Feminist Bookstore News

A lot of dirt to dig in —
ABA, Indies Sue 2 Superchains
(page 9)

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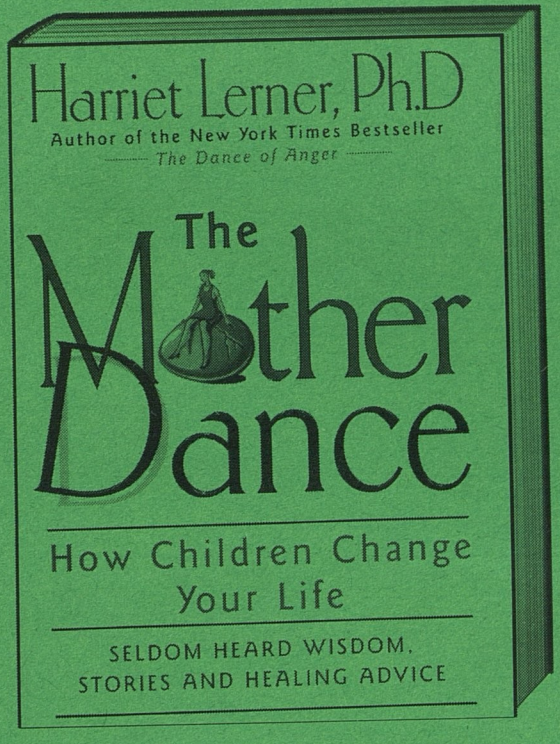

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As we go to press...

Welcome to *FBN*'s Spring Announcements/ BEA/TLC issue. If you're picking this issue up at BEA or TLC, please be advised that we don't *always* run to 156 pages — 124 is our norm but there's so much news and so many great books to announce that we kept adding pages. —And even at 156 pages we still had to postpone articles on renting audio tapes, stocking zines for young feminists, writing newsletter blurbs, and the humor and science fiction columns until next issue.

The really exciting news this issue is the lawsuit ABA filed against mega-chains Borders and Barnes & Noble.

The really exciting news this issue is the lawsuit ABA filed against mega-chains Borders and Barnes & Noble. The suit alleges that these chains solicit and receive all kinds of preferential — and illegal — discounts and deals that are not available to independent bookstores, that the chains' market saturation strategies are fueled in significant part by these secret and illegal deals, and that driving independent stores out of business is an intentional and long-held strategy. If the lawsuit is even remotely successful it will change the face of bookselling in this country. Congratulations and kudos to ABA for taking this brave and exciting step. (The story starts on page 9....)

The really scary news, as we go to press, is that Bertelsmann, the German-based owners of Bantam Doubleday Dell, has signed an agreement with Advance Publications to buy Random House. The deal, should the regulatory bodies be so demented as to approve it, would be finalized this summer and the new company would be called Random House with BDD being merged under the RH umbrella. It would make the German company the largest publisher of English-language books in the world. Bertelsmann could control 25% of adult trade publishing in the U.S. For all that the press releases speak of editorial autonomy among each of the imprints, now and in the future, *FBN* has yet to see a major corporate merger that doesn't result, within a few years, in a significant decline in the number of "midlist" titles published and a decline in the diversity of tites and voices published. (Is it ironic or what that there are regulations that limit foreign ownership of TV stations but not book publishing?)

And for sure this is sour grapes, but did anyone else notice that the *NY Times* gave the RH/BDD merger coverage on the front page, half of the business section front page — complete with charts and graphs and color photos — *and* a page and a half of inside space, while the ABA lawsuit merited a scant four column inches on an inside page? Gee, might that have anything to do with the fact that the *Times* has recently sold its Web site links to Barnes & Noble and with who buys large amounts of advertising space? Or is this just one of those nasty little class issues: Publishing books is Important; selling them is beneath contempt...?

If the lawsuit is even remotely successful it will change the face of bookselling in this country.

But back to selling books and fair competition: Is anyone else watching Amazon.com's Advantage program? Seems that the giant Internet-in-the-Sky retailer is asking small presses to provide books at

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55% discount, postage paid, and on consignment, no less. (Now those are terms that every independent bookstore would love to have — but can't get.) What do publishers get for these extraordinary terms? A slightly better listing in the database — "usually ships in 1-2 days" instead of the dreaded categorization "hard to get, usually ships in 4-6 weeks" (even if the title is available at Amazon's major supplier). (Why do I think this category was created for the express purpose of making publishers eager to go to any lengths to get out of it?) The word "ludicrous" comes to mind, but maybe independents just need to come up with some kind of "deal" to "earn" these terms.... How about this: "Will shelve the books in the store where customers can buy them rather than storing all copies in the back room at all times." *That* ought to be worth an additional 15%, free freight, and post-sale payment. Maybe next month Amazon.com will decide to allow the publishers to pay rent for the space their books occupy in the warehouse....

My two favorite Spring reads? (Thank you for asking!): The text of ABA's lawsuit and the drop-everything-and-order-it-right-now *Women in Love: Portraits & Stories of Lesbian Families.* Whether you're a lesbian or not, whether you're a parent or not (and whether you ever want to be one or not), this is a beautiful and compelling book that celebrates the ordinary, everyday magic of women (lovers or not) parenting children. It's an unexpected perspective on lesbian life that will sell as strongly to straight family-and-friends as it will in the lesbian community. The families and the family configurations are as rich and diverse as the lesbian community itself. But best of all, the photographs succeed brilliantly at capturing the inner beauty of "ordinary" people.

Thanks to Tee Corinne for the photograph of Valerie Taylor that we published (page 64) in the last issue.

And last but not least, congratulations to Dorothy Holland on her job in the computer industry. Our deep and heartfelt thanks for all of her New Media columns, for hundreds of book announcements, and for a multitude of other gifts over the years.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN DUE DATES

	Summer & Sidelines June – August	Fall Announcements Sept – Oct	University Presses Nov – Dec
Articles	April 24	July 3	Sept. 4
Ad Reservations	May 8	July 10	Sept. 11
Ad Mechanicals	May 15	July 17	Sept. 18
News Column Items	May 22	July 17	Sept. 18
Letters	June 4	July 22	Sept. 23

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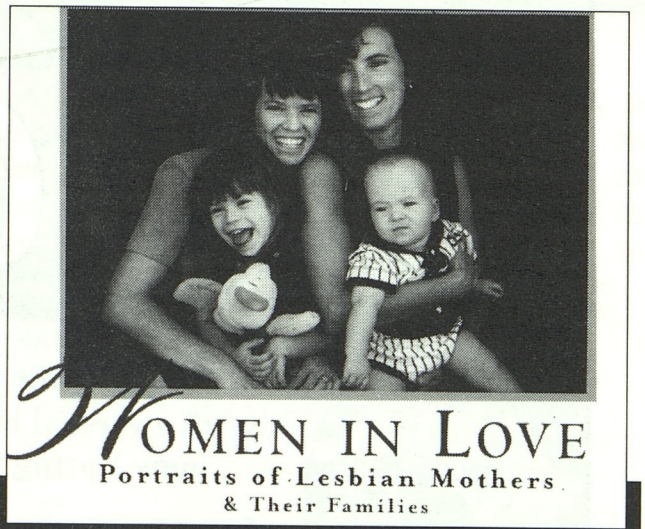

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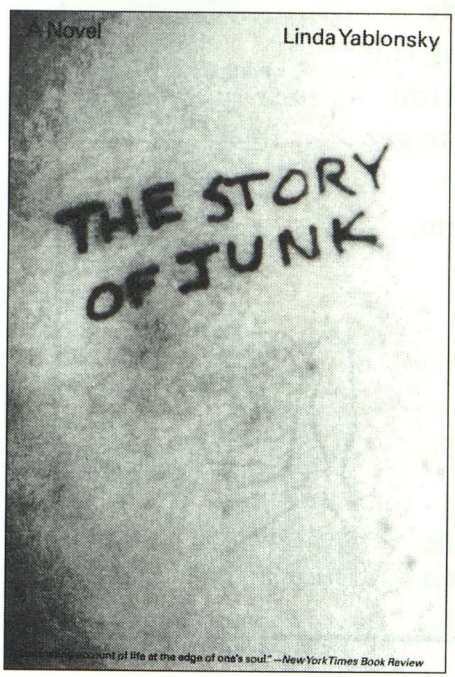

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CONTENTS

ARTICLES

ABA Sues B&N and Borders! 9
ABA, BEA and TLC 1998 35
Distribution Conversation: Readers Respond 39
Bookstore News 25
News/Short Stories 15

Little Sisters Back in Court • W&CF's Ann Christophersen Nominated to ABA Board •ABA Actions • (Inter)National Feminist Bookstore Week • Swat Team/Mental Hospital Incarceration Follow Stunning Literary Return • Lauriat's Declares Bankruptcy • Crown Books Shifts Ordering to Ingram • HarperCollins Cancels Another Book • Borders Expands in U.K., Australia • ALA's G/L/B Awards

DEPARTMENTS

Ad Index 155
Announcements 33
Classified Ads 156
Subscription Information 28
They Went That-A-Way 49
Writing Wanted 51

THE BOOKS

Art Books 67
Canadian Books 73
Gay Men's Lit 81
Humor . . . . . (will return next issue)
Kids' Lit 53
Music 57
Mysteries 63
New Media 71
Our Own Presses 87
Publisher's Row 133
Science Fiction & Fantasy . . . . (will return next issue)
Small Presses 107
University Presses 119

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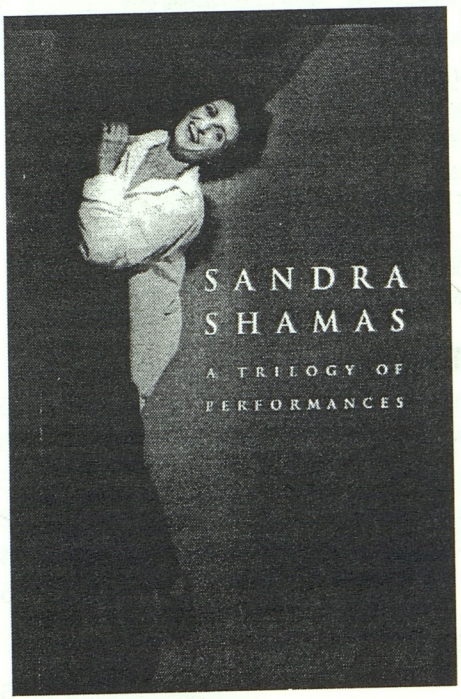

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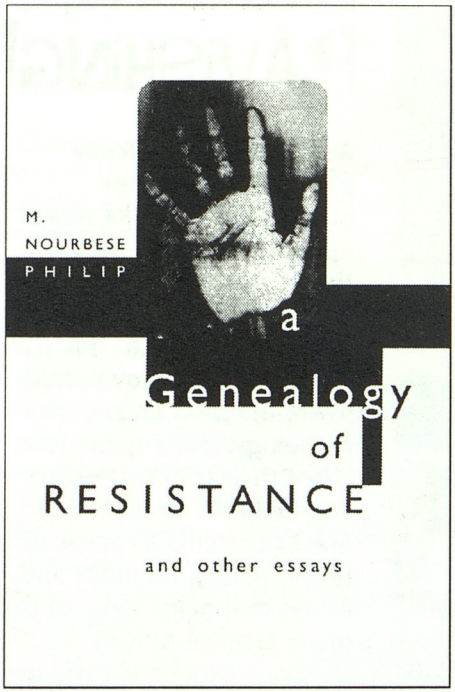

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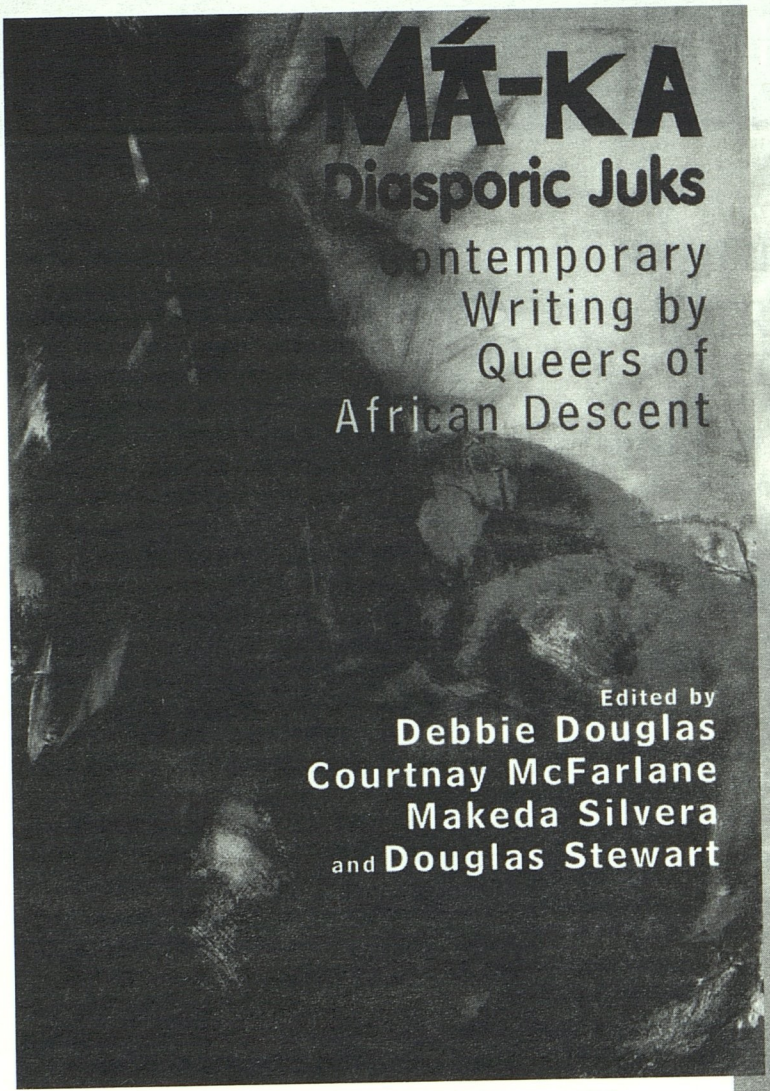

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ABA Sues Borders, Barnes & Noble!

Unprecedented Legal Action Alleges Illegal Practices and Seeks Compensation

By Carol Seajay

Cheers could be heard in feminist and other independent bookstores all across the country as word spread that ABA, Women and Children First, and 25 other independent bookstore co-plaintiffs had filed a major lawsuit against Barnes & Noble and Borders.

The lawsuit attacks the problem of chain stores driving independents out of business right at the heart of what most independent booksellers believe to be the problem: preferential treatment, special deals, discounts, and promotional deals for chains that are not available to independent stores — deals that finance chain store expansion, finance the discounts that chains offer to their customers, and put independent stores under massive financial stress and, all too often, out of business entirely. Independents' share of the book market has declined from 31% to just 18% in the past five years.

The carefully selected co-plaintiff stores range from the largest independents to the very small. Feminist and other specialty and niche stores were included specifically to illustrate the point that the alleged illegal practices impact the entire spectrum of independent bookstores and that specialty stores are no more "immune" from the effects of these activities than any other store.

The suit argues that the two chains have "engaged in a pattern and practice of soliciting, inducing, and receiving secret, discriminatory, and illegal terms from publishers and distributors." It alleges that the chains' "market saturation strategies are being fueled in significant part by secret and illegal terms" and that much of this expansion "can only be profitable if the chains receive illegal deals and existing independent booksellers are driven out of the marketplace."

ABA believes that both Barnes & Noble and Borders have specifically targeted California — which has the largest population and economy in the country — as a key component of their expansion strategy. Both Barnes & Noble and Borders (as well as their B. Dalton and Walden divisions) already operate far more stores in California than in any other state in the nation. (Three hundred of their 2,000 stores are located in California.)

The goals of the suit are to stop the alleged illegal activities, to win damages on behalf of the booksellers,

> "Feminist publishers and bookstores were started to make a wide range of women's voices available to readers. The consolidation of retail outlets into a few major chains seriously threatens that important work. Independents are being driven out of business, buying (and consequently publishing) decisions are being made by fewer (probably not feminist) people, and publishers are being undermined by high levels of returned, unsold books. This lawsuit is about reclaiming the conditions that make a rich and diverse literature possible."
>
> —Co-Plaintiff Ann Christophersen, Women & Children First

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to recover legal fees, and to realize "disgorgement of illicit gains obtained" in California. "Disgorgement" relief, which is provided under the California Unfair Competition Law, could force the chains to pay a sum equal to the value of any secret discounts and allowances granted by publishers and distributors that benefited the chains' California stores. California law allows for damages awards that could be distributed among all California ABA members; federal law allows for damages to the co-plaintiffs only — but the co-plaintiffs' successes would provide legal precedence, evidence, and pave the way for a host of follow-up lawsuits.

Filing the suit was an enormously brave action on the part of the ABA and these booksellers. The chains being sued have deep pockets (their joint sales are approximately $5 billion/year), a tremendous desire to dominate bookselling, and a history of targeting specific independent stores.

Co-Plaintiffs Include:

California Co-Plaintiffs

Book Soup, West Hollywood, CA
Cody's Books, Inc., Berkeley, CA
Copperfields Books, Inc., Sebastopol, Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Napa, CA
Dutton's Brentwood Books, Los Angeles, CA
Kepler's Books & Magazines, Palo Alto, CA
Midnight Special Bookstore, Santa Monica, CA
Thunderbird Bookshops, Inc., Carmel, CA
Ventura Book Store, Ventura, CA

Other National Co-Plaintiffs

Changing Hands Bookstore, Inc., Tempe, AZ
Tattered Cover Book Store, Denver, CO
Chapters Books, Washington, DC
Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL
The Book Shop, Inc., Boise, ID
The Book Stall, Winnetka, IL
Women & Children First, Chicago, IL
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Left Bank Books, St. Louis, MO
Freddy's Feed and Read, Missoula, MT
Ketterson's Old Market Bookstore, Omaha, NE
Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, NY
Little Professor Book Center, Charlotte, NC
Squirrel Hill Bookstore, Pittsburgh, PA
The Happy Bookseller, Columbia, SC
Book Company of San Antonio, Inc., TX
Sam Weller Books, Salt Lake City, UT
Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA

> ABA wouldn't have entered into this litigation if it didn't have solid evidence and every reason to believe it would win.

But then, ABA is very well-prepared for this lawsuit: It follows on ABA's successful litigation against six publishers, which led to all of these publishers entering into consent decrees that forbid Robinson-Patman violations. These consent decrees define exactly how Robinson-Patman applies to the book industry. ABA also recently achieved a record-breaking $25 million settlement from Penguin when the publisher appeared to be violating the consent decree. There is no reason to believe that ABA would have entered into this litigation if it didn't have solid evidence and every reason to believe it would win.

Indeed, the 50-page complaint (available from the court as well as on the Internet at www.bookweb.org/pressroom), and the strategy it reveals, is one of the best reads of the Spring season. It collects all the rantings and ravings among booksellers and turns them into simple, straightforward legal prose that outlines the situation, the pertinent law, the many problems and patterns of discrimination, their ramifications on bookstores and on the free-flow of ideas in book form, clarifies why certain actions are illegal and then asks for compensation. What a plot! What a story! I highly recommend it to every bookseller — especially to those whose financial problems are keeping them awake at night — and to everyone who ever thought that independent booksellers were whining a bit too much. (See below for specifics.)

But even more interesting than the many points outlined in the version of the complaint that was made public are 35 "blank" but numbered sections. Each of these sections presumably includes material that was covered by a protective order in one of ABA's earlier litigations. Because of the way the law protects this kind of material most of us will probably never know the specifics of all of these charges — but we

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will see their impact on the decision that the court will, someday, hand down.

Publishers, while obviously not in a position to sue their primary customers, will, hopefully, see this lawsuit for what it is: an attempt to return bookselling to a healthier, more level, playing field — a move that would benefit the entire book industry.

This will undoubtedly be a long and complicated proceeding, but it is hoped that the case will be able to move into "the discovery phase" relatively soon. It is incumbent upon all of us to convey our appreciation and support for this action to ABA's board members and staff and to the many brave bookseller co-plaintiffs. And to each do our best to "hang in there" until the benefits of this lawsuit can be felt in independent bookstores all across the land.

The Problems Outlined in the Lawsuit

The lawsuit alleges (among other things):

- That "chainstore inefficiencies actually 'drive up the price of books' [for the consumer]...and that they find it less and less necessary to discount books, even from the higher list price.
- "The ultimate victims of the national chains' expansion will not only be the many independent bookstores that go out of business, but also the book reading public.
- "[T]he national chains' market saturation strategies are being fueled in significant part by secret and illegal deals.
- "These illegal deals give the national chains enormous competitive advantages and enhance their ability to gain capital from the stock market, expand, and drive smaller competitors out of business.

Special Discounts

- "...Each of the defendants...has engaged in a pattern and practice of soliciting, inducing and receiving secret [discriminatory and illegal] terms from publishers and distributors more favorable than those set forth in the published schedules and terms.
- "Defendants also receive special price reductions by being given additional discounts (or shared 'markdowns') [for] inventory [that] remains unsold [which] are not available to independent bookstores.... These special deals effectively reward defendants for purchasing titles in quantities they cannot sell and competitively disadvantage independent bookstores that have purchased appropriate levels of inventory but must sell that inventory without receiving equivalent discounts.
- "Defendants also solicit, induce and/or receive special pricing terms in the form of 'incentive' payments or deductions based on their 'sell through,' total purchases, or other factors. The same price reductions are not made available to independent bookstores.
- " ...[E]xtra allowances that will be paid (or deducted by the chain) when the books are returned.... [S]ome chain stores receive secret price deductions by being allowed to reduce the purchase price paid for books simply on the expectation of future returns.
- Receiving..."special terms for 'Nonreturnable' purchases...then return[ing] them anyway.
- "Extra discount on small orders.
- "Special pricing terms for new stores or expansions.... For example, Borders has recently notified publishers that it will deduct from the invoices on the initial order a 3% allowance in connection with [opening] a fulfillment center and will expect 'free freight' on all back orders....

> "This fight is about preserving what America is able to read. A network of healthy independent bookstores spurs publishers to produce a diversity of literature."
>
> —Co-plaintiff Clark Kepler (Kepler's Books & Magazines)

- "...[A]dditional discounts and deductions for purported shortages...that exceed the actual amount of the shortages...simply another form of disguised discount which is unavailable to independent bookstores.
- "...[A]ccount 'reconciliations'...[that are] written off or never collected by the suppliers.
- "Defendants have also obtained a significant competitive advantage by receiving and inducing substantially more favorable payment terms from their suppliers than those available to independent bookstores. The effect of these terms is to lower substantially the price paid by defendants for books

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purchased from their suppliers...[which are] then resold in direct competition with ABA's members....

Advertising & Promotion

• "...[P]romotional and cooperative advertising funds on very different and more favorable terms than those publicly made available to ABA's members....
• "Discounts on particular titles in exchange for cash payments by the supplier. Although these deals are couched as promotional programs and include other components as well, in reality they constitute subsidized discounting...[are] not made available to independent bookstores.

> "Filing this lawsuit was not an easy decision. But we know, and we are confident that our members know, that this is the right thing to do."
>
> —ABA President Barbara Bonds Thomas

• "...'[P]romotional' or 'cooperative advertising' funds which exceed the actual costs of defendants' advertising programs. In some cases chain stores participating in and benefiting from these financial payments do not even provide the alleged promotional services. Although couched as 'promotional programs,' these special terms are, in reality, profit centers for the defendants and constitute another form of price discount that defendants solicit and receive from their suppliers....
• "[Co-op] programs [for which defendants solicit and receive large payments] such as the "Discover Great New Writers" or "New Arrivals"...are designed to communicate to customers that these titles are being prominently featured based on their merit — rather than because prominent space has been purchased.... [These] programs have a tendency to mislead consumers.
• "One publishing executive, speaking on condition of anonymity because of fear of commercial retaliation by the defendants, has explained that 'We are occasionally forced to buy into these kinds of programs, even for books that would do well on their own, just so that when we do have a book or author that needs extra exposure, they're willing to accommodate it.' Another executive, also refusing to speak for attribution, has been quoted as follows: 'Part of the problem is that we're scared of them. If they don't like our terms of sale, they threaten not to buy [our] books....'
• "Defendants...have refused to comply with publicly-announced [co-op] terms. In many cases, defendants fail to gain pre-approval for advertising, fail to submit adequate documentation of the advertisement, fail to document its actual cost, and pre-deduct the alleged amount of the advertisement...rather than waiting until the publisher has approved the advertisement and issued a credit memorandum. By soliciting and receiving more favorable terms and arrangements for cooperative advertising funds than the terms publicly available to independent bookstores, defendants have gained a significant and unearned competitive advantage.... Moreover, by pre-deducting cooperative advertising expenses, the national chains are able to gain the financial benefit of these programs even though many of their stores will sometimes fail to undertake the promised promotions or advertising.

Doing In the Independents

• "The defendants have used [their growing market power] to solicit, induce, and receive favorable and unlawful terms....
• "The[se] secret and illegal deals have successfully been used by [these chains] to further their efforts to dominate local markets and force smaller, independent bookstores 'out of business.'
• "Both companies aggressively market their growing number of stores...as a means to attract further capital and maintain or increase stock value.

> "What we are concerned about is... illegal deals that put independents at a competitive disadvantage."
>
> —Richard Howorth, ABA President-elect

• "This aggressive growth strategy and the solicitation of special terms to facilitate this growth, have been key features of defendants' business and marketing strategies since at least the late 1980s and early 1990s.
• "Revenues from these deals also allow the chains to build, maintain, and expand stores that otherwise could not operate profitably or would only be marginally profitable. Thus illicit deals allow the chains to inflate their

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presence in markets and drive out independents competing without the benefit of these secret deals.

• "Secret and illicit deals have also fueled defendants' rapid growth and market saturation strategies by inflating the chains' otherwise weak corporate earnings. These deals facilitate the chains' aggressive efforts to attract capital....

• "These deals...enhance the ability of chain stores to engage in predatory behavior. In Missoula, Montana, for example, B&N employees at a new superstore were told by management...that the success of B&N in this community would be measured by whether it put a major independent in the locality out of business and advised employees that B&N would actively pursue steps to achieve this.

• "In pursuit of such predatory goals, 'superstores' are often strategically located in close proximity to existing independent bookstores...knowing that the independent store does not have the margin to match its terms. Moreover, because such illicit deals provide unearned and unlawful sources of profits for the chain's entire operation, it is able to position one or more stores in strategic proximity to an independent or otherwise saturate a market — even if it believes those particular outlets may be unprofitable until the independent is driven out of business.

The 50-page complaint is one of the best reads of the Spring season.

• "ABA members, including each of the Bookstore Plaintiffs, have been injured as a result of the illicit deals obtained by B&N and Borders.... Because of the unfair competitive advantages the chains obtain by virtue of these illegal deals, each of the Bookstore Plaintiffs has lost sales and profits...[and] the acts alleged herein have caused a substantial diminution of the value of plaintiffs' businesses.

The Effect on the Reading Public

• "Defendants' solicitation and receipt of unlawful terms not only cause competitive injury to ABA's members and each of the Bookstore Plaintiffs, they also pose dangers to consumers. Because of the large and growing volumes of books purchased by the national chains, they have considerable and steadily growing influence concerning the books that are published, those that are promoted, and those that remain on the shelves for more than a brief period. The concentration of this power in two national chains — each of which imposes a single corporate mission and philosophy on more than one thousand stores across the nation — threatens to undermine the diversity of book retailing in this country and the product choices ultimately available to consumers.

"This is unprecedented in retail. It's the first time that independent retailers are using the power of the courts to address grievances with the chains."

—Avin Mark Domnitz, ABA Executive Director

• "...Moreover as the two national chains become increasingly dominant, they are in an enhanced position to reduce price competition.... [W]hereas all books in Barnes & Noble were discounted several years ago, now B&N and Borders do not provide any discount on most books. And, even more importantly, the business practices of national chains — including high return rates, insistence on special deals, slow payment and other practices — drive up the list price of books from which any discount is calculated.

• "All of these competitive dangers are likely to increase as the national chains continue their rapid growth and market saturation strategies.... The chains increasing market dominance will force even more independent bookstores out of the market and enhance the chains' power to control product availability and price. Indeed, even communities that once had very strong independent booksellers, are now seeing many of these choices displaced because of the suffocating growth of the national chains.

• "Defendants know or should know that the discriminatory and unlawful terms they are soliciting and receiving are injuring smaller, independent bookstore competitors and competition generally....

• "The facts set forth above violate the Robinson-Patman Act, the California Unfair Practices Act and the California Unfair Competition Law...."

Booksellers with information regarding any of the above or related practices should contact Len Vlahos at ABA; phone 800-637-0037, ext. 215, email ⟨lvlahos@bookweb.org⟩. ❍

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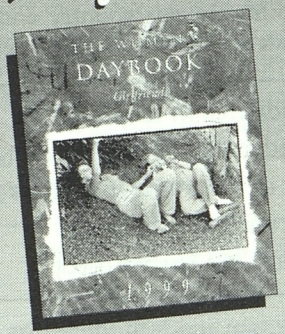

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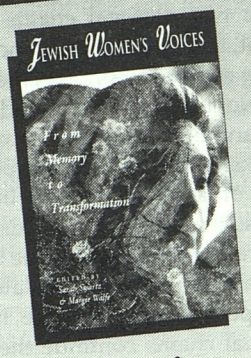

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News News News

Little Sisters Back in Court — Goal: Overturn Canada Customs

Two years after the end of Little Sisters' six-year court battle with Canada Customs, the bookstore is back in court. Their goal, with this appeal, is to have the legislation that grants Canada Customs the power to detain and ban books struck down.

Sick to death of having book shipments from the U.S. and elsewhere routinely stopped by Canada Customs, Little Sisters Bookstore, way back in 1990, took their anger to court. The case was filed on June 7, 1990 in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, but it was delayed on three separate occasions before it was finally heard in 1994. The trial, with its stellar cast of witnesses, ran "for forty days and forty nights," from October 11 through December 20, 1994. The judgment from Justice Kenneth Smith was handed down over a year later, on January 19, 1996.

Smith's 128-page judgment strongly criticized Canada Customs procedures as being systemically flawed because they discriminated against lesbians and gays and violated their civil rights as defined by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Justice Smith's decision, however, fell short of striking down the legislation that allows Canada Customs to stop and ban books at the border. He suggested instead that the current problems could be resolved through certain changes such as devising of better screening systems and better training of Canada Customs employees. He also ruled that Canada Customs must take Little Sisters Bookstore off their "hot" list.

But these "remedies" have not been effective: Two years later, shipments bound for Little Sisters continue to be stopped by Customs and placed under review or appeal. Thus the bookstore, along with the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association (the co-plaintiffs on the original case) have taken the case to the B.C. Court of Appeal to ask the court to reconsider the fundamental question of whether Customs should have the right to detain and ban books at all.

"We don't believe that Customs can ever adequately fix the system in such a way that it won't be systematically barring material that ought not be barred," BCCLA executive director John Westwood said as the case went back to court on March 23.

So once again it is Little Sisters, a small-to-medium-sized independent bookstore, and the small-but-courageous BCCLA, doing battle against the entire Canadian government "with its endless stream of provincial and federal lawyers." This round will be fought in the second highest level of Canadian courts. And if they don't win here, they'll take it to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Women & Children First's Ann Christophersen Nominated to ABA Board

Long-time feminist bookseller Ann Christophersen has been nominated to ABA's Board of Directors for a three-year term. Assuming she is elected, the board will include two feminist bookstore members, two African American bookstore members, and a gay bookstore member.

Others nominated to the board include Miriam Sontz (Powell's Bookstore, Portland OR), Karl Pohrt (Shaman Drum Bookstop, Ann Arbor), Brian Weese, (Bibelot, Baltimore) and Lilla Weinberger (Readers' Books, Sonoma CA). Alternate board members nominated include Patricia Nelson (Page One, Albuquerque) and Susan Schenone (The Book Bag, Valparaiso IN).

Nominated for officer positions were: Richard Howorth, President (Square Books, Oxford MS), Neal Coonerty, Vice President (Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa

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Farewell

Cruz CA), Norman Laurila, Treasurer (A Different Light, NYC), and Roxanne Coady, Secretary (R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison CT). Vice President nominee, Neal Coonerty, active on the board several years ago, had to withdraw from board service to rebuild his bookstore after the 1989 earthquake.

More ABA Decisions

In addition to deciding to proceed with the lawsuit against Borders and Barnes & Noble, ABA made a number of other far-reaching decisions at its February Board Meetings:

- The board approved a $25,000 grant to bring first-time attendees to BEA and ABA's annual meeting. The grant will be administered by the regional bookseller associations. Booksellers who have never attended BEA and who are interested in receiving travel grants to attend BEA this year should contact their regional associations for more information.
- The board approved a $5,000 grant to support the 1998 Lambda Literary Awards and a matching grant for 1999.
- The ABA has hired Kratz & Company to be its public relations firm. The company will help ABA craft and implement an ongoing national campaign to promote ABA core members and their key messages in the media, as well as, apparently, helping to manage the information flow during the lawsuit.
- ABA will investigate both the BookScan and INDepth programs.
- ABA's Main Store membership, at year end, stood at 3,430; at the end of 1996 there were 3,689 Main Store members, a decline of about 7%.
- ABA's new Booksellers Choice Task Force has been created to foster a collaborative effort between booksellers and publishers to help member stores market themselves and sell books. The task force is considering a program under which specifically chosen titles would be branded as booksellers' choices, with a marketing program to promote both the books and independent booksellers, in association with ABA's new public relations firm.

In keeping with ABA's new Strategic Plan, ABA's Executive Committee and senior staff members have been traveling around the country meeting with ABA members at the grassroots level. It is one

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of ABA's most successful membership outreach programs in recent decades.

One of the most popular themes to emerge from these meetings is the idea of developing "Brand-Identification" for independent bookstores.

