analysis and crime scene investigation for the tale's stark realism. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-192-9, February.

Author of the romantic bestsellers, *Old Ties* and *The Wish List*, Saxon Bennett is at the top of her form in the sweet, sexy novel, **A Question of Love**. The question seems to be, "Why settle for the run-of-the-mill romantic triangle when you can have a delicious rectangle?" Bennett takes dyke drama to new heights in this compelling tale of a beautiful, brainy grad student, her heartbroken best friend, her seductive professor, and the flamboyant tomboy sculptor who

rollerblades her way between them all. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-205-4, February.

Building on the success of *First Impressions*, *Second Fiddle*, and *Third Degree*, Kate Calloway scores again with the spellbinding **Fourth Down**, the fourth Cassidy James mystery. Under different circumstances, a week at a rustic lesbian retreat would undoubtedly bring much needed rest and tranquillity. But unless she can track down a ruthless killer, P.I. Cassidy James may be headed for another sort of peace and quiet — the kind that comes with a headstone! Also, be sure to prepare your mystery fans for more Cassidy James excitement in the soon-to-be-released *Fifth Wheel*. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-193-7, March.

A Moment's Indiscretion is the latest erotic romance from the pen of Peggy J. Herring, author of *Once More with Feeling*, *Love's Harvest*, and *Hot Check*. After a series of disastrous relationships, advertising executive Jackie Knovac vows never to let another woman close enough to hurt her. No one can break through Jackie's emotional barriers — not even handsome handywoman D.J., whose strong and capable hands could certainly fix a lot more than Jackie's faucets. But when a mysterious beauty walks into her office, Jackie's fears begin to vanish in the power of the woman's sensuous charm. Is Jackie opening herself to a world of hope and passion, or a nightmare of betrayal and shattered dreams? \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-194-5, March.

In Penny Hayes' captivating **City Lights**, **Country Candles**, a 102-year-old great-great

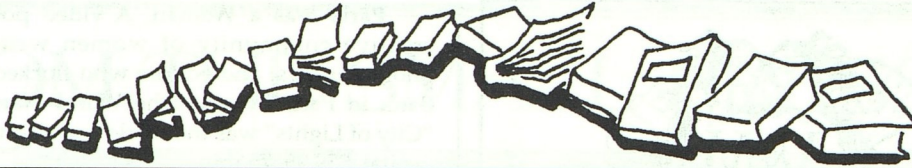
"[Teen Voices is] the magazine I was really waiting for." ♦Gloria Steinem

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grandmother remembers the extraordinary women she has loved in her lifetime. Women like Honora, the beautiful spouse of a distinguished army officer; Louisa, the faithful wife of a fundamentalist minister; Helena, the budding young artist from a prominent family; and Sam, the runaway farm girl who passed as a man. Penny Hayes is the beloved author of the historical romances *The Long Trail*, *Yellowthroat*, *Montana Feathers*, *Grassy Flats*, *Kathleen O'Donald*, and *Now and Then*. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-195-3, March.

Naiad books are available from the publisher and distributed by BP, Login/InBook, Ingram, et al. The Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973.
—Naiad Press

NAIAD VIDEO

Stonewall. Puts a 90s spin on a 60s story, but does it well. (\$19.95, 94 min.) Regular video discount. Order direct from Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 850-539-5965.
—Naiad Press

PRIDE PUBLICATIONS

The reasons in **1000 Reasons You Might Think She Is My Lover**, by Angela Costa, include: #1. We sleep/In the same bed/Naked; #8. My fingers/Drip/Honey; and #18. There is/No prince/This charming. This unconventional book of erotica offers spicy little retorts that can get any lover excited. Gift-book size. \$10.95 pb, 1-886383-21-9. 50%. Pride Publications, PO Box 148, Radnor OH 46033. Distributed by BP, Sfilone/Bulldog (Australia).
—JT



THIRD WOMAN PRESS

Máscaras edited by Lucha Corpi. This collection of essays, many previously unpublished, by such major Latina writers as Julia Alvarez, Ana Castillo, Sandra Cisneros, Helena María Viramontes, Cherríe Moraga as well as other lesser-known, yet influential contemporary writers, brings together the most

talented Latina writers working in the United States today. Each contributor offers insights into the ways that life and craft are entwined. Can one write great works in the English language even if Spanish is the mother tongue? Can a writer hone her craft both in English and Spanish? What does it mean to be a self-taught writer? Honestly and openly, these writers discuss the historical, linguistic, political, economic, and cultural realities that have shaped them as women and as writers of color in the United States. \$16.95 pb, 0-943219-14-0. 40% for 5+. Third Woman Press, PO Box 11187, Berkeley CA 94712; 510-525-7935, fax 510-525-8236. Distributed by Login/Women-source and available from BP and SPD.

—Third Woman Press

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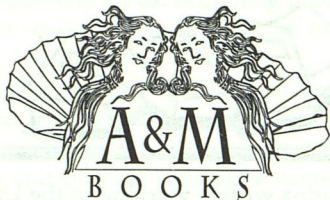
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WOLFE VIDEO

Goodbye Emma Jo. Lush. Sensual. Intriguing. This is an unabashed story of erotic love and passion. Alex is mourning the loss of her beautiful Emma Jo on what would have been their anniversary. She has never felt more angry and alone; her day only gets worse when her car breaks down. Stranded, she is rescued by Haley, a gorgeous local, who offers her a place to spend the night. "Come on, I'm not going to bite," promises Haley, yet Alex is wary. These two absolutely stunning women turn a disastrous chain of events into a series of heightened sexual interludes, and it's more than a pleasure to watch them unfold. \$29.95, 40 min.

Paris Was a Woman. A video portrait of the creative community of women writers, artists, photographers, and editors who flocked to the Left Bank in Paris between the World Wars, when the "City of Lights" was the world's undisputed cultural capital. \$59.95, 75 min.

Coming down to sell through in January and February: **Bastard Out of Carolina.** America's most talked about film based on the book by noted lesbian author, Dorothy Allison. A powerful and moving story of one woman's passionate resolve — unforgettably affecting. 101 min.

Edith Ann Doll. The Edith Ann doll is based on the character by Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner. A kid on the cutting edge of childhood, she's a spirited little girl tackling the challenges of childhood in the 90s. Now the star of her own animated television show, Edith Ann tells it like it is. And that's the truth! Eleven inches tall. \$29.95.

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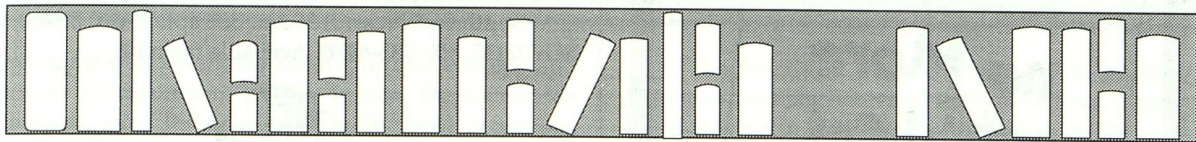


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A literary celebration of twenty years of feminist Jewish education in San Diego, **The Shabbat Series: Excellence in Education for Jewish Women** is a thought-provoking and engaging collection of essays by leading women scholars across the country who have participated in the Women's Institute for Continuing Jewish Education. Each contributor effectively turns traditional masculine interpretations of the Bible and women's place in Jewish history upside down, compelling us to reconceptualize women from Eve to our own mothers — and, inevitably, ourselves. By turns academic, soul searching, and humorous, **The Shabbat Series** offers readers a refreshing view of Jewish women as we head into the next millennium. \$12.95 pb, 1-889454-50-8. 40%. Woman's Institute for Continuing Jewish Education, 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla CA 92037; 619-442-2666.

—*Woman's Institute for Continuing Jewish Education* ○

FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Jenn Tust

Letters to a Young Feminist by Phyllis Chesler is a call-to-action from a leading revolutionary of feminism's Second Wave to the generation of feminists — women and men — emerging today. Chesler weaves her personal experience with the history of the movement to assess the accomplishments and failures of her era as she exhorts the next generation to take on what remains to be done. She discusses the basic tenets of feminism, explains feminism's relevance to a generation that is in danger of taking it for granted, and steers this generation toward reclaiming feminism for itself. Chesler also examines sisterhood, sex, gender issues in education, families and motherhood, courage, resistance to the status quo, feminist heroism, work, and the economics of power. \$18 cl, 1-56858-093-2, Four Walls Eight Windows.

Burma's pro-democracy leader, Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, lived under house arrest for six years. In **The Voice of Hope**, cowritten with Alan Clements, she converses for the first time since her release about her life as a Buddhist, the use of non-violence and civil disobedience in pursuit of democracy, women's rights, truth and reconciliation, and offers the global community an impassioned call to action. Aung San Suu Kyi continues to struggle for democracy and to speak defiantly: "Nothing has changed since my release.... Let the world know that we are still prisoners in our own country." First English-language edition. \$24.95 cl, 1-888363-50-9. 30% for 5-19; 40% for 20+. Seven Stories Press, 632 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York NY 10012; 212-995-0908,

fax 212-995-0720, email (sevenstories@earthlink.net). Distributed by PGW in the U.S., Hushion House in Canada, and Turnaround by U.K. Also available from Ingram and B&T.

Dragon Ladies: Asian American Feminists Breathe Fire showcases the growing politicization of Asian American women and this emerging feminist movement. Prominent writers, artists, and activists draw on a wealth of personal experience and political analysis to address issues of immigration, work, health, domestic violence, sexuality, and the media. They use the power of their unique political perspectives and cultural backgrounds to transform the landscape of race, class, and gender in the United States. Edited by Sonia Shah, preface by Yuri Kochiyama, foreword by Karin Aguilar-San Juan. \$17 pb, 0-89608-575-9.

In **Glass Ceilings and Bottomless Pits: Women's Work, Women's Poverty** Randy Albelda and Chris Tilly combine charts, graphs, and statistics



Illustration from *Where Women Have No Doctor* (Hesperian Foundation)

FINALLY...

HENRY AND ZENO

no More
Whiskers
in the
sink

An all-encompassing
humorous and practical
guide for divorced and
single women living
without a man.

PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR
WITHOUT A MAN

"Who needs to live in a three-ring
circus? After all, you got rid of the clown."

Granville-Moore Publications
Distributed by Bookpeople and Ingram
ISBN 0-9658752-0-2 \$13.95 soft cover

with analysis of our economic system and offer an agenda to reduce poverty in America. "This extraordinarily lucid book demonstrates that women from all walks of life get the short end of the stick because of their gender. From welfare mothers to corporate executives, Albelda and Tilly show how and why the powers-that-be benefit from scapegoating and marginalizing women." —Professor Mimi Abramovitz (*Regulating the Lives of Women*). \$18 pb, 089608-565-1.

Thinking Class: Sketches from a Cultural Worker by Joanna Kadi provides a personal and analytical look at how oppression by class intersects with oppression by race, gender, and sexuality. Examining the elite's supposed hegemony over intellectual work, **Thinking Class** rejects the idea that working

people are not thinkers, and affirms the culture that springs up, beautiful and honest, from this society's true base. Kadi explores subjects ranging from country music to cultural appropriation, from working-class ideals to Disney icons. \$14 pb, 0-89608-547-3.

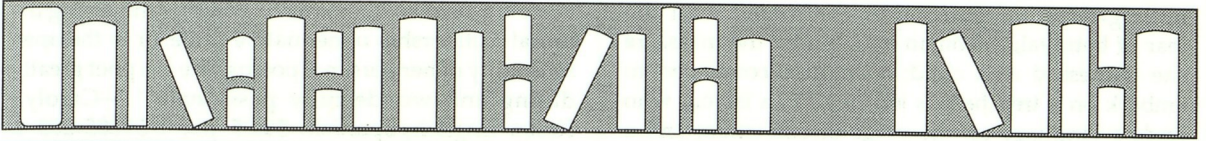
South End Press, 116 Saint Botolph Street, Boston MA 02115; 800-533-8478. Available from BP.



In **Almost Americans: A Quest for Dignity** Patricia Justiniani McReynolds, born of a Filipino father and a Norwegian mother, tells her story of growing up in California when racism was institutionalized into the miscegenation laws that denied the legitimacy of both her parents' marriage and her own birth. Furthermore, because the Philippines was a colony of the United States, it was not possible for her father to obtain citizenship despite his long residency. "In the panorama of today's ethnic America, **Almost Americans** emerges as an ever-evolving tale of the multicultural family's quest for home and belonging. Seen through the eyes of the author, America becomes not so much a landscape as a yearned-for ideal.... An important book in an age where the face of America is constantly shifting, developing, and most poignantly, blending." —*The Filipino Express*. \$16.95 pb, 1-878610-64-3. Red Crane Books, 2008 Rosina, Suite B, Santa Fe NM 87505; 505-988-7070, 800-922-3392. Distributed by Consortium.

Elizabeth Cox' novel **Night Talk** addresses issues of friendship and race. Evie is white and Janey Louise is Black and, in the Deep South of the fifties, they should never have become friends, but absent fathers and circles of love and dependence between their mothers create a powerful bond between the girls. Segregation, rape, riots, and family tragedy can't alter their affection, although the inevitable strains of racial injustice, and intolerance routinely cast shadows onto their relationship. \$23.95 cl, 1-55597-267-5.

In **Raised in Captivity: Why Does America Fail Its Children?** Lucia Hodgson challenges commonly held misconceptions that, all too often, turn American children into victims and scapegoats and urges readers to remove the blinders that have allowed adults to evade truly progressive reform. Hodgson uses



recognizable examples from popular culture and major media cases — Baby Jessica, the Menendez bothers, Amy Fisher — to make the book accessible, while also pointing out how universally accepted these destructive myths are. \$23.95 cl, 1-55597-261-6.

The poems in Fanny Howe's **One Crossed Out** address the realities of life for one homeless woman by painting a portrait of May — the girl crossed out, the bad girl, the mad and drunk girl, the jailed and drugged girl. Howe's May both is and is not a source of wisdom — political, spiritual, or otherwise. Nor is she merely broken, nor merely admirable. These poems offer a glimpse of the invisible. \$12.95 pb, 1-55597-259-4.

Graywolf Press, 2402 University Avenue #203, St. Paul MN 55114; 612-641-0077. Distributed by Consortium.

In Karen Tei Yamashita's novel, **Tropic of Orange**, the homeless, gangsters, entrepreneurs, and the Hollywood rich collide on a patch of L.A. highway. The author combines magical realism, noir, hip hop, and Chicanismo to present a cataclysmic — and surreal — series of events. "**Tropic of Orange** is an apocalypse of race, class, and culture, fanned by the media under the harsh L.A. sun." \$14.95 pb, 1-56689-064-0. Coffee House Press, 27 N. Fourth St. #400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125. Distributed by Consortium.

"**Below the Line** is a page-turner, a rich and satisfying collection of stories. The language is lean and elegant, the humor sly, the characters poignant, quirky, and all-too-human, moving with jet-set ease from East to West, and back again. A realistic and fascinating depiction of the unglamorous, penny-pinching world of independent movie-making provides a unique and often hilarious backdrop to most of these delightful stories. Sara Chin is a smart, welcome new voice in contemporary fiction." —Jessica Hagedorn. \$9.95 pb, 0-87286-331-X. City Lights Books, 261 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco CA 94133; 415-362-1901. Available from BP and Koen.

The stories in **Fragile Night** by Stella Pope Duarte explore the heart and mind of *La Raza*, capturing characters in life-changing decisions. In "What *La Llorona* Knew" a mother shares a tragic secret with her daughter that brings them closer together. In "Once For Pepito" a mother confronts her grief and anger while she searches for a way to fulfill her dying son's final wish. And, in "Pablo the Penitent," a philandering husband takes up residence in the town dump as penance for his sins. These stories move between humor, lyricism, and tragedy as the characters emerge stronger from the challenges and risks of life. \$13 pb, 0-927534-71-1. Bilingual Review/Press, Hispanic Research Center, Arizona State University, PO Box 872702, Tempe AZ 85287; 602-965-3867. Available from BP.



In **Midnight Sandwiches at the Mariposa Express** Beatriz Rivera tells the story of Trish Izquierdo, a young, upwardly-mobile Latina living on the edge of reality in a less-than-likely town. "Despite serious underpinnings, [**Midnight Sandwiches at the Mariposa Express**] grows expansively funny, even quite daft.... A large cast of endearingly self-absorbed characters struggle along in Rivera's sure-handed comedy as private fantasy, public aspiration and hard reality collide." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$11.95 pb, 1-55885-216-6, Arte Público Press.