SWAT Team/Mental Hospital Incarceration Follow Stunning Literary Return

In a nation still only four generations away from slavery, the young Gayl Jones wrote brilliantly of racism and sexualized violence, of women near insanity from it all, and of the men and the culture that generated and perpetuated such violence. *Corregidora*, published in 1975 when Jones was 25, brilliantly re-created three generations of women wrestling with their hatred for the slave master who had fathered both the grandmother and her daughter, and with the ramifications of his legacy on all of their lives. Her second novel, *Eva's Man*, published in 1976 further explored the lives of women tormented by sexual abuse and emotional silence. Her heroine here fights back, castrating the man who tormented her, only to be incarcerated in a mental hospital for her troubles. Her editor, Toni Morrison wrote that editing Jones' work was "a highlight of my life." But shortly after the publication of her third book, *White Rat*, a collection of short stories, the always-reclusive Gayl Jones left her tenured position at the University of Michigan and disappeared from sight.

Last fall, Beacon Press announced that it would publish *The Healing*, a new novel by Gayl Jones, in addition to reprinting some of her earlier work. It was the first time in the publisher's distinguished history, that it had published, rather than reprinted, a novel. *The Healing*, once announced, was eagerly anticipated.

But its publication was not to bring joy to Gayl Jones. Instead a *Newsweek* article that proclaimed the book "a major literary event," set off a bizarre series of events by mentioning Jones' husband, Bob Higgins. The article led the Lexington district attorney's office to connect Bob Jones (who had taken his wife's last name) with a man who had written a series of threatening letters to local officials. Several of the letters had mentioned that the writer's wife, Gayl, was "a brilliant novelist," thus leaving a trail that lead back to Mr. Jones. A police check on Higgins revealed a troubled and sometimes violent past clouded with episodes of paranoia and dementia, including an episode of firing a gun into neighboring apartments before jumping out a sixth floor window, proclaiming himself God, and taking a shotgun to a gay rights rally after heckling participants. In 1983, on the eve of Higgins' trial for taking the gun to the gay rights rally, the couple, believing that there could be no justice for Higgins in racist America, left Ann Arbor and her tenured position at the University of Michigan, for Europe. The couple lived in self-imposed exile in France until moving to Kentucky in 1988 to care for Gayl's mother who was critically ill with cancer.

On February 20, shortly after *The Healing* was published, police created a crisis when they attempted to serve a 14-year-old warrant on the obviously deeply disturbed man. Jones, not surprisingly, did not go willingly into police custody. His response to the confrontation was to barricade himself and the novelist inside their home and turn on the gas. During negotiations with the police, both were reported to be holding knives to their own throats and saying that they were ready to die. Three hours into the standoff, a SWAT team charged the house, reportedly in an attempt to prevent a double suicide. They were successful in getting Gayl Jones out of the house, but failed to prevent Mr. Jones from slashing his own throat. He died later that night. The police, afraid that Ms. Jones might hurt herself, took her to Eastern State Hospital where she is apparently still confined.

Newspaper accounts are questioning how and why such a brilliant novelist could become involved with such a dangerous and demented man, why she would leave a teaching career and seemingly abandon a brilliant writing career (though she continued to publish abroad and in the U.S. with Black presses) to "protect" him from harm and injustice, and why and how she could stay with a man apparently over the edge in a confluence of violence, dementia, and racism. But it is clear from Jones' writing that she understands and has tremendous compassion for that thin line between living with the effects of racism and apparent dementia. It is not uncommon at all for women to do their best to protect men so harmed, nor for women to find themselves caught up in all kinds of desperate, dangerous and oftentimes abusive relationships with men who are also victims in a racist, violent society.

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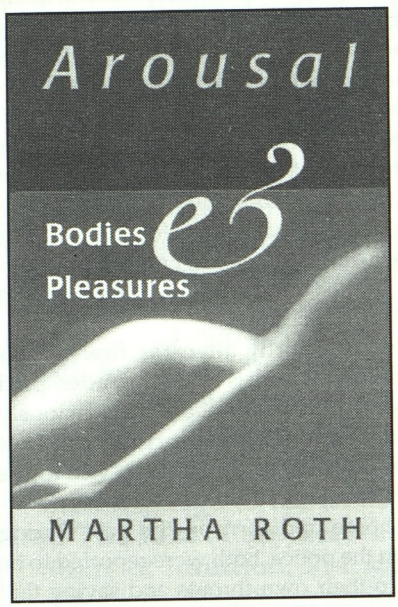
New from the co-editor of TRANSFORMING A RAPE CULTURE



Arousal is desire, fear, love, shame, and trust—all linked by a feeling over which we are often powerless. In her groundbreaking new book, Martha Roth intimately examines the shadings of arousal in our culture and in her own life.

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IPG W

What is uncommon is to survive, never mind to write brilliantly in the midst of it. What is sinful is that a society with such wealth offers so few resources for healing to its own people. We wish Ms. Jones a bearable journey back to the rest of her life and a healing of the kind she has given us with her writing and her brilliant insight into the lives of women and men in this pervasively violent, and still deeply racist, society. —*CS*

(Inter)National Feminist Bookstore Week

Feminist Bookstore Week will be celebrated in the U.S. and Canada May 9–17.

The highlights of this year's celebration will be a concert series featuring singer/songwriter Margie Adam with concerts scheduled in conjunction with A Room of One's Own (Madison WI, March 21), By the Light of the Moon (Waukesha WI, March 22) and My Sisters' Words (Syracuse NY, March 30), a wide variety of local events scheduled in local stores, and a national advertising campaign. For more information, contact the Feminist Bookstore Network, 415-642-9993 or email FBN@FemBkNews.com.

National/International Scandals

Lauriat's Declares Bankruptcy

Lauriat's Inc., one of the earlier, now smaller, national bookstore chains, has filed for Chapter 11 (reorganization) bankruptcy. The chain, which operates 111 stores under the names Lauriat's Books, Encore Books, Book Corner and Royal Discount, claims liabilities of $82 million and assets of $60 million. With annual sales of $120 million and over 1,000 employees, it is the largest bookstore bankruptcy to date and is the first bankruptcy filed by a medium sized or large bookstore chain. Most of the bookstore bankruptcies and closings have been on the side of the less capitalized independent bookstores and wholesalers.

At the time of filing, Lauriat's had approximately 5,000 unsecured creditors to whom it owed $43 million as well as a secured debt of $29 million. The company's 20 largest creditors are due about $19 million. Among

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them are Random House ($4.7M), BDD ($2.2M), S&S ($1.9M), Macmillan ($730,000), The Von Holtzbrink companies ($1.3M), Little Brown ($1.3M), HarperCollins ($860,000). Distributors listed include Bookazine ($740,000), Ingram ($670,000), and PGW ($490,000).

Lauriat's, of course, predicts a successful reorganization based on closing unprofitable stores. But even if Lauriat's should successfully reorganize (unlikely if recent history of book-industry bankruptcies is any predictor of the future), and even if Lauriat's should, someday, make good these debts, the effects of this punch to the cash-flow of both major publishers and to the distributors of books from feminist, lesbian and gay presses, will be significant in these already challenging times.

Crown Books Shifts All Ordering to Ingram

The financially troubled Crown Books chain has announced that it will use Ingram as its exclusive source for books and that it will close all three of its warehouses. Crown had earlier announced that it would return an estimated $25M in inventory to publishers at the beginning of 1998. The decision came in the wake of Crown's $25M loss for its quarter ending November 1. The company intends to return to "its bargain book roots."

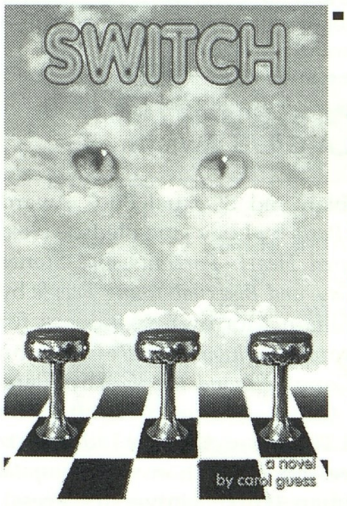
Warehouse stock was returned to publishers in January, resulting in "significant returns to publishers." Given that Crown plans to make all future purchases from Ingram, it is unlikely that payment to publishers or other distributors will be prioritized.

Even more frightening: Presumably this means that only books stocked by Ingram will make it to the shelves of Crown's 179 superstores and that books (and publishers) not stocked by Ingram will not be available to the public at Crown.

Borders to Expand in London and Australia

Borders is expanding its international presence by opening stores in Australia and by enlarging and renaming the flagship store of the U.K.'s Books Etc. (chain which Borders purchased last year). Located on Charing Cross Road, the soon-to-be 40,000-square-foot store will take the Borders name in early 1999.

Borders is also expected to open a store in Melbourne in October, followed by four additional



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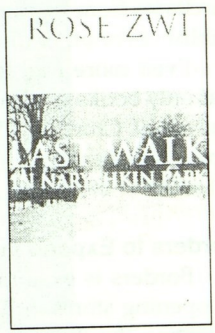
Mar 98

Last Walk in Naryshkin Park

by Rose Zwi



Last Walk in Naryshkin Park is the story of Rose Zwi's quest to discover the fate of her father's family who perished in the Holocaust.

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stores in 1999 and ten more in the year 2000. Borders will open a distribution center in Melbourne, but orders will be placed from Borders' home office in the U.S.

Borders will be competing directly with feminist bookstores in at least three of these locations.

One wonders if the move to international expansion is simply the next phase for the book superchains, or if perhaps international markets and their relative lack of Robinson-Patman-like antitrust laws are the operating factors.

HarperCollins Cancels Book That Might Interfere with Murdoch's Expansion

In a news story that is being widely covered by news media *not* owned by media mogul owner Rupert Murdoch, HarperCollins-U.K. (which is owned by Murdoch) abruptly canceled the forthcoming book by Chris Patten, the last British governor of Hong Kong, which is highly critical of China. Murdoch has extensive satellite-TV interests in China and it seems that Murdoch and associates thought that the book *might* be offensive to the Chinese government. Equating the ugly dumping with censorship based on Murdoch's financial interests, several HC authors have returned advances to the house and novelists Doris Lessing and Penelope Fitzgerald were both highly critical of HC.

Working Parts, Shared Heart Take ALA-G/L/B Awards

ALA's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Book Award winners are *Working Parts* by Lucy Jane Bledsoe (Seal Press), and *The Shared Heart: Portraits and Stories Celebrating Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Young People* by Adam Mastoon (William Morrow). Nominees for Literature were *Prozac Highway* by Persimmon Blackbridge (Press Gang), *Beyond the Pale* by Elana Dykewomon (Press Gang), *In Awe* by Scott Heim (HarperCollins), and *The Escape Artist* by Judith Katz (Firebrand). Nominees for Nonfiction were *Hospital Time* by Amy Hoffman (Duke University Press), *Queerly Classed* edited by Susan Raffo (South End Press), *Lonely Hunters: An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life, 1948–1968* by James T. Sears (HarperWestview), and *Sex and Sensibility: Stories of a Lesbian Generation* by Arlene Stein (University of California Press). ○

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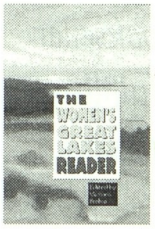

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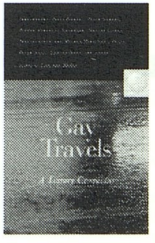

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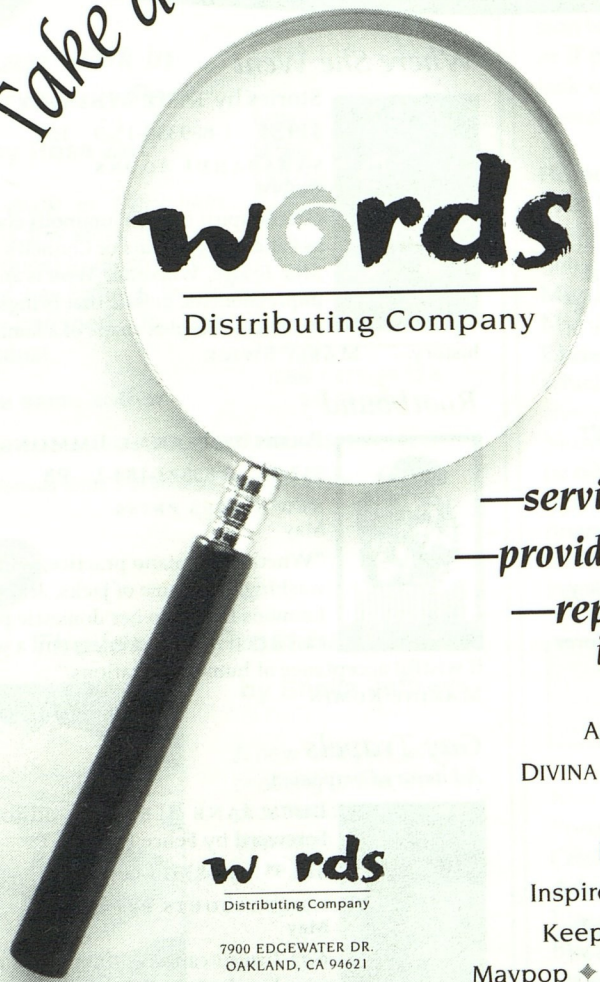

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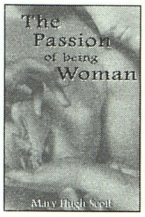

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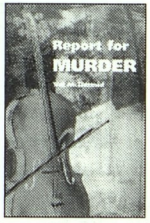

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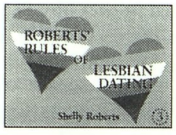

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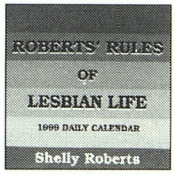

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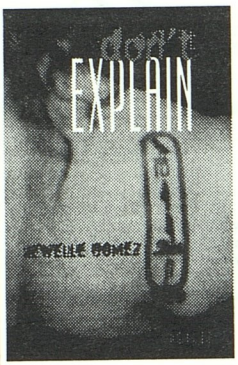
DON'T EXPLAIN

Short Fiction

JEWELLE GOMEZ



Popular, respected, and widely published author Jewelle Gomez combines exciting new work with classic stories in this memorable collection of short fiction.

As in *The Gilda Stories*, her acclaimed Black lesbian vampire novel, *Don't Explain* is marked by the writer's trademark rich, highly sensual language. Here, too, we find a layering of themes: the complexities of relationships exploring racial, class, and generational boundaries; the abuse of children; the hunger for love and connection.

Well-versed in the traditions of African-American writing, Gomez moves from lesbian life in Boston in the 1960s (the title story) to a futuristic fantasy, "Houston," a previously unpublished Gilda story. The centerpiece novella, "Lynx and Strand," explores some of the darkest dreams and fears of American culture as we hurtle toward the millenium.

As always, the author continues to entice and entertain her readers with her sweetly erotic excursions and encompassing vision.

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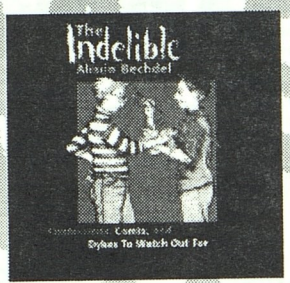
THE INDELIBLE ALISON BECHDEL

Confessions, Comix, and Miscellaneous Dykes To Watch Out For

ALISON BECHDEL



Alison Bechdel—cartoon chronicler extraordinaire—continues to leave a permanent mark on contemporary lesbian life.

With seven "Dykes To Watch Out For" collections in print (an eighth is slated for late in 1998), and her strips syndicated in over fifty U.S. and Canadian publications, the time is right to ask: Who is this indefatigable doodler and what makes her draw?

The Indelible Alison Bechdel takes you behind the pen and into the psyche of lesbiana's most quick-witted and incisive social commentator. The book combines material from the author's childhood (Do you have the drawings *you* did when you were three years old?); hair-raising autobiographical tales morphed into real-life cartoon scripts; collaborative work with other cartoonists; cartoons not included in the on-going strip; old faves from the calendars; and much, much more. In short, enough insider info to titillate and delight until the next book is ready.

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THE WOLF TICKET

A Novel

CARO CLARKE

In the last months of WWII, Pascale Tailland, an American translator serving in the U.S. Women's Army Corps bound west out of Germany with her unit, sees a refugee on the station platform wistfully contemplating her train. The refugee is dressed like a young man, but Pascale, intuitively knowing that it is a woman, pulls her aboard as the train starts to roll.

These two women, thrown together by chance, torn apart by the destruction in wartime Europe, struggle to find each other again across a chaotic continent. The soldier is as fearless with her heart as with her ideals; the Polish refugee, who has survived years of desperation and danger, has the cunning of a wolf.

In their attempts to reunite they are hindered, helped, and loved by many women: Nell Tulliver, international war correspondent; Captain Corinne West, a competent and proper officer; and Sibylle Benard, a French prostitute and German collaborator.

The Wolf Ticket is a first novel of great skill and imagination, tautly written and powerful.

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News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Women and Children First Expands

When Women and Children First's (Chicago) next-door neighbor and sister-business WomanWild decided to close, W&CF turned their grief into opportunity. Having outgrown the storefront that seemed so spacious when they moved in 1990, but not wanting to leave their sunny corner location, W&CF rented WomanWild's old space, tore down the wall between the stores, and created a gorgeous, new, expanded, 3,500-square-foot store — making W&CF one of the, if not *the* largest, best-stocked feminist bookstore in the world.

W&CF celebrated the opening of the new space on International Women's Day with a champagne reception and autographing party featuring Chicago women authors (10% discount on signed books by all the participating writers; each writer received a free autographed copy of another writer's work), a special presentation of "Warrior Queens" at the women's theatre across the street, a book discussion of *The Handmaid's Tale* led by activist Bernadine Dohrn (co-sponsored by Amnesty International and Ann Sather's, a neighborhood, woman-owned restaurant, held at the restaurant), a special, music-enhanced Children's Storytime program in the morning, and an evening benefit for Congressional candidate Jan Schakowsky ($10 donation at the door, 10% of book sales during the reception to her campaign). What a day!

The staff and customers celebrate the expanded space allocated to previously over-crowded sections like Women's Studies, Children's Lit, Cookbooks, and the Lesbian and Gay sections everyday as they shelve and browse these and other sections that now have more "breathing" room. Other additions include more comfortable reading chairs, a playpen, and a bottomless pot of complimentary coffee.

(And, all of this takes place in a city where chains have opened 20+ superstores, increasing retail square footage in the business by 12,000 percent, and a number of independents — including Kroch's & Brentano's, Guild, People Like Us, Platypus, Stuart Brent, and the Children's Bookstore — have closed.)

Sales Flat But Profit Up — *Nicely* Up!

New Words, proving it can be done, had its most profitable year in several years last year, despite the kind of flat sales that have been endemic in the independent bookstore community since the advent of the chains.

"It was the result of a lot of different factors finally coming together and years of plodding forward on the basics that made the difference," New Words' Jean MacRae told *FBN*, while identifying five specific factors that improved the bottom line:

Chicago celebrates W&CF's expansion;
Ann Christopherson and Linda Bubon cut the ribbon.

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Poets, fiction writers, journalists and cartoonists joined W&CF to celebrate their expansion. Writers in attendance also included Sara Paretsky, Sandra Jackson-Opoku, Carol Anshaw, Claudia Allen, Jorjet Harper, and Yvonne Zipter.

- Profitable out-of-store sales were up a bit again this year; pursuing out-of-store sales remains a worthwhile endeavor.
- Years of work on inventory control and the resulting improved cash flow meant that New Words was able to take cash discounts (2% EOM) on all of their Koen and Ingram orders.
- Adjustments and fine-tuning in their Frequent Reader program.
- Improved cash flow also meant that New Words had more cash, more of the time, to stash (against future expenses) in an interest bearing account, adding about $1,000 to the bottom line. In other words, *not* paying bills before they are due can benefit you if there's no cash discount to be obtained.
- When New Words' long-time staff bookkeeper left the store, New Words shifted to a computerized accounting system. Paying bills via the computerized system saved enough staff hours to both pay for the additional new computer and have some money left to contribute to the bottom line.

Inventory control and growing out-of-store sales have been important parts of New Words' strategy for several years. Inventory control means regular returns as well as wise buying — New Words devotes two to three staff hours per week to keeping returns current. "Our return rate is still under 10%," Jean elaborated. "We didn't do any major returns, we just returned what should have been returned anyway. One of the things that [our consultant] Kate Whouley told us was that we need to make returns as high a priority as ordering: returns, like ordering, have to be part of the weekly cycle. We've done that and it has made a huge difference."

Most stores use inventory control to manage cash flow, with a goal of staying current with primary distributors and wholesalers. Too few stores manage to go as far as being able to take the discounts that many suppliers offer on payments received within 10 days of the end of the month (2% EOM).

"But those discounts add up," Jean told *FBN*, adding, "I suspect that, for most stores, it would be worth borrowing money to move those payments up to 10 days."

Three days after we talked, Rudolf Solomon, the small business columnist in my local paper, ran the following Q&A:

Q: "My accountant says to take [2% EOM] discounts by using funds from a new bank loan. Will this pay off?"

A: "You bet it does!" was Solomon's reply. "The return from vendor discount far exceeds the interest cost of the loan. Add those discounts up for a year and you will see double-digit returns."

(Remember that you read it in *FBN*!)

Computerizing accounts payable has had many benefits in addition to cutting staff costs: "It's so much faster and easier," Jean says, adding that "it takes

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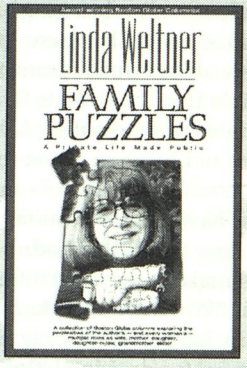
A Call to the Deep Heart's Core



FAMILY PUZZLES

"Linda Weltner speaks directly to the heart of the issues that many women face as they struggle to balance family responsibilities with personal needs."
—Joan Borysenko

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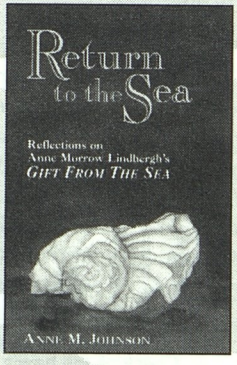

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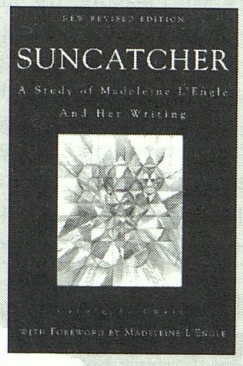

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fewer chocolate bars" to get through the bills and that the reduced stress on the bill-payer's part benefits everyone in the store. New Words uses One-Write Plus. "It was one of several programs that our bookkeeper uses and she could help us set it up and coach us when we needed it." New Words continues to employ a professional bookkeeper to do end-of-month, end-of-quarter, and year-end tasks as well as using a payroll service. "It's really in the semi-automated bill-paying that we've saved money," Jean points out, adding that the computer they bought for $2,000 two years ago now sells for a lot less, so this is an excellent time for other stores to make this leap.

Buying Buildings & Other Expansions

It's My Pleasure, the Portland women's erotica and sex-toys shop, café, and lending-library, has moved from Portland's trendy (and increasingly expensive) Hawthorne St. to what one Portlandite called a "more suburban neighborhood." "What's out there?" she wondered as we drove out to see it. The answer: Affordable real estate and a lot of women committed to having a good time. The store is now spread throughout the entire ground floor of a large corner house. The café, performing space, and library are open late on weekends and fill an outbuilding that previously served as a garage. It's a beautiful and inviting space. New address: 3106 NE 64th (at Sandy), Portland OR 97213. New phone: 503-280-8080.

The Madison community is enjoying A Room of One's Own's new café. "On Saturdays it gets really wild in here," ARO^3's Nancy Geary told *FBN*. The café is bringing in new clientele as well as bringing back old customers who had drifted away. The new location, despite being only a few doors down from the old store, is much more visible from busy State St. and so the store is seeing a lot more walk-in traffic. (ARO^3 also saw a traffic-surge in the old location when they put up awnings that made the store more visible and more attractive.) "It's great to have so much more room," Nancy added. "We're selling things that hadn't moved in the old store. Face-out makes a world of difference." The other key to success? "We have a wonderful staff!"

Building ownership isn't *all* joy: Crazy Ladies (Cincinnati), in their annual fundraising letter, writes, "We reached our fundraising goal and raised a new

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roof this year. Our Birthday Week extravaganza was a tremendous success, including our First Annual Golf Outing, dedication of the Center Meeting Room to one of our founders, Maureen Wood, the ever-popular Dyke Fashion Show and the Huff & Puff & Blow Out the Candles Dance/Auction. While [independent] bookstores are declining around the country, Crazy Ladies Bookstore is in a great position because we own our building. We do face monthly cash-flow problems, and as a community of strong feminist women, we are working toward a solution" — and then lists ways that community members can (and, in Cincinnati, *do*) help: cash contributions, attending fundraisers, shopping in the store during the holidays and year-round....

Invasion of the Body Snatchers

The chains are moving in on Canadian stores: Chapters (the Canadian equivalent of Borders) is opening a block away from feminist/community-based Orlando Books. Chapters (which is 20% owned by Barnes & Noble) has located its new Edmonton store, not in a location that *needs* a bookstore, but rather (surprise!) halfway between Orlando and the largest independent bookstore in the city. Our sincerest hope is that this store will be more B&N-like, and less Borders-like, which would mean much less overlap in stock with progressive stores. Opening date has not yet been announced. It's time for a new level of community education — one can only hope that Canadians out there on the western Prairies have a deep and telling independent streak that will want no quarter with having their brainfood pre-packaged in a remote urban office several provinces or a country away.

Bookstores for Sale

I guess change and transition *is* the point of that annual New Year's examination of the soul but I never like it when feminist booksellers decide it's time to move on to other parts of their life dreams! This is the first *FBN* since New Year's, so it's a lot of bad news all at once: Jane Troxell is considering the Peace Corp or other such work in Latin or South America and consequently is selling Lammas (DC). She's already sold the Lesbian and Gay Home Show. Lammas is in a stable financial position, is doing well in its new location, turns 25 next year (major marketing opportunity) and, Jane reminds potential buyers, the G&L March on Washington will return in two years. (Last March Lammas grossed $90,000 in four days.) Different Drummer (Laguna Beach CA), our favorite PFLAG store, is up for sale. Loretta Staub bought the store in 1989 with her daughter and her daughter's partner, but neither live in the area any longer and, contemplating

W&CF on TV

By Linda Bubon

My motto, "Be nice to journalists," paid off big time in December. A producer from one of the TV news shows (CBS affiliate) called to ask if I could recommend five or six children's books for various ages. I tried to quickly come up with enthusiastic descriptions of three or four and promised to fax her a list in the morning. She liked the list and asked if I could be ready to present them to one of the "news personalities" in a few days. She came with a cameraman, and I was able to present on camera, in our store, five favorites. They came back several days later to film me and the children at our weekly storytime. The resulting 2-minute segment was great! The books were well photographed; they cut good sound bites out of our 40-minute interview.

The books I recommended were all books I've mentioned in my columns, all were by women writers (surprise!), and they were all from different publishers, quite coincidentally. We enjoyed good sales on these through the holidays, perhaps owing to the program (which aired in three news segments that day), but certainly also because we featured them on a shelf together with an "as seen on TV" sign. The titles were *Home Sweet Home, Tomas and the Library Lady, Hands, Cinderella's Rat*, and, of course, *Seven Brave Women*.

I've been able to use the tape once already in a presentation I did for Chicago Women in Publishing, and some customers and friends got a kick out of seeing it. I also called the reps of the publishers whose book I promoted and told them to watch. Several of them sent word, and one sent a tape, to their marketing folks. Remember: Be nice to journalists! ❍

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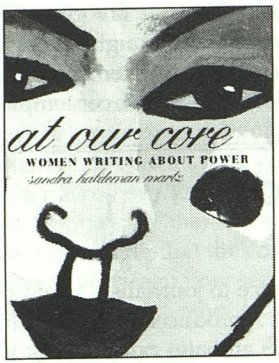

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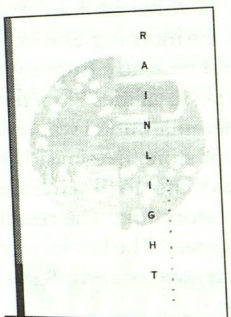
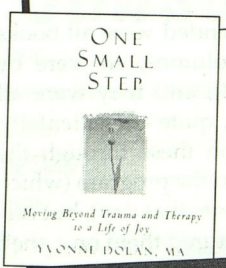
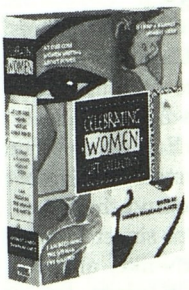


Rainlight *by Alison McGhee*
This award-winning writer's first novel is a *great* read. "Alison McGhee's deceptively simple characters engage the reader's emotions so completely that those in the market for mere entertainment should beware."
—*Independent Publisher*
(Fiction/Literature, 1-57601-006-6, cloth, $22.95)

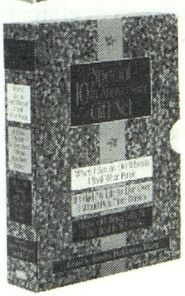


One Small Step: Moving Beyond Trauma and Therapy to a Life of Joy
by Yvonne Dolan, MA
An internationally recognized therapist offers a groundbreaking new approach to post-therapy healing. This is gentle, step-by-step guide will truely help anyone who reads it become happier.
(Self-Help, 1-57601-055-4, paper, $11.95)

Legacies: Children Celebrate Their Grandmothers
by Sally & Libbey Koppinger
In this sequel to our bestselling book *Legacy: Gifts from a Grandmother,* children write about the wisdom they learned from their grandmothers.
(Little Gift Books, 1-57601-058-9, paper, $6)



Celebrating Women Gift Collection
"Celebrating Women" is a lasting tribute to the mutual support, love, and respect that flourishes between mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends.
This striking full-color gift collection includes three Sandra Martz anthologies: *At Our Core: Women Writing about Power; If I Had a Hammer: Women's Work;* and *I Am Becoming the Woman I've Wanted,* winner of a 1995 American Book Award.
(Anthology/Women's Studies/Gifts, 1-57601-029-5, paper, $32)



Special 10th Anniversary Gift Set
Celebrating the 10th anniversary of *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple,* this beautiful new full-color gift set offers three selections from the award-winning Sandra Martz anthology series on the art of growing older: *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple, If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies,* and *Grow Old Along with Me—The Best Is Yet To Be.* (Anthology/ Women's Studies/ Gifts, 1-57601-063-5, paper, $34, 1-57601-064-3, cloth, $56)

HOT SELLER:
When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple MINI BOOK
(3"x4.5", 1-57601-052-X, cloth, $6.95)

Papier-Mache books are available from Baker & Taylor, Bookmen, Bookpeople, Ingram, and Koen, or directly from Papier-Mache.

800-927-5913 **627 Walker St., Watsonville, CA 95076**

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8D02

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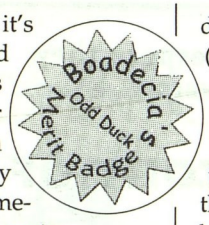
her 60th birthday, Loretta has decided it's time to move on and stop being married to a business. Sales (despite recessions and weather) have increased every year since 1989 and the store is doing well in its new location in a gay and gay-friendly neighborhood. Loretta is looking for someone to keep the store open as a resource center for both the gay/lesbian community and those interested in alternative healing and spirituality. Other perks: the newly painted and recarpted store has an ocean view. And, Audrey May has decided to focus on her goal of creating a full-time, nonprofit women's resource center for Memphis and is selling, or will close, Meristem to free her time, energy and resources to work on that goal.



Transitions and Anniversaries

As we go to press we have the good news that Inklings (formerly in Houston) has successfully been moved to its new owners' community and opened in Salt Lake City on International Women's Day. Pokey Anderson, Inklings' co-founder and until-recently, owner, was on her way to SLC to lend a hand to the new owners for a few days.

Couldn't get to LA for Sisterhood's wonderful 25th Anniversary event? Bring the party home and watch it on your own small screen. Order a copy of the video from Sisterhood for $10.95. The two-and-a-half-hour tape features Gloria Steinem, Sheila Keuhl, Maxine Waters, Robin Tyler, Jackie Goldberg, bell hooks, Michelle Serros, Eloise Klein Healy, Diane Lindsey and the WIMS. (I gotta say, it does a woman's heart good to watch it!) Buy one for yourself, then play it in the store or put it out for your customers to rent. Excerpts of the tape ran on CSPAN2 in January. Sisterhood, 1351 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90024. Can't wait? Check out Sisterhood's Web site for photos of the event, ⟨www.sisterhood.com⟩.

Taking Credit Where Credit Is Due

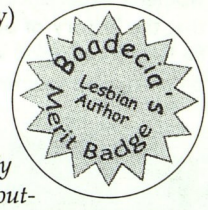
Tired of all the big-time credit and publicity some "bookstores" garnishee every time they drop a crumb on the community (usually while robbing another community institution)? I doubt there's much we can do to teach them any manners, but Sweet Violets (Marquette MI) counters it with a column in their newsletter titled "Where You Choose to Shop Makes a Difference" that begins, "By choosing to shop at Sweet Violets, you have also contributed to the worthy efforts of the following organizations..." and then lists some of the many, many organizations that benefit from overt donations and the everyday support (referrals, information distribution, bulletin board space, et al.) that the bookstore provides.

S&S and The Case of the Closed Accounts

Mary Ellen Kavanaugh (My Sisters' Words), super-sleuthing into the whys and wherefores of why her (active) Simon & Schuster account was suddenly closed without notice, found that S&S had closed a (large) number of accounts that "weren't doing much business" with no notice to the bookstores. After being referred to a sales rep (who, it turned out, no longer even works for S&S), she finally got her account re-opened (without having to prepay for orders) and her outstanding credit memos reinstated. She suggests that other stores with similar problems call Roger Williams at 800-652-0222.

Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due

Boadecia's (North Berkeley) created these nifty "merit badges" on their computer, printed them out on sticky labels, and passed them out at various events to promote *On My Honor: Lesbians Reflect on Their Scouting Experience* reading. They created enough different badges that there was something they could give to almost everyone, and everyone seemed to enjoy receiving (and wearing) them.



Booksellers Want to Know

FBN is looking for articles (from women's studies journals, etc.) that describe ordering books from the local feminist bookstore and/or integrating such an experience into the course syllabus. Please call Carol at *FBN* (415-642-993 or Carol@FemBkNews.com) or Jean MacRae at New Words (617-876-5310 or new words@world.std.com) if you know of such articles/syllabi, or if you know anyone who is interested in writing such a piece. ○

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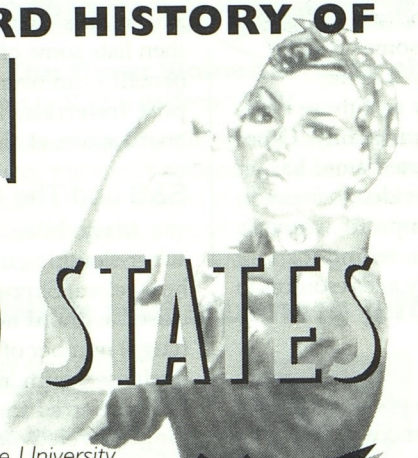
"Treats young readers with the respect they deserve and does not avoid controversial issues."
—*Ms. Magazine*

YOUNG OXFORD HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES



11-VOLUME SET
General Editor: Nancy F. Cott, *Yale University*

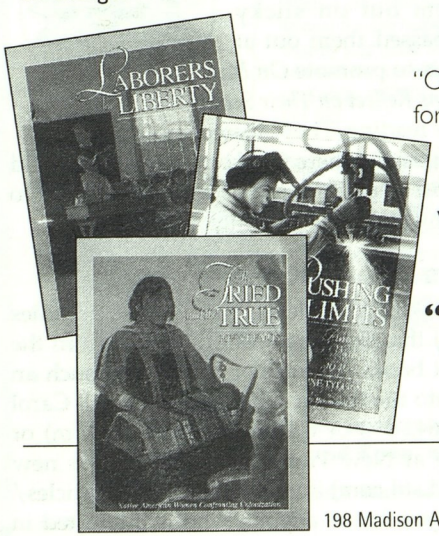
Written by distinguished American historians, these books show the variety and importance of American women's experiences, demonstrating that the history of our nation cannot be fully understood without focusing on changes in women's lives.

The ideal graduation or birthday gift!

"Every daughter should have a set."
—*AB Bookman's Weekly*

"Oxford is to be congratulated for so quickly and well translating the newest scholarship into **readable and attractive volumes** for students."
—Patricia M. King, *Radcliffe College*

"A fascinating compilation." —*VOYA*



A NCSS/CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Social Studies
THE TRIED AND THE TRUE
Native American Women Confronting Colonization *(Vol 1)*
John Demos, *Yale University*

THE COLONIAL MOSAIC
American Women 1600-1760 *(Vol 2)*
Jane Kamensky, *Brandeis University*

THE LIMITS OF INDEPENDENCE
American Women 1760-1800 *(Vol 3)*
Marylynn Salmon, *Smith College*

BREAKING NEW GROUND
American Women 1800-1848 *(Vol 4)*
Michael Goldberg, *University of Washington, Bothell*

AN UNFINISHED BATTLE
American Women 1848-1865 *(Vol 5)*
Harriet Sigerman, *independent scholar*

LABORERS FOR LIBERTY
American Women 1865-1890 *(Vol 6)*
Harriet Sigerman

NEW PATHS TO POWER
American Women 1890-1920 *(Vol 7)*
Karen Manners Smith, *Emporia State University*

FROM BALLOTS TO BREADLINES
American Women 1920-1940 *(Vol 8)*
Sarah Jane Deutsch, *Clark University*

PUSHING THE LIMITS
American Women 1940-1961 *(Vol 9)*
Elaine Tyler May, *University of Minnesota*

THE ROAD TO EQUALITY
American Women Since 1962 *(Vol 10)*
William H. Chafe, *Duke University*

BIOGRAPHICAL SUPPLEMENT AND INDEX *(Vol 11)*
Harriet Sigerman

Each book: 144 pp., $9.95, paper, b/w illus.; (Vol. 11, $11.95); ages 12-adult

11-VOLUME SET: $99.95, paper, 0-19-512398-0

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Carol Seajay and Jenn Tust

Congratulations to The Women's Press/U.K. on "Two Decades Publishing Books of Integrity by Women Writers." Women's Press will celebrate its 20th anniversary with year-round events including a party in London, author tours for Alice Walker, Stephanie Dowrick and bell hooks, a special promotion featuring The Women's Press's Top Twenty Bestsellers, competitions throughout the media, and much more.

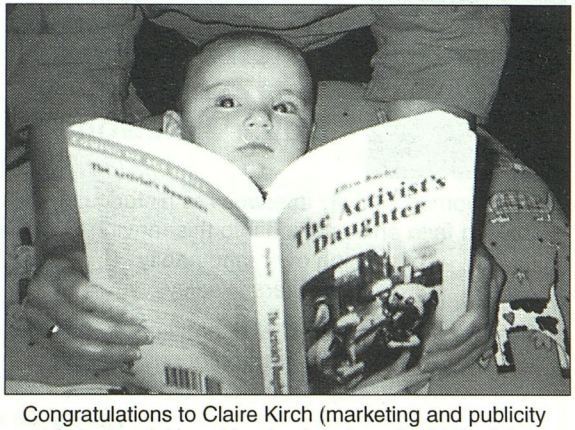
Firebrand Books is running one of the best fundraisers ever: For a mere $250 donation contributors will receive an original Alison Bechdel "Dykes to Watch Out For" cartoon strip. Who could resist? (Send that check to Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850.)

The gay/lesbian travel magazine *Our World* has developed an attention-grabbing 10th anniversary promotion: ten "10th Anniversary Special" vacation drawings (vacations are for two). The drawing is open to anyone, subscriber or not. Subscribers are automatically entered. Newsstand readers can send, fax or email their name, address and telephone numbers into Our World Publishing Corp., 10th Anniversary Special Drawing, 1104 North Nova Road #251, Daytona Beach Fl 32117; fax 904-441-5604 or email ⟨ourworldmg@aol.com⟩.

The second annual National Black Bookstore Week will be celebrated June 13–20. Literacy and local initiatives will be the focus of this year's events with participating stores working with a local literacy project or school. Last year's event focused on collecting and sending books to Soweto. Support materials will include a new poster and a new bookmark, as well as NBBW book bags. NBBW kits will be available from ABA. Kits are free to ABA members stores upon request. Non-member stores can order kits for $30. Call 800-637-0037 ext. 292 (Pete Reynolds) or ext. 293 (Scott Nafz) to order kits.

National Independent Bookstore Week will run July 18–25 this year. Contact the above numbers for NIBW kits.

July 19, 1998 is the 150th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Women's Rights Convention, the first such convention in the U.S. This seems to be one of the few things women have done in the country to merit national attention and celebration, so look for odd bursts of national recognition and publicity. The National Women's History Project has posters, cards and other paraphernalia for theme exhibits and for sale, as does Syracuse Cultural Workers. Call the NWHP at 707-838-6000 (www.nwhp.org) for a catalog or write 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492. Syracuse Cultural Workers also has posters and other materials to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Paul Robeson's birth. SCW: 315-474-1132, PO Box 6367, Syracuse NY 13217. ○



Congratulations to Claire Kirch (marketing and publicity at Spinsters Ink) and her husband, on the birth of their daughter Rachel Connaghan Sipress.

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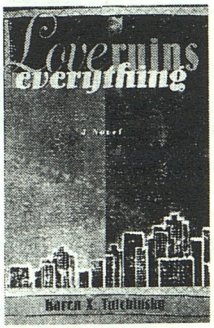
Press Gang Publishers

New This Spring!



Love Ruins Everything

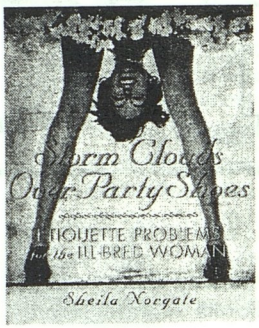
a novel by

Karen X. Tulchinsky

"Delightful. . . takes lesbian camp to new and hilarious heights."
— *Quill & Quire*

"Charming and original. . . Tulchinksy is at her comic best."
— *Publishers Weekly*

Hot Bestseller!



Storm Clouds Over Party Shoes

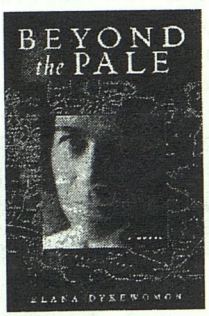
Etiquette Problems for the Ill-Bred Woman

by Sheila Norgate

"Norgate should be congratulated for packing so much dynamite into her book, and letting the reader strike the match."
— *Small Press Magazine*

"...at once riotous and appalling."
— *Quill & Quire* *starred review*

Congratulations to 1998 Lambda Literary Award and ALA Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Book Award Finalists



Beyond the Pale

a novel by

Elana Dykewomon

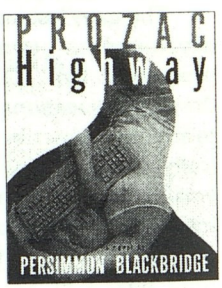
"Dykewomon skilfully interweaves historical details of Jewish faith and tradition into this moving chronicle of triumph over inhumanity."
–Publishers Weekly

"Truly great novels aren't written very often... filled with memorable scenes and glorious characters."
–Bay Area Reporter

Prozac Highway

a novel by

Persimmon Blackbridge



"A hilarious tale...one of the best books of 1997"
— *The Advocate*

"A beautiful portrait...Blackbridge writes humorous, wonderfully restrained prose ...a tour de force."
— *Publishers Weekly*

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ABA, BEA, & TLC

FBN
Come and see us at BEA in Small Press Booth #24.

By Carol Seajay

This year show-goers have two shows to pick from: those who are sick and tired of being sick and tired of going to Chicago can head out to Nashville (May 8–10) for The Literary Congress. Book Expo America (May 30 to June 1), which features The Return of Many Big Publishers, the ABA's Annual Membership meeting (sure to be a doozie this year), and the exuberance of independent booksellers who are kicking butt by suing arch enemies Barnes & Noble and Borders, will undoubtedly hold center stage this year. TLC simply hasn't lined up the publishers that would make booksellers who would have otherwise gone to BEA jump ship, but what it will do is attract booksellers within driving distance of Nashville and booksellers from across the South, people who probably wouldn't drive all the way to Chicago, and who don't have the money to spend to fly. Back in "the good old days," when BEA/ABA traveled to a different city each year, each new location brought in hundreds of booksellers who piled into cars and "drove down." These are the booksellers that you'd see at no other shows. They brought their energy, their enthusiasm, their ideas and their wealth of experience. The "local" booksellers will attend TLC and, as booksellers proved at BEA last year, you don't need to have the Big Guys there to have a rich and vibrant show. Publishers who think they don't need to know what small state, small-time booksellers are talking about are wrong.

TLC's advantage is that it's a traveling show: next year it will be in Phoenix, and in Portland in 2000. BEA

The LITERARY CONGRESS™

Back to the Business of Books

The Literary Congress offers an alternate three-day conference, expo and business forum to the book industry. The first show launches May 8–10 in Nashville under the theme, "Back to the Business of Books." Workshops will run in the morning and the exhibits will be open in the afternoon, a format that will allow publishers and booksellers to interact in workshops and prevent conflict between touring the exhibits and participating in workshops and forums.

Highlights of the program will include a mock trial to determine "Who's Killing the Book Business," what their punishment should be, and what can be done to help the victims recover. Other events include a forum on net pricing, "business forums" where individual publishers can present their lists to booksellers, and forums for publishers on marketing, promotion, merchandising, publicity and co-op advertising, as well as an interesting list of workshops for booksellers.

TLC is also pioneering a series of Dinner Party/Discussions organized by topic that will give booksellers a chance to meet and socialize with peers they don't already know and discuss topics such as Unionization in Bookstores (that should be exciting!), Returns, Theft Prevention, Sales Reps vs. Telemarketing, Employee Benefits, and Successful Sidelines. The dinners will take place in various Nashville restaurants.

Registration is $40/person. For more information contact TLC, 2667 Hyacinth St., Westbury NY 11590; 516-338-6312, fax 516-333-0689; email ⟨Readingent@aol.com⟩. ○

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will go to Los Angeles next year, then right back to Chicago for the following two years. It promises to rotate after that but cities haven't been announced.

BEA & Related Events

The Feminist Bookstore Network Conference will be May 28 and May 29, the Thursday and Friday before BEA. This year's organizers are Sandi Torkildson and Nancy Geary, both of A Room of One's Own.

The Tenth(!) Annual Feminist Booksellers'/ Feminist Publishers' Dinner will be Thursday evening in Andersonville. Call *FBN* for details on either event.

The **Lambda Literary Award Banquet** will be held Friday, May 29. Tickets are $75 ($65 if purchased before April 15). Call 202-462-7924 or write *Lambda Book Report*, PO Box 73910, Washington DC 20056. Kate Clinton and Scott Thompson will emcee this year.

FBN was unable to confirm rumors that "**GLIB**" (Gay/Lesbian Industry: Books), the recently named group that met last year at BEA in an attempt to create a networking and umbrella group for a broad cross section of gay, lesbian, feminist, bi, trans, S/M, fetish, et al., publishers and booksellers would meet on Thursday evening.

Other pre-convention events include **The Latino Book Summit** (Friday, 11–5), **The African American Booksellers Conference** (Friday, 11:45–7), and the **ABA/African American Professional Booksellers School** (Thursday). Call ABA at 800-637-0037 or 914-591-2665 ext. 282 for more information on all of these programs.

Be sure to attend **ABA's Town Meeting** (Sunday, 3–4) and **Annual Membership Meeting** (Sunday 4–5:30). Look for booksellers to turn out en masse to cheer their association for its hard work and courageous decision to sue Barnes & Noble and Borders. Look for high spirits, good cheer, and that long-missing ingredient, hope.

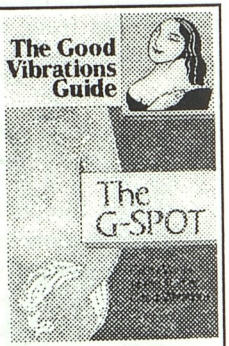
Feminist Bookstores spend the two days before the convention talking, schmoozing, and working together, so ABA's two-hour **Feminist Bookstore Roundtable** is often something of an anti-climax for stores that attend the FB-Net Conference. But it's still an important resource for those who couldn't attend, including the many feminists in bookselling who

The Good Vibrations Guide: The G-Spot, *Cathy Winks*
The elusive "ultimate pleasure spot" is explored, with a demystifying and enlightening discussion of female ejaculation and the latest research findings.
$7.00, 72 p, pbk, illust, biblio, resources, ISBN 0-940208-23-7

The Good Vibrations Guide: Adult Videos, *Cathy Winks*
Capsule reviews of the best woman-oriented adult films. Where to find natural bodies, people of color, and what you won't find (and why). Censorship battles, insider interviews — and when to use the fast-forward!
$7.00, 96 p, pbk, biblio, resources index, ISBN 0-940208-22-9

Sex Toy Tales, *Anne Semans & Cathy Winks, editors*
Ten million Americans buy sex toys every year — this unique collection by thirty-five women and men reveals novel choices and will give readers an erotic whirl!
$12.50, 216 p, pbk, ISBN 0-940208-21-0

Anal Pleasure & Health, revised: A Guide for Men and Women, *Jack Morin, Ph.D.*
Newly revised for the 21st century, Dr. Morin's reassuring techniques have guided thousands in their quest for pleasurable and healthy anal sex. "... a sex education classic." *The Advocate*
$18.00, 270 p, pbk, illust, biblio, index, ISBN 0-940208-20-2



Down There Press — Booth SP 69 at BEA - 938 Howard, #101, San Francisco CA 94103 - (415) 974-8985 x 105

Also available through Bookpeople, LPC, Alamo Square, Last Gasp, AK, Bookazine, Koen, the distributors, Marginal (Canada), Baker & Taylor, Ingram and others.

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New from gynergy books for Fall 1998

Inspirational Stories of Women with Breast Cancer

Aniko Galambos

For the 12 women in this heartening collection who have breast cancer, the battle has changed their bodies, their lives and their future. From diagnosis to treatment to living with breast cancer, the need to remain positive and keep focused on the important things in life has framed their outlook. A wonderful book for women with breast cancer and the people who care about them.

ISBN 0-921881-49-5 $14.95

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don't work in specialty stores but who care passionately about feminist books and bookselling. Gilda Bruckman, from New Words (Cambridge), will facilitate this year's Roundtable (Sunday, 12–1).

BEA, whether intentionally or not, has lined up a great cast of feminist speakers: **Alice Walker** will speak at the Sunday Book and Author Breakfast, **Adrienne Rich** and **Anna Quindlen** at the Monday Breakfast, and **Pat Schroeder** (in her capacity as the President and CEO of the Association of American Publishers) at the Sunday Awards Luncheon. **ABA's Celebration of Bookselling** (Saturday, 5:30–6:30) was a high-spirited party last year and should be just as much fun this year.

There is no Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Aisle this year, but *FBN* will be exhibiting with several other feminist presses in the Small Press section in **Small Press Booth #24**.

Sick to death of the *way* back of the bus location BEA has assigned **The Aisle** for the last few years, and feeling that the bad location was hurting sales more than the group proximity was helping, all of **The Aisle** booth-holders have decided to let The Aisle go and to plunge back into the main floor. Since each publisher is applying for space based on its seniority points, most publishers' booths will have good locations in the central part of the exhibit floor. After many years of increasingly better locations as Aisle members accumulated seniority points, BEA started creating other Specialty Areas and assigning them all to the outer perimeters of the show and disregarding seniority points — and The Aisle's location has suffered ever since. Some publishers' associations and distribution groups (PMA, PGW, Consortium) that rent and assign space for members exhibit in the central part of the floor and garner excellent locations based on their seniority. F/G/L publishers may consider this option in 1999 when BEA goes on the road for the first time in four years.

To help booksellers find all of the widely scattered F/G/L booths, F/G/L publishers are joining forces to create a "**BEA Pride Passport**" which lists all of the publishers and their locations on one side. The **Passport** (when rubber-stamped by the required number of participating publishers) becomes a lottery ticket at the end of the show. The prize? A passel of free books to sell in your store. ○

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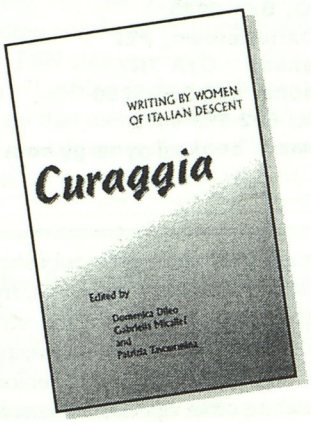

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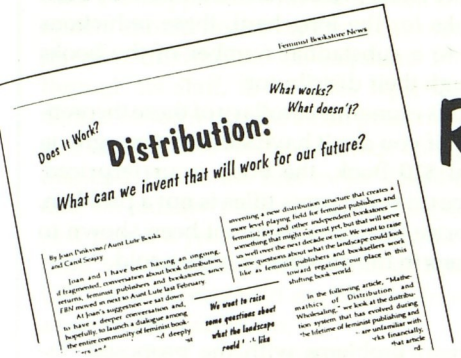

Feminist Bookstore News

What works?
What doesn't?

Does It Work?

Distribution:

What can we invent that will work for our future?

By Joan Pinkvoss/Aunt Lute Books and Carol Seajay

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

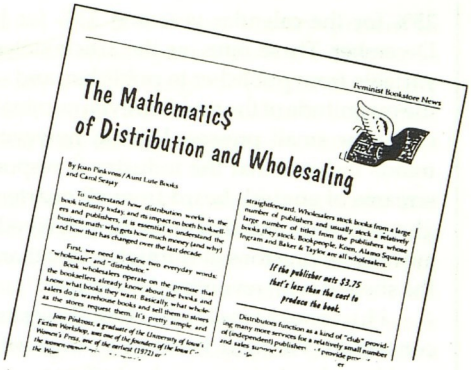
At Joan's suggestion we sat down to have a deeper conversation and, hopefully, to launch a dialogue among the entire community of feminist book-

We want to raise some questions about what the landscape could ... like

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

In the following article, "Mathematics of Distribution and Wholesaling," we look at the distribution system that has evolved during the lifetime of feminist publishing and ... are unfamiliar with ... this article ...

Readers Respond


Feminist Bookstore News

The Mathematic$ of Distribution and Wholesaling

By Joan Pinkvoss/Aunt Lute Books and Carol Seajay

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

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

Book wholesalers operate on the premise that the booksellers already know about the books and know what books they want. Basically, what wholesalers do is warehouse books and sell them to stores as the stores request them. It's pretty simple and straightforward. Wholesalers stock books from a large number of publishers and usually stock a relatively large number of titles from the publishers whose books they stock. Bookpeople, Koen, Alamo Square, Ingram and Baker & Taylor are all wholesalers.

If the publisher sets $3.75 that's less than the cost to produce the book.

Distributors function as a kind of "club" providing many more services for a relatively small number of (independent) publishers ... provide pro...

Responses to the articles we ran on the distribution and wholesaling of feminist press books in the November/December issue are still coming in. Our goal in writing and publishing these articles was to look at the ways distribution and wholesaling affect feminist publishing and bookselling, to consider the impact of the current market situation on procedures that have evolved over the years, and to encourage discussion of these issues and to begin discussion about "the next generation" of book distribution processes and decisions.

Below are the responses we've received since we published the last issue. It's a great mix from many different corners of the bookselling/publishing community. —CS

Consortium Responds

I read with interest the article(s) by Joan Pinkvoss and Carol Seajay regarding distribution and the mathematics of distributing and wholesaling, and would like to respond from the distributor's point of view to several concerns and assumptions raised by those articles.

Distribution Services

In addition to the services mentioned (sales and promotional support, national sales force, and collections), distributors provide: billing and shipping of orders, customer service, warehousing of all of a publisher's titles, detailed sales reporting on a timely basis, and, not infrequently, financial services which may not be available to a small publisher through traditional financial channels (reprint loans, payment advances, etc.).

Most distributors begin paying for the titles sold after 60 days, not 90 as mentioned in the article, and either distribute the payments in increments or make a lump sum payment, with the average dollar (at least our average dollar) paid out in about 105 days. This is faster than we collect the money from our customers, so in one sense we are financing that payment lag for the publisher. Also, because returns are incorporated into the payment stream as they arrive and are credited, we also finance the cash effects of those returns for the same period of time (the bookstores and wholesalers deduct the cash immediately, sometimes before we even see the returns, and the publisher does not feel the cash effect of those returns for the average 105 days), so the street runs both ways. Distributors also, as mentioned, buffer small presses from the effects of bad debt and bankruptcies, which has not been an insubstantial service with the recent demises of Inland, Pacific Pipeline, Gannon, Moving Books et al.

We believe that a good distributor (and there are several) is the best way for a small press to grow and flourish, and that distribution represents a good value for those small publishers. The services provided are not feasible or economically accessible for small presses, and by representing many small presses under one umbrella, the distributor increases the chance for a book's success in the market. These thoughts are borne out by the fact that a majority of our publishers have shown steady growth (2/3 had sales increases this year) even during times of book industry unsteadiness.

Returns and Hurts

Perhaps our experience with the returns crisis of the past couple of years has been atypical (I don't think it has), but even at those highwater rates, our overall returns ran around 29% across the board, not nearly the 35-45% cited, and this year industry as well as our own returns have declined very nicely. Our returns have run

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25% for the calendar year and 21% for July through December. These rates, as the article notes, are highly variable from publisher to publisher, and we recognize the magnitude of the problem even nominal return rates cause for small presses. I think, however, that these trends indicate that the industry is responding to the screams of anguish heard from all quarters during the glut, and indicates that even the perceived "bad guys" are now buying for sell-through rather than just to stock the shelves with revolving "wallpaper."

Hurt books are clearly a lose/lose situation for all concerned. We (and I would assume other distributors) have been giving our best effort to respond to this situation over the past year and our hurts are now at around 12% of returns. Bookstores have an "anything, anytime" return mentality and basically think of all returns as expendable, since this is primarily how larger publishers view them. We need to attempt to educate them that small presses reshelve and resell the majority of their returns, rather than pulping them as many larger publishers do, but this will be a long-term process. I also want to make clear that our return policies, agree with them or not, are applied equitably and evenly across the board for all customers.

The Math of Distribution Revisited

I was interested to test some of the assumptions put forward in the article, whose math I can't fault on the basis of the assumptions made. I sampled our active titles (4769 titles), and found that the average cover price was $15.81 (78% had cover prices greater than $10). Active Aunt Lute titles had an average cover price of $12.67. Assuming the costs cited in the article are fixed, the math on the worst case scenarios (book sold to a store by a wholesaler via a distributor) in the article looks like this:

Cover Price:	12.67
Bookstore	5.07
Wholesaler	1.26
Distributor	1.58
Publisher	4.76

Even at the 33.7% scenario, the amount to the publisher is $4.27, more than the $4.20 overhead per book assumed by the article.

It is also important to remember that certain of these costs (typesetting and design) apply only to the first printing. Any subsequent reprints of a title would have only the printing and shipping costs associated with them. Since small presses have traditionally been into their books for the long haul, these reductions would apply to a substantial number of the books they sell through their distributor.

The obvious economic corollary of these theoretical exercises is: if you don't have sufficient margin on the theoretical $10 book, the book is underpriced. Price resistance on small press titles is not a problem, and modest price increases have not been shown to cause reductions in the number of copies sold.

The Proposal

I see several problems with the proposed discount schedule proposed in the article. How many bookstores would agree to purchase under these terms in the present state of the book industry? Would the administrative policies inherent in this system be cost effective? How would the publisher handle disputes arising under these policies?

We continue to feel that the best chance for the individual title in today's crowded marketplace lies in the widest possible promulgation of that title. By essentially limiting sales to a subset of a subset of the possible market, would publishers adopting these policies be marginalizing themselves and further exacerbating what is already, in many cases, a tenuous situation? Will moves like this hasten the arrival of the "best-seller only" situation rather than expanding the possibilities for the kind of quality small-press material we love and are dedicated to?

I am interested in any responses. You can write me at Consortium Book Sales or or email at ⟨pjheege@compuserve.com⟩.

Thanks for the opportunity to respond.

Peter J. Heege
Chief Financial Officer
Consortium
1045 Westgate Dr.
St. Paul MN 55114
612-221-9035

Joan Pinkvoss Responds

I am glad for Peter Heege's letter; it is a thoughtful response. And I'm grateful to *FBN* for giving me precious column inches to muse over the further issues Peter's letter raises.

First, I'd like to take the opportunity to say what didn't get said in the previous articles: that Aunt

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Lute's unhappiness with the present U.S. distribution system should not be construed as unhappiness with its own distributor, Consortium. From its board, through its staff, to its sales reps, Consortium evidences concern that the small press movement is alive and healthy, and has spent much energy working for that end. It was the first major distributor willing to take on smaller presses who published less than 20 new books a year. Without some of the risks Consortium took early on, after Randall Beek came on as CEO, Aunt Lute could not have been represented by a successful distributor.

But the simple question remains whether even such a good distributor, having to bow to the market, can help us solve some of the problems that now exist for our presses and bookstores. When Peter says that 2/3's of the presses show growth, I wager that the other 1/3 might be presses like Aunt Lute, Calyx, Mercury House, etc. — presses that are built around literature (except for poetry, in its renaissance) and discourse. Returns for Aunt Lute and Calyx continue to hover towards the high 30% range. There's no discussion about the presses that are no longer with Consortium — for instance, one of the best literary presses in Canada closed down last year. I think it's dangerous to discuss such a wide range of publishers in any statistical way because it belies a profile of individual publishers that may be very important to understand the trends.

For instance, all of the average book sales and returns aside, in one 12-month period with Consortium we averaged only $1.19/per book above our costs. In 1994 — before distributorship — we were averaging $3.43/book above costs. That might work if we were selling a lot more books, but in fact we're selling a lot less.

The major difference between small publishers and this even best of distributors is that distributors are market driven. Consortium has a sizeable staff and investors to satisfy. Certainly, we want a stable business like that representing us in the market place, but we have no illusions about how small a part we play in their income. As wholesalers become a bigger part of distributor business we lose more income and have an even harder time knowing what's going on with our readers — whether our

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readership is changing or they just can't find our books as well as they used to.

Peter discusses marginalization as though it isn't something that continues for us after being taken on by a distributor. Of course, it has another name: "niche publishing." But as soon as the niche develops some cracks (like a large drop in market share) all companies who are strictly market driven move out of the house. They really have little choice. In such a quickly changing climate, there is no time for them to explore where the cracks are coming from.

Carol and I weren't just being naive when we started proposing alternative scenarios. There may be none that could work. Aunt Lute's interest in a dialogue about alternatives comes partially from the fact that we have to now sell all our academic titles *only* at a short discount. Academic sales are what keep us alive. Wholesalers were buying these titles from Consortium at a deep discount and reselling them for academic sales at their own short discount, forcing us into this decision. That means we can't sell titles like *Borderlands* to bookstores at the usual 40% off. That's a really untenable situation, and there's no way to change that within the present distribution system. And we do not have enough clout to put pressure on that system; we're having less clout all the time.

You know, we didn't really "carve out a niche" for ourselves. We just wanted to facilitate our communities talking with each other, imagining and thinking with each other, entertaining each other. I, like many of us, have worked a second job most of my life in order to be part of this. If we can't find a method of repair, we may have to watch as the structure crumbles and trust that another group of people will rebuild it in a different way. But it seems better to me than moving into a condo someone else owns. It's like giving up your dream for a new Jeep Cherokee.

Joan Pinkvoss
Aunt Lute Books
2180 Bryant St. #206
San Francisco CA 94110

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CALYX Books Responds

One of the areas left undiscussed in the distribution articles published by *FBN* is how the costs of distribution are increasing as the superstores have become the major vehicle for bookstore sales.

When CALYX Books signed with our distributor in 1993 there was a clause in our distributor's contract giving them the right to charge 10% of gross billings if the amount due to the distributor (normally 26% of net sales) drops to less than 10% of the gross. With returns barely in the teens in 1993 we had no reason to believe we would be affected by that clause in the contract.

However, in 1996 our returns climbed to over 40%. As high returns have continued (they averaged 34% in 1997) there are months when our returns exceed or nearly exceed sales and this clause is applied. During these months we pay higher fees to our distributor.

Here's how it works: If our gross sales during a month are $7000 but the chains happen to return $5500 worth of our titles during that month, the net is $1500. Normally we would owe the distributor 26% of the net or $390 (26% of $1500 = $390). But because that's less than 10% of the gross sale (10% of $7,000 = $700), this clause takes effect so we owe the distributor $700 instead of $390. This means that we end up with an $800 income for that month ($1500 - $700) instead of the $1,110 ($1500 - $390) we would otherwise expect.

As a small press (we only do 3 books a year) we are inadvertently subsidizing the over-ordering

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practices of the chains. Since 1994 the income level of our press has fallen annually while the fees we pay for distribution have continued to rise. The most depressing reality is the fact that the ordering practices of the chains continue to result in higher returns of books and that the costs for those returns are not equally spread between the distributors and the small presses.

This is a pretty high cost of doing business. How long will feminist presses be able to continue to do business with the realities of distribution so changed?

Margarita Donnelly,
Director
CALYX Book
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Wildcat Press Responds

As a writer who is also a publisher, I have a rather unique perspective. I've spent many years traveling the U.S., doing booksignings in all kinds of stores, as well as lectures at universities and personal appearances with many organizations. I can see whether things are "working" from both an author and publisher perspective. When something is wrong I get it in the face personally no matter which hat I'm wearing....

Wildcat Press is still dealing with an array of wholesalers, though we are moving more and more into direct sales to stores at 40–45%, as well as to retail customers that we get on mailings or through the Internet. About 80% of our sales are still through wholesalers on a nonexclusive basis. We were never with InBook (we were simply a nonexclusive vendor for Inland) and after we saw what happened to InBook vendors, we wouldn't touch an exclusive with a 10-foot pole. Our thinking is...it's better not to have all your eggs in one basket.

We wholesale to Ingram, Koen, Baker & Taylor, Bookazine, Bookpeople and Alamo Square. Ingram and B&T are valuable partly because they get your titles into their big databases, and Internet bookmarketing doesn't happen easily without being in those databases, which many Internet booksales sites now use. The other day I did an Amazon search that turned up some of our Bookbabes press names, but not others. Same for Nautilus, which is launching a revamped online book-ordering service for bookstores — they use the B&T database. Wildcat is also in the new Barnes & Noble database, and we are seeing an increase in orders from individual B&N stores (and Borders, too). Both the B&N and Borders systems are switching to their own internal distribution system, and store managers have the option to buy direct from small presses.

With wholesalers we have set strict parameters on returns (no more than 20% on any invoice). No credit for damaged copies unless they notify us of the damages upon receipt of the book in their warehouse. We are relentless about collections, and have set a ceiling for bigger and smaller wholesalers; when they go above this ceiling in payables, we stop shipping till they pay and get under the ceiling again. As a result, we aren't really behind with anybody right now. We try hard to enforce this, but it isn't easy.

Right now we're trying to address the issue of "consignment," which makes a joke of 90 days net. We have already raised some prices on domestic titles, and will continue to do that. And we're going to add a surcharge for overseas, because by the time we give them their 60% and even split the shipping, we don't make any money on foreign sales (which we actually do a lot of). We are shipping a lot of books to Canada, Australia, U.K., Europe.