Focusing on the persistence of personal memory amid social upheaval, the powerful tales in **The Eighth Continent and Other Stories** by Alba Ambert forge an exquisite mosaic that illuminates the fusion of intimate and public drama. In rich, evocative language Ambert depicts the cool detachment of modern life, the impact of the broad political and historical events on individual lives, the thrill of success in the face of low expectations, and the humor that redeems everyday struggles. These stories are populated with strong and unforgettable characters:

underground revolutionaries confronted with the fear of betrayal; a woman haunted by the massacre she witnessed as a child; a linguist, compelled to embark on a treacherous journey to an island, who finds a language on the verge of extinction; and a young woman, confined in a mental hospital, who challenges our perceptions of truth and insanity. \$11.95 pb, 1-55885-217-4, Piñata Books.

The terror and beauty that color *Death to Silence/Muerte al silencio*, a collection of powerfully spare and evocative poetry, bear witness to the disquieting circumstances that inspired the poet, who fled Chile when the military junta led by Augusto Pinochet came to power in 1973. "Emma Spúlveda-Pulvirenti's

voice is ardent and passionate, whether mourning the brutal dictatorship of her native Chile, or in the open sensuality of her personal poems. She is a poet greatly daring and wonderfully passionate." —Carolyn Kizer. English/Spanish. \$8.95 pb, 1-55885-203-4. Piñata Books.

Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 713-743-2841. Available from BP.

E. Luminata, by prize-winning Chilean writer Diamela Eltit, is a novel told in prose, vignette, and poetry. Eltit was a participant, with other artists and writers of the time, in collective actions against the military government during the Pinochet regime. "Writing with an impressive language of transformations, Diamela Eltit draws the map of a fascinating, ambiguous, and for some, terrifying territory that is true femininity." —Luisa Valenzuela. Translated by Ronald Christ, et al. \$15 pb, 0-930829-40-9. Lumen, Inc., 40 Camino Cielo, Santa Fe NM 87501; 505-988-9236. Distributed by Consortium.

Sor Juana's Love Poems: Poemas de Amor by 17th-century nun Sor Juana Inez de la Cruz, translated by Joan Larkin (author of *Housework, Cold River* and co-editor of *Gay & Lesbian Poetry in Our Time*) and Jamie Manrique (*Twilight at the Equator, Latin Moon in Manhattan*), presents a sampling of de la Cruz' poems, some clearly addressed to women, culled from her extensive body of poetry. Some of the poems are rooted in Renaissance courtly conventions; others are startlingly ahead of their time, seemingly modern in the naked power of the complex sexual feelings they address. English and Spanish side-by-side in this collection. \$12 pb, 0-9651558-6-2. Painted Leaf Press, PO Box 2480, Times Square Station, New York NY 10108; phone/fax 212-594-4940. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

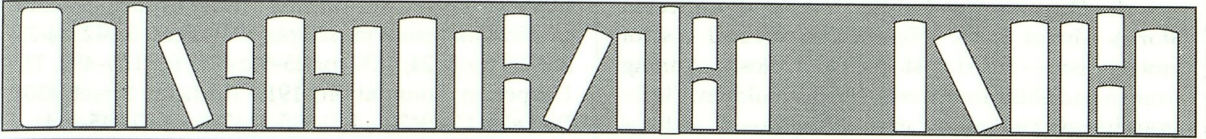
Hot Ticket edited by Linnea Due (*Joining the Tribe: Growing Up Gay and Lesbian in the '90s and Dagger: On Butch Women*) collects sensual writings from storytellers including Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Barbara Wilson, Linda Smukler, Jane Futcher, and Jess Wells. These tales, told from trains, other countries, and the Internet, take readers to both foreign and familiar locales as they tease, torment, and break boundaries. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-379-9. Alyson



"Murawina is the real thing... 34 Aboriginal women from both deeply traditional and urban communities tell of their experiences combatting racism, sexism, poverty and loss... The women's life stories, told in their own words, fascinate, move and inspire." —Feminist Bookstore News, Feb '97

SMITH & TAYLOR

ph/fax 408-462-5548 Smitaylor@aol.com ISBN 0-9652539-0-2
\$18.95 paper Order: Bookpeople/Moving Books/publisher



Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 800-464-4574. Distributed by Consortium.

In **The Lesbian Idol: Martina, k.d. and the Consumption of Lesbian Masculinity** Louise Allen suggests that in the relationship between these stars and their fans the masculine woman functions as a powerful signifier of lesbian identity and challenges the heterosexual notion of sex as determining gender. Furthermore, the way Martina and k.d. embody an ongoing and lived-out lesbian identity makes their representation in the mainstream media an unprecedented phenomenon that undercuts the primacy of heterosexual gender relations. This, Allen explains, contrasts with the recent media popularization of lesbian chic, which she views as a homophobic assimilation of lesbians under the visual codes of conventional femininity. \$18.95 pb, 0-304-33819-2, Cassell. Order from Books International, PO Box 605, Herndon VA 20172; 800-561-7704, 703-661-1589, fax 703-661-1501. Also available from BP.

The Art of Meeting Women: A Guide for Gay Women by Rhona Sacks, subtitled "How to Meet the Women You Want to Meet," covers topics from social insecurity and self-esteem to where the women are, making contact, and creating happy relationships. It offers techniques for "being your best self," which will aid women going out to meet, greet, and bond with other lesbians. \$14.95 pb, 0-9660698-0-3, February. 40% for 5+. Free ground shipping with prepayment. Slope Books, Van Brunt Station, PO Box 150636, Brooklyn NY 11215; 888-GAYWOMAN, fax 888-355-8872.

From Dorothy Porter, one of Australia's most innovative writers, comes **The Monkey's Mask**, an erotic lesbian mystery novel written in verse, which dives headfirst into murder, manipulation, and the consuming power of sex. P.I. Jill Fitzpatrick didn't know that the poetry scene could be so sleazy, or that

words could open up your legs one minute and open up your grave the next. Neither did the girl she was hired to find — Mickey loved poetry, read it everyday, and was just nineteen when life was strangled out of her. This novel is charged with wit and sauciness, is rocked by rhythm, and resonates with strength and emotion. \$14.99 pb, 1-85242-549-0.

In **Bodies of Work** Kathy Acker maps a wide-ranging cultural territory from art and cinema, through politics and bodybuilding to science fiction and the city. Here, Acker brings scholarly and provocative insights to issues and figures including Richard Prince, Kiki Smith, Nayland Blake, the Marquis de Sade, and Hannah Arendt. \$16 pb, 1-85242-425-7.

Lynn Tillman's essays in **The Broad Picture** run the gamut from feline psychology to sex and death, from issues of race and fascism to contemporary literature and art. Whatever fascinates and horrifies Tillman pops up at odd moments in different guises. \$16 pb, 1-85242-440-0.

Serpent's Tail, 1489 Lincoln Avenue, St. Paul MN 55105; 612-690-0907. Distributed by Consortium.



Lily James' short fiction in **The Great Taste of Straight People** offers intellect, humor, and a fast-paced style that will satisfy both women and men, even those who travel at Internet speed. Her characters are true believers, obsessed with the desire to organize relationships, behaviors, and entire lives around earnestly illogical systems. In the same way that the Internet presents constantly shifting world views and varying identities, James' plots move through playful shifts of scene as the futuristic and feisty characters furrow their brows and bravely attempt to explain it all. \$8.95 pb, 1-57366-034-5. FC2/Black Ice Books, Unit for Contemporary Literature, Campus Box 4241, Illinois State University, Normal IL 61790. Distributed by Northwestern University Press.

In Open to the Public: New and Collected Stories Muriel Spark offers an unexpected cast of protagonists — faded aristocrats and ghosts, cleaning women and blithe murderers, sinister children, a lecherous hanging judge, and even a dragon — in settings that swing from England to the West End, from post-war Africa to the French countryside. Spark reorders reality in odd ways; one can never guess at the beginning of her tales their end. \$24.95 cl, 0-8112-1367-6. New Directions, 80 Eighth Avenue, New York NY 10011. Available from BP.

Elaine Crowley's memoir, **A Dublin Girl: Growing Up in the 1930's**, traces her life as the eldest of three children living in a one-room tenement that shared a bathroom on a landing with the neighbors. Her father's pet, Elaine recalls the crowded streets where the children played, the market, and her mother's visits to the local money lender, as well as infidelity, domestic violence, and learning to cope with her beloved father's actions. At 14 Elaine gets her first job, her father succumbs to TB, and her mother realizes her dreams of being "on the pig's back" (out of debt with money to spare) and having a house of her own. \$22 cl, 1-56947-112-6. Soho Press, 853 Broadway, New York NY 10003; 800-631-8571. Available from BP, B&T, Ingram, Bookazine, Bookman, Booksources.



Where Women Have No Doctor: A Health Guide for Women, by A. August Burns, Ronnier Lovich, Jane Maxwell, and Katharine Shaprio, shows how a woman's health status is affected by the social, cultural and economic conditions in which she lives, and provides easy-to-follow guidelines to diagnose and treat many health problems that affect women. Written in collaboration with community-based women's groups and health workers in 30 countries, and illustrated by women artists from all over the world, the contents of **Where Women Have No Doctor** have been extensively field tested and reviewed in Asia, the Pacific Islands, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. This guide utilizes simple language to make complicated medical information understandable, even to readers with low

literacy skills, and includes in-depth and practical medical information. \$20 pb, 594 pages, 0-942364-25-2. 40% for 5-24; 42% for 25-99; 44% for 100-499. The Hesperian Foundation, 1919 Addison Street #304, Berkeley CA 94704; 510-845-1447, fax 510-845-9141.

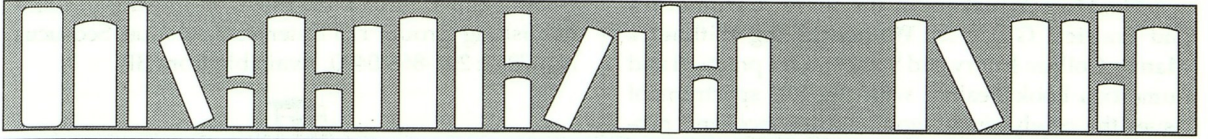


When Violence Begins at Home: A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding and Ending Domestic Abuse by K.J. Wilson, Ed.D. is a practical guide which addresses the needs of multiple audiences including battered women from various backgrounds, teenaged victims of dating violence, educators, community leaders, and even the batterers themselves. Special chapters clarify the responsibilities — and limitations — of friends and family, shelter employees, health care providers, law enforcement officers, employers, and clergy. Includes a comprehensive listing of local and national resources. "This book will be the bible for domestic violence advocates for years to come." —Del Martin, in her foreword. \$19.95 pb, 0-89793-227-7; \$29.95 cl, -228-5. Hunter House Publishers, PO Box 2914, Alameda CA 94501; 510-865-5282, fax 510-865-4295. Distributed by PGW.

Pathways to Peace: Forty Steps to a Less Violent America by Victor Lacerva gives steps for individuals to prevent violence in their families and communities. The information in **Pathways to Peace** ranges from strategies communities can use to reduce teen violence to how parents can reduce the chances that their children will be victims of violence. The book also covers the entire range of family and community violence. Readers will feel empowered by this book — especially useful for teachers, civic leaders, health care providers, and leaders of the faith community. One person can make a difference in reducing violence, and this book shows where to start. 20%. \$15, 0-9649104-0-3. HeartSongs Publishing, Box 568, Tesuque NM 87574; 800-322-4233.

—Dorothy Holland

In Rosie's Place: Offering Women Shelter and Hope, Andrea Cleghorn provides an inside look at Rosie's Place and the women whose lives have been



changed by it. Rosie's Place, the first drop-in center in Boston for women in need of emergency shelter, food, and clothing, opened in 1974. In the years since its founding, Rosie's Place has evolved from simply providing shelter to creating solutions for long-term independence. Programs help women fight hunger, get education and jobs, secure housing, and gain success in medical and legal services. No government funding is accepted, but Rosie's Place has garnered the support of national celebrities Lily Tomlin, Rosie O'Donnell, and Liza Minnelli. \$23.95 cl, 0-9641089-9-2. VanderWyk & Burnham, PO Box 2789, 411 Massachusetts Ave., Acton MA 01720; 800-789-7916. Available from B&T and Ingram.

Katie's Canon: Womanism and the Soul of the Black Community collects essays written by Presbyterian minister Katie Geneva Cannon for diverse occasions. Each essay offers a three-pronged, systemic analysis of race, sex, and class from the perspective of African American women in the academy of religion. "This is vintage Katie Cannon — challenging, prophetic, self-critical, and womanist to the bone." —Cornel West. Foreword by Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot. \$15.95 pb, 0-8264-1034-0. Continuum, 370 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017; 212-953-5858, fax 212-953-5944. Available from BP.

In **War Cries**, a collection of one- and two-act plays, Diane Glancy writes of the Native American experience with an intensity of language and feeling usually reserved for poetry. The plays offer both a scorching vision of contemporary Native American life and a powerful retelling of ancient myths. In Glancy's hands the disturbing realities of poverty, realism, and a fragmented social fabric are redeemed by a living connection with a sacred past. "**War Cries** is a continuous illustration of two things: That only through humble recognition and acceptance of one's split, torn, fragmented self can one overcome the sense of loss that characterizes our modern wasteland in general and the Native American's in

particular; and that survival starts from a patient stitching up of memories, dreams, [and] voices emerging out of both a personal and communal past." —Annamarie Pinazzi. \$16.95 pb, 0-930100-54-9. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by Consortium.



In **Buddhist Women on the Edge** a diverse range of contributors — Dharma teachers, scholars, monastics, practitioners, and sympathizers — describe their personal experiences and explore the challenges and rewards of integrating Buddhist practice into American life. Contributors, including Sandy Boucher, Pema Chodron, Jane Hirshfield, bell hooks, and Miranda Shaw, explore issues of gender, race, class, sexuality, lineage, authority, and the accessibility of Buddhist institutions as well as monastic, lay, and community practice; cross-cultural adaptation and appropriation; and how spiritual practice informs creativity, personal relationships, and political/social activism. \$16.95 pb, 1-55643-203-8. North Atlantic Books, PO Box 12327, Berkeley CA 94712; 510-559-8277, fax 510-559-8279. Distributed by PGW.

New Choices in Natural Healing For Women: Drug-Free Remedies from the World of Alternative Medicine by the editors of *Prevention* magazine is a guide to alternative medicines geared toward women's health issues. Part one focuses on the 30 most reliable and practical alternative therapies, from acupuncture to yoga. Part two gives specific advice and tips on how to use the therapies for a variety of health concerns, with special emphasis on problems unique to women. This guide also features motivating true-life stories of women who have healed themselves naturally. \$29.95 cl, 0-87596-387-0. Rodale Books, 33 East Minor Street, Emmaus PA 18098. Distributed by St. Martin's.

No More Whiskers in the Sink: A Humorous and Practical Guide for Women Living Without a Man by Colleen Henry and Sue Zeno is a practical and humorous book dealing with the full spectrum of issues the newly single woman must face, and provides a blueprint for rebuilding your life. Topics explored include saying goodbye to married life, beginning a positive quest for self reliance, uncoupling and adjusting to your solo status, taking care of business — your home, yard, and auto — and changes in financial status and other monetary matters. The contents are better than the cover. \$13.95 pb, 0-9658752-0-2. Granville-Moore Publications, 2843 Hopyard Road #121, Pleasanton CA 94588; 510-484-2268, fax 510-461-9045. Available from BP.



In No Fat Chicks: How Big Business Profits by Making Women Hate Their Bodies — And How to Fight Back journalist Terry Poulton exposes the real reason so many women spend their lives chasing the mirage of a “perfect” body that only five percent of us can ever achieve: money. Poulton once became a women’s magazine cover story by losing 65 pounds in six months, only to regain all the weight. The experience sent her into hiding and led her to have her stomach stapled and, later, to embark on a liquid protein diet that destroyed her gall bladder. It finally ended in the realization, compellingly documented in this book, that her lifelong battle with fat — and with the crippling self-hatred that stayed with her even in her “thin” periods — was fostered by a \$50 billion industry devoted to the proposition that a woman is worthless unless she’s thin. Poulton traces the evolution of anti-fat ideology and the businesses that profit from it. She shows how the glorification of emaciation serves the beauty, fitness, fashion, diet, food, and even the health-care industries, and how the media’s vicious vilification of “fat chicks” guarantees that women will frantically keep spending money on products that promise escape from such stigma. Poulton also demonstrates how the cultural pressure to be thin can constrain a woman’s life — economically, sexually, psychologically, emotionally, and physically — whether she is fat or not. (Canadian edition of this book reviewed in *FBN* 19#5.) \$21.95 cl,

1-55972-423-4. Birch Lane Press, an imprint of Carol Publishing Group, 120 Enterprise Avenue, Secaucus NJ 07094; 201-866-0490. Available from BP.



Legend: The Arthurian Tarot written and illustrated by Anna-Marie Ferguson. This new 78-card deck comes with a beautiful layout sheet of the Celtic Cross spread, accompanied by a 304-page book. Based on the mythology of Arthurian Legend, the deck will appeal to *Mists of Avalon* fans, most Renaissance Festival-goers, and those who are inspired by Celtic Myth. Morgan le Fay, the Lady of the Lake, and Guinevere all figure heavily in the story. In years past, Llewellyn has had a tendency to feature artwork in many titles that resembles Barbie-on-a-broomstick, but this is steadily improving. On a 1 to 10 scale of women who resemble real life, this deck gets a 5. \$34.95, 1-56718-267-4.

Trancing the Witch’s Wheel: A Guide to Magical Meditation by Yasmine Galehorn. Never have liked the magic-with-a-K thing but this is, nonetheless, a great title to recommend to those interested in learning more about pagan ways and meditation through the four elements. It is well-written, with lovely illustrations. Anyone — Wiccan or otherwise — can gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the cycles of nature from this book. \$12.95, 1-56718-303-4.

Magical Gardens: Myth, Mulch & Marigolds by Patricia Monaghan (\$14.95, 1-56718-4669). Thirteen layouts (of course!) for beautiful gardens to design and cultivate by the author of *The New Book of Goddesses and Heroines* (\$14.95, 1-56718-465-0). The soft green ink is easy on the eyes; the seasonal rituals to celebrate with your harvests and the overall usefulness of the book are excellent. Barbie-on-a-broomstick rating: 9.

Celtic Women’s Spirituality: Accessing the Cauldron of Life by Edain McCoy. I haven’t seen the illustrations but the cover art gets a B.O.A.B. rating of 10! Very engaging and readable, I especially enjoyed the chapters on the feminine mystery cults and feminine Celtic shamanism, and the guided meditation into the Sheila-na-gig. Sell this to rocker women with a copy of P.J. Harvey’s second CD, *Dry*, with the song



"Sheila-na-Gig" queued-up on the stores' CD player. \$16.95, 1-56718-672-6.

Magick of the Gods & Goddesses: How to Invoke Their Powers by D.J. Conway (yes, a woman). A very good reference book or overview for those interested in the god and goddess stories from virtually everywhere on the planet. With its obvious esoteric worldview, readers will travel from the Middle East and Africa to India, China, Japan, and Tibet and then back to North and South America.... Here are histories and herstories, names and invocations. Cheesy cover, but it looks good spine out. \$17.95, 1-56718-179-1.

Llewellyn Publications, Box 64383, St. Paul MN 55164. Available from BP, Koen, B&T, Ingram.

—Donna Niles



A collection of titles for your smut section, if you have one.

Leda & The House of Spirits: two novellas by Aarona Griffin. In *Leda*, Chrys and Leda's ten-year relationship is fulfilling for Chrys while smothering Leda. Leda's wild adventure at a lesbian sex club makes her realize how much she's been missing. Good description of the sex club, with well-written, hot sex scenes. The second story, **The House of Spirits**, is much less successful. Lydia buys an old furnished house and soon discovers that the bed in the master bedroom has been the deathbed of several lesbians in the past hundred years. \$6.95 pb, 1-56333-585-9, Rosebud.

Pat Califia's foreword to the reprint of John Norman's **Imaginative Sex** is the only thing that would make this book be of any interest to feminist bookstores, and that probably isn't enough. She fully admits that the author is a "sexist pig" but says it's "great jackoff material." Originally published in 1974, it's written in the form of a self-help manual for heterosexual couples who want to improve their sex life. \$7.95 pb, 1-56333-561-1, Rhinoceros.

Uncensored Fantasies by Danielle Engle is a collection of lesbian porno short stories with very little story line. Plenty of hot sex scenes with lots of pronoun confusion that make for some seemingly impossible anatomical contortions, such as "Pamela buried her face against her breasts...." \$6.95 pb, 1-56333-572-7, Rosebud.

Sparks Fly by Kitty Tsui writing as Eric Norton, is a gender-bender book of porn. It is written by a lesbian posing as a gay man, with a photo of a butch young dyke on the cover. It is the story of a young man, growing up in Singapore, whose mother is Chinese and whose father is an unknown American officer. After a very sexually active childhood, he goes to San Francisco with the sponsorship of his American half-brother. There he discovers the Castro and all its games in the 70s. Pretty hot sex scenes, better written than most. The sex is between men, but I couldn't forget it was written by a woman which is part of what held my attention. \$6.95 pb, 1-56333-551-4, Badboy.

The short stories in **Bulletproof Butches** by Chea Villanueva are about working class, butch women who carry guns, go to prison, and fight the world. I was disappointed to find that there are no descriptions of the sexual activities they frequently refer to. A few poems that are much more romantic than the stories are included. \$7.95 pb, 1-56333-560-3, Hard Candy.

Red Jordan Arobateau's latest, **Satan's Best**, is the tale of working class butcher-than-butch motorcyclist, Angel. Angel joins a lesbian motorcycle gang and takes on the world. Arobateau writes with a crude beauty of the poverty, drugs, run-ins with the law, steamy sex, guns, and violence that rule the gang members' lives. \$6.95 pb, 1-56333-539-5, Rosebud.

All imprints of Masquerade Books, 801 Second Avenue, New York NY 10017; 212-661-7878. Available from BP, Alamo Square. —KWW ○

For Small Press Distributor information, please see page 103.

Music *continued from page 85.*

with an intriguing "electro-acoustic" twist! "Maha" is the Sanskrit word meaning "great or powerful" and it evokes the energy of the 30 women in the choir. The styles on their 1996 debut range from sampled avant-garde sounds, to the 14th-century composition "Stella Splendens" (on which they pepper the Latin lyrics with hand percussion, bells, violin, dulcimer and an upbeat chanting vocal arrangement) to the religiously meditative and echoey a cappella hymn "Create in Me," to the traditional Javanese "Monkey Chant." My favorite is the eerily loopy version of Willie Nelson's "Crazy" — this isn't a Patsy Cline retreat, trust me! Here's a choir that pushes the musical envelope without throwing pleasurable sound overboard. Studio X 0001.

Gay Men's Lit, *continued from page 82.*

original and completely compelling voice in this blend of politics, history, and passion set partly in present-day San Francisco and partly in Vietnam-era Laos. It's the account of one man's courtship of another, both through food and through the discovery of a shared cultural heritage. Dutton, \$23.95 cl, 0525942807, April.

Sex, Longing and Not Belonging: A Gay Muslim's Quest for Love and Meaning by Badruddin Khan — As far as I know, this is the first memoir by a gay South Asian: he writes with candor and insight about how he dealt with the mores of his culture as he struggled to come out. The writing is upbeat, the story fascinating. Floating Lotus, \$12.95 pb, 0-94277-16-2.



Men of Color: A Context for Service to Homosexually Active Men edited by John Longres — Harrington Park Press books are often written for the social services professional, and that's the case with this look at how gayness, HIV status and "otherness" complicates the lives of men of Asian, African, Latino, and Native American descent — an excellent book for the "helping professions." Harrington, \$19.95 pb, 1-56023-083-5, Alamo.

Asian-American Sexualities: Dimensions of the Gay and Lesbian Experience edited by Russell Leong — Much of this trade edition appeared several years ago as an issue of *Amerasia Journal*, but there's plenty that's new. Contributors include Leong, Kitty Tsui,

Playtime/Teresa Trull & Barbara Higbie. After all these years, another album by this beloved duo is being released in early 1998! On this upbeat collection of acoustic blues-flavored songs, strong harmonizing and songwriting from these two multi-talents blend with their top-notch fancy fiddle- and piano-playing. Special guest Cris Williamson joins in as the newly reunited duo finds serious fun and inspiration in each other's gifts. All songs are originals, except for a song each from B.B. King and Billie Holiday. Slowbaby 82212.

Coming in the Spring of 1998: Look for two releases on the Lady Slipper label! *Sacred Pleasure* by Shawna Carol and Ubaka Hill's second recording, not definitively titled at press date. ○

Lisa Kahaleole, Chang Hall, J. Kehaulani Kauanui, Joel Tan, Richard Fung, Andrew Lam, and R. Zamora Linmark. Routledge, \$17.95 pb, 0-415-91437-X.

Sexuality and Eroticism Among Males in Moslem Societies edited by Arno Schmitt and Jehoeda Sofer — Less clinical than many Harrington Park books, this collection of essays, memoirs and anthropological fieldwork presents both an insider's and an outsider's perspective on same-sex male relations in such countries as Morocco, Syria, Iran, Turkey and Israel. Harrington, \$14.95 pb, 0-918393-96-4, Alamo.

Homoeroticism In Classical Arabic Literature edited by J. W. Wright, Jr., and Everett K. Rowson — It's a bit dense, this one, but a great addition to a critical-studies section; it points to dozens of texts from ancient times which depict both male-male and female-female loves, lusts and japes. Columbia University Press, \$22.95 pb, 0-231-10507-X.

***Bite Hard** by Justin Chin — Sweet sentiment, sweet pain, vivid sex, sassy travelogues, dynamic poems — Chin, born in Malaysia, raised in Singapore, now practicing his performance and writing craft in San Francisco, is a writer to watch, a unique voice. And he's a funny writer, a smart writer, a master of just the right word or phrase or sentence. This is one of my top 10 books of 1997. Manic D Press, \$11.95 pb, 0-916397-47-5, PGW/BP.

Dove Coos Louder translated by David Jonathon — Third in a mildly erotic series of stories from Thai gay magazines (*Dove Coos* is out of print but *Dove II* is still available), written by the men of Thailand. Floating Lotus, \$14 pb, 0-9427772-1-2. ○

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller

Editor's note: See the Black History Month and Women's History Month Roundups for additional University Press titles.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

By weaving together issues of gender, race, sex, the relationship between individuals and the state, and foreign policy, **Sex Among Allies: Military Prostitution in U.S.-Korea Relations** by Katherine H.S. Moon shows how women such as Korean prostitutes are marginalized and made invisible in military-dependent societies both because of the degradation of their work and because of their importance for national "security." \$16.50 pb, 0-231-10643-2; \$47.50 cl, -10642-4.***

DUKE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Back in print: **The Mother Knot**, Jane Lazarre. \$14.95 pb, 098223-2039-8.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Harvard adds to their health series with two new titles: **The Women's Concise Guide to a Healthier Heart**, edited by Karen Carlson, Stephanie Eisenstat and Terra Ziporyn (\$12.95 pb, 0-674-95484-X; \$24.95 cl, -95483-1); and **The Women's Concise Guide to Emotional Well-Being**, same editors (\$14.95 pb, 0-674-95491-2; \$29.95 cl, -95490-4).

African American Women and Christian Activism: New York's Black YWCA, 1905-1945 by Judith Weisenfeld explores some of the activities and

Ratings: One and two asterisks are more suited for general stores while three and four would do better in stores with a more academic audience. If a title is unrated, it means that I haven't seen the book in order to make an evaluation.

effects on young Black women prior to the National YWCA's vote in 1946 to adopt an interracial charter and move toward integration of local chapters. During these earlier years, middle-class Black women were committed both to social action and institutional expression of their religious conviction. They used the Black YWCA as a way of helping young women migrating to and living alone in New York. This book offers a vibrant picture of African American women as significant to the religious, class, gender, and racial negotiations so often involved in U.S. social reform movements. \$35 cl, *text discount*, 0-674-00778-6.

Now available in paperback: **Dubious Conceptions: The Politics of Teenage Pregnancy**, Kristin Luker. \$14.95, 0-674-21703-9.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Hate math? Envious of women who are not only *not* afraid of it but who are also *good* at it? Or are you just plain interested in women's place in the field of mathematics or the gender implications of the strong mythology in dominant culture that women can't do mathematics? Then have a look at **Women in Mathematics: The Addition of Difference** by Claudia Henrion. Henrion interweaves profiles of eleven diverse and prominent contemporary women in mathematics with a probing exploration of the discipline's culture. \$16.95 pb, 0-253-21119-0; \$39.95 cl, -33279-6.**

This book isn't for every store — just those with strong connections to music departments at colleges or conservatories, but **Contemporary Anthology of Music by Women**, edited by James R. Briscoe, is the kind of book I would have wanted when I was studying

orchestration as a music major. In addition to brief life biographies of many women composers of whom I'd never heard of, it includes complete scores of some of their major works. (\$29.95 spiral pb, 0-253-21102-6.) It's a good companion to **Historical Anthology of Music by Women** also compiled by Briscoe (\$29.95 spiral pb, 0-253-21296-0; with two-CD set \$29.95, -33281-8***).

FTM: Female to Male Transsexuals in Society by Holly Devor provides detailed, compassionate, intimate and incisive portraits of the life experiences of 45 female-to-male transsexuals. \$49.95 cl, 0-253-33631-7.

Also of interest: **A Daughter of the Land**, Gene Stratton-Porter (1863-1924), regional fiction from the Library of Indiana Classics (\$11.95 pb, 0-253-21138-7; \$20 cl, -33305-9); **Sacrificed Lives: Kristeva on**

Women and Violence, Martha Reineke (\$18.95 pb, 0-253-21128-X; \$35 cl, -33299-0****).

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Now available in paperback: **Isis in the Ancient World** by R.E. Witt. \$16.95, 0-8018-5642-6.***

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Of interest: **Cautious Rebel: A Biography of Susan Clay Sawitzky**, Lindsey Apple. \$35 cl, 0-87338-579-9.

MIT PRESS

Now available in paperback: **Queer Science: The Use and Abuse of Research into Homosexuality**, Simon LeVay. \$15, 0-262-62119-3.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

Clipped Wings: The Rise and Fall of Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) of World War II, Molly Merryman. \$29.95 cl, 0-8147-5567-4.

Women of Steel: Female Bodybuilders and the Struggle for Self-Definition by Maria Lowe provides an inside look at the fascinating and largely unknown world of women's bodybuilding. Lowe interviewed 100 people connected to women's bodybuilding — bodybuilders, trainers, family members, spouses, judges, and sponsors. Many issues are covered: balancing profession with "femininity," successes and failures, benefits and unhealthy effects, competition, judging, and the "perfect" body. \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-5094-X; \$45 cl, -5093-1.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS

Public Heroes, Private Felons: Athletes and Crimes Against Women by Jeff Benedict investigates athletes' abusive behavior, delving into the full spectrum of complex factors that give rise to and perpetuate the disturbing pattern of frequent sexual and domestic violence toward women. And, opposing the public stance of sports organizations, Benedict offers compelling evidence that male athletes commit more crimes against women than do their peers. \$24.95 cl, 1-55553-316-7.*

OHIO UNIVERSITY PRESS

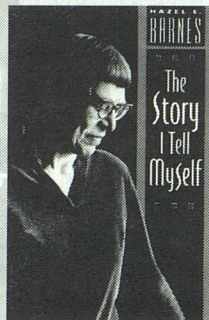
Writing one's memoirs or reading those of others is quite popular right now. **Legacy: A Step-by-Step**

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A Venture in Existentialist Autobiography

HAZEL E. BARNES

"In tracing her career, [Barnes] provides critical insight into the evolution of her own embrace of existentialism, the acceptance of challenge as the fertile ground of individual choice, as well as the 'experience of women who chose to pursue careers in the period between Virginia Woolf and Betty Friedan.' . . . An intimate record of our times and of the ongoing issues that challenge us to define ourselves over and over again."—*Kirkus Reviews*



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Guide to Writing Personal History by Linda Spence is animated by the belief that every life has value and knowledge for others. A personal history is a gift to share. Through supportive coaching, stimulating questions, shared memories, and evocative photographs, the process of producing a personal history becomes intriguing and engaging. \$14.95 pb, 0-8040-1003-X; \$24.95 cl, -1002-1.

The Bent Twig by Dorothy Canfield, first published in 1915 and now reissued, gives fictional form to the Montessori method and reflects the deeply processed insights into education and human development that Canfield gained. The novel's concerns include gender roles, race relations, substance abuse, the environment, and the welfare of children. \$16.95 pb, 0-8214-1185-3.