It would really be wonderful to get the book business off the "addiction" of taking forever to pay for a book...to get them to pay up front, like in the gift industry.

Patricia Nell Warren
Wildcat Press
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Beverly Hills CA 90211

Laugh Lines Press Responds

Further thoughts on this fabulous topic:

There are a few women's bookstores whom I very successfully deal with directly. They order books at a 50% discount and I give them generous time limits within which to pay. They often don't pay me on time anyway, but they do pay eventually. Sometimes after a friendly reminder.

(I'd rather be paid late by a woman-owned business than right on time by a chain.)

I tend to end up doing this only with stores with whom I have some kind of personal relationship — either I've done my promotional slide show at the

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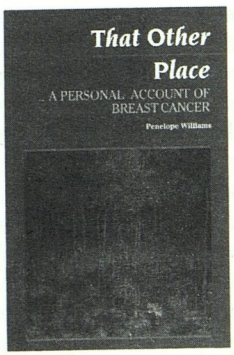

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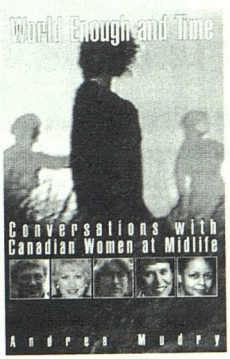

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store or I've been a customer — so that I know and like and trust the store's owner.

And it's very ad hoc.

I guess that what I'm saying is that this is currently based on a one-on-one relationship with each store; it would be good if there were some kind of realistic way to enter into such a relationship with more stores — for instance the stores that are listed in your Catalog.

The problem for me as a publisher is that I have been *burned* before by stores who failed to pay at all. Ever. Or who needed to be dunned over and over. This doesn't happen often but it is painful when it does happen.

I'd like for some mechanism to be put in place whereby woman-owned stores were to order directly from woman-owned publishers. I'm saying that sometimes this works for me so in theory it could work across the board. I'm just not sure how to make it work across the board.

Roz Warren
Laugh Lines Press
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RozWarren@aol.com

GrizMart Productions Responds

Just finished your articles on publishing/distribution. Being new to the world of feminist publishing, I had a few thoughts to share:

1. On the proposed feminist-press catalog, we tried something similar with our printer (Small Publishers Co-Op) this fall. Scott could give you some idea of how well it worked for the group as a whole; didn't do much for us so far (but we only had one title then, too).

2. On the alternative pricing structure: I work in an office supply (non-chain) store 3 days/week, and that sounds very similar to what is offered to us by our picture calendar vendors.. We can choose our discounts, and choose if we want (or don't want) returns. In that context, I like the flexibility it offers, and we make do just fine with those kind of choices.

Dale Martin
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Responses from the Bookstores

Toronto Women's Bookstore Responds

Here are my thoughts on the distribution article:

Let me give you some background on how we work here, so you understand my comments! I currently do all the buying at the store — frontlist, backlist, special orders, and course books. While it means that the buying is in the hands of only one person, it makes for better efficiency overall. And of course, all decisions I make are subject to debate by the rest of the staff! I meet with sales reps very regularly — 3 times a year, for the different lists. I meet with most publisher reps; most of the smaller Canadian presses, including the feminist ones, are represented by sales agents. The remaining publishers, whom I have to order from directly, invariably get missed. I just don't have the time to go through all the catalogues all the time, enter them into the computer, and order them directly. I'm always on the lookout for catalogues by feminist presses, so I prioritize those....

Meeting with reps ensures that a: those books get ordered, and b: they get ordered on time.

So, on with your proposals. I personally would like to see an ordering consortium of feminist presses, rather than going direct. This would save me lots of time, make backlist orders much easier to coordinate. A joint catalogue would be great, so all the titles are in one place. I would also like to see a sales rep for this consortium, so I can talk face to face with a woman about the books. Also, if there are any author event possibilities, having a rep would facilitate communication. I don't mind at all if the books come from the separate publishers. Payments would also go to this consortium, and we would have a definite commitment to ensuring they get paid regularly. However, I think we would like to see some flexibility around this. For example, summers and February are slow months for us. I would like to see some trust on the part of the consortium, to recognize that if we can't make a payment in the summer, we will do it in September when we know we have $$$ from course book sales.

I'm not that keen on Aunt Lute's discount schedule. 50% non-returnable is fine, but I'm very concerned about the 40% with only 20% returnable scheme. It would very seriously affect the initial numbers that we order. I would probably order low, and be stuck if books suddenly sell out. You probably know the difficulties and costs in getting books shipped to Canada from the U.S. Consolidated shipping companies can ship the books fairly quickly from across the border, but they are very expensive. And regular mail, or book-post, can often take several weeks as our books routinely get stopped and opened at Customs. So with only 20% returnable, it would have a serious impact on our ordering. A higher returnable percentage would be preferable — at least 50%. As with short discount titles, we never mark up short discounted titles. Books from the U.S. are so expensive, with our dollar in the hole, that we can't afford to mark up higher than list price. So Aunt Lute's policy of automatically short-discounting books like *Making Face* has affected us adversely. Why don't they adopt a policy that the academic presses do? (That only when books are ordered in quantities over 10 or 15 they get short discounted.) I suppose this wouldn't work for the wholesale accounts. But it's frustrating, for us, to short discount books like theirs.

Anjula Gogia
Toronto Women's Bookstore
73 Harbord St.
Toronto ON M5S 1G4
twb@web.net

Rainbow Bookstore Coop Responds

Thanks for the thought-provoking articles on distribution in the Nov./Dec. issue.

First some background about store and various caveats about how our circumstances may differ from others. Rainbow has been cooperatively owned and managed since 1989 with two employees and 30+ volunteers who work 4 hours/wk. We are the "left/ anarchist" bookstore in Madison. Although we consider ourselves feminist, A Room of One's Own is 2 blocks away. (Within our downtown area there are 2 additional indies plus at least 6 used bookstores). Because Room is so close we don't cover some areas as deeply, but we order at least one of everything we think we can sell.

The proposed discount structure seems workable. Have you discussed whether it passes the NACS test? How has the agency plan at LPC/InBook been working for feminist publishers...? If feminist publishers want to have more 20% discount titles, then I'd ask

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them not to list the price on the book. It's impossible to change the cost of a short discount book if the price is listed, students assume we are ripping them off....

Distributors, with sales reps (fem or not), make ordering more convenient and make it easier to take risks on "marginal" books (i.e. it looks interesting but will it sell in my store with my particular niche??). Even if the rep is merely an "order taker," they are useful for covering all the feminist/progressive presses at once. I am overwhelmed by all the (mostly useless) catalogues we receive and having reps makes my job easier. If fem pubs dropped all distributors, it could add to booksellers costs. If books trickle in, with $2–3 of freight attached, it can get very expensive. Also, I wouldn't order from the publishers who don't "fit" our niche, whereas I will give those books a try with a distributor. Of course, certain pubs I would deal with directly. (I see lots of reps, by the way, twice a year.)

If the new discount structure were implemented what will happen to "our" wholesalers? I can easily forego ordering fem/left books from Ingram and B&T, but I do feel some loyalty to the alternative wholesalers like BP & Koen. (Curse that guy who ruined Inland, I am still grieving for them.) [*Ed. note: John Miller (a.k.a. Fred Stillman) "bought" Inland in 1994, took the cash and defaulted on the bills and payments. He was later arrested and pled guilty to $10-20 million in fraud in 16 separate cases. He was sentenced to 45 months in jail.*]

Delayed billing would reflect the reality of 90–120 day payment practices. How about a different strategy: 2% discount EOM. I always take advantage of these discounts and view them as an offset to shipping costs. I try to prioritize political presses/distributors now, but honestly, if each pub were separate, a few would inevitably end up at the bottom of the pile.

Perhaps I am misunderstanding the section on "branding" (p.22) but there are certain fem/lesbian presses that elicit (good) expectations on my part and others that elicit nothing. Part of the problem may be an overdose of genre titles — it seems everyone has to publish detective novels, goddess/ritual books, and erotica/coming out stories. The other problem is larger: the depoliticization of feminism, or perhaps more accurately, the de-movementization of feminism. Already mainstream pubs and some of "our" distributors label feminist titles "women's interest" or "women's studies."

The larger question is what has happened to the feminist movement?

Progressive activism has declined in general and partly has been replaced by "identity" politics. I think Queer books are hot because there is an active movement and the plethora of books reflect the issues the movement is addressing. Your article mentions *This Bridge Called My Back* as a landmark book. When it came out, every feminist read it because it was an essential addition to the conversation we were having about race and racism. Where have the gut-wrenching soul-searching conversations about our movement disappeared to? I think "identity" politics has fractured these meta-conversations. While analysis of differences — culture/race/ethnicity/gender/age/ability/sexual preferences/etc. add experiential richness and truth to the discussion, if it ends up that we can't make grand claims for the necessity of change then we will be stuck in little communities of self-defined interests. I used to think that these multiple identities and the points of view

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they offered made feminism, especially socialist-feminism, stronger and more explanatory.

Each group, in the process of self-organizing, would offer a deeper reality to our arguments but instead identity based organizing seems to have created insurmountable divisions/territories/borders.

Are we feminist/left/progressive booksellers providing Fem101 or Activism for Beginners workshops along with self-help/therapy/drumming classes? What about a jobs referral network for young activists? Are we fighting the assault of pseudo-feminist (anti-feminist) writers with the promotion of better books and ideas? Are we saying loudly enough that it's not enough to support "independent" booksellers and publishers but it is imperative, and more so than ever, to support political booksellers and publishers whose mission is shaped by the need for a better world and not merely profitability? That the books we sell/publish have a distinct position in the market and that we can't rely on the commercial publishers to make our ideas available. Are we saying it's not enough to heal our wounded inner child without a public commitment to all children, the majority of whom are poor, non-white, with fewer life prospects than most of us?

Have we lost this political focus? Certainly there are serious impediments to reviving a mass feminist movement (or a left-wing, class-based movement for that matter), but I question the apolitical new age focus of some feminist booksellers and publishers. Are we developing a market for social change ideas or filling niches for personal solutions and fantasy/escapism.

Granted fem/left/symp publishers and booksellers deserve a level playing field. But when I look at the larger economic picture I wonder what is realistic. The multimedia conglomerates that own the major publishing houses can afford to write off huge losses (e.g. HarperCollins), pay for product placement at the chains, cross-merchandise books with movie and toy tie-ins on a global scale. It's a different game that we can't afford. Your articles on distribution help us assess what we need to succeed and hopefully will help spark creative solutions.

Throughout my response I've been including left and progressive publishers because I assume they face the same difficulties as feminist publishers. But let me make it explicit. Do feminist bookstores carry the general political titles from South End Press, Common Courage, Monthly Review, The New Press, Pluto, New Society Publishers, Curbstone, Seven Stories, Odonian, AK, etc.? Carol and Joan make the analogy about finding feminist books at the independents during the '60s. Try locating titles about socialism, anarchism, the U.S. labor movement, or the economy at most general bookstores today. The pickings are sparse. The left/progressive publishers don't have an *FBN*. Please try to support these publishers whenever possible.

Here are a few concrete ideas:

- Stop allowing superstores to return books past pub deadlines. If it is a violation of the Robinson-Patman Act then find a way to enforce the law. Publishers are complicit in their own undoing if they continue to allow this practice.
- Investigate/initiate "white sales" like university publishers have. Sell hurt returns as nonreturnable remainders, giving feminist/sympathetic booksellers first dibs.
- Collect money from feminist and left pubs and booksellers and put in a few big ads in various media (*NYT/Ms./The Nation/Utne Reader*/whatever) arguing for the necessity of our ideas and institutions and urging public support.
- Make point-of-sale materials available so booksellers can feature and promote a different feminist press each month. Booksellers agree to do a display of front and backlist titles, offer a discount, send out press releases, do a mailing etc.
- Outreach to non feminist/left/symp booksellers urging orders of the "real thing," to augment the offerings provided by corporate publishers' cooptation of feminism(women's interest!).

Thanks for the opportunity to share my opinions.

Marsha Rummel
Rainbow Bookstore Coop
426 W Gilman St.
Madison, WI 53703
608-257-6050
rbc@supranet.com

If you missed the original articles or the last set of responses and would like to read them, please call FBN for copies. ❍

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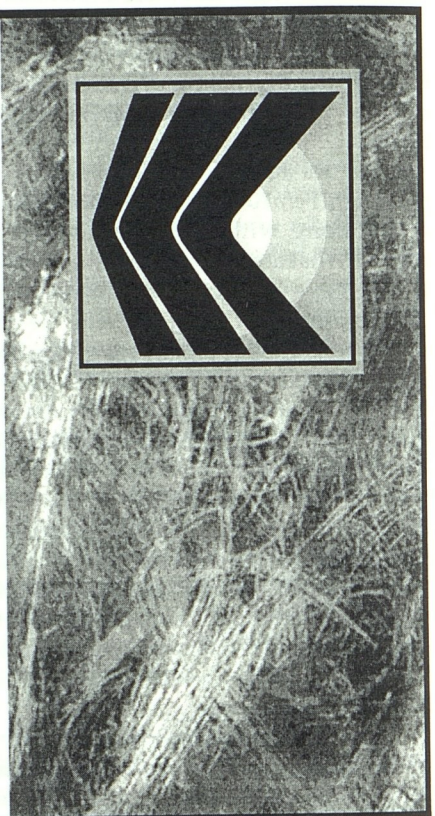

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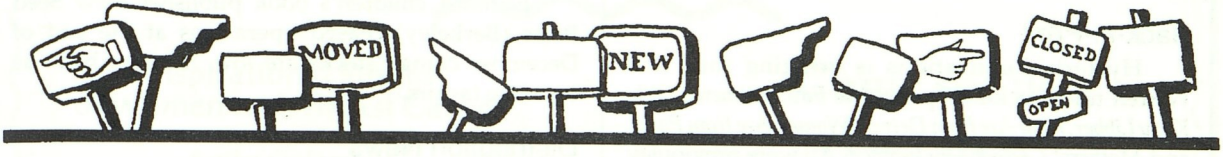

By Jenn Tust

New Stores

Delta's Venus is a new feminist, lesbian and gay, and alternative-focused clothing, book, and gift shop in Missoula, Montana. Owner Amy Bertram opened the *huge* — 4,000 square-feet, with 12-foot ceilings — store in February. It features sex toys, latex, safer-sex paraphernalia, books, jewelry, folk art, and clothing, including lingerie. The store is located across the street from the Women's Resource Center and a café, and is between a snowboard shop and a music store. Delta's Venus, 618 S. Higgins Avenue, Missoula MT 59801; 406-728-3213, fax 406-728-3082, email ⟨abert kanies@in-tch.com⟩.

Not So New, But...

Sister Wolf Books, a woman-centered bookstore in northern Minnesota, is open from Memorial weekend through mid-September every year. Owned by Mary Kay Watson, the 800-square-foot store — actually "a little rehabbed house" in Dorset — is 2½ hours from Duluth and 3½ hours from Minneapolis. Mary Kay, a health writer for Minnesota's Women's Press, opened Sister Wolf after years of going north for the summer and not having any immediate access to literature while she was there. This summer will be the fourth that this lesbian- and gay-friendly store will serve the usually 20-person town that, in the summer, becomes a hot summer-living and tourist spot. Sister Wolf Books' summer mailing address is Rt. 3 Box 29, Park Rapids MN 56470; 218-732-7565, fax 218-732-7047. During the winter contact Mary Kay at 1526 W. 25th Street, Minneapolis MN 55405; 612-381-9291, email ⟨siswolf@juno.com⟩.

Suzanne Couch and Jennie Allison are the owners of Out of Bounds, a lesbian and gay gift and book store in Greenville, South Carolina, 2 hours north of Atlanta and 1½ hours south of Charlotte. The 850-square-foot store, located near a mall in rapidly growing Greenville, opened in March 1997 and specializes in gay/lesbian sidelines as well as books. Out of Bounds, 219-E West Antrim Drive, Greenville SC 29607; 864-239-0106.

Bookstores Move/Change

Inklings is now in Salt Lake City!

On January 31, Pokey Anderson and Annise Parker and Houston's women's community passed the torch to new co-owners Liz Brackeen and Stephanie Fulton. Liz, a customer since Inklings' beginnings, had dreamed of owning a gay and lesbian bookstore for years. When Inklings went up for sale she considered moving back to Houston to buy the store but Stephanie didn't want to give up her job in SLC. So they bought the store, trucked the inventory and fixtures to SLC and reopened there. Pokey will provide consulting and training as needed.

The new Inklings, Salt Lake's only gay, lesbian, bisexual...book and gift store, opened in February. Five miles from A Woman's Place feminist bookstore, the 550-square-foot store is located in a mixed commercial/residential area in Salt Lake's multicultural, lesbian and gay, and alternative communities' neighborhoods. Inklings, Inc., 247 East 900 South, Salt Lake City UT 84111; 801-355-4991, fax 801-355-4992, toll-free 800-931-3369, email ⟨inklings@inklingsbks.com⟩, Web ⟨www.inklingsbks.com⟩.

A Woman's Spirit, the Internet feminist bookstore launched amid much fanfare last year, has closed the

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Web site and is now doing mailorder only. A Woman's Spirit's new address and email address are 18 Patony Road, Framingham MA 01701, email ⟨athena1@tiac.net⟩. See "Bookstore News" for more information.

Back-in-Print

Hysteria Publications is bringing four Roz Warren titles back into print this Fall: *Women's Glib, Kitty Libber, Men Are from Detroit/Women Are from Paris,* and *Mothers! Cartoons by Women*. All were previously published by The Crossing Press.

People

Best luck to Sue Hardisty who has left Spinifex Press to pursue postgrad studies in history. And, welcome to Nikki Anderson, the new international marketing and rights person at Spinifex. Many in the international feminist publishing network will remember Nikki from Barcelona days working for Anna Solar-Pont.

Diane Salvatore is the new executive editor of *Good Housekeeping*. Salvatore, author of several Naiad titles including *Paxton Court* and *Not Telling Mother*, was promoted from the deputy editor position she filled since 1994.

Ron Hanby will return to doing the telemarketing to lesbian and feminist stores at Bookazine. (Rebecca Blom, with whom many feminist booksellers had worked, is no longer with the company.) Bookazine will continue to send weekly newsletters with updates on new lesbian and feminist books and magazines. If you don't already receive this mailing and would like it, or if you have other questions, call Ron at 800-548-3855. —*CS*

Publisher Anniversary

Congratulations to the Women's Press/Canada on 25 years of feminist publishing! Canada's oldest and largest English-language feminist publishing house's mission is to publish the work of women from various and diverse communities whose voices have often been ignored in mainstream publishing — feminist, lesbian, women of color, older women, and all intersections thereof. Their 1999 calendar, the *Best of the Everywomans' Almanac*, will spotlight interviews, information, history and tips on a range of issues from the Almanac's and Women's Press' last 25 years.

Publisher Closed

Feminist children's book publisher New Seed Press (Berkeley) ceased operations at the end of December citing "stocks are low, finances bad" as deciding factors.

Distribution News

On My Honor, Madwoman's fascinating book about the true adventures of lesbians who were Girl Scouts, is now available from Koen as well as Alamo Square Distributors and Bookpeople. —*CS*

Does Your Mama Know? (Redbone Press) is now available from Marginal in Canada and Alamo Square in the U.S.

Onlywomen Press titles are now available in the U.S. from Alamo Square. The books arrived in the San Francisco warehouse in February and are ready for orders. In related news, Bert Herrman of Alamo Square is moving to New Mexico, where he will continue doing industry relations, book acquisition, catalogs and promotion for Alamo. Distribution will remain in San Francisco. Bert Herrman, Alamo Square, 103 FR 321, Tajique NM 87057; 505-384-9766, email ⟨alamosquare@earthlink.net⟩.

Electronic News

Mama Bears' (Oakland CA) email address is ⟨mabear@pacbell.net⟩.

Common Language's (Ann Arbor MI) email address is ⟨commonlang@aol.com⟩.

My Sisters' Words (Syracuse NY) has email ⟨mek.msw@juno.com⟩.

Toronto Women's Bookstore is up on the Web ⟨www.web.net/~twb⟩.

Spinster's Ink's new Web site is at ⟨www.spinsters-ink.com⟩. They also have new email addresses. For marketing and publicity email Claire at ⟨claire@spinsters-ink⟩ and for all other inquiries email Nancy at ⟨nancy@spinsters-ink⟩.

Lammas has a new email address ⟨lammas@zzapp.org⟩ and is up on the Web at ⟨www.zzapp.org/lammas⟩. ○

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don't work in specialty stores but who care passionately about feminist books and bookselling. Gilda Bruckman, from New Words (Cambridge), will facilitate this year's Roundtable (Sunday, 12–1).

BEA, whether intentionally or not, has lined up a great cast of feminist speakers: **Alice Walker** will speak at the Sunday Book and Author Breakfast, **Adrienne Rich** and **Anna Quindlen** at the Monday Breakfast, and **Pat Schroeder** (in her capacity as the President and CEO of the Association of American Publishers) at the Sunday Awards Luncheon. **ABA's Celebration of Bookselling** (Saturday, 5:30–6:30) was a high-spirited party last year and should be just as much fun this year.

There is no Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Aisle this year, but *FBN* will be exhibiting with several other feminist presses in the Small Press section in **Small Press Booth #24**.

Sick to death of the *way* back of the bus location BEA has assigned **The Aisle** for the last few years, and feeling that the bad location was hurting sales more than the group proximity was helping, all of **The Aisle** booth-holders have decided to let The Aisle go and to plunge back into the main floor. Since each publisher is applying for space based on its seniority points, most publishers' booths will have good locations in the central part of the exhibit floor. After many years of increasingly better locations as Aisle members accumulated seniority points, BEA started creating other Specialty Areas and assigning them all to the outer perimeters of the show and disregarding seniority points — and The Aisle's location has suffered ever since. Some publishers' associations and distribution groups (PMA, PGW, Consortium) that rent and assign space for members exhibit in the central part of the floor and garner excellent locations based on their seniority. F/G/L publishers may consider this option in 1999 when BEA goes on the road for the first time in four years.

To help booksellers find all of the widely scattered F/G/L booths, F/G/L publishers are joining forces to create a "**BEA Pride Passport**" which lists all of the publishers and their locations on one side. The **Passport** (when rubber-stamped by the required number of participating publishers) becomes a lottery ticket at the end of the show. The prize? A passel of free books to sell in your store. ○

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New from Women's Press

Everywoman's Almanac 1999

The Best of the Everywoman's Almanac

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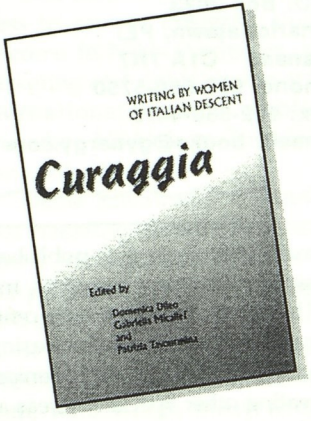

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Edited by Domenica Dileo, Gabriella Micallef and Patrizia Tavourmina

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Adwoa A. Badoe Illustrated by Belinda Ageda

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The Queen's New Shoes teaches us thoughtful lessons on greed and arrogance, and offers us a wonderful tale of learning and sharing.

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In the US all books are available through InBook: LPC Group 1-800-626-4330

In Canada all books are available through University of Toronto Press 1-800-565-9523

Celebrating 25 years of the *Everywoman's Almanac*

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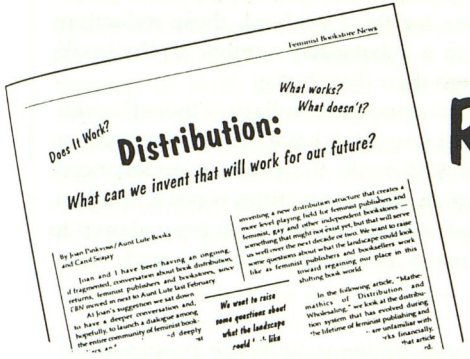

Feminist Bookstore News

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

Distribution:

What can we invent that will work for our future?

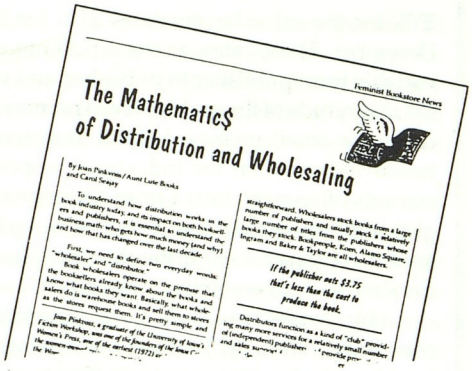
By Joan Pinkvoss/Aunt Lute Books
and Carol Seajay

Joan and I have been having an ongoing, if fragmented, conversation about book distribution returns, feminist publishers and booksellers, since [illegible] moved on next to Aunt Lute last February. At Joan's suggestion we sat down to have a deeper conversation and, hopefully, to launch a dialogue among the entire community of feminist book-

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

We want to raise some questions about what the landscape could

In the following article, "Mathematics of Distribution and Wholesaling," we look at the distribution system that has evolved during the lifetime of feminist publishing and


Feminist Bookstore News

The Mathematic$ of Distribution and Wholesaling

By Joan Pinkvoss/Aunt Lute Books
and Carol Seajay

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

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

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

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

If the publisher sets $3.75 that's less than the cost to produce the book.

Distributors function as a kind of "club" provid- ing many more services for a relatively small number of (independent) publisher- [illegible] provide pro-

Joan Pinkvoss, a graduate of the University of Iowa's Fiction Workshop, was one of the founders of the Iowa Women's Press, one of the earliest (1972) of

Readers Respond

Responses to the articles we ran on the distribution and wholesaling of feminist press books in the November/December issue are still coming in. Our goal in writing and publishing these articles was to look at the ways distribution and wholesaling affect feminist publishing and bookselling, to consider the impact of the current market situation on procedures that have evolved over the years, and to encourage discussion of these issues and to begin discussion about "the next generation" of book distribution processes and decisions.

Below are the responses we've received since we published the last issue. It's a great mix from many different corners of the bookselling/publishing community. —CS

Consortium Responds

I read with interest the article(s) by Joan Pinkvoss and Carol Seajay regarding distribution and the mathematics of distributing and wholesaling, and would like to respond from the distributor's point of view to several concerns and assumptions raised by those articles.

Distribution Services

In addition to the services mentioned (sales and promotional support, national sales force, and collections), distributors provide: billing and shipping of orders, customer service, warehousing of all of a publisher's titles, detailed sales reporting on a timely basis, and, not infrequently, financial services which may not be available to a small publisher through traditional financial channels (reprint loans, payment advances, etc.).

Most distributors begin paying for the titles sold after 60 days, not 90 as mentioned in the article, and either distribute the payments in increments or make a lump sum payment, with the average dollar (at least our average dollar) paid out in about 105 days. This is faster than we collect the money from our customers, so in one sense we are financing that payment lag for the publisher. Also, because returns are incorporated into the payment stream as they arrive and are credited, we also finance the cash effects of those returns for the same period of time (the bookstores and wholesalers deduct the cash immediately, sometimes before we even see the returns, and the publisher does not feel the cash effect of those returns for the average 105 days), so the street runs both ways. Distributors also, as mentioned, buffer small presses from the effects of bad debt and bankruptcies, which has not been an insubstantial service with the recent demises of Inland, Pacific Pipeline, Gannon, Moving Books et al.

We believe that a good distributor (and there are several) is the best way for a small press to grow and flourish, and that distribution represents a good value for those small publishers. The services provided are not feasible or economically accessible for small presses, and by representing many small presses under one umbrella, the distributor increases the chance for a book's success in the market. These thoughts are borne out by the fact that a majority of our publishers have shown steady growth (2/3 had sales increases this year) even during times of book industry unsteadiness.

Returns and Hurts

Perhaps our experience with the returns crisis of the past couple of years has been atypical (I don't think it has), but even at those highwater rates, our overall returns ran around 29% across the board, not nearly the 35-45% cited, and this year industry as well as our own returns have declined very nicely. Our returns have run

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25% for the calendar year and 21% for July through December. These rates, as the article notes, are highly variable from publisher to publisher, and we recognize the magnitude of the problem even nominal return rates cause for small presses. I think, however, that these trends indicate that the industry is responding to the screams of anguish heard from all quarters during the glut, and indicates that even the perceived "bad guys" are now buying for sell-through rather than just to stock the shelves with revolving "wallpaper."

Hurt books are clearly a lose/lose situation for all concerned. We (and I would assume other distributors) have been giving our best effort to respond to this situation over the past year and our hurts are now at around 12% of returns. Bookstores have an "anything, anytime" return mentality and basically think of all returns as expendable, since this is primarily how larger publishers view them. We need to attempt to educate them that small presses reshelve and resell the majority of their returns, rather than pulping them as many larger publishers do, but this will be a long-term process. I also want to make clear that our return policies, agree with them or not, are applied equitably and evenly across the board for all customers.

The Math of Distribution Revisited

I was interested to test some of the assumptions put forward in the article, whose math I can't fault on the basis of the assumptions made. I sampled our active titles (4769 titles), and found that the average cover price was $15.81 (78% had cover prices greater than $10). Active Aunt Lute titles had an average cover price of $12.67. Assuming the costs cited in the article are fixed, the math on the worst case scenarios (book sold to a store by a wholesaler via a distributor) in the article looks like this:

Cover Price:	12.67
Bookstore	5.07
Wholesaler	1.26
Distributor	1.58
Publisher	4.76

Even at the 33.7% scenario, the amount to the publisher is $4.27, more than the $4.20 overhead per book assumed by the article.

It is also important to remember that certain of these costs (typesetting and design) apply only to the first printing. Any subsequent reprints of a title would have only the printing and shipping costs associated with them. Since small presses have traditionally been into their books for the long haul, these reductions would apply to a substantial number of the books they sell through their distributor.

The obvious economic corollary of these theoretical exercises is: if you don't have sufficient margin on the theoretical $10 book, the book is underpriced. Price resistance on small press titles is not a problem, and modest price increases have not been shown to cause reductions in the number of copies sold.

The Proposal

I see several problems with the proposed discount schedule proposed in the article. How many bookstores would agree to purchase under these terms in the present state of the book industry? Would the administrative policies inherent in this system be cost effective? How would the publisher handle disputes arising under these policies?

We continue to feel that the best chance for the individual title in today's crowded marketplace lies in the widest possible promulgation of that title. By essentially limiting sales to a subset of a subset of the possible market, would publishers adopting these policies be marginalizing themselves and further exacerbating what is already, in many cases, a tenuous situation? Will moves like this hasten the arrival of the "best-seller only" situation rather than expanding the possibilities for the kind of quality small-press material we love and are dedicated to?

I am interested in any responses. You can write me at Consortium Book Sales or or email at ⟨pjheege@compuserve.com⟩.

Thanks for the opportunity to respond.

Peter J. Heege
Chief Financial Officer
Consortium
1045 Westgate Dr.
St. Paul MN 55114
612-221-9035

Joan Pinkvoss Responds

I am glad for Peter Heege's letter; it is a thoughtful response. And I'm grateful to *FBN* for giving me precious column inches to muse over the further issues Peter's letter raises.

First, I'd like to take the opportunity to say what didn't get said in the previous articles: that Aunt

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Lute's unhappiness with the present U.S. distribution system should not be construed as unhappiness with its own distributor, Consortium. From its board, through its staff, to its sales reps, Consortium evidences concern that the small press movement is alive and healthy, and has spent much energy working for that end. It was the first major distributor willing to take on smaller presses who published less than 20 new books a year. Without some of the risks Consortium took early on, after Randall Beek came on as CEO, Aunt Lute could not have been represented by a successful distributor.

But the simple question remains whether even such a good distributor, having to bow to the market, can help us solve some of the problems that now exist for our presses and bookstores. When Peter says that 2/3's of the presses show growth, I wager that the other 1/3 might be presses like Aunt Lute, Calyx, Mercury House, etc. — presses that are built around literature (except for poetry, in its renaissance) and discourse. Returns for Aunt Lute and Calyx continue to hover towards the high 30% range. There's no discussion about the presses that are no longer with Consortium — for instance, one of the best literary presses in Canada closed down last year. I think it's dangerous to discuss such a wide range of publishers in any statistical way because it belies a profile of individual publishers that may be very important to understand the trends.

For instance, all of the average book sales and returns aside, in one 12-month period with Consortium we averaged only $1.19/per book above our costs. In 1994 — before distributorship — we were averaging $3.43/book above costs. That might work if we were selling a lot more books, but in fact we're selling a lot less.

The major difference between small publishers and this even best of distributors is that distributors are market driven. Consortium has a sizeable staff and investors to satisfy. Certainly, we want a stable business like that representing us in the market place, but we have no illusions about how small a part we play in their income. As wholesalers become a bigger part of distributor business we lose more income and have an even harder time knowing what's going on with our readers — whether our

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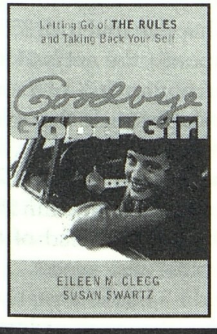

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readership is changing or they just can't find our books as well as they used to.

Peter discusses marginalization as though it isn't something that continues for us after being taken on by a distributor. Of course, it has another name: "niche publishing." But as soon as the niche develops some cracks (like a large drop in market share) all companies who are strictly market driven move out of the house. They really have little choice. In such a quickly changing climate, there is no time for them to explore where the cracks are coming from.

Carol and I weren't just being naive when we started proposing alternative scenarios. There may be none that could work. Aunt Lute's interest in a dialogue about alternatives comes partially from the fact that we have to now sell all our academic titles *only* at a short discount. Academic sales are what keep us alive. Wholesalers were buying these titles from Consortium at a deep discount and reselling them for academic sales at their own short discount, forcing us into this decision. That means we can't sell titles like *Borderlands* to bookstores at the usual 40% off. That's a really untenable situation, and there's no way to change that within the present distribution system. And we do not have enough clout to put pressure on that system; we're having less clout all the time.