Also of interest: **Gender Violence and the Press: The St. Kizito Story**, H. Leslie Steeves. \$17.95, 0-89680-195-0.



OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Now in paperback: **Am I Thin Enough Yet? The Cult of Thinness and the Commercialization of Identity**, Sharlene Hesse-Biber. \$13.95, 0-19-511791-3.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

New in the Re-Reading the Canon series: **Feminist Interpretations of Immanuel Kant**, edited by Robin May Schott (\$18.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-271-01676-0); **Feminist Interpretations of Soren Kierkegaard**, edited by Céline Léon and Sylvia Walsh (\$17.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-271-01699-X).

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Framing Silence: Revolutionary Novels by Haitian Women by Myriam J.A. Chancy is the first book-length study in English devoted exclusively to Haitian women's literature. Issues of race, class, color, caste, nationality, and sexuality are all central to the

fiction of Haitian women — as is an urgent sense of the historical place of women between the two U.S. occupations of the country. Their novels examine women's social and political stances in Haiti from an explicitly female point of view, forcefully responding to overt sexual and political violence within the nation's ambivalent political climate. \$17.95 pb, 0-8135-2340-0; \$48 cl, -2339-7.***

For those who like original source material and enjoy reading the papers and letters of early feminists, you'll definitely want to invest in *The Selected Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony*. This collection will be presented in six volumes — the first is **In the School of Anti-Slavery: 1840-1866**, edited by Ann Gordon. This edition documents the lives and accomplishments of two of America's most important social and political reformers and recounts a quarter of a century of staunch commitment to political change. Like the complete collections of Virginia Woolf's diaries, I look forward to collecting all six volumes of these collected writings. The price, however, will send casual readers to the library. \$60 cl, 0-8135-2317-6.*

Feminist Sociology: Life Histories of a Movement, edited by Barbara Laslett and Barrie Thorne, is a collection of life stories by participants in the movement to bring feminist insights to the field of sociology. The authors in this volume, all sociologists who have greatly influenced the field in which they write, show how relationships, experiences of inequality, and professional conflict and camaraderie interweave with the formation of social theory, political movements, and intellectual thought. \$19.95 pb, 0-8135-2429-6; \$50 cl, -2428-8.**

Confinements: Fertility and Infertility in Contemporary Culture, Helena Michie and Naomi Cahn. \$17.95 pb, 0-8135-2433-4; \$50 cl, -2432-6.**

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK PRESS (SUNY)

I'm one of those women who hates to be scared. Sometimes I can't even watch the previews of movies

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book. It will be of interest to everyone concerned with issues of gender and sexuality."—Lynne Segal

384 pp. Paper, \$17.00; Cloth \$48.00

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"With clarity, force, and passionate investment grounded in both theory and her own experience, Heywood understands that women can strengthen body, mind, and spirit through everyday practice. Her argument . . . is as inspirational as it is poignant."

—Joanna Frueh, author of *Erotic Faculties*

224 pp. 14 b & w illus. Paper, \$18.00; Cloth \$48.00

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400 pp. 46 b&w illus. Paper, \$18.00; Cloth, \$45.00

RUTGERS
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or TV shows because they're so terrifying. I don't want those violent images in my psyche — I get enough from the news, thank you. But some women enjoy having the heart palpitations and sweaty palms that go along with horror flicks. **Recreational Terror: Women and the Pleasures of Horror Film Viewing** by Cristina Pinedo challenges the conventional wisdom that violent horror films can only degrade women and incite violence. Her contention is that contemporary horror film speaks to the cultural need to express rage and terror in the midst of social upheaval. Right. \$14.95 pb, 0-7914-3442-7; \$44.50 cl, -3441-9.

Memoirs of a Terrorist by Sally Patterson Tubach is a haunting experimental novel about a daughter raped by her father, and the consequences of repressing this memory. In a parallel narrative, the father analyzes the posthumous writings of his daughter for clues to her thoughts and behavior. \$19.95 pb, 0-7914-3006-5.

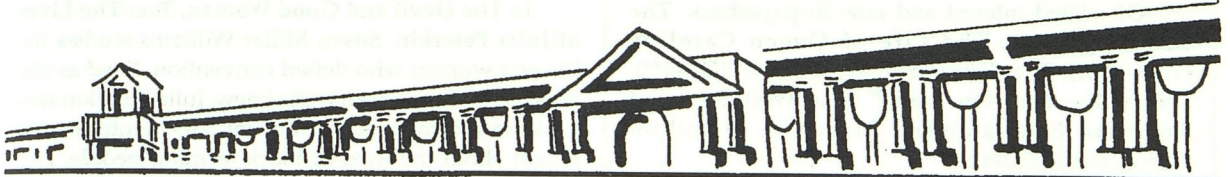
Madeleva: A Biography by Gail Porter Mandell looks at the life of Madeleva, a close friend of C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton, Jacques Maritain, and Clare Booth Luce. This book paints a picture of daily life in communities of religious women and explores the inner life of a passionately spiritual woman who was known as an advocate for women in the church as well as a scholar, poet, and essayist. \$19.95 pb, 0-7914-3440-0.

Of interest: **The Politics of Consequences of Thinking: Gender and Judaism in the Work of Hannah Arendt** (\$34.50 cl, 0-7914-3483-4); **Devils, Women, and Jews: Reflections of the Other in Medieval Sermon Stories**, Joan Young Gregg (\$20.95 pb, 0-7914-3418-4; \$62.50 cl, -3417-6); **Sexual Politics in the Enlightenment: Women Writers Read Rousseau**, Mary Seidman Trouille (\$21.95 pb, 0-7914-3490-7; \$65.50 cl, -3489-3); **Without a Woman to Read: Toward the Daughter in Postmodernism**, Daniel Price (\$21.95 pb, 0-7914-3460-5; \$65.50 cl, -3459-1).



TEACHERS COLLEGE PRESS

TC Press offers two exciting new books for those wanting to bring feminist and cultural perspectives to science and medicine: **Privilege in the Medical Academy: A Feminist Examines Gender**,



Race, and Power by Delese Wear introduces literature (e.g. *The Bluest Eye*, *The Women of Brewster Place*, *Bastard Out of Carolina*) into the medical school curriculum. By approaching the training of physicians from the perspective of medical humanities, Wear shows how the Western paradigm of "scientific objectivity" reinforces cultural biases on gender, race, class, and sexual orientation. Literature and art can decode silences and bring physicians to healing values of imagination, empathy, and social justice. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8077-6288-1.) **Re-engineering Female Friendly Science** by Sue V. Rosser continues where *Female Friendly Science* left off. Here, Rosser revisits the feminist origins of curriculum transformation and puts the gender back into gender equity. (\$25.95 pb, 0-8077-6286-5.***)



TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Lesbian & Bisexual Identities: Constructing Communities, Constructing Selves by Kristin Esterberg examines the stories of lesbian and bisexual women in a Northeast community who share who they are, how they have come to see themselves as lesbian or bisexual, and what those identities mean to them. The author not only presents women's stories in their own words, she moves beyond storytelling to understand how these accounts resonate with social theories of identity and community. This book is both interesting and promising — and priced just a bit too high for those generally interested in this topic. \$18.95 pb, 1-56639-510-0; \$49.95 cl, -509-7.*

Here's one of those books that you *must* know about and would really wish you could carry but just know that it's too expensive and best left for somebody to special order: **Journeys of Women in Science and Engineering: No Universal Constants**, edited by Susan Ambrose et al., offers 89 profiles, with photographs, of women scientists and engineers from a

broad range of diversity in expertise, race and culture, workplace, age, and level of accomplishment. \$59.95 cl, 1-56639-527-5.

Of interest: **Women's Political Voice: How Women Are Transforming the Practice and Study of Politics**, Janet Flammang (\$24.95 pb, *short discount*, 1-56639-534-8); **Women's Activism in Contemporary Russia**, Linda Racioppi and Katherine O'Sullivan See (\$22.95 pb, *short discount*, 1-56639-521-6); **Women, International Development and Politics: The Bureaucratic Mire**, updated and expanded edition, edited by Kathleen Staudt (\$24.95 pb, *short discount*, 1-56639-546-1); **Teen Mothers and the Revolving Welfare Door**, Kathleen Mullan Harris (\$39.95 cl, 1-56639-499-6***).

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

We know that sexism affects men but there's little theoretical writing about men's sexism from men who understand feminism. **Proving Manhood: Reflections on Men and Sexism** by Timothy Beneke uses a variety of styles and approaches — autobiographical, psychoanalytical, sociological, phenomenological, and political — to understand how men are required to "prove" their masculinity through the rituals of sports, sex, and work. These masculine identities repress and reject all "feminized" behavior while pornography, homophobia, and the morning sports section become crucial "proving grounds" where masculinity is tested and asserted. \$16.95 pb, 0-520-20961-3; \$45 cl, -21266-5.*

Becoming Modern: The Life of Mina Loy has been reviewed as a "superb biography" of poet and visual artist Mina Loy (1882–1966) who has long had an underground reputation as an exemplary avant-gardist. Born in London of mixed Jewish and English parentage, and a restless and much photographed beauty, she moved in the pivotal circles of international modernism, where her friends and lovers included Gertrude Stein, Marinetti, Marcel Duchamo, Djuna Barnes, and Man Ray. \$18.95 pb, 0-520-21089-1.**

Of related interest and now in paperback: **The Unruly Queen: The Life of Queen Caroline (1768–1821)**, Flora Fraser (\$17.95 pb, 0-520-21275-4**); **"When I'm Bad, I'm Better" Mae West, Sex, and American Entertainment**, Marybeth Hamilton (\$17.95, 0-520-21094-8).



UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Osiris presents thematic annual volumes on central, strategic, or emerging topics of interest to the history of science community. **Women, Gender, and Science: New Directions — Osiris, Volume 12**, edited by Sally Gregory Kohlstedt and Helen Longino, centers on some of the feminist perspectives in this field. Contributors include both the editors as well as Evelyn Fox Keller, Margaret Rossiter, Londa Schiebinger, and others. Topics cover science, medicine, technology, biology, gender issues, nature, and creating sustainable science. \$25 pb, 0-226-30754-9; \$39 cl, -30753-0.***

The Ovary of Eve: Egg and Sperm and Preformation by Clara Pinto-Correia traces the fascinating and often amusing social history of conception, ultimately revealing the ways in which, even today, views of conception are influenced by society. \$29.95 cl, 0-226-66952-1.***

Also of interest: **Parting from Phantoms: Selected Writings, 1990–1994**, Christa Wolf (\$24.95 cl, 0-226-90496-2); **Forgetful of Their Sex: Female Sanctity and Society, ca. 500–1100**, Jane Tibbetts Schulenburg (\$34.95 cl, 0-226-74053-6); **Women of the Twelfth Century: Vol. 1: Eleanor of Aquitaine and Six Others**, Georges Duby (\$15.95 pb, 0-226-16780-1).

Revised and expanded: The Battered Child, fifth edition, Mary Edna Helfer, Ruth Kempe, Richard Krugman. \$45 cl, 0-226-32627-6.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA PRESS

Speaking the Other Self: American Women Writers, edited by Jeanne Campbell Reesmann, explores a variety of writers over an array of time periods, subject matter, races and ethnicities, sexual preferences, traditions, genres, and styles. This volume represents the fruits of the dramatic and celebrated growth of the study of American women writers today. \$24.95 pb, 0-8203-1909-0.

In **The Devil and Good Woman, Too: The Lives of Julia Peterkin**, Susan Millar Williams studies the life of a woman who defied convention, lived as she pleased, and wrote what she knew. Julia Peterkin was a plantation mistress who eventually wrote serious fiction about the lives of Black farming people. Her five novels chronicled the collapse of plantation agriculture on the Gullah coast of South Carolina. \$29.95 cl, 0-8203-1912-0.

Also of interest: **The Journals of Louisa May Alcott**, edited by Joel Myerson and Daniel Shealy (\$21.95 pb, 0-8203-1950-3); **A Will of Her Own: Sarah Towles Read and the Pursuit of Democracy in Southern Public Education**, Leslia Gale Parr (\$40 cl, *short discount*, 0-8203-1932-5).

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

Purifying America: Women, Cultural Reform, and Pro-Censorship Activism, 1873–1933 by Alison Parker explores the widespread middle-class advocacy of censorship as a popular reform around the turn of the century and provides a historical perspective on contemporary debates over censorship, morality, and pornography that continue to divide women. \$16.95 pb, 0-252-06625-1.***

Of related interest: **The Common Ground of Womanhood: Class, Gender, and Working Girls' Clubs, 1884–1928**, Priscilla Murolo (\$14.95 pb, 0-252-06629-4***); **A Hard Fight for We: Women's Transition from Slavery to Freedom in South Carolina**, Leslie A. Schwalm (\$24.95 pb, 0-252-06630-8****).



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA PRESS

Between History and Poetry: The Letters of H.D. and Norman Holmes Pearson, edited by Donna Krolik Hollenberg, covers the period of H.D.'s life from 1937 to her death in 1961 and her correspondence with Norman Holmes Pearson. Perhaps because she was absent from the American scene, expatriate H.D. was eager for more contact with American writing — her relationship with Pearson was vital to her development as a writer. His long-standing commitment to her work as reflected in these learned, witty, sometimes poignant letters



ensured that H.D. would take her place as one of the major poets of this century. \$39.95 cl, *short discount*, 0-87745-595-3.***

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY PRESS

Stores with strong film sections (or biography-sections) will enjoy the new selections from UKP. **Pickford: The Woman Who Made Hollywood** by Eileen Whitfield examines all facets of Mary Pickford's life — from her rise to prominence simultaneously with the growth of the film industry, through her reign with Douglas Fairbanks as Hollywood's royalty, to her last years as a recluse, struggling with alcoholism. (\$25 cl, 0-8131-20145-4.) **Marie Dressler: The Unlikeliest Star** by Betty Lee looks at the life of an actress not considered a typical beauty but one who captivated audiences because of her roles as a tough, practical character. She spoke honestly to her audiences, and troubled people, in the comforting darkness of Depression-era movie theaters, embraced her as one of their own. (\$25 cl, 0-8131-2036-5.)



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

Women Against the Good War: Conscientious Objection and Gender on the American Home Front, 1941-1947 by Rachel Waltner Goossen tells the story of women who identified as conscientious objectors despite cultural hostility and discriminatory federal policies. They sought to demonstrate their humanitarian convictions by taking part in Civilian Public Service work. \$15.95 pb, 0-8078-4672-4.***

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS

Feminism and Disability by Barbara Hillyer explores issues of vital concern both to women with disabilities and to women caregivers: body awareness, community and reciprocity, fatigue, the

supposed dichotomy between nature and technology, codependence, and recovery programs. Hillyer advocates that women recognize and integrate weakness along with strength. \$16.95 pb, 0-8061-2979-4.*

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS

UTP titles are shipped from Buffalo, New York.

Lesbian Lifestyles: Women's Work and the Politics of Sexuality by Gillian Dunne is a highly academic study showing how sexuality is socially constructed, which therefore links heterosexuality with empowerment and the subsequent understanding of working life and domestic arrangements. These arrangements look different when the gender structuring principle is absent. \$18.95 pb, 0-8020-7951-2; \$50 cl, -4104-3.***

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

First published in 1971 and now available with 18 previously uncollected articles, **Marmalade Me** by Jill Johnston provides a view of the 60s and one of the art world's and 70s feminism's most influential voices. \$19.95 pb, 0-8195-6314-5.**

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Uncommon Common Women: Ordinary Lives of the West by Anne Butler and Ona Siporin is a multi-genre piece that will broaden and enrich the general reader's understanding of women's lives during the western emigration era. Rather than focus on stereotypes (schoolmarm or dance hall girl), the authors focus on the forgotten roles and gritty realities of women's lives — including immigrants and Native Americans — during an often brutally difficult time. Combining historical narrative with storytelling and photographs generates rewarding images and many voices. \$21.95 pb, 0-87421-210-3; \$34.95 cl, -209-X.*

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY PRESS

Gender and Nationalism in Colonial Cuba: The Travels of Santa Cruz y Montalvo, Condesa de

Merlin, Adriana Méndez Rodena. \$34.95 cl, *short discount*, 0-8265-1299-2.



Some important titles that slipped through the cracks.

Articles in the *Hypatia's* special issue *Third Wave Feminism* include "Surfing the Third Wave: A Dialogue Between Two Third Wave Feminists" by Rita Alfonso and Jo Triglio, "The Legacy of the Personal: Generating Theory in Feminism's Third Wave" by Deborah L. Siegel, "Mean Spirits: The Politics of Contempt Between Feminist Generations" by Madelyn Detloff, "Ending at the Skin: Sexuality and Race in Feminist Theorizing" by Abby Wilkerson, and "Warning! Contents Under Heterosexual Pressure" by Peg O'Connor. Vol. 12#3/Summer 1997. \$12.50 pb, ISSN 0887-5367, Indiana University Press.

An obscure though important book we should all know about is **"We Two Know the Script; We Have Become Good Friends"** *Linguistic and Social Aspects of The Women's Script Literacy in Southern Hunan, China* by William W. Chiang. Women in Southern Hunan, deprived of access to education, created a written language of their own and taught their daughters, passing it on through the generations. Men could not read the script and belittled it. This book is a study of the women's script and includes Chiang's collection of 142 documents and 13 months fieldwork from interview data to reinterpretations of existing literature on the script. Chiang suggests that this unique form of women's literacy was the result of complex social phenomena found in South China, while proposing that gender actually determines the function and nature of the script. \$38.50 pb, 0-7618-0014-X; \$59.50 cl, -0013-1, University Press of America.

A study of women prisoners from 1865 to 1915, **Gendered Justice in the American West: Women Prisoners in Men's Penitentiaries** by Anne M. Butler shows that the women, already faced with distinct gender disadvantages within western society, were subjected to intense physical and mental violence while in prison. For women of color or of lower social class, she argues, the violence was even greater and more frequent. \$29.95 cl, 0-252-02281-5, University of Illinois Press.

In 1960 the publication of *Quarto de Despejo (Child of the Dark)* by Carolina Maria de Jesus created a sensation in Brazil — and later in the rest of the world, as it appeared in translations in fourteen languages. **I'm Going to Have a Little House** is de Jesus' second diary, the continuation of her amazing and utterly disturbing story. \$15 pb, 0-8032-7599-4, University of Nebraska, Bison Books.

The Complete Writings of Emily Carr, introduction by Doris Shadbolt, is now available in paperback. It includes *Klee Wyck*, *The Book of Small*, and *The House of All Sorts*. "Young, spirited and rebellious, Emily Carr escaped a strict Victorian household to study art in the Paris of Picasso and Matisse. In middle age, she shook the dust of acceptable society from her shoes and began a passionate journey into the wilderness of British Columbia; the power of her genius made her one of the twentieth century's great painters. Fortunately she also wrote. In her books, her warmth, her humanity, her sense of fun and the ridiculous combine to present a self-portrait of a remarkable woman and artist. For many women, she is a heroine because of her tenacity and creative brilliance." —Mary Pratt. \$27.95 pb, 0-295-97626-8, Douglas & McIntyre. Distributed by University of Washington Press.

As the child of African American and Native American parents, Kaylynn TwoTrees grew up hearing herself called "half breed" and "mixed blood," terms which now, after many transforming experiences, have positive and powerful meanings for her. In **Somebody Always Singing You** the author chronicles her life from her early childhood summers spent visiting the Pine Ridge reservation to her adoption by her Black grandparents after the murder of her mother, from her life as the only person of color at a Roman Catholic boarding school to her journey to a life of a dancer and manager of dance companies in Europe. \$26 cl, 0-87805-981-4, University Press of Mississippi.

Mema's House, Mexico City: On Transvestites, Queens, and Machos by Annick Prieur is a unique account of Prieur's days and nights at a home filled with young gay boys who stop by every evening to chat, flirt, listen to music, smoke marijuana, and maybe have sex. Since most of them live with their parents, Mema's house is a sanctuary where these boys meet to do all that can't easily be done at home. Mema, an AIDS educator and the leader of this



community of gay men, invited Prieur, a European sociologist, to meet the community and conduct her fieldwork at his house. A fascinating story of love, violence, and deceit unfolds as she follows the transvestites in their daily activities — at their work as prostitutes or as hairdressers, at night having fun in the streets and in discos, on visits with their families, and even in prisons. \$16.95 pb, 0-226-68257-9, \$50 cl, -68256-0, University of Chicago Press.

Genders #25. Sex Positives: Cultural Politics of Dissident Sexualities edited by Thomas Foster, Carol Siegel and Ellen E. Berry focuses on the recent "sex wars" in American feminism and especially lesbian culture, broadens the terms of sex wars debates to include sexualized racial and colonial representation, and explores a variety of historical contexts for understanding contemporary forms of sexual representation and the repression of such representations. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-2663-1; \$55 cl, -2664-X, University of New York Press.

Harriette Simpson Arnow's *The Dollmaker* **Flowering of the Cumberland** is back in print. Another evocation of pioneering (1780 to 1803) in the Cumberland River Basin, or what is now middle Tennessee and southern Kentucky, this novel is a companion piece to Arnow's *Seedtime on the Cumberland*. \$17.95 pb, 0-8032-5928-X, University of Nebraska, Bison Books.

In **Other Women: Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Views of Women**, Beverly Burch reconceives fundamental psychoanalytic ideas in order to embrace women's diverse sexualities. Exploring the ways in which lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual women's experiences may be incorporated into theory, she argues that the dynamics of lesbian and bisexual relationships are part of women's development and desires rather than dysfunctions of them. \$15.50 pb, 0-231-10603-1; \$39.50 cl, -10602-5, Columbia University Press.

In **When Abortion Was a Crime: Women, Medicine, and Law in The United States, 1867-1973**, Leslie

J. Reagon examines the entire period during which abortion was illegal in the United States. She presents the experiences and perspectives of women who got an abortion during this period as well as those who were close to them. Reagon also reconstructs the practice and policing of abortions in this book. \$29.95 cl, 0-520-08848-4, University of California.

Of **A Marriage Made in Heaven: The Sexual Politics of Hebrew and Yiddish** Irena Klepfisz (*A Few Words in the Mother Tongue*) says, "Naomi Seidman has written a provocative, scholarly, and very readable story of the sexual politics behind the Jewish 'language wars,' which were fought not only in literary journals and at political meetings but in the bedrooms and kitchens of flesh-and-blood men and women. Throughout her analysis, Seidman reveals a wide range of knowledge: Jewish history, literary criticism, linguistics, psychology and feminist theory. **A Marriage Made in Heaven** is a major contribution and should be required reading for anyone studying the divergent fates of Yiddish and Hebrew and the men and women who were their champions." \$40 cl, 0-520-20193-0, University of California.



"With great insight and sensitivity, Esther Madriz explores the important and timely issue of women's fear of crime. Madriz demonstrates clearly how fear of crime perpetuates gender inequalities and contributes to the social control of women, particularly poor African American and Latina women. **Nothing Bad Happens to Good Girls** is a gem." —Ruth Sidel (*Keeping Women and Children Last: America's War on the Poor*). \$14.95 pb, 0-520-20855-2; \$40 cl, -20291-0, University of California.

In **Not Our Kind of Girl: Unraveling the Myths of Black Teenage Motherhood**, Elaine Bell Kaplan challenges the assumption that the African American community condones teen pregnancy, single

parenting, and reliance on welfare. Especially telling are the feelings of frustration, anger, and disappointment expressed by the mothers and grandmothers Kaplan interviewed for the book. Kaplan's own experience as an African American teenage mother adds a personal dimension to **Not Our Kind of Girl**, and she offers substantial proposals for rethinking and reassessing the class factors, gender relations, and racism that influence Black teenagers to become mothers. Foreword by Arlie Russell Hochschild. \$15.95 pb, 0-520-20858-7, University of California.



Gender and Health is the theme of *Michigan Feminist Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, issue number 11 (1996-97). Articles include "The Racial Model of Genetic Illness Identity: Breast Cancer Research and Black Women" by Deborah R. Grayson, "Smoke and the 'F' Word: Women and Health" by Carol J. Boyd, "Feminism and the Politics of Experience: The Case of the Detroit Feminist Women's Health Center" by Mary Wright, "Misreading the Power Structure: Liberal Feminists' Inability to Influence Childbirth" by Elizabeth A. Bogdan-Lovis, and a book review of Elisa J. Sobo's *Choosing Unsafe Sex: AIDS-Risk Denial Among Disadvantaged Women* by Tova Perlmutter. \$5. Order through MFS, University of Michigan, 234 West Hall, Ann Arbor MI 48109; 313-763-2047, email (mfseditors@umich.edu).

Natural Eloquence: Women Reinscribe Science edited by Barbara T. Gates and Ann B. Shteir is a collection of essays examining the work of both lesser-known women of science from the 19th century and prominent 20th-century figures such as Rachel Carson, Dian Fossey, and Diane Ackerman. It raises thoughtful questions about marginalization, popularization, and originality in science. \$17.95 pb, 0-299-15484-X; \$45 cl, -1548-0, University of Wisconsin.

In **Maid to Order in Hong Kong: Stories of Filipina Workers**, Nicole Constable interweaves her analysis with anecdotal evidence collected in interviews and shows how the lives of Filipina domestic workers in Hong Kong are disempowered and manipulated on a daily basis. Constable explains how domestic workers are controlled and disciplined by employment agencies, by employers

themselves, and by state policies such as the rule against working for more than one employer. The forms of discipline range from physical abuse to intrusive regulations including restrictions on hair length and the prohibition of lipstick. Constable also looks at the myriad ways the workers resist these prohibitions. \$16.95 pb, 0-8014-8382-4; \$39.95 cl, -3331-2, Cornell University Press.

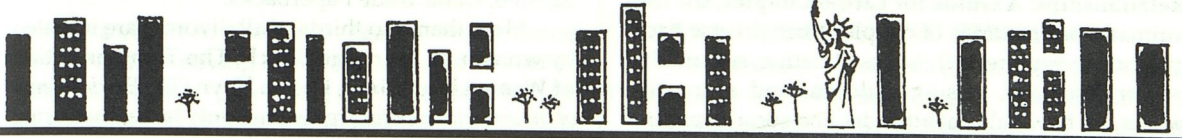
Convoy to Auschwitz: Women of the French Resistance is Charlotte Delbo's testament to 230 women political prisoners, most of whom had worked for the French Resistance, who were deported to Auschwitz on January 24, 1943. The author was one of the 49 who survived. Here, Delbo recounts the life history of each woman from her childhood to her involvement in the Resistance, from her arrest to her horrifying experience in the concentration camp. A devastatingly up-close and personal look at this group of 230 women who were deported to Auschwitz together, and their experiences in that living hell. An amazing and chilling work! This book, originally published in 1965, is now available in English for the first time! \$24.95 cl, 1-55553-313-2, Northeastern University Press.

Reconstructed Lives: Women & Iran's Islamic Revolution by Haleh Esfandiari is "the most comprehensive and thoughtful treatment I have ever seen on the subject of women in Iran, their roles both before and after the revolution, and their broader pattern of growth and involvement in society at many levels. Ms. Esfandiari's scholarship involves highly original fieldwork under truly adverse circumstances. This book is also extremely well written." —Robin Wright (author and Middle East analyst). Very readable. \$15.95 pb, 0-8018-5619-1; \$42.50 cl, -5618-3, Johns Hopkins.



Two recovered classics: Sherwood Bronner's **Like Unto Like**, a coming-of-age story that challenges the limitations placed on 19th-century women (\$14.95 pb, 1-57003-184-3, University of South Carolina Press) and **To "Herland" and Beyond: The Life and Work of Charlotte Perkins Gilman** Ann J. Lane's biography of this important feminist (\$17.50 pb, 0-8139-1742-5, University Press of Virginia). ○

AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Lisa McGowan and Jenn Tust

ADDISON-WESLEY

East to the Dawn: The Life of Amelia Earhart by Susan Butler offers a comprehensive account of the life of this woman whose life and death has been much romanticized. Her real life was remarkable enough; Butler had access to newly available documents, and in this book paints a picture of a fiercely independent and strong-willed woman, an adventurous student, an enterprising flier, a successful social worker and aviation entrepreneur. \$27.50 cl, 0-201-31144-5. —LM

AVON

Following non-fiction works *Mad at Miles: A Black Woman's Guide to Truth* and *Deals with the Devil and Other Reasons to Riot*, Pearl Cleage's first novel **What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day...** is the story of Ava Johnson, the fiery owner of an Atlanta beauty parlor whose life takes a sudden turn when she discovers that she is HIV positive. "After so much contemporary African American fiction that strains to be hip and funny but refuses to look seriously at the problems faced by real Black people, Cleage, without succumbing to didacticism, delivers a work of intelligence and integrity." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$20 cl, 0-380-97584-X.

Dorothy Randall Gray is an African American performer, novelist, poet, jewelry designer, and interfaith minister. **Soul and Sentence: Freeing Your Creative Spirit Through Writing** is based on the workshops she teaches on the spirit as a potent source of creativity and personal transformation. The exercises and activities in the book draw on everything from Greek mythology to Eastern and African spirituality to James Brown, Popeye, and the "Twilight Zone." The publisher compares **Soul and Sentence** to

The Artist's Way and *Writing Down the Bones* and will be heavily promoting the book. Foreword by Luisah Teish. Author tour. \$12 pb, 0-380-79142-0.

Now in paperback: **Vinegar Hill** by A. Manette Ansay. "**Vinegar Hill** is a modern-day *Little House on the Prairie* gone mad.... Manette Ansay is a powerful storyteller with lyrical gifts and a wry, observant eye." —Amy Tan. \$12 pb, 0-380-73013-8.

To the Summit: A Woman's Journey into the Mountains to Find Her Soul by Margo Chisolm and Ray Bruce. In 1985 Margo Chisolm, over 40, had a \$1,000 per week cocaine habit and was an obese, bulimic alcoholic who couldn't climb a flight of stairs without her legs cramping. Five years later she became the oldest woman ever to reach the summit of Mt. Vinson, the highest peak on the continent of Antarctica. This book is about her journey to sobriety and mental and physical health, as well as her discovery of the strength of her own spirit. \$12.50 pb, 0-380-78884-5. —LM



BANTAM DOUBLEDAY DELL

Love is the common thread woven through the stories in **In Sunshine or in Shadow** edited by Mary Maher, an anthology of writings by contemporary Irish women writers. Contributors include Mary Gordon, Maeve Binchy, and Kate Cruise O'Brien. \$21.95 cl, 0-385-32399-9, Delacorte Press.

Barbara Sher is a therapist and career counselor whose previous books (*Wishcraft*, *Live the Life You Love*, etc.) have been big sellers. **It's Only Too Late If You Don't Start Now: How to Create Your Second Life After 40** is for people who have half of their lives still ahead of them — and years of invaluable experience behind them — and are uncertain what to do with the

second half of their lives. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-31505-8, Delacorte Press.

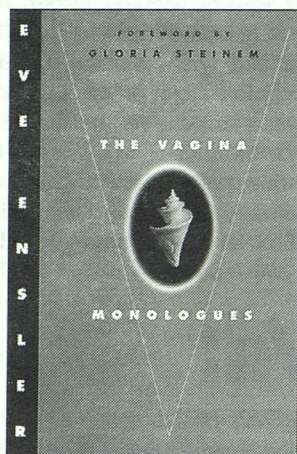
Ana Nogales, Ph.D., has had a private therapy practice specializing in the issues of Latinos since 1980. In *Dr. Ana Nogales' Book of Love, Sex and Relationships: A Guide for Latino Couples*, she uses intimate case histories of couples from diverse backgrounds to explore such issues at dating, sex, marital power struggles, raising children, and more. She points out how cultural attitudes and social pressures affect the way Latinos relate to those they love, addressing common myths couples often wrestle with. (\$23 cl, 0-7679-0118-5.) Simultaneous release in Spanish language trade paperback edition: *Amor, Intimidación y Sexo: Una Guía Para la Pareja Latina* (\$14 pb, 0-7679-0120-7, Broadway Books).

Now in paper: *Girls Only: Sleepovers, Squabbles, Tuna Fish, and Other Facts of Family Life* by Alex Witchel. "Witchel has the ability to write about mothers, daughters, and sisters in a way that evokes a sense of connection." —*USA Today*. \$11.95 pb, 0-385-32395-6, Delta Trade Paperbacks.

More than two thirds of all divorces are initiated by women. In *Marriage Shock: The Transformation of Women into Wives*, Dalma Heyn (*The Erotic Silence of the American Wife*) argues that only by restructuring marriage so that it can nourish and support women instead of forcing them to adapt to a preconceived role, can the institution survive. \$11.95 pb, 0-385-32402-2, Delta Trade Paperbacks.