You know, we didn't really "carve out a niche" for ourselves. We just wanted to facilitate our communities talking with each other, imagining and thinking with each other, entertaining each other. I, like many of us, have worked a second job most of my life in order to be part of this. If we can't find a method of repair, we may have to watch as the structure crumbles and trust that another group of people will rebuild it in a different way. But it seems better to me than moving into a condo someone else owns. It's like giving up your dream for a new Jeep Cherokee.

Joan Pinkvoss
Aunt Lute Books
2180 Bryant St. #206
San Francisco CA 94110

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CALYX Books Responds

One of the areas left undiscussed in the distribution articles published by *FBN* is how the costs of distribution are increasing as the superstores have become the major vehicle for bookstore sales.

When CALYX Books signed with our distributor in 1993 there was a clause in our distributor's contract giving them the right to charge 10% of gross billings if the amount due to the distributor (normally 26% of net sales) drops to less than 10% of the gross. With returns barely in the teens in 1993 we had no reason to believe we would be affected by that clause in the contract.

However, in 1996 our returns climbed to over 40%. As high returns have continued (they averaged 34% in 1997) there are months when our returns exceed or nearly exceed sales and this clause is applied. During these months we pay higher fees to our distributor.

Here's how it works: If our gross sales during a month are $7000 but the chains happen to return $5500 worth of our titles during that month, the net is $1500. Normally we would owe the distributor 26% of the net or $390 (26% of $1500 = $390). But because that's less than 10% of the gross sale (10% of $7,000 = $700), this clause takes effect so we owe the distributor $700 instead of $390. This means that we end up with an $800 income for that month ($1500 - $700) instead of the $1,110 ($1500 - $390) we would otherwise expect.

As a small press (we only do 3 books a year) we are inadvertently subsidizing the over-ordering

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practices of the chains. Since 1994 the income level of our press has fallen annually while the fees we pay for distribution have continued to rise. The most depressing reality is the fact that the ordering practices of the chains continue to result in higher returns of books and that the costs for those returns are not equally spread between the distributors and the small presses.

This is a pretty high cost of doing business. How long will feminist presses be able to continue to do business with the realities of distribution so changed?

Margarita Donnelly,
Director
CALYX Book
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Corvallis OR 97339
calyx@proaxis.com

Wildcat Press Responds

As a writer who is also a publisher, I have a rather unique perspective. I've spent many years traveling the U.S., doing booksignings in all kinds of stores, as well as lectures at universities and personal appearances with many organizations. I can see whether things are "working" from both an author and publisher perspective. When something is wrong I get it in the face personally no matter which hat I'm wearing....

Wildcat Press is still dealing with an array of wholesalers, though we are moving more and more into direct sales to stores at 40–45%, as well as to retail customers that we get on mailings or through the Internet. About 80% of our sales are still through wholesalers on a nonexclusive basis. We were never with InBook (we were simply a nonexclusive vendor for Inland) and after we saw what happened to InBook vendors, we wouldn't touch an exclusive with a 10-foot pole. Our thinking is...it's better not to have all your eggs in one basket.

We wholesale to Ingram, Koen, Baker & Taylor, Bookazine, Bookpeople and Alamo Square. Ingram and B&T are valuable partly because they get your titles into their big databases, and Internet bookmarketing doesn't happen easily without being in those databases, which many Internet booksales sites now use. The other day I did an Amazon search that turned up some of our Bookbabes press names, but not others. Same for Nautilus, which is launching a revamped online book-ordering service for bookstores — they use the B&T database. Wildcat is also in the new Barnes & Noble database, and we are seeing an increase in orders from individual B&N stores (and Borders, too). Both the B&N and Borders systems are switching to their own internal distribution system, and store managers have the option to buy direct from small presses.

With wholesalers we have set strict parameters on returns (no more than 20% on any invoice). No credit for damaged copies unless they notify us of the damages upon receipt of the book in their warehouse. We are relentless about collections, and have set a ceiling for bigger and smaller wholesalers; when they go above this ceiling in payables, we stop shipping till they pay and get under the ceiling again. As a result, we aren't really behind with anybody right now. We try hard to enforce this, but it isn't easy.

Right now we're trying to address the issue of "consignment," which makes a joke of 90 days net. We have already raised some prices on domestic titles, and will continue to do that. And we're going to add a surcharge for overseas, because by the time we give them their 60% and even split the shipping, we don't make any money on foreign sales (which we actually do a lot of). We are shipping a lot of books to Canada, Australia, U.K., Europe.

It would really be wonderful to get the book business off the "addiction" of taking forever to pay for a book...to get them to pay up front, like in the gift industry.

Patricia Nell Warren
Wildcat Press
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Box 8306
Beverly Hills CA 90211

Laugh Lines Press Responds

Further thoughts on this fabulous topic:

There are a few women's bookstores whom I very successfully deal with directly. They order books at a 50% discount and I give them generous time limits within which to pay. They often don't pay me on time anyway, but they do pay eventually. Sometimes after a friendly reminder.

(I'd rather be paid late by a woman-owned business than right on time by a chain.)

I tend to end up doing this only with stores with whom I have some kind of personal relationship — either I've done my promotional slide show at the

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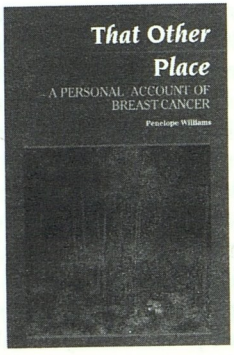

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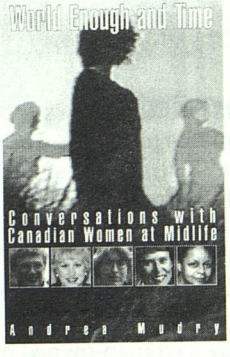

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store or I've been a customer — so that I know and like and trust the store's owner.

And it's very ad hoc.

I guess that what I'm saying is that this is currently based on a one-on-one relationship with each store; it would be good if there were some kind of realistic way to enter into such a relationship with more stores — for instance the stores that are listed in your Catalog.

The problem for me as a publisher is that I have been *burned* before by stores who failed to pay at all. Ever. Or who needed to be dunned over and over. This doesn't happen often but it is painful when it does happen.

I'd like for some mechanism to be put in place whereby woman-owned stores were to order directly from woman-owned publishers. I'm saying that sometimes this works for me so in theory it could work across the board. I'm just not sure how to make it work across the board.

Roz Warren
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GrizMart Productions Responds

Just finished your articles on publishing/distribution. Being new to the world of feminist publishing, I had a few thoughts to share:

1. On the proposed feminist-press catalog, we tried something similar with our printer (Small Publishers Co-Op) this fall. Scott could give you some idea of how well it worked for the group as a whole; didn't do much for us so far (but we only had one title then, too).

2. On the alternative pricing structure: I work in an office supply (non-chain) store 3 days/week, and that sounds very similar to what is offered to us by our picture calendar vendors.. We can choose our discounts, and choose if we want (or don't want) returns. In that context, I like the flexibility it offers, and we make do just fine with those kind of choices.

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Responses from the Bookstores

Toronto Women's Bookstore Responds

Here are my thoughts on the distribution article:

Let me give you some background on how we work here, so you understand my comments! I currently do all the buying at the store — frontlist, backlist, special orders, and course books. While it means that the buying is in the hands of only one person, it makes for better efficiency overall. And of course, all decisions I make are subject to debate by the rest of the staff! I meet with sales reps very regularly — 3 times a year, for the different lists. I meet with most publisher reps; most of the smaller Canadian presses, including the feminist ones, are represented by sales agents. The remaining publishers, whom I have to order from directly, invariably get missed. I just don't have the time to go through all the catalogues all the time, enter them into the computer, and order them directly. I'm always on the lookout for catalogues by feminist presses, so I prioritize those....

Meeting with reps ensures that a: those books get ordered, and b: they get ordered on time.

So, on with your proposals. I personally would like to see an ordering consortium of feminist presses, rather than going direct. This would save me lots of time, make backlist orders much easier to coordinate. A joint catalogue would be great, so all the titles are in one place. I would also like to see a sales rep for this consortium, so I can talk face to face with a woman about the books. Also, if there are any author event possibilities, having a rep would facilitate communication. I don't mind at all if the books come from the separate publishers. Payments would also go to this consortium, and we would have a definite commitment to ensuring they get paid regularly. However, I think we would like to see some flexibility around this. For example, summers and February are slow months for us. I would like to see some trust on the part of the consortium, to recognize that if we can't make a payment in the summer, we will do it in September when we know we have $$$ from course book sales.

I'm not that keen on Aunt Lute's discount schedule. 50% non-returnable is fine, but I'm very concerned about the 40% with only 20% returnable scheme. It would very seriously affect the initial numbers that we order. I would probably order low, and be stuck if books suddenly sell out. You probably know the difficulties and costs in getting books shipped to Canada from the U.S. Consolidated shipping companies can ship the books fairly quickly from across the border, but they are very expensive. And regular mail, or book-post, can often take several weeks as our books routinely get stopped and opened at Customs. So with only 20% returnable, it would have a serious impact on our ordering. A higher returnable percentage would be preferable — at least 50%. As with short discount titles, we never mark up short discounted titles. Books from the U.S. are so expensive, with our dollar in the hole, that we can't afford to mark up higher than list price. So Aunt Lute's policy of automatically short-discounting books like *Making Face* has affected us adversely. Why don't they adopt a policy that the academic presses do? (That only when books are ordered in quantities over 10 or 15 they get short discounted.) I suppose this wouldn't work for the wholesale accounts. But it's frustrating, for us, to short discount books like theirs.

Anjula Gogia
Toronto Women's Bookstore
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twb@web.net

Rainbow Bookstore Coop Responds

Thanks for the thought-provoking articles on distribution in the Nov./Dec. issue.

First some background about store and various caveats about how our circumstances may differ from others. Rainbow has been cooperatively owned and managed since 1989 with two employees and 30+ volunteers who work 4 hours/wk. We are the "left/ anarchist" bookstore in Madison. Although we consider ourselves feminist, A Room of One's Own is 2 blocks away. (Within our downtown area there are 2 additional indies plus at least 6 used bookstores). Because Room is so close we don't cover some areas as deeply, but we order at least one of everything we think we can sell.

The proposed discount structure seems workable. Have you discussed whether it passes the NACS test? How has the agency plan at LPC/InBook been working for feminist publishers...? If feminist publishers want to have more 20% discount titles, then I'd ask

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them not to list the price on the book. It's impossible to change the cost of a short discount book if the price is listed, students assume we are ripping them off....

Distributors, with sales reps (fem or not), make ordering more convenient and make it easier to take risks on "marginal" books (i.e. it looks interesting but will it sell in my store with my particular niche??). Even if the rep is merely an "order taker," they are useful for covering all the feminist/progressive presses at once. I am overwhelmed by all the (mostly useless) catalogues we receive and having reps makes my job easier. If fem pubs dropped all distributors, it could add to booksellers costs. If books trickle in, with $2–3 of freight attached, it can get very expensive. Also, I wouldn't order from the publishers who don't "fit" our niche, whereas I will give those books a try with a distributor. Of course, certain pubs I would deal with directly. (I see lots of reps, by the way, twice a year.)

If the new discount structure were implemented what will happen to "our" wholesalers? I can easily forego ordering fem/left books from Ingram and B&T, but I do feel some loyalty to the alternative wholesalers like BP & Koen. (Curse that guy who ruined Inland, I am still grieving for them.) [*Ed. note: John Miller (a.k.a. Fred Stillman) "bought" Inland in 1994, took the cash and defaulted on the bills and payments. He was later arrested and pled guilty to $10-20 million in fraud in 16 separate cases. He was sentenced to 45 months in jail.*]

Delayed billing would reflect the reality of 90–120 day payment practices. How about a different strategy: 2% discount EOM. I always take advantage of these discounts and view them as an offset to shipping costs. I try to prioritize political presses/distributors now, but honestly, if each pub were separate, a few would inevitably end up at the bottom of the pile.

Perhaps I am misunderstanding the section on "branding" (p.22) but there are certain fem/lesbian presses that elicit (good) expectations on my part and others that elicit nothing. Part of the problem may be an overdose of genre titles — it seems everyone has to publish detective novels, goddess/ritual books, and erotica/coming out stories. The other problem is larger: the depoliticization of feminism, or perhaps more accurately, the de-movementization of feminism. Already mainstream pubs and some of "our" distributors label feminist titles "women's interest" or "women's studies."

The larger question is what has happened to the feminist movement?

Progressive activism has declined in general and partly has been replaced by "identity" politics. I think Queer books are hot because there is an active movement and the plethora of books reflect the issues the movement is addressing. Your article mentions *This Bridge Called My Back* as a landmark book. When it came out, every feminist read it because it was an essential addition to the conversation we were having about race and racism. Where have the gut-wrenching soul-searching conversations about our movement disappeared to? I think "identity" politics has fractured these meta-conversations. While analysis of differences — culture/race/ethnicity/gender/age/ability/sexual preferences/etc. add experiential richness and truth to the discussion, if it ends up that we can't make grand claims for the necessity of change then we will be stuck in little communities of self-defined interests. I used to think that these multiple identities and the points of view

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they offered made feminism, especially socialist-feminism, stronger and more explanatory.

Each group, in the process of self-organizing, would offer a deeper reality to our arguments but instead identity based organizing seems to have created insurmountable divisions/territories/borders.

Are we feminist/left/progressive booksellers providing Fem101 or Activism for Beginners workshops along with self-help/therapy/drumming classes? What about a jobs referral network for young activists? Are we fighting the assault of pseudo-feminist (anti-feminist) writers with the promotion of better books and ideas? Are we saying loudly enough that it's not enough to support "independent" booksellers and publishers but it is imperative, and more so than ever, to support political booksellers and publishers whose mission is shaped by the need for a better world and not merely profitability? That the books we sell/publish have a distinct position in the market and that we can't rely on the commercial publishers to make our ideas available. Are we saying it's not enough to heal our wounded inner child without a public commitment to all children, the majority of whom are poor, non-white, with fewer life prospects than most of us?

Have we lost this political focus? Certainly there are serious impediments to reviving a mass feminist movement (or a left-wing, class-based movement for that matter), but I question the apolitical new age focus of some feminist booksellers and publishers. Are we developing a market for social change ideas or filling niches for personal solutions and fantasy/escapism.

Granted fem/left/symp publishers and booksellers deserve a level playing field. But when I look at the larger economic picture I wonder what is realistic. The multimedia conglomerates that own the major publishing houses can afford to write off huge losses (e.g. HarperCollins), pay for product placement at the chains, cross-merchandise books with movie and toy tie-ins on a global scale. It's a different game that we can't afford. Your articles on distribution help us assess what we need to succeed and hopefully will help spark creative solutions.

Throughout my response I've been including left and progressive publishers because I assume they face the same difficulties as feminist publishers. But let me make it explicit. Do feminist bookstores carry the general political titles from South End Press, Common Courage, Monthly Review, The New Press, Pluto, New Society Publishers, Curbstone, Seven Stories, Odonian, AK, etc.? Carol and Joan make the analogy about finding feminist books at the independents during the '60s. Try locating titles about socialism, anarchism, the U.S. labor movement, or the economy at most general bookstores today. The pickings are sparse. The left/progressive publishers don't have an *FBN*. Please try to support these publishers whenever possible.

Here are a few concrete ideas:

- Stop allowing superstores to return books past pub deadlines. If it is a violation of the Robinson-Patman Act then find a way to enforce the law. Publishers are complicit in their own undoing if they continue to allow this practice.
- Investigate/initiate "white sales" like university publishers have. Sell hurt returns as nonreturnable remainders, giving feminist/sympathetic booksellers first dibs.
- Collect money from feminist and left pubs and booksellers and put in a few big ads in various media (*NYT/Ms./The Nation/Utne Reader*/whatever) arguing for the necessity of our ideas and institutions and urging public support.
- Make point-of-sale materials available so booksellers can feature and promote a different feminist press each month. Booksellers agree to do a display of front and backlist titles, offer a discount, send out press releases, do a mailing etc.
- Outreach to non feminist/left/symp booksellers urging orders of the "real thing," to augment the offerings provided by corporate publishers' cooptation of feminism(women's interest!).

Thanks for the opportunity to share my opinions.

Marsha Rummel
Rainbow Bookstore Coop
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Madison, WI 53703
608-257-6050
rbc@supranet.com

If you missed the original articles or the last set of responses and would like to read them, please call FBN for copies. ❍

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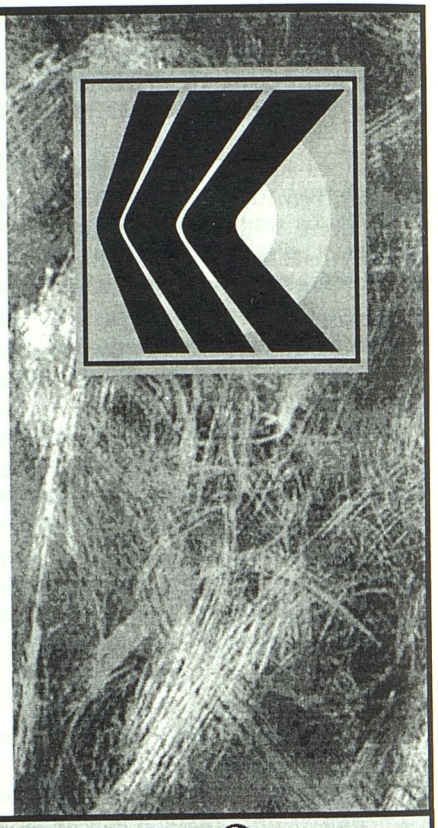

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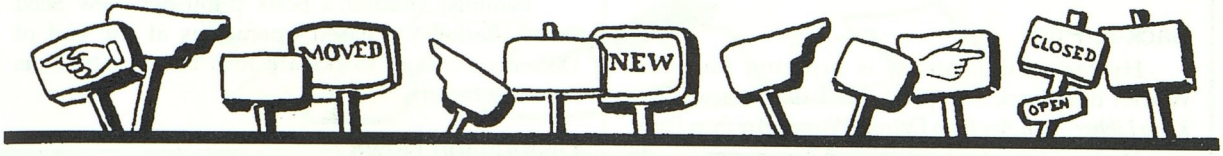

By Jenn Tust

New Stores

Delta's Venus is a new feminist, lesbian and gay, and alternative-focused clothing, book, and gift shop in Missoula, Montana. Owner Amy Bertram opened the *huge* — 4,000 square-feet, with 12-foot ceilings — store in February. It features sex toys, latex, safer-sex paraphernalia, books, jewelry, folk art, and clothing, including lingerie. The store is located across the street from the Women's Resource Center and a café, and is between a snowboard shop and a music store. Delta's Venus, 618 S. Higgins Avenue, Missoula MT 59801; 406-728-3213, fax 406-728-3082, email ⟨abert kanies@in-tch.com⟩.

Not So New, But...

Sister Wolf Books, a woman-centered bookstore in northern Minnesota, is open from Memorial weekend through mid-September every year. Owned by Mary Kay Watson, the 800-square-foot store — actually "a little rehabbed house" in Dorset — is 2½ hours from Duluth and 3½ hours from Minneapolis. Mary Kay, a health writer for Minnesota's Women's Press, opened Sister Wolf after years of going north for the summer and not having any immediate access to literature while she was there. This summer will be the fourth that this lesbian- and gay-friendly store will serve the usually 20-person town that, in the summer, becomes a hot summer-living and tourist spot. Sister Wolf Books' summer mailing address is Rt. 3 Box 29, Park Rapids MN 56470; 218-732-7565, fax 218-732-7047. During the winter contact Mary Kay at 1526 W. 25th Street, Minneapolis MN 55405; 612-381-9291, email ⟨siswolf@juno.com⟩.

Suzanne Couch and Jennie Allison are the owners of Out of Bounds, a lesbian and gay gift and book store in Greenville, South Carolina, 2 hours north of Atlanta and 1½ hours south of Charlotte. The 850-square-foot store, located near a mall in rapidly growing Greenville, opened in March 1997 and specializes in gay/lesbian sidelines as well as books. Out of Bounds, 219-E West Antrim Drive, Greenville SC 29607; 864-239-0106.

Bookstores Move/Change

Inklings is now in Salt Lake City!

On January 31, Pokey Anderson and Annise Parker and Houston's women's community passed the torch to new co-owners Liz Brackeen and Stephanie Fulton. Liz, a customer since Inklings' beginnings, had dreamed of owning a gay and lesbian bookstore for years. When Inklings went up for sale she considered moving back to Houston to buy the store but Stephanie didn't want to give up her job in SLC. So they bought the store, trucked the inventory and fixtures to SLC and reopened there. Pokey will provide consulting and training as needed.

The new Inklings, Salt Lake's only gay, lesbian, bisexual...book and gift store, opened in February. Five miles from A Woman's Place feminist bookstore, the 550-square-foot store is located in a mixed commercial/residential area in Salt Lake's multicultural, lesbian and gay, and alternative communities' neighborhoods. Inklings, Inc., 247 East 900 South, Salt Lake City UT 84111; 801-355-4991, fax 801-355-4992, toll-free 800-931-3369, email ⟨inklings@inklingsbks.com⟩, Web ⟨www.inklingsbks.com⟩.

A Woman's Spirit, the Internet feminist bookstore launched amid much fanfare last year, has closed the

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Web site and is now doing mailorder only. A Woman's Spirit's new address and email address are 18 Patony Road, Framingham MA 01701, email ⟨athena1@tiac.net⟩. See "Bookstore News" for more information.

Back-in-Print

Hysteria Publications is bringing four Roz Warren titles back into print this Fall: *Women's Glib, Kitty Libber, Men Are from Detroit/Women Are from Paris,* and *Mothers! Cartoons by Women*. All were previously published by The Crossing Press.

People

Best luck to Sue Hardisty who has left Spinifex Press to pursue postgrad studies in history. And, welcome to Nikki Anderson, the new international marketing and rights person at Spinifex. Many in the international feminist publishing network will remember Nikki from Barcelona days working for Anna Solar-Pont.

Diane Salvatore is the new executive editor of *Good Housekeeping*. Salvatore, author of several Naiad titles including *Paxton Court* and *Not Telling Mother*, was promoted from the deputy editor position she filled since 1994.

Ron Hanby will return to doing the telemarketing to lesbian and feminist stores at Bookazine. (Rebecca Blom, with whom many feminist booksellers had worked, is no longer with the company.) Bookazine will continue to send weekly newsletters with updates on new lesbian and feminist books and magazines. If you don't already receive this mailing and would like it, or if you have other questions, call Ron at 800-548-3855. —*CS*

Publisher Anniversary

Congratulations to the Women's Press/Canada on 25 years of feminist publishing! Canada's oldest and largest English-language feminist publishing house's mission is to publish the work of women from various and diverse communities whose voices have often been ignored in mainstream publishing — feminist, lesbian, women of color, older women, and all intersections thereof. Their 1999 calendar, the *Best of the Everywomans' Almanac*, will spotlight interviews, information, history and tips on a range of issues from the Almanac's and Women's Press' last 25 years.

Publisher Closed

Feminist children's book publisher New Seed Press (Berkeley) ceased operations at the end of December citing "stocks are low, finances bad" as deciding factors.

Distribution News

On My Honor, Madwoman's fascinating book about the true adventures of lesbians who were Girl Scouts, is now available from Koen as well as Alamo Square Distributors and Bookpeople. —*CS*

Does Your Mama Know? (Redbone Press) is now available from Marginal in Canada and Alamo Square in the U.S.

Onlywomen Press titles are now available in the U.S. from Alamo Square. The books arrived in the San Francisco warehouse in February and are ready for orders. In related news, Bert Herrman of Alamo Square is moving to New Mexico, where he will continue doing industry relations, book acquisition, catalogs and promotion for Alamo. Distribution will remain in San Francisco. Bert Herrman, Alamo Square, 103 FR 321, Tajique NM 87057; 505-384-9766, email ⟨alamosquare@earthlink.net⟩.

Electronic News

Mama Bears' (Oakland CA) email address is ⟨mabear@pacbell.net⟩.

Common Language's (Ann Arbor MI) email address is ⟨commonlang@aol.com⟩.

My Sisters' Words (Syracuse NY) has email ⟨mek.msw@juno.com⟩.

Toronto Women's Bookstore is up on the Web ⟨www.web.net/~twb⟩.

Spinster's Ink's new Web site is at ⟨www.spinsters-ink.com⟩. They also have new email addresses. For marketing and publicity email Claire at ⟨claire@spinsters-ink⟩ and for all other inquiries email Nancy at ⟨nancy@spinsters-ink⟩.

Lammas has a new email address ⟨lammas@zzapp.org⟩ and is up on the Web at ⟨www.zzapp.org/lammas⟩. ○

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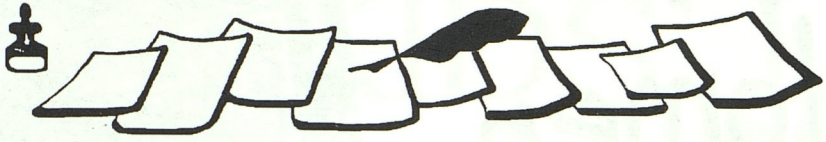

By Jenn Tust

Tee Corinne, *FBN*'s Art Books Columnist, seeks published images (postcards, posters, magazines, newspapers, or books) for a series of essays and a book on lesbian photographic history covering the last 100 years. Themes include documentary, self-portraits (including with lover or with friends), lesbian mothers/families, disability, private pictures, portraits, dykes on bikes or in bars, lesbian bars past or present, nudes, sexuality, and fine art images. Please send photocopies (b&w is fine) of the work, books, and other materials, biographical information — including date and place of birth — resume, and articles that have been published about the work or by you about lesbian photography. For guidelines contact Tee A. Corinne, PO Box 278, Wolf Creek OR 97497; email ⟨tcorinne@magick.net⟩ or ⟨tcorinne@users.wizzards.net⟩. Also, send Tee books on lesbian photography for possible review in *FBN*, or inclusion in future anthologies.

Lindsey Elder, editor of *Early Embraces: Women Describe Their First Lesbian Experience*, seeks more true, first-person stories by women describing their first sexual encounter with another woman for *Early Embraces II*. Deadline: April 30. For guidelines, send SASE to Lindsey Elder, c/o Alyson Publications, PO Box 4371, Los Angeles CA 90078; email ⟨mail@alyson.com⟩, or on the Web at ⟨www.alyson.com⟩.

Nancy Lamkin Olson and Laura Siegel are seeking personal stories, vignettes, and poems from heterosexual family members for an anthology, *Celebrating Our Gay Family Members*. Contributions must go beyond toleration and acceptance and be firmly rooted in the celebration of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered family members. Topics might include marching in a pride parade, celebrating holidays together, honoring a relationship, or simply enjoying your queer relative. People of color especially encouraged to send in work. Deadline: May 31. Send inquiries with SASE to Laura Siegel, 1107 Everglades Drive, Pacifica CA 94044, email ⟨celebratn@aol.com⟩, or check out their Web site ⟨www.critpath.org/pflag-talk/celebrations.html⟩.

Workshops

Flight of the Mind's Fifteenth Annual Summer Writing Workshops for Women will be held June19–26 and June 28–July 5 this year. Workshop leaders for the first session are Ursula K. Le Guin, Toi Derricotte, Lynne Sharon Schwartz, Elizabeth Woody and Judith Barrington, and leaders for the second session are Dorianne Laux, Mimi Khalvati, Sandra Benítez, Marjorie Sandor and Judith Barrington. Deadline for applications: April 17. For a brochure and application form, send a first-class stamp (no envelope) to Flight of the Mind, 622 S.E. 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214; 503-236-9862, fax 503-233-0774, email ⟨soapston@teleport.com⟩.

The 24th Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshops will be held July 12–19 on the campus of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. Registration deadline: May 6. For more information, send SASE to FW3, PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851. ○

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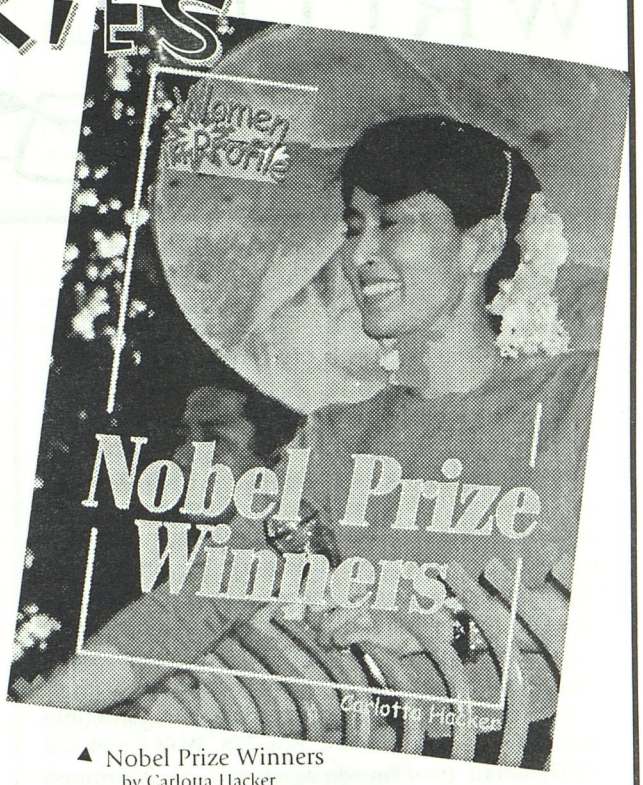
NEW SERIES

Women in Profile



Women in Profile celebrates remarkable twentieth-century women who have made significant achievements in fields such as politics, science, exploration and writing. Six major profiles feature:

- key events in their lives and careers
- background information to help understand the context of their accomplishments
- many full-color and black and white photographs
- numerous shorter profiles of women from different continents, cultures, religions, economic situations, and time periods

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KIDS' LIT

By Linda Bubon
Women & Children First/Chicago

Happy Spring! On an unseasonably warm winter day in Chicago, it is easy to imagine Spring around the corner. While the Spring season for juveniles is lighter, there are plenty of wonderfully illustrated, fresh new stories to share with you.

HarperCollins introduced a new series this Winter, Harper Growing Tree, that is truly age-appropriate, in both content and design, for babies and toddlers. The books are coded in six age groups from N for newborn to age three to make it easy for consumers, and I actually agree with their designations. The baby books are all full-color board books, priced at $5.95. The others have sturdy, paper-over-board covers and thick, coated page stock and are $9.95. They're bright, colorful and many are done by well-known authors and illustrators. I've started using some of them at our weekly storytime — several have refrains or rhyming answers that the audience can supply. Here are some of my favorites; the first four are board books:

Do You Know New? by Jean Marzollo with pictures by Mari Takabayashi (0-694-00870-2).

Maybe My Baby by Irene O'Book, with photos of some of the sweetest, chubbiest, most animated babies of all hues taken by Paula Hible (0-694-00872-9). This has a very sweet rhyming text about the babies' career choices, followed by "but it's surely too early to tell."

My Aunt Came Back by Pat Cummings who I love for featuring beautiful African American women and girls in her books (0-694-01059-6).

Zoom City by Thatcher Hurd is a wild ride with two dogs in the city by this terrific artist (0-694-01057-X). (Do you know about the Hurd-designed wrapping paper available through ABA? We've been using it for years; customers love it.)

In the larger format ($9.95), I like:

My First Songs with pictures by Jane Manning (0-694-00983-0).

Charlotte Zolotow has written a neat, little book with **Wake Up** on one half and **Good Night** on the flip side; pictures by Pamela Paparone (0-694-01032-4).

No No, Jo! by Kate and Jim McMullan. I'm not wild about the illustrations — Jo is such a scrawny-looking cat — but I know our storytime toddlers will love to scold along with the children in the story, "No No, Jo!" (0-694-00904-0).

Mrs. McNosh Hangs Up Her Wash illustrated by the often-imitated-never-duplicated, always hilarious Nadine Bernard Westcott with a delightful, giggly rhyme by Sarah Weeks. Who cares if no one hangs out wash anymore? (0-694-01076-6).

So these will replace several wonderful Harper books that have gone out-of-print lately — *The Monster Is Coming* a simple but suspenseful lift-the-flap by Sue Porter, *Roar and More* by Karla Kuskin and *Duck* by David Lloyd. The last two are so good for storytime that I'll continue to use them and encourage parents to look for them at the library. But I'm glad to have some new good books really designed with toddlers in mind.

For slightly older ones, **Tulip Sees America** by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Lisa Desimini ($15.95, 0590-84744-9) would be a great introduction to the

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

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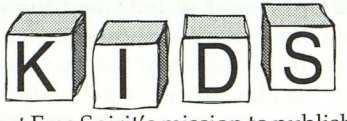
beauty of America as one drives west. Rylant's language is invariably beautiful, simple and poetic. Desimini's paintings glow with vibrant color, and kids will love Tulip, a sweet little pup. Also from Scholastic this season is the short story collection, **Stay True: Short Stories for Strong Girls**, edited by Marilyn Singer ($16.95, 0590-36031-0). This outstanding collection includes new stories by M.E. Kerr, Norma Fox Mazer, Rita Williams-Garcia and eight others.

Lee & Low Books continues to publish some of the best illustrated, meaningful picture books for 4-to-8-year-olds. This season I like **Get Set! Swim!** by Jeannine Atkins, illustrated by Hector Viveros Lee ($15.95, 1-880000-66-0), about a Latina girl who learns about the value of team work and family pride at her first big swim meet. **The Bus Ride** by William Miller, illustrated by John Ward ($15.95, 0-880000-60-1), has an introduction by Rosa Parks and shows how one child can make a difference when she refuses to sit in the back of the bus.