To Dance With the Devil: The New War on Breast Cancer by Karen Stabiner is a behind-the-

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES



Eve Ensler
Foreword by
Gloria Steinem

The Vagina Monologues, from Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning one-woman show, is now available in trade paperback from Villard.

0-375-75052-5 \$11/C\$14.95 paper

"The special genius of *The Vagina Monologues* is Eve Ensler's ability to lead her audience to lost, discarded and wounded parts of themselves, and after the initial, devastating shocks of recognition, make them shout, weep and finally howl with laughter. Eve Ensler is a brilliant artist."

— *Sapphire*,
author of
Push.

What is V-Day?

♥ **V-Day is an organized response against violence toward women.**

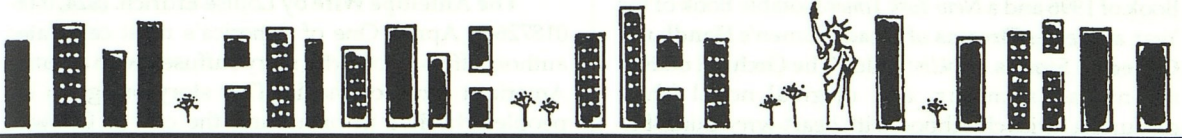
♥ **V-Day is a vision:** A world where women live safely and freely.

♥ **V-Day is a demand:** Rape, childhood sexual abuse, battery, genital mutilation, and bride burning must end now.

♥ **V-Day is a day.** We proclaim Valentine's Day as V-Day, to celebrate women and end the violence. We will work as long as it takes. We will not stop until the violence stops.

♥ **V-Day is a fierce, wild, unstoppable movement and community.**

Promote *The Vagina Monologues* and V-Day 1998 — on February 14 or in March for Women's History Month. Call Julie in Villard Sales for an in-store kit (cover blow-up, fliers, "Vagina Friendly" buttons for staff & customers): (212) 572-2034. And check out the V-Day Web site at www.feminist.com/vday/html.



scenes account of the battle against breast cancer. "Compelling, moving...will be compared to *And the Band Played On*.... [The book] interweaves policy and biography, science and heartbreaking reality." —*New York Times Book Review*. Includes an updated new chapter. \$13.95 pb, 0-385-31287-3, Delta Trade Paperbacks. —LM

BEACON PRESS

House of Houses by Pat Mora is a poetic, deeply creative biographical recreation of several generations of the author's Mexican American family in El Paso, Texas. "The book's twelve chapters are devoted to different family members, who illuminate in the stories they tell Mora both their own lives and their relationship with the larger family.... Woven in with these memories are recipes, fragments of songs and poetry, folk remedies, and jokes, all of the small matters that most reveal a family's identity." —*Kirkus Reviews*. \$24 cl, 0-8070-7200-1.

To coincide with the publication of **House of Houses**, Beacon is reprinting **Agua Santa: Holy Water**. "Ms. Mora's poems are proudly bilingual, an eloquent answer to purists who refuse to see language as something that lives and changes." —*New York Times Book Review*. \$11 pb, 0-8070-6829-2. —LM

GEORGE BRAZILLER

At the center of **Persian Brides** by Dorit Rabin-yann (translated from the Hebrew by Yael Lotan) is 15-year-old Flora Ratoryan, pregnant and recently abandoned by her husband, and her 11-year-old cousin, Nazie. Although the book covers only a few days in their lives, it branches out and back, encompassing the lives and histories of many of the inhabitants of the almond tree alley in the village where Flora and Nazie live. "A fascinating and beautiful novel, overflowing with sensual descriptions of a Jewish quarter in a small Persian village at the beginning of the century.... **Persian Brides** is a stirring work." —*Batya Gur* (Israel). \$22.50 cl, 0-8076-1430-0. —LM

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX

In her new novel, **The House Gun**, Nadine Gordimer explores the complex manifestations of love and loyalty between lovers of all kinds, and parents and children. Gordimer (*My Son's Story*, *None to Accompany Me*) is a writer who consistently writes about the intricacy of human relations — how fraught they are with possible difficulties and misunderstandings — and how these difficulties and misunderstandings translate into the politics of society at large. \$24 cl, 0-374-17307-9.

Eccentric Neighborhoods by Rosario Ferré (*The House on the Lagoon*) is an imagined memoir about a daughter's search for her mother. Elvira Vernet is captivated by her father, a handsome, eloquent, and successful man who was instrumental in the transformation of Puerto Rico from a bucolic island into a vibrant, industrial society with all of its contradictions and attendant ills. Yet to understand her obsession with her father, Elvira must first come to terms with her mother, who died many years before, and whose family had roots in an old plantation culture that could not survive the era of mechanization. A look at the psychological conflicts that determine the relationships between mothers and daughters. \$24 cl, 0-374-14638-1. —LM



HARCOURT BRACE & COMPANY

No Lease on Life by Lynne Tillman (*Haunted Houses*, *Motion Sickness*, *Cast in Doubt*, *The Broad Picture: Essays*) is a darkly comic novel which depicts 24 hours in the life of a woman and a city on the edge. \$23 cl, 0-15-100272-X.

Now in paper: A Booker Prize nomination for Shena Mackay's **The Orchard on Fire** (the book was a finalist for the prize) brought this Scottish author to the attention to many who had not previously heard of her work. Harvest Books has recently published this novel, which was also a *Publishers Weekly* Best

Book of 1996 and a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, as well as **Dreams of Dead Women's Handbags: Collected Stories**. *Booklist* called **The Orchard on Fire** an intense, stunning, and original novel [that] captures a fifties childhood with heart-wrenching, bittersweet detail and timeless truths that will touch each reader." (\$12 pb, 0-15-600532-8.) "A collection of stories that are testimony to the power of language to transform even the most trivial experience into something rich and strange." —The *Boston Review* on **Dreams of Dead Women's Handbags**. (\$14 pb, 0-15-600533-6.) —LM



HARPERCOLLINS

HARDCOVER

Wasted by Marya Hornbacher. (\$23, 0-06-018739-5.) Lots of national advertising for this book may make it a great hardback seller. It is a memoir of a young woman's lifelong love affair with bulimia and anorexia by a 23-year-old writer of virtuoso prose. It is a devastating critique of the American obsession with food and body image.

Loving Chloe by Jo-Ann Mapson. (\$24, 0-06-0172177, February.) Hardback fiction is a hard sell for our store, but for fans of Jo-Ann Mapson this is a must read. Hank and Chloe are back! This is the sequel to the beloved *Hank and Chloe* (42,000 copies sold) and features an unexpected love triangle seasoned with earthy humor and sexual magnetism.

Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver. (\$18, 0-06-017579-6, February.) To celebrate the tenth anniversary of its publication, HarperCollins proudly offers this commemorative hardcover edition featuring a new, easy-to-read design and a special, accessible price.

Aphrodite by Isabel Allende. (\$26, 0-06-017590-7, March.) A book of stories, recipes and other aphrodisiacs. Under the aegis of the Goddess of Love, Ms. Allende uses her storytelling skills brilliantly to evoke the delights of food and sex. Using her considerable research, you will find here recipes from her mother, poems and stories from ancient literature, and personal anecdotes that prove she has become an authority on aphrodisiacs, and, of course, love. Lots of media on this one!

The Antelope Wife by Louise Erdrich. (\$24, 0-06-018726-3, April.) One of America's most celebrated authors offers a powerful story suffused with a Native American sense of magic. This story brings to life people who live in or around the city of Ojibway, Minnesota, that was originally an important hunting ground for the nearby reservations. It portrays people of all backgrounds and is a mixture of vibrant cultures, ideas, and violence.

Everyday Sacred Journal by Sue Bender. (\$16, 0-06-251543-8.) Journals that accompany spirituality books work well for us so we will definitely order this one. The book, *Everyday Sacred*, has a beautiful cover as well as an appeal to a wide audience. A wonderful sample of nourishment and warm wisdom.

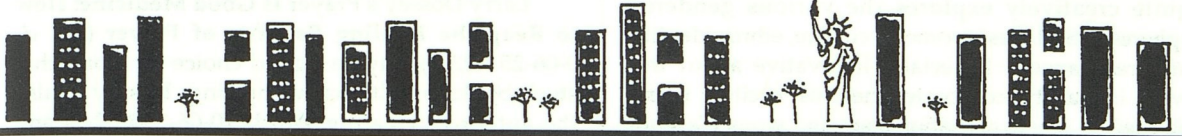
Before The Change by Ann Louise Gittelma, M.S., C.N.S. (\$22, 0-06-251539-X, February.) Addressing one of today's hottest medical issues, this co-author of *Beyond Pritikin* gives women the power to understand and control the dramatic, sometimes frightening symptoms of perimenopause. Clear definitions of the perimenopause phase as a period of up to ten years in which profound hormonal, physiological, and psychological changes take place make this a great book and a thorough guide.

Drawn from newspaper stories, private letters, subpoenaed testimony and previously unseen court documents, and personal reminiscences, **Lonely Hunters: An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life, 1948-1968** by James Sears (*Growing Up Gay in the South*) chronicles the era from the baby boom to the dawn of gay rights and the Stonewall Riot. \$24 cl, 0-8133-2474-2, Westview.

In **Rereading the Rabbis: A Woman's Voice**, renowned Talmudic scholar Judith Hauptman reads the texts with a feminist sensibility and provides new and insightful interpretations of women's place in the Talmudic tradition. \$26 cl, 0-8133-3400-4, Westview.

PAPER

Fatal Convictions by Shari P. Geller. (\$6.50, 0-06-101223-8.) In this strikingly original and ingenious thriller, a serial killer is on a rampage, and no child molester in the San Fernando Valley is safe. Combining "controversial" subject matter with witty dialogue and a powerful plot, this will be a new author for us, one we will definitely try.



Hunger Point by Jillian Medoff. (\$6.99, 0-06-101227-0.) Hailed as “affecting” and funny (*People*) and “wonderfully obsessive” (*Vanity Fair*), this is about an appealing and irreverent young woman struggling to come to terms with her sister’s eating disorder, her own obsessions with food and dieting, and the pressures of growing up. Sounds suspiciously like *She’s Come Undone* by Wally Lamb to me.

Cook’s Night Out by Joanne Pence. (\$5.99, 0-06-104396-6.) The fifth in this popular culinary mystery series, **Cook’s Night Out** has the dynamic sleuthing sweethearts, Paavo Smith and Angelina Amalfi, investigating a crime much closer to their hearts than their stomachs.

A Woman’s Place by Barbara Delinsky. (\$7.50, 0-06-109505-2.) While mainstream authors are very available in our city, we might sell a few copies of this. With a shelf-talker and some quick hand-selling we might be able to get the jump on a few more sales. A truly strong and successful woman is punished for doing what they tell us we should be doing — doing it all.

Glimmering by Elizabeth Hand. (\$6.99, 0-06-101216-5, February.) Science fiction and fantasy woven together into one faultless tapestry by an award-winning author. It captures the unspoken dreams and unspeakable nightmares of a generation.



TRADE PAPER

Natural Woman, Natural Menopause by Christine Conrad and Marcus Laux. (\$13, 0-06-092894-8.) We sold a couple of this book in hardback, so we’ll stock the paper edition. Everything a woman needs to know about plant-derived hormone replacement therapy is covered.

Circle of Simplicity by Cecile Andrews. (\$12, 0-06-092872-7, February.) While this is a local author for us and she is very prominent in our community, we haven’t had much success with the hardback. Of

course, we’ll stock the paper and try to do an author event, but perhaps the “simple” has been written to death. A good book — inwardly rich and outwardly simple.

Emotional Blackmail by Susan Forward, Ph.D. (\$13, 0-06-092897-2.) Yes, Yes, Yes! *If you really loved me.... After all I’ve done for you.... How can you be so selfish....* Clearly written, no-nonsense, and packed with information, this will be a great sell for your psychology section.

Cutting Loose: Why Women Who End Their Marriages Do So Well by Ashton Applewhite. (\$13, 0-06-092888-3, April.) Written with authority, sensitivity, and wit, this book offers the encouragement and a much-needed reality check for women who want to improve their own lives.

Glimpses of Grace by Madeleine L’Engle. (\$13, 0-06-065281-0.) Filled with spiritual insight. However, it leans to the mainstream.

That’s Funny, You Don’t Look Buddhist by Sylvia Boorstein. (\$12, 0-06-060958-3.) What’s a nice Jewish girl like you doing as a Buddhist teacher? With wit and down-to-earth charm, she answers the questions quite well.

On My Own At 107 by Sarah L. Delany. (\$10, 0-06-2514865, February.) A spirited memoir and, at the same time, a loving tribute to her sister and a life-affirming meditation on beginning again.

Be A Goddess! by Francesca De Grandis. (\$13, 0-06-251505-5, February.) Professional Celtic shaman Francesca De Grandis shows readers how to tap into their Goddess power, and unveils the mysteries of magic as a toll for spiritual development. National ads in *SageWoman* magazine.

Lesbian Love Companion by Marny Hall. (\$15, 0-06-251431-8, April.) Not another Cinderella story. Popular author and lesbian therapist Marny Hall tells it like it really is in this refreshingly sane and uproariously funny look at lesbian love. Lots of press on this one!

Gender Politics in Sudan: Islamism, Socialism, and the State by Sondra Hale. “Hale thoroughly and

quite creatively explores the various gendered spheres of Sudanese women's culture, ethnic identity, and resistance.... Especially innovative about this work is that it incorporates the most exciting recent theoretical works on nationalism and women's studies and directly engages the pressing questions they raise." —*Ufahamu: Journal of the African Activist Association*. (\$22 pb, 0-8133-3370-9, short discount, Westview.) **A New Woman of Japan: A Political Biography of Katô Shidzue** by Helen M. Hopper traces the life of one of Japan's most powerful female activists and politicians. An early founder of Japan's birth control movement, Katô advocated for a wide range of women's rights before and after World War II. (\$22 pb, 0-8133-3422-5, short discount, Westview.)

—Sherry Thompson
New Woman Books/Kent WA
and FBN

HARPERSANFRANCISCO

Laura Evans is a world-class mountain climber whose aspiration to climb the highest peaks on all seven continents was derailed by a breast cancer which made it difficult for her to walk even a few blocks. Five years after her initial diagnosis, Evans and 16 other breast cancer survivors climbed Mt. Aconagua in the Andes. This winter, Evans and the Expedition Inspiration she helped found, plan to scale Mt. Vinson in Antarctica. Fueled by the conviction that every person has a personal mountain to climb, **The Climb of My Life: A Miraculous Journey from the Edge of Death to the Victory of a Lifetime** (\$22 cl, 0-06-258658-0), is Evans' story. Proceeds from the sale of this book go to Expedition Inspiration.

Another inspiring read is **In Our Own Voices: Four Centuries of American Women's Religious Writing** (\$18 pb, 0-06-066840-7) edited by feminist scholars Rosemary Radford Ruether and Rosemary Skinner Keller. This "popular history of the multicultural and multifaith spirituality of American women" includes excerpts from diaries, letters, sermons, speeches, essays and books from writers as diverse as Mother Jones and Zora Neale Hurston. A related title is a newly revised edition of **Women and Religion: The Original Sourcebook of Women in Christian Thought** (\$18 pb, 0-06-061409-9) edited by Elizabeth Clark and Herbert Richardson and originally published 20 years ago.

Larry Dossey's **Prayer Is Good Medicine: How to Reap the Healing Benefits of Prayer** (\$22 cl, 0-06-251423-7) may be a good choice for stores that stock books on alternative healing. Dossey is also the author of **Healing Words** (0-06-250252-2) and husband of author Barbara Dossey who co-edited a wonderful book entitled **Rituals of Healing: Using Imagery for Health and Wellness** (Bantam, \$14.95, pb, 0-553373471). Another book for the health section is **Shiatsu for Women** (Thorsons, \$17 pb, 1-085538-482-5).

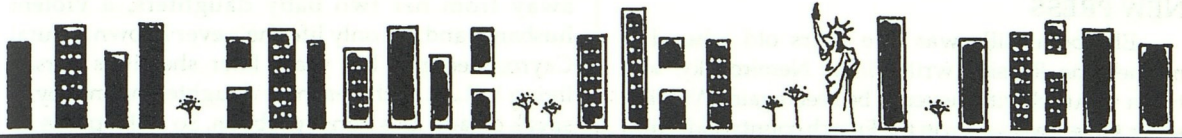
Prayers for Bobby: A Mother's Coming to Terms with the Suicide of Her Gay Son by Leroy Aarons is now available in paperback (\$12, 0-06-251123-8), as is Sue Bender's **Everyday Sacred: A Woman's Journey Home** (\$13, 0-06-251290-0). Another edition of Anne Wilson Schaefer's classic **Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much** (and who doesn't?) is also available (\$5.99 pb, 0-06-251437-7).

Positively Women: Living with AIDS (\$18 pb, 0-04-440943-5) edited by Sue O'Sullivan and Kate Thompson comes with a rave review by activist-author Sarah Schulman: "By combining the individual experiences with concrete analysis...the authors treat each reader as a potential activist and inspire us to action."

—Audrey May, *Meristem* (with thanks to my friends at Burke's Bookstore for their assistance)

In At The Root of this Longing: Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst, author Carol Lee Flinders (*Enduring Grace*) identifies four key points at which the paths of spirituality and feminism seem to collide: vowing silence vs. finding voice, relinquishing ego vs. establishing "self," resisting desire vs. reclaiming the body, and enclosure vs. freedom. The book is a memoir of Flinders' personal journey to integrate her feminism into her spiritual practice. \$20 cl, 0-06-251314-1.

Sacred Circles: A Guide to Creating Your Own Women's Spirituality Group by Robin Carnes and Sally Craig is a guidebook for women wanting to form groups in which to tell their stories, challenge one another, and explore their relationship with the sacred. The authors share stories of how they and other women have started and sustained groups, giving readers the practical tools they need to create and strengthen their own special circle. Inspirational quotes throughout. The publisher is very



interested in promoting this book through authorless events. Ask your sales rep for a Sacred Circle Event Kit. \$16 pb, 0-06-251522-5. A HarperSanFrancisco Paperback Original.

New in paperback: Set against a backdrop of the vibrant and sometimes harrowing world of a Chinese American family, **Monkey King** by Patricia Chao is the story of 28-year-old Sally Wang, whose mental breakdown and sojourn in a hospital set her on the path to memory and recovery. "An elegant first novel.... The pace is quick, the writing artful.... Chao has created a vivid cast of female characters who breathe fresh insight into the lonely horrors of incest and depression." —*People*. \$13 pb, 0-06-092893-X, HarperFlamingo. —LM

HENRY HOLT & COMPANY

Completely Queer: The Gay and Lesbian Encyclopedia by Steve Hogan and Lee Hudson chronicles lesbian and gay life and achievement worldwide through nearly 500 in-depth articles, each of which includes a list of resources for further information. The guide aims to offer a true balance of information for lesbians and gay men — discussing their common concerns as well as their different histories and interests. 672 pp, 200 b&w photographs. \$50 cl, 0-8050-3629-6.

Karen Joy Fowler is the author of the beautifully written, imaginative and unusual historical novel, *Sarah Canary*. Her new book is **Black Glass: Short Fictions**. "[Karen Fowler's] willingness to take detours, her unapologetic delight in the odd historical fact, her shadowy humor and the elegant unruliness of her language, all elevate her story from the picaresque to the grand." —*The New York Times Book Review*. \$23 cl, 0-8050-5557-6.

At the center of Where the Road Goes by Joanne Greenberg (*I Never Promised You a Rose Garden, In This Sign*) is Tig, a grandmother who leaves her family for a year to join a walk across North America in the spirit of her activist youth. Although physically separated from them, Tig remains the nexus of relations within

her family. In a web of correspondence, her daughters, husband, and grandchildren speak to and through each other, recasting and reinterpreting events back home, and revealing themselves in the telling. \$25 cl, 0-8050-5163-5.

New in paperback: **Guided Tours of Hell: Novellas** by Francine Prose. The less-than-innocents abroad in these two short novels are Americans in Europe, whose shocking, bewildering trips change forever their ideas about history, reality, politics, and sex. \$12 pb, 0-8050-5586-X.

Back in print: **Bigfoot Dreams** by Francine Prose. Vera lives in New York with her daughter and works for a sleazy supermarket tabloid in this sharp, funny comedy of American psychology and pop culture. \$12 pb, 0-8050-4860-X. —LM



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Houghton Mifflin has just published a beautiful slipcased edition of Margaret Atwood's **The Journals of Susanna Moodie**, the poem cycle that gave rise to *Alias Grace*. The book is boldly illustrated with original serigraphs by artist Charles Patcher. 8¾" by 10¾", 93 pages, most of which have full-page illustrations with text worked in. \$30 cl, 0-395-88043-2. —LM

MACMILLAN

J.K. Lasser's Gay and Lesbian Financial Planning Guide: How to Manage Your Finances in a Straight World by Greg A. Diggins, CPA, CFP focuses on financial planning in a system that was not designed for same-sex couples or gay people in general. It helps lesbians and gays identify financial planning issues common to society in general, and to the gay community specifically. It also helps gays and lesbians foresee and plan life events likely to affect their financial status, and successfully develop financial strategies that navigate their finances around these events. \$19.95 pb, 0-02-862222-7.

NEW PRESS

Elisabeth Gille was five years old when her mother, the Russian writer Irene Nemirovsky, was taken to Auschwitz, never to be seen again. With her sister, Gille was hidden in the French countryside until the end of the war. **Shadows of a Childhood** is a fictionalized account of one girl's coming to terms with the war. "**Shadows of a Childhood** moves us not only with the story of a little Jewish girl exiled from one milieu to another, from one life to another, but also through the sober delicacy with which this tale is told." —Elie Wiesel. 144 pp, \$23 cl, 1-56584-388-6. Distributed by W.W. Norton. —LM

NEW WORLD LIBRARY

In **Creating True Prosperity**, Shakti Gawain (*Creative Visualization, Living in the Light*) shows how to create prosperity which includes satisfying relationships, happiness and fulfillment. \$15 cl, 1-880032-99-6; \$11.95 cassette, 1-57731-055-1. —LM

NORTON

Growing Up Gay is Rita Reed's response to the high rate of suicide among gay and lesbian teens. Reed, a staff photographer for the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, found two teens who allowed her to spend time with them, documenting their day-to-day lives and the things they faced as out gay teens in the Midwest. In the text which accompanies the photos, Amy and Jamie talk about coming out to their families, the prejudice and harassment they are subjected to in school, the pain of rejection and the joys of first love. Reed conceived of this project as a way to support teens that felt isolated and alone because of their sexuality, and Amy and Jamie were courageous enough to share their lives with her to help make this happen. 8½" x 10", 60 duotone photos. \$19.95 pb, 0-393-31659-9, \$35 cl, -04092-5. —LM



PENGUIN USA

Cavedweller, Dorothy Allison's second novel, about running away and running back, is due out in April and it looks great! This time, Dorothy tells the story from a mother's point-of-view following Delia, who climbs on a rock-and-roll tour bus and rides

away from her two baby daughters, a violent husband, and the only life she's ever known in rural Cayro, Georgia. Ten years later she finds herself living in L.A. with her third daughter, no money to speak of, and an alcohol problem. So Delia packs up her Datsun and her daughter and goes back to Cayro to reclaim her two abandoned daughters — and her life. In **Cavedweller** Dorothy maps the unexplored recesses of the human heart and the lives of four women at the place where violence, and what redeems it, intersect. (\$23.95 cl, 0-525-94167-3, Dutton.) Also available in audio: (\$23.95, 1561007889, Brilliance). —JT

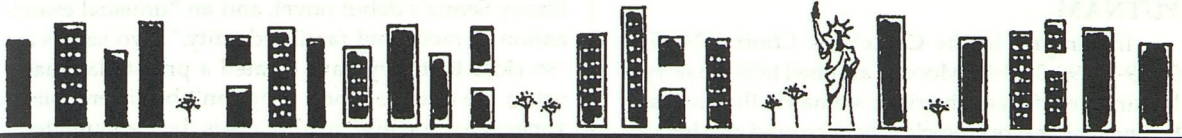
The poems in **An Octave Above Thunder: New and Selected Poems** by Carol Muske make clear Muske's awareness of the complicated web into which the personal and the political, the familial and the feminist, are woven. \$14.95 pb, 0-14-058794-2. A Penguin paperback original.

In **Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John**, Sally Cline draws from new material to explore the connections between the writings, life, and milieu of this influential, ultra flamboyant lesbian novelist. The British edition of this book was one of Silver Moon's top ten bestsellers last year. \$27.50 cl, 0-87951-831-6, Overlook Press.

The Brontës: A Life in Letters is Juliet Barker's follow-up to her 1995 landmark biography, *The Brontës*. Through absorbing and entertaining letters, the family — Charlotte, Emily, Anne, Branwell, and their father, Reverend Patrick Brontë — tell their own story. \$35 cl, 0-87951-838-3, Overlook Press.

New in paperback: Tailored specifically for women, **A Woman's Guide to Martial Arts** by Monica McCabe-Cardoza, answers questions that beginners often have about making a commitment to a martial arts program. It covers such subjects as the pros and cons of different martial arts styles, ways to overcome common fears beginners often face, what to look for and what to avoid in a school, and what questions to ask a potential instructor. \$13.95 pb, 0-87951-843-X, Overlook Press.

Aung San Suu Kyi, human-rights activist and leader of Burma's National League for Democracy, was sentenced to six years' house arrest in 1989 by the ruling military junta. While imprisoned she continued to be engaged in the fight for freedom, and her vision, humanity, and commitment to political and



ethnic harmony won her party an overwhelming victory in the elections of May 1990. **Letters from Burma** is a collection of writings from her imprisonment. Aung San Suu Kyi is the winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize and the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. \$13.95 pb, 0-14-026403-5. This is a Penguin paperback original.

New in paperback: **The Gangster of Love** by Jessica Hagedorn. "Playful, inventive.... Asks serious questions about family, exile, identity, [and] the problems of learning to operate in another language." —Francine Prose, *The New York Times Book Review*. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-015970-3.

Comfort Woman by Nora Okja Keller. "[*Comfort Woman*] combines the familial intimacy of Louise Erdrich's early novels with the fierce, historical magic of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.... A powerful book about mothers and daughters and the passions that bind one generation to another." —*The New York Times*. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-026335-7.

Desert Places by Robyn Davidson (*Tracks*). Davidson's account of the year she traveled with the Rabari, pastoral nomads of northwest India, on their migratory cycle. "Searing, deeply felt, richly evocative: She enters into the mire with her subjects and details her experiences in affecting, lyrical and yes, often rawly honest, prose. This is an altogether different kind of travel book." —*San Jose Mercury News*. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-026797-2.

Prospect: The Journey of an Artist by Anne Truitt. In her earlier memoirs, *Daybook* and *Turn*, Truitt charted her life as an artist, mother and teacher. In *Prospect* she looks at the far end of her life's arc and feels the urgent need to reevaluate what she has done. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-026768-9.

In The Intimacy Dance: A Guide to Long-Term Success in Gay and Lesbian Relationships Betty

Berzon, Ph.D., (*Permanent Partners*) offers specific advice for those in long-term relationships (three years and longer) who are coping with the inevitable surprises, complications, and concerns about identities merging, sex waning, or the inability to resolve conflicts. \$12.95 pb, 0-452-27747-7, Plume.

¡Yo! by Julia Alvarez. From the author of *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* (and with some of the same characters), **¡Yo!** is an imaginative and exuberant exploration of a woman's soul, a meditation on the writing life, and a lyrical account of the immi-

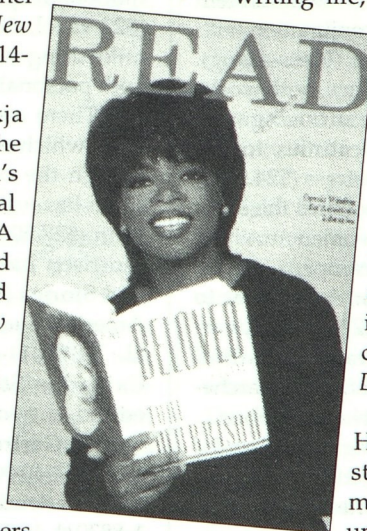
grant's search for identity and a place in the world. \$11.95 pb, 0-452-27918-6, Plume.

Written from a parent's point-of-view, **Willie: Raising and Loving a Child with Attention Deficit Disorder** by Ann Colin provides a unique perspective of this condition which affects nearly ten percent of school-aged children in this country. "An inspiration for anyone coping with a child with special needs." —*New York Daily News*. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-024908-7.

Bridgeport Bus by Maureen Howard is the luminous and funny story of Mary Agnes Keely who, at midlife, ditches her Irish Catholic upbringing and the emptiness of small town life for the chaos of Manhattan.

Mary Agnes taps hidden resources in a gradual process of creative self-discovery, realizing triumphantly that "it was no great sin to be, at last, alone." (\$10 pb, 0-14-005566-5.) This book is being republished to coincide with the publication of Howard's new novel, *A Lover's Almanac*.

First published in 1942, **The Way of the Storyteller** by Ruth Sawyer is distinguished from other books on storytelling by its blend of literary history, criticism, analysis, personal anecdote, and how-to instructions. Includes a comprehensive reading and story list. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-004436-1. —LM



PUTNAM

In *Singing in the Comeback Choir* (\$24.95 cl, 0-399-14298-3), Bebe Moore Campbell tells the story of Maxine, an African American woman in the process of balancing her working-class background and her current work, which she worries is of questionable social value. Maxine is called back to her old Philadelphia neighborhood, and to the home of her grandmother Lindy, whose once laughter-filled house has become dim and lifeless, mirroring the blighted neighborhood. Maxine realizes that the neighborhood and her grandmother "have been the source of her own strength and success, and she is moved to help both reclaim their glory." Bebe Moore Campbell "creates a moving story of hope and redemption, of faith and commitment that can make any comeback possible."

The Seamstress caught my eye, as it would seem to be a wonderful memoir to read in conjunction with Elana Dykewomon's *Beyond the Pale* (Press Gang). Although set in a different time and place, both works tell the story of young Jewish women surviving wartime and controlling their own destinies to the greatest extent possible. In *The Seamstress* (\$24.95 cl, 0-399-14322-X), Sara Tuvel Bernstein shares the story of how she and three other young women survived the horrors of life in a concentration camp.

In *The Bond Between Women: A Journey to Fierce Compassion* (\$24.95 cl, 1-57322-088-4, Riverhead, April), China Galland celebrates "wrathful goddess icons around the world, and how these archetypes form an unexpected bond between women.... Around the world, women are working for justice, for healing, and the lives of these women reveal an unusual source of strength: the fierceness of compassion...and the fierce divine feminine, which arises when the world is on the brink of destruction."

Julia Cameron (*Artist's Way, Vein of Gold, Heart Steps*) has written *Blessings* (\$9.95 pb, 0-87477-906-5, March), "an inspirational book of prayers that brings to the heart and mind a consciousness of gratitude and appreciation." Cameron's readers may also enjoy *Blessings* on audiotape (\$10.95, 0-87477-907-3), read by Julia Cameron, with music by Tim Wheeler. Also available is *The Artist's Way: Morning Pages Journal* (\$14.95 pb, 0-87477-886-7), a companion volume to *The Artist's Way*. Using this book, "readers will find privacy, a portable writing room."

Caucasia (\$24.95 cl, 1-57322-091-4, Riverhead) is

Danzy Senna's debut novel, and an "unusual examination of racial and family identity." Two sisters are "so close that they have created a private language, yet to the outside world they can't be sisters: Birdie appears to be white, while Cole is dark enough to fit in with the other kids at the Afrocentric school they attend. For Birdie, Cole is the mirror in which she can see her own Blackness." The family members are split apart, and Birdie "must learn to navigate the white world" so that she can "set off in search of her sister."

In *Sweat Your Prayers*, Gabrielle Roth teaches us "to realize our potential for ecstasy as we experience movement." She takes us on a "journey through five universal rhythms — flowing, staccato, chaos, lyrical, and stillness. These rhythms can free the body and spirit from ordinary consciousness and catalyze motion deep in the psyche." *Sweat Your Prayers* (\$22.95 cl, 0-87477-878-6) reveals a "method for unleashing a natural sense of movement, resulting in both personal power and presence of the soul."

There are several new biographies and collections which are appropriate for feminist bookstores, though the collections are on the pricey side. Sally Cline has written *Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John* (\$27.50 cl, 0-87951-831-6, Overlook Press). Toni Morrison has edited *James Baldwin, Early Novels and Stories* (\$35 cl, 1-883011-51-5, 992 pp, Library of America) and *James Baldwin, Collected Essays* (\$35 cl, 1-883011-52-3, 896 pp, Library of America). Catharine Stimpson and Harriet Chessman have edited a two-volume edition of Gertrude Stein's works, *Gertrude Stein: Writings 1902-1932* (\$40 cl, 1-883011-40-X, 960 pp, March, Library of America) and *Gertrude Stein, Writings 1932-1946* (\$40 cl, 1-883011-41-8, 864 pp, March, Library of America).