I respect Free Spirit's mission to publishing books that directly help kids succeed in school and in life, and their Spring list certainly reflects their purpose. While several of their titles will appeal especially to counselors and teachers — **What Teens Need to Succeed** by Peter Benson, Judy Galbraith, and Pamela Espeland ($14.95 pb, 1-57542-027-9) and the **1998–99 Directory of American Youth Organizations** by Judith B. Erickson ($21.95 pb, 1-57542-034-1) — I hope that parents and teens will be drawn to **The Right Moves: A Girl's Guide to Getting Fit and Feeling Good** by Tina Schwager and Michele Schuerger ($14.95 pb, 1-57542-035-X). Filled with quizzes, quotes, activities and common-sense advice, this book talks about the lifetime benefits of good nutrition and regular exercise.

Another great-looking book for young teens and a perfect junior high or even high school graduation gift is **33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, Poems and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women**, edited by Tonja Bolden ($13 pb, 0517-70936-8). Bold graphic design, a great cover, and inspiring and empowering writing from YA writers like Sharon Creech and M.E. Kerr, adult writers Alice Hoffman and Sandra Cisneros, and artists like Faith Ringgold, Natalie Merchant and Sigourney Weaver. **33 Things** is from Knopf who publish the popular YA fantasy writer Moncia Furlong (*Wise Child* and *Juniper*). Her new book in paperback is **Robin's Country** ($4.99, 0679-89099-8), a gripping retelling of the Robin Hood story.

My favorite picture book from Knopf this season is Babette Cole's **The Un-Wedding** ($17, 0679-88898-5) (every feminist bookstore should carry Babette Cole, especially *Prince Cinders* and *The Trouble with Mom*, but really all of her books are wonderfully zany and refreshingly tart), a lighthearted but still useful introduction to divorce. Demetrius and Paula Ogglebutt (you see what I mean? How many Ogglebutt's are there in picture books?) have "problem parents" who argue incessantly and play childish tricks on each other. After calling a meeting at school for anyone with problem parents, they discover they are far from alone. The children orchestrate a perfect solution for their bickering parents — an un-wedding — a rather more festive affair than a typical divorce. I'd be remiss in my duties if I failed to mention what Knopf modestly calls "the children's publishing event of the year," **Hooray for Diffendoofer Day!** by Dr. Seuss (he started it in 1989), Jack Prelutsky (he finished it) and illustrated by Lane Smith ($17, 0-679-89008-4). Though Dr. Seuss died in 1991, his estate seems intent on publishing every scrap of writing he left behind. **Diffendoofer Day** bursts with energetic rhymes and a cast of kooky teachers. We ordered the 18-copy dump because of the publicity and mass appeal.

One paperback worth mentioning from the Random House family celebrates the athleticism of women b-ball players, **Shooting Stars: The Women of Pro Basketball** by Bill Gutman ($3.99, 0679-89196-X). The book provides some history, info. on the '96 Gold Medal-winning Olympic team, then follows them into the WNBA *and* the ABL.

The Penguin children's division (I don't know what to call this behemoth; it includes Putnam, Grossett & Dunlap, Dutton, Viking, and Warne, but we order them all through the same rep. The first two lines have to be ordered separately from the latter three and have different minimums and specials. This, of course, makes no sense to the buyer, but I have been assured that all the children's titles will be under one roof) also has a book for sports fans: **WNBA: We**

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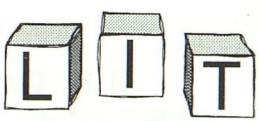
Got Next! by Gail Herman, illustrated by Edward Heins ($3.99, 0448-41865-7), in a Level Three, early reader format. Two other great picture books are also coming in paperback, Rafe Martin's beautifully told Native American Cinderella tale, **The Rough-Face Girl**, illustrated by David Shannon ($5.99, 0-698-11626-7), and **The Pirate Queen** by the excellent Emily Arnold McCully ($6.99, 0-698-11629-1), wonderfully told with great verve.

Two books honoring women grace their hardcover list. **Ten Queens: Portraits of Women of Power** ($24.99, 0525-45643-0) by Milton Meltzer, author of over eighty books and certainly one of the very best writers of biography and social history for young people, is handsomely illustrated with paintings by Bethanne Andersen (who illustrated *Seven Brave Women*). Meltzer takes a "top down" approach for these rulers, revealing the personal and political natures of women who commanded power not because they married a king, but because they "ruled in their own right, by themselves." This is for ages twelve and up, and I encourage you to put it on your new releases table or with art and gift books: it's a beauty. And speaking of beauty, did you know that a woman wrote "America the Beautiful"? Barbara Younger tells a lively story about Katherine Lee Bates, who in 1893, at the age of thirty-four, traveled west to teach summer school in Colorado. After a trip to Pike's Peak, she was moved to write four stanzas of verse that eventually became one of our best-loved songs, **Purple Mountain Majesties** ($15.99, 0525-45653-8), expansively illustrated in glowing colors by Stacey Schuett. And Patricia Polacco is at it again with another touching, lovingly written autobiographical story, **Thank You, Mr. Falker** ($15.99, 0-399-23166-8). Mr. Falker is a stylish, fun-loving new teacher who recognizes a little girl's dyslexia and her incredible artistic ability and takes the time to lead her into reading. This is Polacco's song of thanks to teachers like Mr. Falker who, quietly and surely, change the lives of the children they teach.

The Penguin group has a lot to offer, but it doesn't have the new Eric Carle. Simon & Schuster is making a big splash with Carle's newest book, **Hello, Red Fox** ($16, 0-689-81775-4). Carle is a genius and his best books fascinate children and adults alike. This is certainly true of the new book, which introduces the concept of complementary colors. Simply put, if you stare at a single-colored image for several seconds then shift your gaze to white space, you will see the same image glow in the space in the first color's opposite. It really works and never fails to elicit a "cool!" (at least not on anyone we tested). The text is a great little birthday story with lots of repetitive dialogue that preschoolers will love. The 12-copy floor display (0-689-00449-4) has a header that asks, "Can you turn green fox red?" There are also events kits that include posters, stickers, etc.

Simon & Schuster's middle school and paperback list is as solid as ever, but I want to call special attention to two new hardcover picture books, as different as night and day, but both concerning a particular piece of cloth. **Sky Sash So Blue** by Libby Hathorn with paintings by Benny Andrews ($16, 0-689-81090-3), is the story of a wedding gown stitched together from rags and patches, and little sister Susannah's beautiful blue sash, for the secret wedding of a young slave woman to a free Black man. Painted fabric collages by a renowned artist are the perfect illustrations for this story of a family whose love holds them together in slavery and in freedom. **Lottie's New Beach Towel** by Petra Mathers ($15, 0-689-81606-5) is whimsical and laugh-out-loud cute, a real day at the beach. Lottie is pleased with a gift of a red polka-dotted beach towel, but she has no idea how useful it will be. Lottie shows her resourcefulness time and again in this sweet, funny and completely delectable picture book. Did I mention that Lottie is a fine, fat hen?



Simon is once again offering a Newbery titles floor display for summer reading. The display includes 1997 Newbery Medal winner **The View from Saturday** by E.L. Konigsburg and 97 Honor book **The Moorchild** by Eloise McGraw plus 7 other older Newbery titles, each at $2.65. The special prices are available only by purchasing the display (54 books

See **Kids' Lit**, *page 68.*

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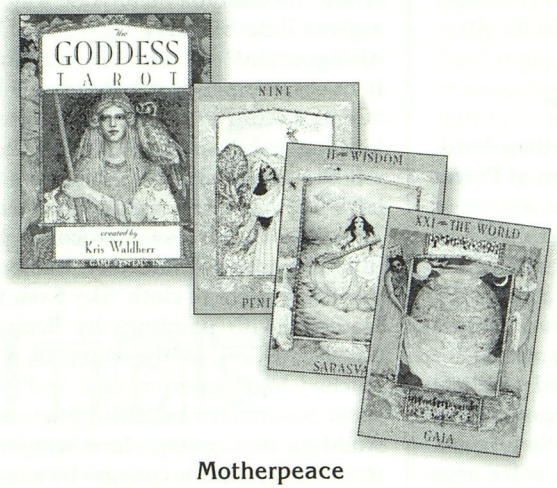

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MUSIC NEWS

By Susan Frazier
Goldenrod Music, Inc.

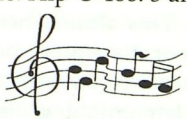
The Spring and Summer of 1998 are sure to be remembered as a banner time for women in music! The reunion of Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie (see last issue), the CD release of several Olivia titles and great releases in every genre of music abound. Regardless of your customer's musical tastes, something on this list is sure to please!

Regarding the Soul/Dee Carstensen. Okay, so Mark Knopfler calls her the "next Joni Mitchell" and Jonatha Brooke (of The Story) wants to be in her band...does that mean she must be good? In this case, it does indeed. Dee creates an unusual sound with her blend of harp and vocals, and her songwriting and performance skills create an aura of intimacy and passion. This album was just re-released on a major label, with her follow-up album, *The Map* expected to be released in late Spring. Exit 9 7014.

Women In Chant/Choir of Benedictine Nuns. These singing nuns from Connecticut are creating quite the stir in the music world. NPR found them first, the "Today Show" and *USA Today* followed and rumor has it that "Entertainment Tonight" wants in on the action. And when none other than the Catholic News Service says "Monks Move Over," the world knows the Women in Chant have arrived! Led by Mother Dolores Hart, an ex-actress who starred with Elvis Presley in *King Creole* in 1958, the nuns perform 24 Gregorian chants in Latin on this well produced disc. Liner notes include both Latin and English text and background information on featured saints. Sounds True M004.

Women of Spirit/Compilation. Another compilation from the premier label of the genre, this Putumayo release features tracks by extraordinary female artists of soul and spirit from around the world — songs to inspire and uplift the listener. Artists include Capercaillie with Sibeba (Scotland/Guinea), Tarika (Madagascar), Ani Difranco (USA), Toshi and Bernice Johnson Reagon (USA), Rasha (Sudan), Sibongile Khumalo (South Africa) and other women from Brazil, Peru, France, Greece, Spain, Cameroon and the USA. Counter display units and display materials are available for this release. Putumayo 137.

Rock She Said: **On the Pop Side** and **Guitars and Attitudes**/2 Compilations. A new series highlighting some of pop music's most dynamic and popular female performers. **Guitars and Attitudes** leans toward the rock side with tracks from Pat Benatar, 4 Non Blondes, Marianne Faithfull, Sass Jordan, Siouxsie and the Banshees and others. **On the Pop Side** has a lighter touch with songs by Bananarama, The Bangles, Taylor Dayne, the Pointer Sisters and Blondie. Hip-O 40075 and 40077.



Voices From the Sky/Dadawa. Fans of Enya will definitely want to check out Dadawa. In Tibet, highly talented singers are said to be possessed by the Melodius Goddess, and rumor has it the Dadawa may indeed be the very incarnation of this goddess! On the follow-up to her debut album, *Sister Drum*, she again draws her key inspiration from the spiritual and cultural legacy of Tibet and makes music without any borders: language, culture, religion or nationality. Sire 31008.

Little Plastic Castle/Ani Difranco. Perhaps there are one or two readers who have somehow escaped the phenomenon of "Ani-Mania," but

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An elegant new voice for the evolving feminine spirit . . . stunning new music

"SHAMANEYA" by Shelley Snow

"With this release, Shelley emerges as a distinctive voice and a truly original talent. . . . Dreamy yet heart-breakingly honest and soaring vocals project an unmistakable aura of the Sacred." —NAPRA ReView

"Shelley Snow has found an outlet for those wordless experiences that are common on ventures into Spirit. Look for SHAMANEYA, *there is a lot going on here."* —Awareness Magazine

Shelley's poetic vocals are accompanied by flute, guitar, piano, strings, and percussion in a variety of richly-hued performances.

To order this exceptional album, please contact: Goldenrod (517/484-1712), Ladyslipper (800/634-6044), or Perfect Pitch (510) 528-0860.

SHAMANEYA MUSIC

somehow I just can't see how. Refusing to "play the game" and follow the rules the boys made, she has still managed to grace the covers and pages of national magazines from *Spin* and *Rolling Stone* to *Ms.* and *Forbes* (who are quite impressed by her business sense!). This album, her tenth full-length solo effort, will not disappoint her audience in the least. Ani's lyrics make you think about the world in a new way and her unique guitar style makes for interesting listening. If you aren't carrying her entire catalog in your store, you don't know what you're missing. Righteous Babe 12.

At the Gates of Heaven/Dykeappella. Finally, the lesbian answer to The Flirtations has arrived! The songs by this quintet of four vocalists and an ASL interpreter reflect the breadth and diversity of lesbian experience, complete with a healthy dose of humor! Performed in a variety of styles with tight harmonies and a powerful delivery, topics covered on this album include coming out, finding community, fighting oppression and discovering love. Bookstores will especially appreciate the song extolling the many merits of cruising for dates at one's local feminist bookstore! Her Face 2002.

Sura/Chloe Goodchild. "Goodchild is the type of performer who can stand stark still on a dark stage and positively spellbind listeners with the pure sweetness that issues from her lips. This fascinating, eclectic collection bounces back and forth between the sparsely arranged prose-chants that display her vocal talents to the fullest, and compelling worldbeat rhythm pieces that pair her violin-like voice with silken slide instruments of exotic origin." —PJ Birosik. Raven 1972.

Testify/Nedra Johnson. Her label is called "Big Mouth Girl" for a reason. And what a reason it is. This debut album is sure to please many of your customers. Coming from a strong blues background, the music reflects many other musical influences and has been compared to Joan Armatrading, Bonnie Raitt, Tracy Chapman and Casselberry-Dupree. Based in NYC, Nedra is planning a solo tour, will perform internationally this year with the jazz band, *Gravity*, and will be seen on the festival circuit, including the National Women's Music Festival, the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival and Wimminfest. Big Mouth Girl/Goldenrod Records 67270.

An Intimate Evening With.../Anne Murray. After a lifetime on the road as Canada's songbird, Anne Murray decided it was finally time to come home. And what better way to record her first live album than with a theater full of hometown fans. Recorded in 1996 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, this album captures the essence of Murray's live performances and is sure to delight her fans. Includes her timeless classics, "You Needed Me," "Save the Last Dance for Me," "Danny's Song" and yes, the signature song that will forever be fused to Murray's voice, "Snowbird." EMI 59604.

Vestigios/Lourdes Perez. This Puerto-Rican born vocalist/guitarist has caused "heads to turn and jaws to drop" (*Austin-American Statesmen*) throughout her home state of Texas as well as in other parts of the US and in Mexico. Perez has been compared to Edith Piaf for her ability to "transcend language" with her rich and powerful alto voice and the exquisitely simple ballad and folk-based arrangements of her all-string ensembles. A special highlight is "Tengo La Vida," her duet with Venezuelan-born Irene Farrera. Vivavoce 1001.

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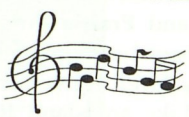
Live & Uppity/Saffire. Arguably the most popular acoustic blues band in the world, Saffire has developed a devoted following that includes fans of classic blues, folk and women's music. This album is their first live release, recorded over three nights at The Barns at Wolftrap in Alexandria, Virginia. The album includes favorites such as "Middle Aged Blues Boogie," and "(Mr. Insurance Man) Take Out That Thing," as well as new songs destined to become classics — "Silver Beaver," "Cold Pizza and Warm Beer" — and an inspired cover of Patsy Cline's "Crazy." How can anyone resist? Alligator 4856.

Truth and Other Stories/So Vo So. The second recording by this talented ensemble is as eclectic, creative and innovative as the first. On a track worth the cost of the entire disc, Rhiannon deftly uses her evocative words and incredibly expressive voice in a song about a soul-searching baby boomer who feels like she's "In Her Prime." Other highlights include a tribute to Martin Luther King, "Thank You for the Dream," the ambient, wordless "Forest," and "Gift of Music," which features a classic jazz progression with dueling scat. A must have for a capella devotees. Primarily A Capella 2710.

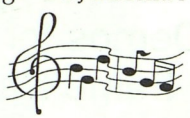
Almost Chocolate/Sonia of disappear fear. Her first solo effort, this album by the founder of disappear fear leaves the band behind and lets her voice, her guitar and her harmonica tell the stories that need to be told. "In the footsteps of John Lennon, Bob Dylan and Phil Ochs, Sonia voyages through personal and political love songs, her voice taking you deep into your heart." —J. Nusholtz. Philo 1207.



Soundtracks

Xena – Volume 2. Never fear, the Warrior Princess is here...again! Xena-mania is still running amok in the US and seems to be on the rise. This second album of music from the television show continues where the first left off, with more classical music to kick butt to! For fans of the underdog, the disc also includes "The Ballad of Joxer the Mighty." Other Xena paraphernalia becomes available regularly to keep the hard core "nutballs" (affectionate term for Xena fanatics) happy. Varesese 5883.

Medieval Harp/Patricia Spero. "On her 19th recording, England's leading harpist pays homage to the past with 15 medieval melodies. Switching from her famed concert harp to a custom made, wire-strung harp which possesses a distinctive sound very like that of a dulcimer, Spero transposes a delightful array of melodies originating in England, France, Spain, Italy and Germany, some of which have never been played on the harp before. Minstrel songs, instrumental tales of the Crusades, prayerful canticles, gentle love odes and even a march keep this album refreshing all season long." —PJ Birosik. New World 433.



17 Seconds To Anywhere/Liz Story. The *Chicago Tribune* says of Liz Story and this album: "Arresting...not only a graceful command of the keyboard, but also a thoughtful improvisor's gift." She has dazzled audiences at the Michigan and National festivals as well as when she performed with Margie Adam and Barbara Higbie on the Three of Hearts tour last fall. Fans have waited a long time for this album, Liz' first album of all new original material in five years! Windham Hill 1291.

I'm Ready/Lucie Blue Tremblay. She took some time off from performing and recording to go to school, leaving many of her devoted fans with a void in their lives. She's back with a new album that will speak to the heart of every romantic in the country. Both her English and French lyrics convey feelings of heartfelt love and her voice has never been better. Her academic study of jazz has influenced this album, but Lucie still remains true to her unique sound. Maggie & Shanti Music 1004.

Human Beings: What A Concept/Karen Williams. From stand-up comedy at sold out shows to being a featured humorist and lecturer at schools like M.I.T., the Northeastern Ohio College of Medicine or Seattle Community College, Karen can do it all! A proven crowd pleaser at festivals, pride events and comedy clubs nationwide, the *San Francisco Bay Times* calls her "the funniest woman on the comedy stage today." This is her first album on a nationally distributed label and her fans are sure to approve. Karen says "My kids don't care if I'm a Lesbian M.O.M...they think I'm an A.T.M." Uproar 3783.

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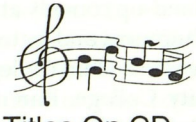
Carry It On/Kate Wolf. This new release of Kate's work is different from many of the previous compilations. The album was released under the authorization of her family and the album was produced and compiled by none other than Nina Gerber, the extraordinary guitarist who travelled with Kate for several years. **Carry It On** includes never-before-released recordings made in Berkeley from 1978 to 1981, featuring five original songs, two of which have never been released on a recording. Although she died in 1986, she continues to be a major inspiration for many folk artists today. Flat Rock 301.



Classic Olivia Titles On CD

Finally, the chance to replace that scratchy sounding cassette or to listen to those releases that you only have on vinyl! Olivia Records is repressing five titles onto disc this year.

Terminal Hold/Edges of the Heart/Tret Fure. Both albums will be featured on one disc. Highlights include "That Side of the Moon Is Too Dark," "Annie Aircraft" and the crowd-pleaser, "Tight Black Jeans." Second Wave 22009.

Unexpected/Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie. Just in time for their nationwide tour supporting their second album, *Playtime*, **Unexpected** features an "up" side, perfect for cleaning the house, the other side is well suited for a quiet evening with the one you love. Second Wave 22001.

Blue Rider and **Prairie Fire**/Cris Williamson. These two discs have been on many a fan's wish list for many years. Highlights include "Surrender Dorothy," and "Like an Island Rising" from **Blue Rider** and "Grandmother's Song" and "Suitcase Full of Sorrows" from **Prairie Fire**. Olivia 931 and 941.

Classic Women's Music Week

Mark your calendars now and start planning for Classic Women's Music Week 1998. Held the last full week in October, CWMW was created to pay homage to the women who paved the way — those artists who started that phenomenon known as "Women's Music." Your music distributor can provide you with posters and details. ○

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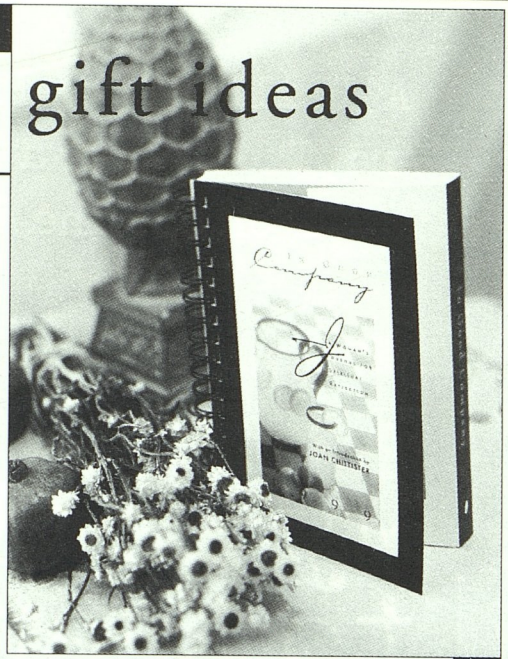

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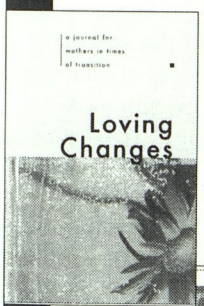

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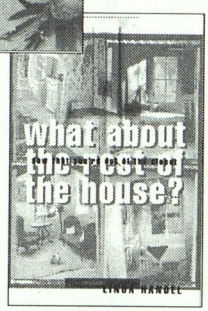

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And The Supernatural That Will Astonish
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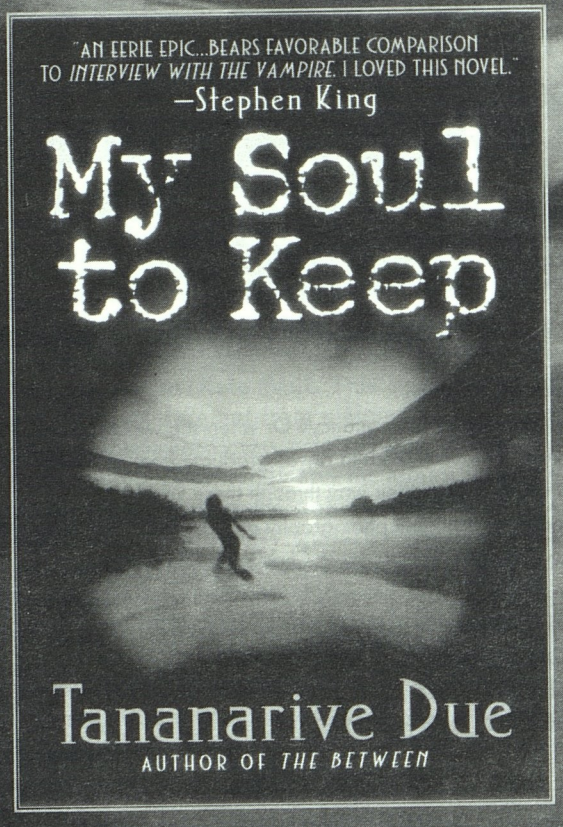

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MYSTERIES

By Nan Cinnater
Cape & Dagger/Provincetown, MA

An unexpectedly cogent article on mystery bookselling in *U.S. News and World Report* (Jan. 26, 1998) sounded an alarm that rings all too familiar to feminist booksellers. "Eager to churn out bestsellers for big chain and discount stores, publishers may wreak havoc on a genre where success comes from supporting lesser known writers...and keeping their works in print.... 'It's kind of a scary time for writers and readers,' says Sara Paretsky.... 'We're going to have all of our books and ideas homogenized by what can sell big.'" Mystery bookstores themselves are not in trouble yet (sales continue to grow well ahead of the industry rate), but the horizon is cloudy. Not surprisingly, one solution may involve small and specialized presses cooperating closely with specialty bookstores. Barbara Peters, owner of Poisoned Pen bookstore in Scottsdale, AZ, has inaugurated Poisoned Pen Press with a re-issue of Dorothy Simpson's *The Night She Died*, a classic British backlist title. Small houses also bring out offbeat, regional, or midlist mysteries (that are then picked up by big publishers when successful). Not good news, certainly, but it's interesting to have more company in this ever larger boat.

And now to the Spring books. Almost as sure a sign of Spring as the first robin is the new Nevada Barr mystery. This one is called **Blind Descent** because it concerns the harrowing search for an injured park ranger in an unexplored portion of Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. Barr's heroine, park ranger Anna Pigeon, is claustrophobic, but she doesn't let that stop her from joining the rescue attempt. Barr's tough, beautifully written eco-adventures sell well for us in both paper and hardcover. ($22.95 cl, 0-399-14371-8, Putnam.) Barr's new paperback, which takes place in the Georgia Sea Islands, is **Endangered Species** ($6.99 pb, May, Avon, 0380725835).

I'm extremely partial to the Kate Shugak mysteries by Alaskan Dana Stabenow, and now we have **Killing Grounds**, in which Kate is deckhanding on a salmon fishing boat when a dead fisherman is hauled up in the net. Stabenow did a fabulous job with a similar setting in *Dead in the Water*, so I guess you could say I'm hooked. ($22.95 cl, 0-399-14356-4, Putnam). Stabenow's weird and wonderful **Breakup** (reviewed in the June 1997 *FBN*), is now out in paper ($5.99 pb, Berkley, 0425162613).

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

Sara Paretsky has a new novel coming this Spring, but, alas, V.I. Warshawski is nowhere to be found. In **Ghost Country**, a mysterious woman thought to be the Virgin Mary appears to a group of homeless people and the psychiatrist who is trying to treat them. Paretsky has written sensitively about homeless and disenfranchised characters in previous books, which bodes well. ($24.95 cl, 0-385-29933-8, May, Delacorte/Dell). Carol O'Connell has abandoned her fascinating Mallory series with her new novel, **Judas Child**, which concerns two murders, fifteen years apart, of children from the same school. This features a male cop (whose sister was the first

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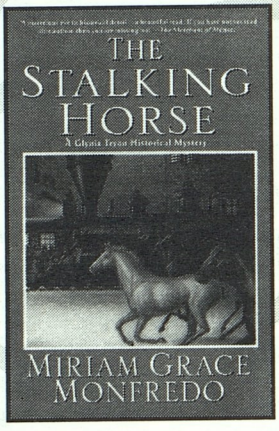
THE ACCLAIMED GLYNIS TRYON HISTORICAL MYSTERY SERIES CONTINUES!



This series has fascinated readers by bringing to life one of the most exciting eras of our nation's history—the mid 1800s—when the passionate struggles of women, abolitionists, and other social reformers touched the lives of every American—including a small-town librarian named Glynis Tryon. In *The Stalking-Horse*, Glynis travels to the Deep South to help her niece, who is caught in a diabolical plot against the U.S. government at the start of Abraham Lincoln's term as president.

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victim) and a female forensic psychologist. ($24.95 cl, 0-399-14380-7, June, Putnam.) Happily, Sue Grafton is sticking with Kinsey Millhone in **N Is for Noose** ($25 cl, 0-8050-3650-4, May, Henry Holt).

Multi-award winner Mary Willis Walker writes serious suspense about Texas crime reporter and good ol' gal Molly Cates. In **All the Dead Lie Down**, Molly investigates her own father's suspicious suicide of twenty-five years ago, as well as a current plot to kill the entire Texas state legislature. (Like we care....) Don't forget the paperbacks of *Red Scream*, *Under the Beetle's Cellar* and *Zero at the Bone*. $22.95 cl, 0-385-47858-5, May, Doubleday.

Transgressive author Heather Lewis of *House Rules* fame turns to the noir thriller with **Second Suspect**, about an s/m session gone wrong and the New York police detective (female) who investigates. Expect disturbing subject matter and powerful prose — not for the timid! $22.95 cl, 0-385-48747-9, May, Doubleday.

Seventeenth-century playwright Aphra Behn is thought to be the first woman to make her living as a writer in English. Now she makes her debut as a detective, in Molly Brown's historical mystery, **Invitation to a Funeral**. Behn was a spy, actress, and adventuress in real life, so it's inspired to use her as the heroine in this fictional "Tale of Restoration Intrigue." Great critical quotes from Britain. ($22.95 cl, 0-312-18598-7, May, St. Martin's.) Another critically acclaimed historical mystery is **A Stolen Tongue** by Sheri Holman, about a fifteenth-century priest who goes on a pilgrimage only to discover that all the relics (actually hand, ear, tongue, etc.) of his beloved St. Katherine of Alexandria have been stolen. "Stunningly fine...a wonderful and quite suspenseful journey." —*The Boston Globe*. ($12 pb, 0-385-49124-7, Anchor.)

Two promising unknowns from Britain are **A Likeness in Stone** by J. Wallis Martin and **Transgressions** by Sarah Dunant. **A Likeness in Stone** is a first novel about an old murder investigation reopened when the body is found, indicating that three Oxford undergraduates colluded to protect the killer. Critical quotes from Britain are good. ($22.95 cl, 0-312-18626-6, May, St. Martin's.) **Transgressions** looks to be edgy psychological suspense, along the lines of Susanna Moore or Joyce Carol Oates, mixing fantasy sex-and-violence with a real stalking. Author Sarah Dunant

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won the Silver Dagger Award, Britain's top mystery prize, so there's reason to believe that she can carry it off. ($24 cl, 0-06-039248-7, Harper.)

African American women at that bastion of white men's (class) privilege, Harvard, have their day in two new mysteries this season. **A Darker Shade of Crimson** by Pamela Thomas-Graham is the more traditional academic mystery, featuring a young economics professor looking into the murder of an unpopular dean, with lots of suspects and red herrings ($23 cl, 0-684-84526-1, Simon & Schuster). **Student Body** by "Jane Harvard" (actually written by four former Harvard students) is a thriller about a sinister prostitution ring using Harvard students, investigated by an African American college journalist ($23 cl, 0-679-44858-6, May, Villard/Random).

New entries in reliable series include **Stray Kat Waltz** by Karen Kijewski, in which PI Kat Colorado tries to protect an abused wife who's on the run, and ends up going undercover at a stylish rehab center ($22.95 cl, 0-399-14368-8, June, Putnam). **Kat Scratch Fever** will be out in paper in June ($6.99, Berkley, 0425163393). **Brunswick Gardens** by Anne Perry, the queen of Victorian mystery, is her eighteenth case featuring husband-and-wife detectives Thomas and Charlotte Pitt ($25 cl, Fawcett, 0-449-90845-3). The new paperback in that series is the critically acclaimed **Ashworth Hall** ($6.99, Fawcett, 0449000869).

Sparkle Hayter continues her wacky series about a CNN reporter/sleuth in **Revenge of the Cootie Girls** ($5.95 pb, 0-14-026203-2, Penguin). As you can imagine, her books sell on the titles alone. Hayter's new hardcover, **The Last Manly Man**, is due from William Morrow this Spring. ($22 cl, 0688155170.) And Rita Mae Brown's new cat mystery is **Murder on the Prowl** ($23.95 cl, 0-553-09970-1, Bantam).

Lynn S. Hightower continues the rather harrowing adventures of Cincinnati homicide detective Sonora Blair with **No Good Deed**. We hand sell her previous thrillers, *Flashpoint* and *Eyeshot*, both available in paper, to women who like Cornwell and other edge-of-your-seat suspense writers. $22.95 cl, 0-385-32359-X, Delacorte/Dell.

In **Vampire Bytes** by Linda Grant, computer-savvy corporate PI Catherine Sayler looks into murder in a vampire role-playing game. ($22 cl, 0-684-82675-5, Scribner.) In **Lethal Genes**, now available in paper from Fawcett, Grant takes on the timely subject of genetic engineering, but the suspense gets lost in the technical details, I thought. ($5.99 pb, 0804115583.)

Liar is the new Irene Kelly mystery by Jan Burke ($23 cl, 0-485-80345-3, Simon & Schuster, May). Irene Kelly is an investigative reporter who's married to a homicide detective. In **Hocus**, Burke's new paperback, Irene's husband is kidnapped by a terrorist group ($6.50 pb, 0-384-80344-5, Harper). This series is grittier than Grafton, but not as gripping as the best of the serial killer thrillers, so it hasn't really found its audience in our store.

The mother of the female PI novel, Marcia Muller, has a nifty premise in **While Other People Sleep**. Longtime smart operator Sharon McCone discovers that someone is impersonating her, and then the imposter commits a crime. ($23 cl, 0-89296-650-5, July, Mysterious Press/Warner.) Muller's previous book, **Both Ends of the Night**, shows off Sharon McCone's new skills as a pilot. This is one of Muller's best, and it has a great blurb from the *Washington Post Book World*: "Profoundly entertaining...amazing.... Another winner from Muller." ($5.99 pb, 0-446-60550-6, June, Warner.)

Rapidly becoming a favorite in our store is Carolina Garcia-Aguilera, whose series features Miami-based Cuban American PI Lupe Solana. (Not coincidentally, Garcia-Aguilera is herself a Miami-based Cuban American PI.) In **Bloody Secrets** Lupe takes on the case of a *balsero*, a Cuban refuge who escaped on a raft, and the plot goes all the way back to the last days of Batista. ($23.95, 0-399-14386-6, Putnam.) Typically, Garcia-Aguilera combines a breezy style with some serious subject matter, as she did in **Bloody Waters** ($5.99 pb, 0-425-15670-2, Berkley) and **Bloody Shame** ($6.50 pb, 0-425-16140-4, Berkley).

Gillian Roberts' new mystery featuring Philadelphia school teacher Amanda Pepper is **The Bluest Blood**. ($22 cl, 0-345-40326-6, Ballantine.) In another new book, **Time and Trouble**, Roberts introduces a new sleuth, or, rather, pair of sleuths: seasoned fifty-ish PI Emma Howe and her assistant, divorced young single mom Billie August. ($24.95 cl, 0-312-18673-8, June, St. Martin's.)