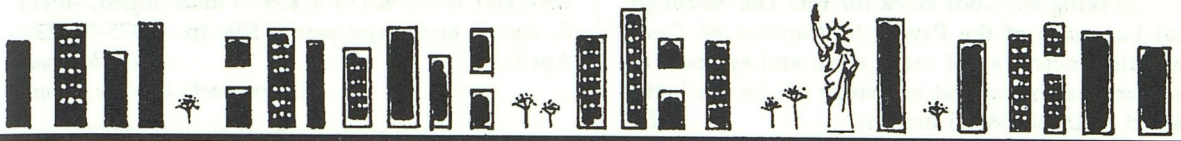
—Dylan Besk

Lioness Books/Sacramento



RANDOM HOUSE

In *Black and Blue* by Anna Quindlen (*Object Lessons, One True Thing, Living Out Loud*), Fran Benedetto tells the story of how her marriage turns violent, and what finally made her run away to start a new life with her son under a new name. Living in fear of discovery, yet also with increasing confidence, freedom, and



hope, Fran unravels the complex threads of family, identity, and desire that shape a woman's life, even as she struggles to create a new one. \$22 cl, 0-375-50051-0. Also available in audio: abridged, 4 cassettes, 4 hours. \$24, 0-375-40190-3. —LM

Terra Incognita: Travels in Antarctica by Sara Wheeler, the first woman ever sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation in Antarctica, is a lively account of Antarctic expeditions, including the author's own. "A superbly written book to add to the canon of polar literature." —Beryl Bainbridge. \$23 cl, 0-679-44078-X. —JT



RH-Crown

In **A Room of Her Own: Women's Personal Spaces** by Chris Casson Madden, photographs by Jennifer Lévy, women from all walks of life introduce the reader into the sanctuaries they have created for themselves. From a sewing room to a corner in a busy kitchen, from a potting shed to a tent in the garden, these spaces provide nurturance for the body, mind, and spirit. Maya Angelou's and Oprah Winfrey's rooms are among the treasures found in this beautiful full-color gift book. \$30 cl, 0-517-59939-2, Clarkson N. Potter. —JT

Moments of Grace: Meeting the Challenge to Change by Patrice Gaines (*Laughing in the Dark*). Gaines offers her own story of how she broke free of a self-perpetuating cycle of heroin use and relationships with abusive men to become a responsible mother and successful writer and reporter. She also relates the testimonies of other people of various ages, races, and religions to motivate and inspire readers to meet the difficult challenge of changing their lives. \$12 pb, 0-609-80171-6, Crown.

In **Hearts of Fire: Great Women of American Lore and Legend**, Kemp Battle celebrates a diverse array of folk heroines and other great American women — midwives, teachers, medicine women,

spiritual healers, and suffragettes — whose defiance of expectations and conformity was sometimes dangerous, often arduous, and always inspiring. "Battle draws on memoirs, letters, diaries, legend, and historical portraits to tell compelling stories of women from all walks of life." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$14 pb, 0-609-80183-X, Harmony.

Somebody Else's Children: The Courts, the Kids, and the Struggle to Save America's Troubled Families by John Hubner and Jill Wolfson delves into the daily workings of one American family court system, providing an intimate look at the lives of the children whose fate it decides. "You wouldn't expect a book that explains the inner workings of the juvenile justice and child welfare systems in Santa Clara County, California, to be spellbinding reading. You wouldn't expect this 384 page tome to keep you up late at night. But **Somebody Else's Children** is and does." —*Houston Chronicle*. \$14 pb, 0-609-80170-8, Crown.

Visits: Caring for an Aging Parent: Reflections and Advice by Lee Ann Chearney is an affirmation/self-help book that gives support and practical advice to those who are providing care for a parent who is struggling with the effects of aging or illness. The book includes a resources section which lists organizations and agencies available to assist caregivers. \$10 pb, 0-609-80059-0, Three Rivers.

Finch, the narrator in **A Gracious Plenty** by Sheri Reynolds, was badly disfigured as a child in a household accident. Now a loner in her forties, she inherits her father's job as custodian of the town's cemetery. While tending to the flowers and shrubs around the stones and monuments, she begins to hear voices — faint buzzings that grow more distinct as she learns to listen. When she finally speaks, the dead answer back, telling their stories in a remarkable chorus of regrets, explanations and revelations. Sheri Reynolds is also the author of *The Rapture of Canaan*, an Oprah Book Club selection. (\$21 cl, 0-609-60225-X, Harmony.) Reading Group Guide available: (0-676-53379-5; packet of 5). Also available in audio: abridged, 2 cassettes, 3 hours. (\$18, 0-375-40167-9.)

Making the Gods Work for You: The Astrological Language of the Psyche by Caroline W. Casey reveals a new way of using myth and symbols for self-understanding and to change life for the better. \$25 cl, 0-609-60058-3, Harmony. —LM



RH-Knopf

Paradise, Toni Morrison. (\$25 cl, 0679433740, February.) The write-up for this book uses words like "extraordinary" and "breathtaking," but does not seem as if the reviewer had a clue what the book is actually about. But it is Toni Morrison and it is her new novel and so many of us have been waiting for it. Perfect for Black History Month as it spans Reconstruction to the 70s. Also in audio, read by the author (\$25.95, 0375401792) and large print (\$25 tp, 0-375-70217-2).

Inheritance, Indira Ganesan. (\$22 cl, 0679434429, February.) Sounds like a wonderful coming-of-age novel set in India.

Pandora: New Tales of the Vampires, Ann Rice. (\$19.95 cl, 0375401598, March.) The first in a new series of novels set in Paris, the time now, with a character who tells her story starting in the time of Caesar Augustus.

Other Powers: The Age of Suffrage, Spiritualism, and the Scandalous Victoria Woodhull, Barbara Goldsmith. (\$30 cl, 0394555368, March.) Just in time for Women's History Month, this is a combination of history and biography, set at the turn of the last century.

When Memory Speaks: Reflections on Autobiography, Jill Kerr Conway. (\$22 cl, 0679445935, March.) As she looks at writers over the centuries who have done autobiography, Conway examines cultural assumptions and personal censorship as she compares the writings of men and women.

The All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton, Jane Smiley. (\$26 cl, 0679450742, April.) Although this is a novel, it is also women's history, albeit fictional. Set in 1855 and dealing with abolitionists and slaveholders and one woman's experiences. Plus, who could pass her up after all the hoopla over *A Thousand Acres*, even though I was not crazy about *Moo*. Also available in audio (\$24

abridged, 0-375-40173-3; \$39.95 unabridged, -40171-7, April) and large print (\$26 tp, 0-375-70223-7, April).

—Linda Bryant

Charis Books & More, Atlanta

The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity by Jill Lepore is the story of the excruciating racial war — colonists against Indians — that erupted in New England in 1675. Leoire explores how it was written about, and how both the war and the words helped to shape an American consciousness. \$30 cl, 0-679-44686-9. —JT

RH-Pantheon

Blues Legacies and Black Feminism: Gertrude "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, and Billie Holiday, Angela Y. Davis. (\$27.50 cl, 067945005x, February.) Talk about a book for both of the History months! This book sounds amazing, compelling, and controversial — Wow. —LB

In Red-tails in Love: Mysteries of Urban Wildlife Marie Winn chronicles the five-year-long saga of a pair of red-tailed hawks, who built a nest on a high ledge of a building on New York City's Fifth Avenue, as well as the adventures of Central Park's other wildlife residents and the more-human birdwatchers. \$24 cl, 0-679-43997-8; compact counter display 0-676-53793-6. —JT

RH-Shambhala

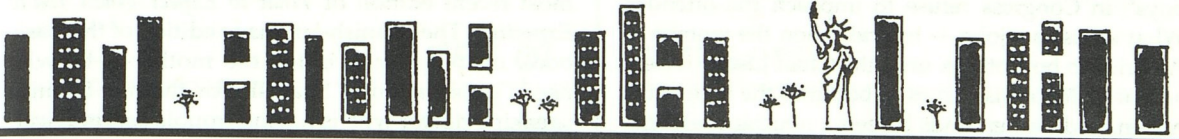
The Heroine's Journey Workbook, Maureen Murdock. (\$17 pb, 1570622558, April.) Designed for the individual reader or to use in groups to explore a woman's development and creation of her own story.

Heaven's Face, Thinly Veiled: A Book of Spiritual Writing by Women, edited by Sarah Anderson. (\$15.95 pb, 1570623635, April.) Excerpts from spiritual writings over the centuries and from many traditions, this book serves as another part of Women's History. —LB



RH-Schocken

Black on White: Black Writers on What it Means to Be White, edited by David R. Roediger. (\$24, 0-8052-4146-9, April.) Toni Morrison gives this book her okay, so I think that means we should take a look.



Included are Zora Neale Hurston, bell hooks and 50 other writers. —LB

RH-Times

When treatment ends, breast cancer survivors are often overwhelmed by a sense of bewilderment and anxiety about how to move from "I have breast cancer" back to "I am leading a normal life." **Living Beyond Breast Cancer: A Survivor's Guide For When Treatment Ends and The Rest of Your Life Begins** by Marisa C. Weis, M.D. and Ellen Weiss is "...an upbeat self-help manual for women making this transition [which] captures the broad range of challenges that women experience after treatment ends. The book provides practical solutions to common problems as well as a sensitive discussion of important feelings." —Patricia A. Ganz, M.D., Professor, UCLA Schools of Medicine and Public Health. 506 pp, including a list of helpful organizations and an extensive list of suggestions for further reading. \$27.50 cl, 0-8129-2689-7. —LM

RH-Villard

The Vagina Monologues, Eve Ensler, foreword by Gloria Steinem. (\$11 pb, 0375750525, February.) I must have been out of it, but I did not know about her winning the Obie for this work — I never heard of it, but I am convinced by the catalogue that we have to have this, that it is funny and empowering and important. —LM

RH-Vintage

The House That Race Built: Essays by Toni Morrison, Angela Davis, Cornel West, and Others on the State of Race and Gender Relations in America Today, edited and introduced by Wahneema Lubiano. (\$14 pb, 0679760687, March.) Very challenging and important — good for both Black History and Women's History months.

What Girls Learn, Karin Cook. (\$13, 0-679-76944-7, February.) A novel of girls and their mothers and breast cancer and life.

Among Warriors: A Woman Martial Artist in Tibet, Pamela Logan. (\$13 pb, 0375700765, March.) Catalogue copy says, "A book that will captivate anyone interested in Buddhism, the martial arts, or Tibet," so I think it is worth checking out, especially since it is written by a woman. —LB

In **Personal History: A Memoir**, Katharine Graham, the woman who piloted the *Washington Post* through the crises of the Pentagon Papers, Watergate, and a pressmen's strike and turned it into a great newspaper, now tells her story. \$15 tp, 0-375-70104-4. Audio book also available: \$18, 0-679-45818-2. —JT

The Prospect Before Her: A History of Women in Western Europe, 1500–1800 by Olwen Hufton. From Jeannette Clerc, beheaded on charges of witchcraft in sixteenth-century Geneva, to Catharina Schrader, an eighteenth-century Dutch midwife whose memoirs record the delivery of 4,000 infants, Hufton provides an invaluable historical framework for women's issues that are still with us — from childbirth, marriage, and family to the challenges of the workplace. 688 pp, 24 pages of b&w illustrations. \$18 pb, 0-679-76818-1. —LM



SIMON & SCHUSTER

Judith Viorst's last book, *Necessary Losses*, was an inquiry into facing loss and death. In **Imperfect Control: Our Lifelong Struggles with Power and Surrender**, she examines the question of control — self-control, control of the events of in one's life, control of others. \$24 cl, 0-684-80139-6.

Holding Out: A Novel by Anne Faulk. Lauren Fontaine, a 36-year-old financial executive and single mother with a wicked wit and a tenacious sense of right and wrong, is outraged when the wife of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court commits suicide after years of spousal abuse — and the "good old

boys" in Congress refuse to impeach the offender. What starts as a joke — her call upon the women of America to boycott sex until the Chief Justice is held accountable for his crimes — becomes the rage of the nation, and Lauren finds herself a reluctant celebrity at the center of the controversial movement. \$23 cl, 0-684-84671-3.

Based on a decade of original research with 60 dysfunctional couples, **When Men Batter Women: New Insights into Ending Abusive Relationships** by Neil S. Jacobson, Ph.D. and John Gottman, Ph.D. provides a look at the psychology of men who batter women. The authors categorize batterers into two specific types: those whose violence can sometimes be tamed by the right therapy, and those who see violence as a normal part of life and will probably always be dangerous. Profiling each type of batterer in detail, the authors address the dynamics of the batterers' relationships, discuss treatment options, and draw on their study to describe the characteristics of women who escaped abusive relationships. \$25 cl, 0-684-81447-1.

Judith Widdicombe was a registered nurse who helped women get abortions while the procedure was still illegal, and then went on to set up the first legal abortion clinic in Missouri. Samuel Lee was a young pacifist and aspiring Franciscan seminarian who became very involved in the right-to-life movement. Focusing on these two people who were leaders from opposing camps in the conflict that ended up in the U.S. Supreme Court as *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services*, **Articles of Faith** by Cynthia Gorney presents a political and social narrative of one of the most significant challenges to *Roe v. Wade*. (\$27.50 cl, 0-684-80904-4.) **Because They Wanted To**, Mary Gaitskill's latest collection of stories, has just been published in paperback under the Scribner imprint. (\$11 pb, 0-684-84144-4.) Scribner is also reissuing Gaitskill's darkly erotic first novel, **Two Girls, Fat and Thin**. "Gaitskill writes with compelling power, evoking over and over the feeling of both the perpetrator and the victim." —Jane Smiley. (\$11 pb, 0-684-84312-9.) —LM

WORKMAN

Qué Se Puede Esperar Cuando Se Está Esperando by Arlene Eisenberg, Heidi E. Murkoff, and Sandee E. Hathaway, B.S.N. is a complete translation of the

most recent edition of *What to Expect When You're Expecting*. The Spanish-language edition of this basic book on pregnancy is for the mother-to-be who needs information in Spanish, for the non-Spanish speaking doctor who is having trouble communicating with a Spanish-speaking patient, and for the expectant parents in a stressful time. \$13.95 pb, 0-7611-0949-8. —LM



WILLIAM MORROW & CO.

Embracing Victory: Coming into Our Own as Competitors by Mariah Burton Nelson (*The Stronger Women Get, the More Men Love Football*) is an examination of the ambivalence many women feel about winning, as well as a prescription for dealing with this issue. Drawing from interviews of two hundred women as well as original survey research of one thousand women and girls nationwide, Nelson proposes a unique five-part framework for understanding competition: it's a relationship, a process, an opportunity, a risk, and a feminist issue. \$23 cl, 0-688-14649-X.

"My birth should have been an auspicious occasion for my parents because I was their first child. But I was born a girl, and in the Philippines that made all the difference," writes Maria Violetta Rossario Dananay, the narrator of **Always Hiding** by Sophia G. Romero. When Maria's father leaves his family for his latest flame, her mother, unable to face the disgrace, flees to New York. This first novel set in both the Philippines and New York offers a new and fascinating view of modern Filipino life. \$22.50 cl, 0-688-15632-0.

With emphasis on preventive care, **Being Female: What Every Woman Should Know about Gynecological Health** by Rita Baron-Faust (with the physicians of the NYU Medical Center Women's Health Service) is a resource for women of all ages which addresses common concerns, including fibroids; urinary tract infections; breast, ovarian, cervical, and uterine cancers; endometriosis; infertility; and sexual dysfunction. It also offers clear explanations of new tests and treatments, including hormone replacement therapy, fertility procedures, and gynecological surgeries. \$25 cl, 0-688-12071-7. —LM ○

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Rising Tide Press and Womankind Books have moved to Tuscon and are seeking women with book-selling and publishing experience for staff. Also accepting resumes from experienced freelance editors and graphic art designers. For more information, contact Lee Boojamra or Alice Frier at 520-888-1140.

COMIX

Feminist science fiction quarterly in comic form — *Invasion of the Space Amazons from the Purple Planet!* Latest issue now available from GrizMart Productions, PO Box 442612, Lawrence KS 66044. Single copy: \$2.50 postpaid; 40% bookstore discount on 5+ copies (5 copies, \$6.75 postpaid). Send your store's business card for a free sample kit!

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