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Francine Mathews is a busy woman. Under the name Stephanie Barron, she has written three Jane Austen mysteries, ingeniously plotted to dovetail with the facts of Jane's real life, and notable for their uncanny recreation of Austen's style. The latest of these is **Jane and the Wandering Eye** ($22.95, 0-553-10204-4, Bantam). Under her own name, Mathews has written a Nantucket series about Detective Merry Folger, whose father is the island's Chief of Police. **Death in a Mood Indigo** was extremely well received; critics said, "Outstanding...fascinating, beautifully drawn characters," "sparkles with fine writing." ($5.99 pb, 0-553-57624-0, May, Bantam.) Mathews' new hardcover is **Death in a Cold Hard Light** ($23.95, 0-553-10464-0, June, Bantam).

As for paperbacks, don't miss the mass-market edition of Mary Wings' hip lesbian mystery, **She Came to the Castro** ($5.99, 0-425-16222-2, Berkley). Now if only Berkley would bring back Wings' out-of-print titles, *She Came Too Late* and *She Came in a Flash*. In **Cold Case** by Linda Barnes, Boston PI cum cab driver Carlotta Carlyle looks into the decades-old disappearance of a young literary sensation. One of Barnes' best. ($5.99 pb, 0-440-21226-X, Dell.) Lynda S. Robinson is the Ellis Peters of ancient Egypt, and **Eater of Souls** is the latest in her series of historical mysteries, which also includes *Murder at the Feast of Rejoicing*. ($5.99, 0-345-39533-6, Ballantine.) Minette Walters, the new queen of creepy British suspense, has a new paperback: **The Echo** ($6.99 pb, 0515122564, Jove).

Ballantine is re-issuing **The Eight** by Katherine Neville, a kind of female Indiana Jones adventure that's great to hand-sell (also sells steadily by word of mouth). Check it out. ($6.99, 0-345-36623-9.) Neville attempts to strike gold again in her new hardcover, **The Magic Circle**, which got a less-than-lukewarm review in *PW* ($25.95 cl, 0-345-40792-X, Ballantine).

Veteran fantasy writer Barbara Hambly begins a new historical mystery series with **A Free Man of Color**, about Black physician Dr. Benjamin January in New Orleans in 1833. Good critical quotes and cover blurb: "Magically rich and poignant." —*Chicago Tribune*. ($5.99 pb, 0-553-57526-0, June, Bantam.) This will soon be followed by the hardcover sequel, **Fever Season** ($23.95 cl, Bantam, July, 0553102540).

I'm happy to see a paper version of **Quaker Testimony** by Irene Allen, in which widow Elizabeth Elliot, Clerk of the Quaker Meeting in Cambridge, Mass., investigates the murder of Quaker tax resisters. This is a thoughtful — in fact, philosophical — series which should be highly saleable in paper. One wonders why St. Martin's chose to begin paper publication with the third in the series; publishers certainly work in mysterious ways. ($5.99 pb, 0-312-96424-2, St. Martin's.) Fourth in the series, **Quaker Indictment**, is out in hardcover. ($21.95 cl, 0-312-16970-1, St. Martin's.)

In the better-late-than-never department, we have to take note in this column of the 1997 Feminist Press publication of **Unpunished**, a newly discovered mystery by Charlotte Perkins Gilman (yes, the feminist theorist who penned *The Yellow Wallpaper*), edited by Catherine J. Golden and Denise D. Knight. This is a must-carry for both bookstores and libraries that are serious about women's mysteries (and it's attractively packaged and will sell!), although a bit of a disappointment as an entertainment. The hero husband-and-wife team are a model of a thoroughly modern marriage, 1920's style, and the tone is sprightly, but I felt I was reading a rough draft rather than a finished book. $18.95 cl, 1-55861-170-3.

I really enjoyed **Quieter Than Sleep** by Joanne Dobson, subtitled "An Emily Dickinson Mystery." Dobson follows in Amanda Cross's footsteps, with a feminist heroine working in an academic setting, and an intriguing mystery that turns upon scholarly research. Unlike Cross's patrician Kate Fansler, Dobson's heroine is an outsider, a self-made working-class scholar who survived an abusive early marriage. Now a forty-ish professor, she has a fresh take on academic absurdity. There are plenty of subplots and red herrings, as well as a couple of mild romantic interests. (Note to cozy writers: Please no more convenient flirtations with the handsome homicide detective, providing our heroine access to police info.) Nevertheless, this is a good read that won't insult your intelligence or your politics. $21.95 cl, 0-385-48692-8, Doubleday. ○

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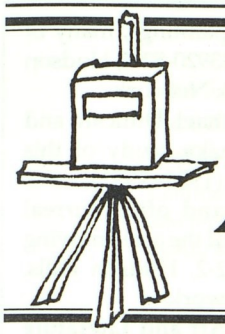


ART BOOKS

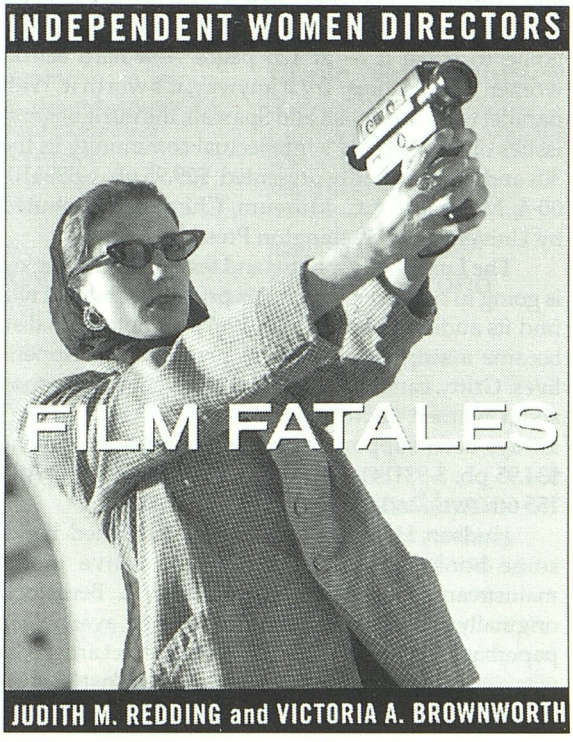
By Tee A. Corinne

New art books from feminist publishers are always worth celebrating. **Film Fatales: Independent Women Directors**, with its highly knowledgeable authors, is particularly welcome. **Film Fatales** by Judith M. Redding and Victoria A. Brownworth profiles 28 women directors including Ida Lapino, Pratibha Parmar, Barbara Hammer, Michelle Parkerson, and Trinh T. Minh-ha. Additional interviews with women involved with distribution illuminate the economic system in which a movie must succeed once it has been completed. Particularly interesting is Brownworth's discussion of how women were forced out of directing, especially after WWII. She notes that one-half of films made in 1920 were directed by women, but between "1940 and 1980, fewer than one-fifth of one percent of all the movies released by Hollywood studios were directed by women." $16.95 pb, 1-878067-97-4, Seal Press.

To Paint Her Life: Charlotte Salomon in the Nazi Era by Mary Lowenthal Felstiner is the complex story of a Jewish refugee who used her art as a way to make sense out of the struggles of her present and the sorrows of her past, which included her mother's suicide when she was eight. Reproductions in b&w and color. "Dear God don't let me go mad" and other emotionally laden images pull at both the heart and the intellect. $16.95 pb, 0-520-21066-2, University of California Press.

A Positive Life: Portraits of Women Living with HIV, interviews by River Huston, photos by Mary Berridge, well deserves its Dorothea Lange/Paul Taylor Prize from the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University. The lives of 30 women are presented in finely wrought color portraits and clearly worded interviews. Many of the women have children, many were infected through sex, some through drug use or blood transfusion and some don't know how the transmission occurred. **A Positive Life** is a sobering and a caring book. $17.95 pb, 0-7624-0244-X; $24.95 cl, -0198-2, Running Press. Distributed by Ingram and others.

Marry Your Muse: Making a Lasting Commitment to Your Creativity by Jan Phillips is a workbook and a guide which uses personal experiences, quotes, visuals and suggestions to give the reader ways to contact and encourage the creative force within. $18 pb, 0-8356-759-3, Quest Books/Theosophical Publishing House. Distributed by National Book Network.



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Africa: Women's Art, Women's Lives by Betty LaDuke is, like LaDuke's other books, an extraordinary gift of information, lives, and work. It has been described as a "broadly conceived and geographically far-ranging reconnaissance effort." The tone is accessible and comfortable, as if a friend is telling you about people she knows and cares deeply for. There are many b&w reproductions. $24.95 cl, 0-86543-434-4, Africa World Press, Inc.; 609-844-9583.

I Am My Lover: Women Pleasure Themselves edited by Joani Blank, photos by Phyllis Christopher, Victoria Heilweil, Craig Morey, Ron Raffaelli, Michael Rosen, and Annie Sprinkle, is a book of photographs and interviews about women masturbating. Lots of vibrators and dildos. Range of ages and body sizes. $25 pb, 0-940208-18-0, Down There Press. Distributed by LPC/Womensource, BP, Alamo.

Maria Izquierdo: 1902–1955 by Teresa del Conde and Luis-Martin Lozano has a wonderful cover, solid information, color reproductions, and a price which is going to make it — at 128 pages — a hard sell in women's bookstores. Try it anyway, it's worth it. With parallel texts in English and Spanish, the intrigues and issues of Mexico City's intellectual community in the 30s and 40s are vividly presented. $29.95 pb, 1-889410-00-4, Mexican F.A.C. Museum, Chicago. Distributed by University of Washington Press.

The Lusty Lady, photos and text by Erika Langley, is going to be hard to sell at this price, but I hope it will find its audience. Langley (b. 1967), a photojournalist, became a stripper in order to photograph strippers' lives. Gritty, candid, warmly funny, it is a terrific book about women taking power in ways which haven't always been supported by the women's movement. $34.95 pb, 3-931141-59-4, Scalo. Distributed by D.A.P., 155 6th Ave., 2nd Fl., New York NY 10013.

Hudson Hills has consistently published handsome books about women artists active in the mainstream. **Joan Mitchell** by Judith E. Bernstock, originally published in hardcover, is now available in paperback. Mitchell (1926–1992), an abstract artist who was part of the New York School, spent the last 35 years of her life in France. This monograph discusses Mitchell's life and her exuberant paintings, many of which are reproduced. $35 pb, 0-933920-82-2, Hudson Hills. Distributed by National Book Network.

Joyce Treiman, text by Michael Duncan and Theodore F. Wolff, is the first major study of this contemporary figurative artist (1922–1991), who produced haunting, evocative, and often surreal paintings, including self-portraits of the artist moving through time. $50 cl, 1-55595-142-2, Hudson Hills. Distributed by National Book Network.

Goddess: A Celebration in Art and Literature edited by Jalaja Bonheim is a coffee table volume with good paper and expensive reproductions. The cover is a painting detail by a white, European male, but the interior includes an essay by Paula Gunn Allen, among many others. $50 cl, 1-55670-621-9, Stewart, Tabori & Chang; 800-815-8328.

Tina Barney: Photographs, Theater of Manners is a book of glorified snapshots with that weird, dislocated look of people and actions caught off balance. It is a book for the 90s, an exploration in too-bright color of middle-class to upper middle-class lives in which the (always white) protagonists do not come across as particularly likable. $60 cl, 3-931141-60-8, Scalo. Distributed by D.A.P., 155 6th Ave., 2nd Fl., New York NY 10013. ○

Kids' Lit, *continued from page 55.*

total) (0-689-00462-1). Our customers really appreciated these quality titles at 2-for-1 prices.

One last picture book I'd like to recommend will put the bright summer sun on your shelves. **The Circle of Days** by Reeve Lindbergh ($15.99, 0-7636-0357-0) pays homage to St. Francis of Assisi's *Canticle of the Sun*. Her words quietly blend with St. Francis' to honor the elements, the animals, the earth, the heavens, and the very air we breathe. Cathie Felstead's glorious, jewel-toned paintings compliment the text. This is a great gift book, new baby, or birthday book, and it's from Candlewick.

Keep them reading this summer! I find that anything with "camp" in the title is a good bet, as are series that hook kids with humor and adventure. Make sure you've got activity books for all levels — Usborne has some of the best — and some of the Klutz.

Books on tape are great for travel and camp, too, and don't forget diaries (the best ones come with a lock and key). ○

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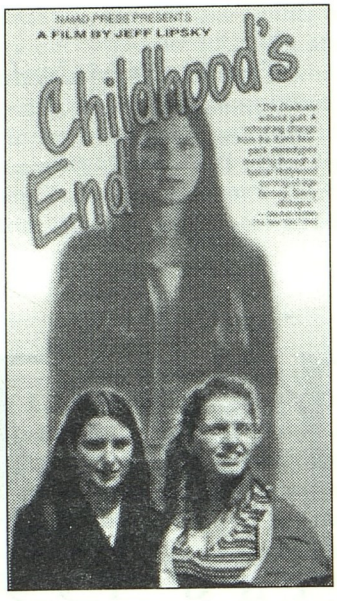

Naiad Press presents

CHILDHOOD'S END

A Film Written and Directed By JEFF LIPSKY

"*The Graduate* without guilt. A refreshing change from the dumb brat-pack stereotypes mewling through a typical Hollywood coming-of-age fantasy. Savvy dialogue."

— Stephen Holden
The New York Times

Set in present-day suburban Minneapolis, the film centers on three recent high school graduates and their families. Greg, a handsome, confident young man to whom people always gravitate, has landed a job at a top magazine. Chloe, his sister, is pursuing a career as a model. Rebecca, who is painfully shy, has an encounter with Denise that blossoms into love. And Evelyn, a widow, the neighborhood libertine has an affair with Greg. As the young protagonists wrestle with the coming of adulthood, their parents are forced to step back, examine their own choices and come to terms with where they are in life. Woven together, their stories unite to become a meditation on finding one's place in the world — leaving a home shadowed by mingled memories of love and anguish, and finding the inner strength to create a home for oneself.

115 Min. ISBN: 1-56280-225-9 $29.95

Northern Arts/Naiad Press announce the video release of the feature film,

WORK

A Film By RACHEAL REICHMAN

Set against the gritty backdrop of a small Missouri milltown, Rachel Reichman's feature film WORK tells the tale of Jenny, an unemployed housewife in her mid twenties, as she looks for a job and yearns for passion. Jenny divides her days between the search for work and her deepening love affair with the young black athlete, June, who lives next door. She spends her nights listening to talk about the mill and the escalating violence among the workers.

As Jenny's search for work becomes more desperate, her desire for June grows. June wins a college scholarship out of state; as the summer draws to an end, so does Jenny and June's affair.

Passion isn't always enough; sometimes forces beyond our control narrow our choices no matter how powerful our desires. WORK propels Reichman into the ranks of today's most provocative independent directors, such as award-winning filmmakers John Sayles (Lianna) and Lizzie Borden (Born in Flames).

Lesbian and gay personnel on WORK included actors Cynthia Kaplan (Jenny) and Sonja Sohn (June), composer Eve Beglarian, and cinematographer Steven Giuliano.

95 Min. ISBN 1-56280-224-0 $29.95

The Naiad Press, Inc.
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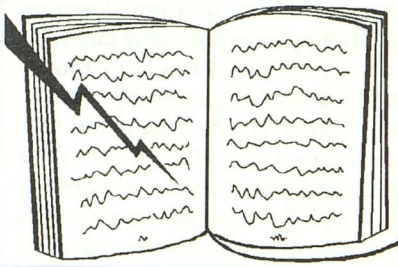


NEW MEDIA

AUDIO • VIDEO • CD-ROM ELECTRONIC BOOKS

Cyber Media & Cyber-Such

By Dorothy Holland

Does Jane Compute? Preserving Our Daughters' Place in the Cyber Revolution by Roberta Furger ($10.99, 0-446-67311-0, Warner). A generation ago, the nation asked, "Why can't Johnny read?" Today, we need to know "Does Jane compute?" Our society denies girls' interests in new technology and discourages them from becoming competent and confident in this area. This book can empower adults and children with ideas for exploring the computer together and for selecting gender-friendly software. A right-on book.

Cybergrrl! A Woman's Guide to the World Wide Web by Aliza Sherman ($12, 0-345-42382-8, Ballantine). Sherman's Cybergrrl Web site gets 250,000 hits per month (dream on, all of us feminist booksellers). Her mission is to empower women and girls through technology. Sherman takes readers from simple concepts to complicated functions and tells women and girls exactly how to get online without hassle or confusion.

Release 2.0: A Design for Living in the Digital Age by Esther Dyson ($25, 0-7679-0011-1, Broadway Books). I had the privilege of meeting Esther — and felt that I could listen to and converse with her forever. What an amazing collection of ideas, energy and foresight — all in one dynamite woman. There's a Web site (of course) for the book (www.release2-0.com) where Dyson conducts discussions on selected topics, which will be included in the paperback edition next year of *Release 2.1* — in true nerd fashion. Don't miss this amazing insight into the Web and our lives — and from a woman's perspective at that!

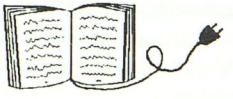
Zeros + Ones: The Matrix of Women + Machines by Sadie Plant ($23.95, 0-385-48260-4, Doubleday).

See **Cyber Media**, *next page.*

Video

By Liz Wermcrantz
Women & Children First/Chicago

Heart's Desire. A forty minute feast of cheese where we are witness to a diary entry performed in mind-numbingly minute detail. The film, presented by Northern Arts/Naiad Press, uses voiceover, hence we are trapped in the ongoing consciousness of the main character whose voice is a little on the bland side. All of this is not to say there isn't an audience for this film. There is something interesting in her ongoing struggle with the state of her singlehood, and I did feel a certain amount of investment halfway through. It was as if I'd found some ancient diary deep in the floorboards and was wading through the filler pages about gearing the horses up for a long trip to pa's house in order to get to the good stuff. Chalk it up as another of the way-too-literal lesbo-flicks and order a couple anyway. Available from Naiad Press, $19.95.



Paris Was A Woman. I missed this one during its short run in the theaters, but I am quite glad I caught it this time. It is a fascinating and riveting account of the early decades of this century in Paris. I found myself lost in the frames and fascinated with the truly creative and inspirational lives of the incredible women it showcases. It also records the early transformation of bookselling into an art form and echoes the importance of literature and the arts in the development of culture and humanity. Going on the idea that Paris was always referred to in female form, it showcases the lives of Gertrude and Alice, Djuna Barnes,

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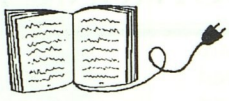
Berenice Abbott, Sylvia Beach and many more important women in our histories. It's a great movie for everyone: educational, interesting, inspirational, a welcome enhancement of women's history classes or just a good flick for a weekend get-together. The film is full of discussion of bookselling, writing, art, lesbianism, feminism and much more. Not to be missed. Available from Wolfe.



Sister Wendy: The Story of Painting. Originally airing on PBS, some of Sister Wendy's shows are captured on this set of three home videos. She highlights specific eras in art and provides a riveting discussion in the form of a history lesson. I was mesmerized and touched by her descriptions and her ability to pull viewers into art history. An interesting addition to our video rental racks and sales units. BBC Video. Available from B&T Entertainment, $19.95 retail for each in the set of three.

Hey, Sailor...Hey, Sister. "A sailor returning home from a long tour of duty goes looking for one of two things: either the woman she left behind or the woman she happens to meet." So opens this film. Why is it that in every lesbian film, somehow all the women in bars and coffeehouses are so overtly drooling over each other it seems laughable? Where are these bars? Where are these girls? Anyway, the same thing happens in this short film. The Navy girl on leave goes on the prowl and finally finds someone to have sex with. The sex is more suggestive than anything, though the film is a nice addition to our limited world of lesbian erotica as it's more gritty and streetsmart. Available from Wolfe Video.

Cris & Tret: A Peek Between the Covers. A sneak peek at the making of the Cris Williamson and Tret Fure's bestselling, highly enjoyed lesbian love album **Between the Covers**. In this behind-the-scenes video, we are invited to take part in every aspect of the album's creation. Included are in-depth interviews with the artists, mixing, editing, improv and a few faux heavy metal jam sessions. Filmed mostly at Wolf Moon Studios, which also doubles as Cris and Tret's home, the video has an inviting and warm air to it and has none of the self-indulgent aspects found in most other behind-the-scenes videos. Rather, the experience is uplifting, down-to-earth and hilarious. It showcases the many talents of Cris, Tret and the other players but in a more roundabout way: talents shine through naturally without pretense or effort. Whether you're a hardcore Cris and Tret fan or more of an Ani gal like me, it's hard to miss the incredible, important and heartwarming work these women do. Not only is the video fun, it's also an eye-opening slice of music history. We're all bound to do well with this one. Available soon from Wolfe Video.

Tracey Takes On: Sex, Romance, Fantasy. Three shows from the acclaimed HBO comedy series by Tracey Ullman. A brilliant and hilarious treat for everyone. This particular collection includes the now-famous riff on the LPGA, including the struggles a lesbian golfer and her partner endure in trying to navigate the boundaries between remaining closeted and being true to themselves. Tracey is fantastically funny in all of the skits. Available from Wolfe Video. ○

Cyber Media *continued from previous page.*

Plant creates a portrait of the influences that women have had on the development of the computer age. Women, our work and our thoughts, have nurtured the growth of computing for a long time. Starting with the wisdom of Byron's daughter, Ada Lovelace, and her involvement in calculating machines, Plant's (appropriately) nonlinear history describes the enormous yet subtle impact of female minds in computing. She asserts that no topic is as simple as was once assumed. Plant argues that, since women's brains can handle vast networks and complexities more smoothly than men's, women have had and will continue to have a great impact on computer technology.

Cyberville: Clicks, Culture and the Creation of an Online Town by Stacy Horn ($23, 0-446-51909-X, Warner). Stacy Horn founded Echo, an online salon where people who don't know a bit from a byte can get online and start talking. With a computer and a few phone lines, Horn's unusual cyber-community grew from a few scattered souls in lower Manhattan to a thriving online salon. You can get co-op on this book from Warner just for putting a blurb and photo in your newsletter. ○

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Orlando Books/Edmonton, Alberta

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Novels

The Widows by Suzette Mayr — Aided and abetted by granddaughter and great-niece Cleopatra Maria, three women in their 70s and 80s go over Niagara Falls in a space-age barrel. $16.95 pb, 1-896300-30-8, NeWest Press, General.

The Blood Girls by Méira Cook — The inhabitants of small town Annex and a Winnipeg journalist try to make sense of the appearance of stigmata on the palms of eleven-year-old Donna Desjardins. $16.95 pb, 1-896300-28-6, NeWest Press, General.

Sunday Sunday by Ijosé Chow — Set in Nigeria, a story about desire, obsession and myth, incorporating sin and the sensual images of the Catholic church. $17.95 CDN, $13.95 US, 1-896705-24-3, Sister Vison, General.

The Bitter Taste of Time by Béa Gonzalez — A rich tale of a family of women running a pensión in northern Spain, which encompasses the Civil War, the Franco dictatorship, and the early years of democracy. $26 cl, 0-00-224573-6, HarperCollins.

A Recipe for Bees by Gail Anderson-Dargatz — Rose relates the story of her best friend Augusta, a woman with attitude, a wicked funny bone, and the dubious gift of second sight. $32.95 cl, 0-676-97100-8, May, Random/Knopf.

The Handless Maiden by Loranne Brown — Sexually abused by her grandfather, Mariah threatens him with a gun and accidentally shoots herself in the hand, losing her career as a pianist. $32.95 cl, 0-385-25702-3, Doubleday, Bantam.

The Electrical Field by Kerri Sakamoto — When Chisako and her lover are found murdered in a park, a small Ontario community must confront its past. $29.95 cl, 0-676-97126-1, May, Random/Knopf.

Love Ruins Everything by Karen X. Tulchinsky — Nomi Rabinovich has been dumped by her girlfriend — for a man, no less — and walks into a minefield of Jewish family relations, coming out, new love, and the politics of AIDS. $18.95 pb, 0-88974-082-8, Press Gang, General.

The Ghost of Understanding by Jean Smith — Riot-grrrl fiction by the lead singer of Mecca Normal. $12.95 pb, 1-55152-050-8, Arsenal Pulp, General.

Scavenger by Dennison Smith — A beautiful, harsh novel about cravings and the desire to fly, set in 70s Arizona. $18.99 CDN, $14.99 US pb, 1-895837-15-4, Insomniac Press, General.

Cyclone by Julia Van Gorder — Agnes Jackson, from working-class Manchester, and her husband and children are caught up in the 1912 Regina cyclone and go through a whirlwind of change. $14.95 pb, 1-55050-127-5, Coteau, General.

Bye-Bye, Baden-Baden by Lucille de Saint-Andre — Set in Nazi-occupied Europe, one 16-year-old girl's attempt to make sense of death, betrayal and, ultimately, life itself. $18.95 pb, 1-55022-320-8, ECW, General.

The Tracey Fragments by Maureen Medved — The consciousness of an adolescent in crisis in the cold urban 1990s. $17.95 French sleeves, 0-88784-612-2, May, House of Anansi, General.

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Strange Heaven by Lynn Coady — Appallingly funny. Bridget, not yet 18, has had a baby, given it up for adoption, and been transferred to the psych ward of the children's hospital. $17.95 French binding, 0-86492-230-2, May, Goose Lane, General.

The Drum King by Richelle Kosar — Grace, a thirty-something Toronto English professor, becomes involved with Eddy, a drug-trafficking spinner of tales. $18.95 pb, 0-88801-220-9, Talonbooks, General.

From HarperCollins: **Freedom's Just Another Word** by Dakota Hamilton — Maggie swears she didn't kill her Harley-riding, drug-dealing husband, Mongrel, but soon she's doing time ($26 cl, 0-00-224572-8); **Tales of Passion, Tales of Woe** by Sandra Gulland — This second Josephine novel begins in 1796, the day after her marriage to Napolean ($28 cl, 0-00-224382-2); **Forms of Devotion** by Diane Schoemperlen — Her eagerly awaited new novel ($25 cl, 0-00-224566-3); and in paper: **Leave It To Me** by Bharati Mukherjee ($16, 0-00-648085-3); **Visible Worlds** by Marilyn Bowering ($16.95, 0-00-648125-6, August); **Leaving Earth** by Helen Humphreys ($14, 0-00-648130-2, August).

Now in mass-market: **Deadly by Nature** — A murder mystery by Meredith Andrew. $8.99, 1-55128-056-6, Mercury, General.

New Vintage paperbacks in May — **Keel Kissing Bottom** by Elizabeth de Freitas ($16.95, 0-679-30922-5); **My Darling Dead Ones** by Erika de Vasconcelos ($17.95, 0-676-97151-2); **At First I Hope for Rescue** by Holley Rubinsky ($17.95, 0-676-97109-1); Random.

And from McClelland & Stewart, classy new paperbacks at $14.99: **Cereus Blooms at Night** by Shani Mootoo (0-7710-6400-4); and in May, by Margaret Atwood: **Lady Oracle** (0-7710-0838-4), **Life Before Man** (0-7710-0839-2), and **Bodily Harm** (0-7710-0837-6); also, reissued in a gift edition: **The Stone Angel** by Margaret Laurence ($25 cl, 0-7710-4707-X), Canbook.

Short Stories

Leaning, Leaning Over Water: A Novel in Ten Stories by Frances Itani — A Duplessis-era portrait of an Anglo Irish family growing up in a small Québec village, when running to the corner grocery store meant changing from shorts to a proper skirt. $24 cl, 0-00-225501-4, August, HarperCollins.

Hot & Bothered: Short Short Fiction on Lesbian Desire edited by Karen X. Tulchinsky — Includes both known and first-time authors. $16.95 CDN, $14.95 US pb, 1-55152-051-6, Arsenal Pulp, General.

Exile and the Heart: Lesbian Short Stories by Tamai Kobayashi — Connected stories of women of the diaspora negotiating love, identity and friendship; set in North America and Japan. $11.95 pb, 0-88961-229-3, Women's Press, University of Toronto.

The Heart Is Its Own Reason by Natalee Caple — Stories from the edges of society. $14.99 pb, 1-895837-25-1, Insomniac, General.

From Cormorant: **Depth Rapture** by Carol Bruneau — 16 linked stories about growing up in the sixties ($19.95 pb, 1-896951-07-4); **Peripheries** by Helene Littman — Three novellas about desire, need and freedom ($18.95 pb, 1-896951-08-2), General.

Poetry and Plays

From Exile by Martha Gould: **With the Whales in the Water** — An intelligent, witty collection from one of my favourite poets ($14.95 pb, 1-55096-166-7); and **Poems for Owen** — A beautiful, spare collection about the death of her child, aged five — both books highly recommended ($14.95 pb, 1-55096-164-0), General.

Blue Marrow by Louise Halfe (*Sky Dancer*) — Another favourite — her second collection, written in Cree and English. $12.95 pb, 0-7710-3777-5, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Debriefing the Rose by Mary di Michele — Poetry as time machine, in which the dead speak with more authority than the living. $16.95 pb, French sleeves, 0-88784-611-4, May, House of Anansi, General.

Into the Peculiar Dark by Anne F. Walker — $12.50 pb, 1-55128-055-8, Mercury, General.

Ferry Woman's History of the World by Susan Andrews Grace — A woman's pilgrimmage through Ireland to find her Norman family roots, and a journey through religion to find her own self. $14.95 pb, 1-55050-129-1, Coteau, General.

Sex, Death & Travel by Mona Fertig — A triptych of new prose poems. $12.95 pb, 0-88982-169-0, Oolichan, General.

Elizabeth Went West by Jan Horner — Poems which speak in many voices and revolve around the lives of women. $10.95 pb, 0-88801-221-7, Turnstone, General.

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Like a Beast of Colours, Like a Woman by Sophia Kaszuba — Verse deeply embedded in the landscape of Northern Ontario and its vast lakes. $12.95 pb, 0-88878-383-3, Beach Holme, General.

Questions about the Stars by Robyn Sarah — Music, craft and attention combined. $12.95 pb, 0-919626-96-3, June, Brick, General.

Quintet by Celie Rich, Sue Neville, Pam Galloway, Eileen Kernaghan and Jean Mallinson — Each of the 14 sections of this book is inspired by a particular theme, and all are linked in renga-like fashion. $15.95 pb, 1-896860-25-7, Extasis, General.

A Tantrum of Synonyms by Heather Cadsby — Her third book of poetry. $12 pb, 0-919897-57-6, Wolsak & Wynn (PO Box 316, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 2S7; 416-237-0364, fax 416-237-0291).

Autobiography of Red: A Novel in Verse by Anne Carson — A moving, volcanic journey into the soul of a winged red monster named Geryon, who falls in love with a golden young man named Herakles. $29.95 cl, 0-375-40133-4, May, Random/Knopf.

From Broken Jaw: **Longing At Least Is Constant** by Katheryn Payne — Poems which express a fondness for women in combat boots and men in dresses ($11.95 pb, 0-921411-68-5); **for a cappucino on Bloor** by kath macLean — Winner of the New Muse Award ($12.95 pb, 0-921411-74-X, May); **the bride of Inglish** by Zaffi Gousopoulos — Greek Canadian poems which celebrate the search for voice and poetic language (0-921411-70-7: $12.95 pb, book only; 0-921411-71-5: $21.95 book and CD, June); **vein of extreme(ties)** by WhiteFeather ($4.95 chapbook, 0-921411-76-6); **untitled** by Butterfly Irie Rowan ($3.95 chapbook, 0-921411-77-4), General.

Willful Acts by Margaret Hollingsworth — An expanded and updated collection of her best-known and most popular plays, including *War Babies* and *Islands*. $18.95 pb, 0-88922-385-8, Talonbooks, General.

Clever Paint: The Rossettis in Love by Kim Morrissey — A comic reappraisal of the painting circle of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Lizzie Siddal, and William Morris. $13.95 pb, 0-88754-552-1, June, Playwrights, Theatre Communications.

On Art and Writing

Readings from the Labyrinth by Daphne Marlatt — A collection of essays spanning 15 years by one of our foremost writers and feminist critics. $18.95 pb, 1-896300-34-0, May, Newest, General.

Practising Femininity: Domestic Realism and the Performance of Gender in Early Canadian Fiction by Misao Dean — Examines texts by Catharine Parr Traill, Susanna Moodie, Nellie McClung, Sinclair Ross, and others. $16.95 pb, 0-8020-8138-X, $40 cl, 0-8020-4312-7, U of Toronto.

In Search of 'Alias Grace' by Margaret Atwood — The search for evidence in the double murder on which the novel is based, what she was unable to find out, and how this process shaped the novel. $8 (est.) pb, 0-7766-0449-X, U of Ottawa Press, U of Toronto.

Two Solicitudes: Conversations by Margaret Atwood and Victor-Lévy Beaulieu — About childhood, power, myths, their own works, and so on. $19.99 pb, 0-7710-0836-8, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Discontinuities: New Essays on Renaissance Literature and Criticism edited by Viviana Comensoli and Paul Stevens — $21.95 pb, 0-8020-7225-9; $65 cl, -0436-9, July, U of Toronto.

Writing from Life: A Guide for Writing True Stories by Heather Robertson — $19.99 pb, 0-7710-7558-8, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Rescued from the Coach House ashes — **Language in Her Eye: Views on Writing and Gender** by Canadian Women Writing in English edited by Libby Scheier, Sarah Sheard and Eleanor Wachtel. $19.95 pb, 0-88910-397-6, ECW, General.

Pnina Granirer: Portrait of an Artist by Ted Lindberg — From the early years in Romania to the student drawings in Israel to the mature works in Canada. 200 reproductions, including 100 in colour. $39.95 pb, 0-921870-54-X , 9"x12", Ronsdale, General.

Now in paper: **The Malcove Collection** edited by Sheila D. Campbell — Catalogue of 513 paintings, drawings, furniture, icons, maunuscripts and textiles, ranging from prehistory to the 20th century, from the art collection of Dr. Lillian Malcove, a New York psychoanalyst who bequeathed her collection to the U of Toronto. $39.95 pb, 0-8020-8169-X, U of Toronto.

Biography & Memoir

Stolen Life: The Journey of a Cree Woman by Rudy Wiebe and Yvonne Johnson — From the double

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winner of the Governor General's Award for Fiction and the great-great-granddaughter of Big Bear, the story of the only Native woman in Canada serving life imprisonment for murder. Told sometimes in the first person by Wiebe, sometimes by Johnson herself. $34.95 cl, 0-676-97048-6, May, Random/Knopf.

kwayask ê-kî-pê-kiskinowâpahtihicik: Their Example Showed Me the Way by Emma Minde, translated by Freda Ahenakew and H. C. Wolfart — The story of a Cree woman's life as shaped by the world of the Plains Cree and the influence of the Catholic missions. $24.95 pb, 0-88864-291-1, U of Alberta Press, UBC Press.

Tongues on Fire: Caribbean Lesbian Lives and Stories edited by Rosamund Elwin — Personal stories of women loving women, featuring Michelle Cliff, Shani Mootoo, Makeda Silvera and others. $17.95 pb, 0-88961-226-9, Women's Press, U of Toronto.

Paradise Piece by Piece by American poet Molly Peacock — A memoir as gripping as fiction. $29.99 cl, 0-7710-6977-4, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Island of the Human Heart: Tales of a Traveller by Laurie Gough — A diary of her journeys in Fiji, New Zealand, Malaysia, Bali, Italy, Morocco and North America. $17.95 pb, 0-88801-219-5, Turnstone, General/LPC.

Rock Creek by Thelma Poirier — A micro-travelogue of a three-day going-back-home pilgrimmage on foot through badlands, prairie and river valley. $14.95 pb, 1-55050-123-2, Coteau, General.

A Leaf in the Bitter Wind by Ting-Xing Ye — A riveting memoir of life during China's Cultural Revolution. $19.95 pb, 0-385-25701-5, Doubleday, Bantam.

Dear Editor and Friends: Letters From Rural Women of the North-West, 1900–1920 edited by Norah L. Lewis — These letters from the women's pages in agricultural newspapers give a sense of the isolation, hard work, poverty and neglect endured by these women, as well as their feelings of independence, self-reliance and pride. ($29.95, tent., pb, 0-88920-287-7.) Also, **The Surprise of My Life: An Autobiography** by Claire Drainie Taylor — 80 years in the life of this actor and radio scriptwriter. ($26.95, tent., pb, 0-88920-302-4.) Both from Wilfrid Laurier University Press (75 University Ave. W., Waterloo ON, N2L 3C5; 519-884-0710 x6124, email press@mach1.wlu.ca).

Gone to an Aunt's: Remembering Canada's Homes for Unwed Mothers by Anne Petrie — Seven women, including the author, tell their own stories. $29.99 cl, 0-710-6971-5, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

At Home on the Stroll: My Twenty Years as a Prostitute in Canada by Alexandra Highcrest — A spokesperson for prostitutes' rights demolishes some of the preconceived notions about prostitution. $16.95 pb, 0-676-97106-7, Random/Vintage.

The Follow: Into a Lost Eden by Linda Spalding — A thoughtful exploration of primates, and a quest for truth in the Borneo rainforest. $29.95 cl, 1-55013-929-0, maps and endpapers, Key Porter, General.

Up Where We Belong: The Story of Buffy Sainte-Marie by Miles Morrisseau — $19.95 CDN, $14.95 US pb, 1-55082-203-9, 40 b&w photos, Quarry, General/LPC.

And reissued by ECW Press, previously Coach House — **Mothers Talk Back (Momz Radio)** edited by Margaret Dragu, Sarah Sheard and Susan Swan. $14.95 pb, 0-88910-420-4, General.

History

A Plea for Emigration by Mary Shadd, edited and annotated by Richard Almonte — An emigrant guide originally published in 1852 by an abolitionist, rights advocate, teacher, writer, publisher and lecturer who came to Canada West to escape the Fugitive Slave Law. $16.50 pb, 1-55128-053-1, Mercury Press, General.

Enlisting Women for the Cause: Women, Labour, and the Left in Canada, 1890–1920 by Linda Kealey — Examines a crucial period when women became more prominent in the work force, in unions and in politics. $24.95 pb, 0-8020-7378-6, $60 cl, -2874-8, U of Toronto.

The Pleasure of the Crown: Anthropology, Law and First Nations by Dara Culhane — A look at how British Columbia and other colonial societies "reveal themselves" through their court room performances in Aboriginal title litigation. $24.95 pb, 0-88922-315-7, Talonbooks, General.

Twisting in the Wind: The Murderess and the English Press by Judith Knelman — An account of the sensationalization of women accused of murder in 19th-century England. $21.95 pb, 0-8020-7420-0; $50 cl, -2915-9, U of Toronto.

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Social and Cultural Politics

Siolence: Essays on Women, Violence and Silence edited by Susan McMaster — From the feminist caucus of the League of Canadian Poets. $18.95 CDN, $12.95 US pb, 1-55082-158-X, Quarry, General/LPC.

Women Theorists on Society and Politics edited by Lynn McDonald — Previously unpublished and newly translated excerpts from the 17th to the 19th centuries, including selections from Emile de Chatelet, Germaine de Staël, Mary Wollstonecraft and Beatrice Webb. $65 (tent.) cl, 0-88920-290-7, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, (75 University Ave. W., Waterloo ON, N2L 3C5; 519-884-0710 x6124, email press@mach1.wlu.ca).

Women on the Defensive: Living Through Conservative Times by Sylvia Bashevkin — Explores the difficult challenges in 1980s United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom after the elections of Ronald Reagan, Brian Mulroney and Margaret Thatcher. $19.95 pb, 0-8020-8187-8, Canadian rights only, U of Toronto.

Looking White People in the Eye: Gender, Race, and Culture in Courtrooms and Classrooms by Sherene H. Razack — What happens when whites look at "non-whites," and in particular "non-white" women. $21.95 pb, 0-8020-7898-2; $55 cl, 0-8020-0928-X, U of Toronto.

The Cult of Impotence: Selling the Myth of Powerlessness in the Global Economy by Linda McQuaig — If we stop buying into the cult of "impotence," we can create a new order that puts the rights of people before the rights of capital. $32 cl, 0-670-87278-4, Viking, Canbook.

Challenging Racism in the Arts: Case Studies of Controversy and Conflict by Carol Tator, Frances Henry, & Winston Matthis — How six Canadian cultural events (including the *Show Boat* controversy) have given rise to a newly empowered radical multiculturalism. $16.95 pb, 0-8020-7170-8; $45 cl, -0809-9, May, U of Toronto.

Making Work, Making Trouble: Prostitution as a Social Problem by Deborah R. Brock — Most people think of prostitution as a social problem, but prostitutes see it as a job. $18.95 pb, 0-8020-7935-0; $45 cl, -0976-X, June, U of Toronto.

In Search of a Safe Place: Abused Women and Culturally Sensitive Services by Vijay Agnew — The struggles of Canadian women's centres to provide better services to victims from Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, and the tension that arises between patriarchal state and feminist-inspired organizations. $19.95 pb, 0-8020-8114-2; $50 cl, -4278-3, U of Toronto.

Sexual Abuse by Health Professionals: A Personal Search for Meaning and Healing by P. Susan Penfold — A powerful blend of the personal and the professional by a psychiatry professor. $18.95 pb, 0-8020-8106-1; $50 cl, -4269-4, U of Toronto.

The Concrete Forest: Readings from Urban Canada — A collection which includes France Daigle, Julie Doucet, Cordelia Strube, Dianne Warren and others. $19.99 pb, 0-7710-6815-8, McClelland & Stewart, Canbook.

Miscellaneous

Lucy Lawless and Renée O'Connor: Warrior Stars of Xena by Nikki Stafford — An engaging and informative book that features a guide to Internet sites, fan clubs and an episode guide. $16.95 pb, 1-55022-347-X, 300 pps, 16-colour and 40-b&w photos, ECW, General/LPC.

Herstory 1999 desk calendar from the Saskatoon Women's Calendar Collective — Each week of the year brings a face, a name, a story. $11.95 coil-bound, 1-55050-130-5, June, Coteau, General.

Everywoman's Almanac 1999 — The best of the 25-year history of Women's Press. Week-at-a-glance format, compact size, menstrual calendar, resource directory, photos and illustrations. $11.95 sewn, 0-88961-227-7; $12.95 spiral, -228-5, July, Women's Press, U of Toronto.

And watch for the May release of the National Film Board of Canada video, **Stolen Moments**, written and directed by Margaret Wescott. In the tradition of *Forbidden Love*, this video features interviews with Leslie Feinberg, Joan Nestle and many others. Great poster available from the NFB (phone 1-800-267-7710). $19.95, Canbook.

Children and Young Adult

No More Dragons: Feminist Fantasies, Fables & Folktales edited by Susan McMaster — A mixture of traditional tales retold and new fables from women's myths. All ages, illustrated. $14.95 CDN, $10.95 US pb, 1-55082-207-1, Quarry, General/LPC.

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Telling by Carol Matas — One dramatic summer in the lives of three sisters, aged 12, 14 and 17. Ages 12 and up. $9.95 pb, 1-55013-933-9, Key Porter, General.

Nellie's Quest by Connie Brummel Crook — The continuing story of Nellie McClung, now a 21-year-old student in 1896 Manitoba. Ages 12 and up, $6.99 mm, 0-7736-7469-1, Stoddart, General.

Winds Through Time: An Anthology of Canadian Historical Young Adult Fiction edited by Ann Walsh — Includes stories by Lynne Bowen, Joan Skogan, Andrea Spalding, Kathryn Hatashita-Lee, and others. Ages 9–14. $12.95 pb, 0-88878-384-1, Beach Holme, General.

The Accidental Orphan by Constance Horne — Eleven-year-old Ellen becomes a stowaway on a Liverpool steamship bound for Canada, and is adopted by a Manitoba homesteading family. Ages 8–12. $8.95 pb, 0-88878-385-X, Beach Holme, General.

And now in paper — **The Town That Floated Away** by Sandra Birdsell, b&w line drawings by Helen Flook. Ages 8–12, $5.99, 0-00-648115-9, July, HarperCollins.

The Memory Stone by Anne Louise MacDonald, full-colour illustrations by Joanne Ouellet — Laura and Aunt Pat visit the beach and Laura discovers the meaning of the memory stones. Ages 4–8. $5.95 pb, 0-921556-71-3, 24 pps, 8"x8", May, Ragweed, General.

Grandpa's Garden by Gale Henry, colour and b&w illustrations by Belinda Ageda — When Grandpa is losing his sight and says he's not going to the garden anymore, Simone asks him to let her take his hand. Ages 4–8. $6.95 pb, 0-88961-213-7, Women's Press, U of Toronto.

Bruno and the Bees by Sylvie Daigneault — It's summer in the lush forest and impatient Bruno the bear must make amends to the Queen Bee. Ages 3–7. $16 cl, 0-00-224552-3, June, HarperCollins.

A group of great books from women-owned Kids Can Press: **The Kids Cottage Games Book** by Jane Drake and Ann Love, two-colour illustrations by Heather Collins — 150 games and activities for indoors and outdoors, all year round, ages 8 and up ($16.95 pb, 1-55074-467-4); **Deer, Moose, Elk and Caribou** by Deborah Hodge, full-colour illustrations by Pat Stephens — Fascinating facts and detailed illustrations, ages 5–10 ($14.95 cl, 1-55074-435-6); **Animal Senses: How Animals See, Hear, Taste, Smell and Feel** by Pamela Hickman, full-colour illustrations by Pat Stephens — Experiments and activities explain how senses help animals survive, ages 7–11 ($14.95 cl, 1-55074-423-2); **Mealworms: Raise Them, Watch Them, See Them Change** by Adrienne Mason, full-colour illustrations by Angela Vaculik — Easy-to-follow instructions on how to set up a mealworm farm, ages 5–10 ($12.95 cl, 1-55074-448-8); **Fun with Modeling Clay** written and illustrated by Barbara Reid — Secrets for turning colourful lumps of clay into fantastic pictures and characters, ages 7 and up ($5.95 pb, 1-55074-510-7, full colour); **Just Desserts and Other Treats for Kids to Make** by Marilyn Linton, two-colour illustrations by Barbara Reid — Fifty mouth-watering recipes, ages 8 and up ($5.95 pb, 0-921103-02-6); **Making Candles** by Judy Ann Sadler, full-colour photos by Tracy Walker — How to make 20 beautiful candles, including candles that don't require heating, ages 3 and up ($5.95 pb, 1-55074-501-8); **The Kids Guide to the Millennium** by Ann Love and Jane Drake, two-colour illustrations by Bill Slavin — Packed full of solid information and wacky hands-on activities, ages 8–12 ($9.95 pb, 1-55074-436-4; $16.95 cl, -556-5). All distributed by U of Toronto Press.

More great quality books from Orca Book Publishers: **Queen Nadine** by Maryann Kovalski — A cow learns there is no place like her special farm home, ages 4–8 ($17.95 cl, 1-55143-093-2, full colour, poster available); **The Fox's Kettle** by Laura Langston full-colour illustrations by Victor Bosson — In old Japan, Ayoka extends hospitality to a samurai, who turns out to be a fox with magical powers, ages 4–8 ($7.95 pb 1-55143-132-7; $17.95 cl, -130-0, 8"x10", poster available); **The Good Companion** by Joan Skogan, full-colour illustrations by Stephen McCallum — A ghostly tale of a mysterious girl rescued at sea and abandoned anew, ages 4–8 ($18.95 cl, 1-55143-134-3, 8½"x11"); **Brad's Universe** by Mary Woodbury — A story of family, love and friendship, and about coping with less-than-perfect situations, ages 12–16 ($8.95 pb, 1-55143-120-3, bookmarks available); **Beans on Toast** by Shelley Hrdlitschka — Madison is having a tough time with her parents' divorce and the move with her mother to the west coast, ages 8–14 ($7.95 pb, 1-55143-116-5, bookmarks available). ○

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Women's Stories

Dear Editor and Friends
Letters from Rural Women of the North-West, 1900-1920

Norah L. Lewis, editor

Spring 1998 • Paper • $29.95 tent.
184 pp. est. (20 b/w illus.)
ISBN 0-88920-287-7

Life Writing series, Volume 4

In the early twentieth century, women, drawn west by the promise of free land, economic success or religious and political freedom, discovered that it was not the utopia touted by government propaganda or land agents. They also discovered there was a select but diverse group of rural women who shared their common experiences of isolation, hard work, poverty and neglect–but, more importantly, their independence, self-reliance and pride in what they had accomplished.

Voices and Echoes
Canadian Women's Spirituality

Jo-Anne Elder and Colin O'Connell, editors

1997 • Paper • $24.95 • 265 pp.
ISBN 0-88920-286-9

Studies in Women and Religion series, Volume 4

Through short stories, journal entries and poetry, experienced writers such as Lorna Crozier, Di Brandt and Ann Copeland as well as strong new voices, speak to each other, exploring the changing landscape of their spiritual lives.

Women Theorists on Society and Politics

Lynn McDonald, editor

May 1998 • Cloth • $65.00 tent. • 400 pp. est. • ISBN 0-88920-290-7

Revolution, abolition of slavery, public health care, welfare, violence against women, war and militarism – such issues have been debated for centuries. But much work done by women theorists on these traditional social and political topics is little known or difficult to obtain. This new anthology brings together scarce, previously unpublished, and newly translated excerpts from works by such women theorists as Emilie du Châtelet, Germaine de Staël, Catharine Macaulay, Mary Wollstonecraft, Flora Tristan, Harriet Martineau, Florence Nightingale, Beatrice Webb and Jane Addams.

The Surprise of My Life
An Autobiography

Claire Drainie Taylor

June 1998 • Paper • $26.95 tent. • 280 pp. est. • ISBN 0-88920-302-4

Life Writing series, Volume 5

"I found Claire's book an absolute delight! It succeeds not only as family and social history, but as a compelling story and memorable protrait of the writer....Her frankness is...admirable." – Heather Robertson

Breaking Anonymity
The Chilly Climate for Women Faculty

The Chilly Collective, editor

Paper • $24.95 • ISBN 0-88920-245-1

"The impact of climate on women's issues has never been presented with such breadth and depth of insight. Highly recommended reading."

– Midwest Book Review

WLU Wilfrid Laurier University Press

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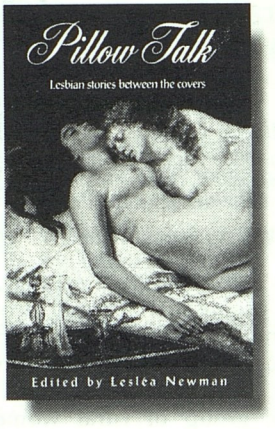
Books about our lives

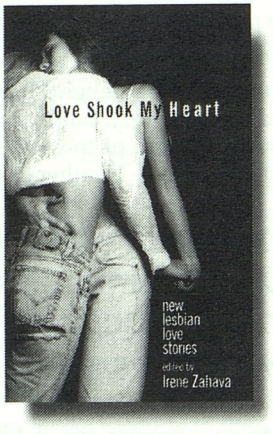
Beginnings

Lesbians describe in sensuous detail the first time they met their long-term partner. In this collection first impressions are not necessarily accurate, romance can come unexpectedly, and a beginning marks the end of a long search. From the editor of the best-seller *Early Embraces*.

Pillow Talk

Climb into bed with these well-crafted, imaginative, and sexy stories that are unbridled celebrations of lesbian eroticism. These tales simmer with intrigue, lusty encounters, and lots of hot sex between the sheets as well as in some other creative places. Contributors include Barbara Wilson and Mariana Romo-Carmona.



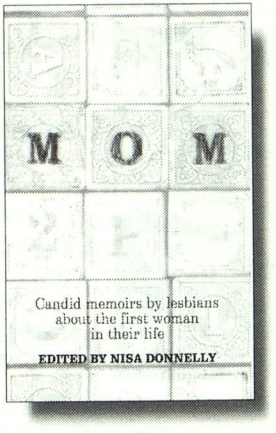


Love Shook My Heart

Romance and lust join hands in this collection of love stories. From first love to devastating breakups to lifetime commitments, these stories contain all the emotions and truths of being a lesbian in love. Contributors include Sally Miller Gearhart, Carol Guess, Anne Seale, and Jess Wells.

Mom

The provocative voices of 30 of the best lesbian writers in the country create striking portraits of mothers. The diverse perspectives range from stories reveling in warmth, encouragement, and joy to brutal recollections of fear, loathing, and abuse to distant memories shrouded in mystery and family legend.



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GAY MEN'S LIT
FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonté
A Different Light Bookstores

The list this column is wrapped around is the third annual roundup of sales at A Different Light Bookstore's stores in New York, West Hollywood and San Francisco, and from its Web site (www.adlbooks.com), and its mail-order business (800-343-4002), from January 1 to December 31, 1997.

It's not meant to be a "bestseller" list in the sense of ranking sales prominence within a specific shared time frame — that is, it's not the December bestseller list. This means that some late-arriving strong-selling books likely to carry over into 1998 (*Gay Metropolis*, *Queer Dharma*) may show up again next year, whereas titles which ranked as high or higher (*Arkansas*, *Barrel Fever*, *Some Men Are Lookers*, *Getting Over Homer*) will not; they're spent forces. Another reality is that books which sold strongly around Christmas 1997 and into 1998 may not show up on next year's list if their sales were divided evenly between the years; *The Good Life* by Gordon Merrick from Alyson sold about 190 copies in November and December '97, and has sold strongly in the first month of '98, but probably won't make the 1998 list; nor will Mark Thompson's *Gay Body*, though it will eventually sell 350–400, I'm sure, split between late December and early 1998.

Yet another consideration is to look at the month recieved: (01) means the book arrived at A Different Light in January, 1997, (11) means it arrived in November. If there's a number higher than 12, such as (9404) or (8811), that indicates a book with real staying power — a *Tales of the City*, a *Now That You Know*, a *Finding True Love in a Man-Eat-Man World*, a *President's Son*, a *What the Bible Really Says about Homosexuality*. In fact, more than a third of the books in the annual Top 100 were published before Jan. 1, 1997, including the runaway bestseller — the backlist keeps us strong.

What I find interesting, as does anyone who enjoys actual real true honest facts in the publishing business, are the raw numbers; and I invite any editor or publisher scanning the lists to let me know (ral@adlbooks.com) what percentage the totals from just A Different Light represent of the total print run: for example, the 600 copies sold of Cleis' *Best Gay Erotica*, represent six percent of the print run of 10,000, and perhaps 6.5 or 7 percent of actual sales in 1997.

Beyond all the numbers, of course, there's the real purpose of this column, which is to point out to women's stores the titles they might consider carrying in their gay-interest sections. I'd recommend anything which has stayed on the list over a couple of years, and certainly the paper editions of any currently best-selling hardcovers.

Bestselling Men's Titles (from all 5 ADL venues)

1. **Wonder Bread & Ecstasy**: 2485 by Charles Isherwood, Alyson, $9.95 pb (9611)
2. **Life Outside**: 1758 by Michelangelo Signorile, Harper, $25.95 (04)
3. **Adam Gay Video Directory 1997***: 1511 by Adam Gay Video, $10.95 (04)
4. **Naked**: 1375 by David Sedaris, Little Brown, $21.95 (03)
5. **Arkansas**: 1060 by David Leavitt, Houghton Mifflin, $23 (03)
6. **Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review of San Francisco****: 846 by Betty & Pansy, Cleis, $10.95, (9609)
7. **Barrel Fever**: 845 by David Sedaris, Little Brown, $9.95 (9506)
8. **Some Men Are Lookers**: 681 by Ethan Mordden, St. Martin's, $23.95 (06)

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9. **The Farewell Symphony**: 675 by Edmund White, Knopf, $25 hc (09)
10. **Gay Metropolis**: 626 by Charles Kaiser, Houghton Mifflin, $27 (11)
11. **Best Gay Erotica 1997**: 600 ed. by Richard Labonté, Cleis, $14.95 (01)
12. **Love Between Men**: 591 by Rik Isensee, Alyson, $12.95 (9605)
13. **Reclaiming Your Life**: 563 by Rik Isensee, Alyson, $12.95 (06)
14. **Getting Over Homer**: 552 by Mark O'Donnell, Vintage, $11 (05)
15. **Finding True Love in a Man-Eat-Man World**: 546 by Craig Nelson, Dell, $12.95 (9602)
16. **Like People in History**: 546 by Felice Picano, Plume, $12.95 pb (9606)
17. **Autopornography**: 539 by Scott O'Hara, Haworth, $14.95 (03)
18. **The Films of Kristen Bjorn**: 520 by Jamoo, Companion, $18.95 (01)
19. **Three**: 512 by Howard Roffman, Bruno Gmünder, $39.95 (9612)
20. **Openly Bob**: 504 by Bob Smith, Morrow/Weisbach, $23 (10)
21. **The Beauty of Men**: 502 by Andrew Holleran, Plume, $12.95 (06)
22. **Men On Men 6**: 490 ed. by David Bergman, Plume, $12.95 (9610)
23. **Flesh and the Word 4**: 490 ed. by Michael Lowenthal, Plume, $13.95 (05)
24. **The Mammoth Book of Gay Short Stories**: 484 ed. by Peter Burton, Carroll & Graf, $10.95 (07)
25. **What the Bible Really Says about Homosexuality**: 476 by Daniel Helminiak, Alamo Square, $9.95 (9405)
26. **Holidays on Ice**: 475 by David Sedaris, Little Brown, $14.95 (12)
27. **Making It Big**: 475 by Chi Chi LaRue, Alyson, $12.95 (09)
28. **Young Man from the Provinces**: 467 by Alan Helms, Avon, $12 (01)
29. **Ethan Green Chronicles**: 467 by Eric Orner, St. Martin's, $10.95 (9611)
30. **The Men from the Boys**: 443 by William Mann, Dutton, $22.95 (06)

*The 1997 edition is out of print, but the 1998 is already a bestseller.

**We don't normally list travel books, but Betty and Pansy both have special ties to the bookstore, and the numbers are impressive. Of course, if we included the Bob Damron, Ferrari, Gayellow Pages, Odysseus, Spartacus and Fodor's guides, the top 10 slots would be 90 percent travel....

Note: bestsellers 31–100 are available on ADL's Web site, as is a breakdown of which books sold most strongly at each store.

Bestselling Women's Titles

And for the interest of women's stores, here are the top 25 for 1997 for books bought almost entirely by women. It's been a norm over the years that best-selling women's titles account for one-third of sales, and male-specific titles about two-thirds. Of course, I'd like to think men buy Bechdel and Forrest and Feinberg and Wings, too, just as I know many of our women customers in San Francisco buy *Tales of the City* and *Now That You Know* and even *Gay Metropolis*.

1. **Hot Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**: 675 by Alison Bechdel, Firebrand, $10.95 (05)
2. **Early Embraces**: 552 ed. by Lindsay Elder, Alyson, $11.95 (9611)
3. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1997**: 494 ed. by Tristan Taormino, Cleis, $14.95 (01)
4. **Liberty Square**: 398 by Katherine Forrest, Berkley, $5.99 pb (07)
5. **So You Want to Be a Lesbian?** 324 (9606) by Liz Tracey & Sydney Pokorny, St. Martin's, $12.95
6. **Passion's Shadow**: 310 by Nicole Conn, Berkley, $5.99 (02)
7. **Stone Butch Blues**: 223 by Leslie Feinberg, Firebrand, $12.95 (9303)
8. **She Came by the Book**: 215 by Mary Wings, Berkley, $5.99 (02)
9. **Let's Face the Music and Die**: 211 by Sandra Scoppettone, Ballantine, $5.99 (05)
10. **Embrace in Motion**: 207 by Karin Kallmaker, Naiad, $11.95 (03)
11. **Dream Lover**: 185 by Jane Futcher, Alyson, $9.95 (06)
12. **Rubyfruit Jungle**: 182 by Rita Mae Brown, Bantam, $6.50 (8710)

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13. **Out of the Closet & Nothing to Wear**: 172 by Lesléa Newman, Alyson, $10.95 (06)
14. **The Five Lesbian Brothers' Guide to Life**: 168 by The Five Lesbian Brothers, Fireside, $10 pb (10)
15. **Lust Never Sleeps**: 163 by Randy Turoff, Masquerade, $6.50 (9612)
16. **Apparition Alley**: 154 by Katherine Forrest, Berkley, $21.95 (08)
17. **Forbidden Lovers**: 147 by Axel Madsen, Citadel, $5.99 (9610)
18. **Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For**: 143 by Alison Bechdel, Firebrand, $10.95 (9510)
19. **She Came to the Castro**: 141 by Mary Wings, Berkley, $21.95 (04)
20. **Dick for a Day**: 137 ed. by Fiona Giles, Random House, $12.95 (02)
21. **The Last Time I Wore a Dress**: 133 by Daphne Scholinski, Riverhead, $23.95 (10)
22. **Melissa Etheridge: Our Little Secret**: 127 by Joyce Luck, ECW, $9.95 pb (02)
23. **The History of Lesbian Hair**: 124 by Mary Dugger, Doubleday, $10.95 pb (9610)
24. **The Intersection of Law and Desire**: 123 by J.M. Redmann, Avon, $5.99 pb (02)
25. **Working Parts**: 121 by Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Seal, $12 pb (04)

And after that look at what came to pass in 1997, here's a look at Spring and Summer 1998: As usual, I've asterisked (*) my really favourite upcoming titles of the next few months; as usual, most information is gleaned from catalogues (though a book comment with adjectives is probably about something I've actually read).

****Koolaids: The Art of War** by Rabih Alameddine — A stunning debut novel by a Lebanese-born San Franciscan, interweaving with elegance and eloquence the fact of both AIDS and war-torn Beirut. I have a special affinity for this book, beyond its craft: I first read it, in manuscript, when the author came to see me at A Different Light, looking for advice on that terrifying topic, How To Get Published. There's no hope for most such begging, but this book was riveting from start to end, and so I persuaded an agent to look at it and suggested an editor to take it to; and so it's a Picador book for May, $23 hc, 0-312-18693-2.

Trashtown by Robert Tait — Here's a fresh voice exploring the familiar but always-valuable theme of prejudice and homophobia, with the twist to the novel being that the haters come from small-town Australia. Blackwattle/INB, $13.95 pb, 1-875243-26-7.

Guilty by Sky Gilbert — Performer/director/drag queen/activist Gilbert's first novel is an erotic thriller with a seductive philosophical bent. Insomniac Press/INB, $14.99 pb, 1-895837-29-4.

***Colombian Gold** by Jaime Manrique — Reprint by a new New York Press of a 35,000-sold (by Crown and Avon) novel which told all about the ties between drug cartels and his native country's government. Painted Leaf/INB, $12 pb, 1-891305-01-8.

Quickies: Short Short Fiction of Gay Male Desire ed. by James C. Johnstone — Here's a book I have read, and even blurbed; 69 stories under 1,000 words, many of them skilled enough to contain foreplay as well as climax. Will be an excellent seller, as will its companion, Karen X.Tulchinsky's *Hot & Bothered*. Arsenal Pulp/INB, $14.95 pb, 1-55152-052-4.

Anal Pleasure & Health: A Guide for Men and Women — Revised edition of a steady and useful seller. Down There Press, $18 pb, 0-940208-20-2.

***Generation Queer: A Gay Man's Quest for Hope, Love, and Justice** by Bob Paris — The popular bodybuilder, with bestsellers about both relationships and strength training to his credit, reflects on the generation gap between older and younger gays, on coping with religious bias, on how to be proud of oneself. Warner, $23 hc, 0-446-52275-9, June.

The Love Drug: Marching to the Beat of Ecstasy by Richard S. Cohen — The first comprehensive look at the medical, social, and moral issues around drugs in the party culture. Harrington Park Press, $19.95 pb, 0-7890-0454-2, August.

***Gay Widowers: Life After the Death of a Partner** ed. by Michael Shernoff — First-person accounts of men who have lost men, overlayed with sound advice gleaned from clinical sessions on how to cope. Harrington, $14.95 pb, 1-56023-105-X.

Acts of Disclosure: The Coming-Out Process of Contemporary Gay Men by Marc E. Vargo — Research findings coupled with first-hand accounts on a topic for which there probably cannot be enough good books; useful for all from teen to late-bloomer. Harrington, $17.95 pb, -912-3, May.

***The Empress Is a Man: Stories from the Life of Jose Sarria** by Michael Gorman — Considering how central San Francisco is to gay life of this century,

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there's a surprisingly short shelf of books discussing the city's history and heroes (*Mayor of Castro Street, Gay by the Bay*); add to it this faaabulous collection of I-was-there anecdotes by an integral player (often in opera drag) in making SF an "out" city decades before Stonewall. Harrington, $19.95 pb, -917-4, June.

Twenty Million New Customers: Understanding Gay Men's Consumer Behaviour by Steven Kates — Marketing trends and consumer information and queer as a commodity: that's the essence of this survey of the consumer habits of 44 gay men. Harrington, $19.95 pb, -903-4.

Friction: Best Gay Erotic Fiction ed. by Gerry Kroll — The latest "best" in the erotic friction field is a collection of stories culled from the gay porn glossies. Alyson, $14.95 pb, 1-55583-471-X.

***Best Gay Erotica 1998** ed. by Richard Labonté, selected by Christopher Bram — This, on the other hand, is the third in a series of stories both culled from magazines and submitted as original stories, with about 40 finalists winnowed down to a winning 20 by judge Bram. I like it. Cleis, $14.95 pb, 1-57344-031-0.

Changing Pitches by Steve Kluger — Reissue of a sweet sports-set romance between a grumpy over-the-hill pitcher and his brash young twinkie catcher. Alyson, 1-55583-473-6.

Last Days of Summer by Steve Kluger — New fiction, again with a baseball setting, about a fatherless boy and his relationship to an all-star ball player in 1940s Brooklyn. Avon, $21 hc, sorry no ISBN, June.

Gay Sex Quotes ed. by John Erich and Gerry Kroll — In case you can't cum up with your own quip, here are 500–plus smart remarks from the likes of Dolly Parton, Allen Ginsberg, John Waters and, um, Howard Stern. Alyson, $12.95 pb, 1-55583-463-9, May.

***Lucy Goes to the Country** by Joseph Kennedy, illustated by John Canemaker — The first of Alyson's Alyson Wonderland titles in some time is a charmer, about an intrepid big city cat out in the country for a weekend with her two Big Guys. $15.95 hc, 1-55583-428-0, June.

If Only for One Nite by James Earl Hardy — Paper edition of the third after *B-Boy Blues, 2nd Time Around* of Hardy's Mitchell Crawford coming-out stories. $11.95 pb, 1-55583-467-1.

***Bertram Cope's Year** by Henry Blake Fuller — Fuller, a contemporary of Henry James, published this bold and delicate novel, with much about gay love to it, in 1919; it was mostly ignored, despite praise from Carl Van Vechten and Edmund Wilson. Besides being a masterpiece of American realism, it's also a fascinating look at gay life and manners from another era. Turtle Point/DAP, $14.95 pb, 1-885983-26-3, May.

Full-Frontal: Male Nudity Video Guide ed. by Steve Stewart — This second edition has, as our sales rep said, been "pitted"...all references to the actor Brad Pitt have been excised; to make up for what's missing, the listings now cover double the videos of the first edition. Companion Press/SCB, $12.95 pb, 1-889138-11-8, June.

The Best of Gay Adult Videos 1998: Mickey Skee's Dirty Dozens by Mickey Skee — For those baffled by the hundreds of erotic videos appearing each year, here's a savvy selection of the best in twelve categories, from best romantic to best uniform; an excellent book to shelve next to any gay male video selection. $12.95 pb, -10-X.

***Gay Travels: A Literary Companion** ed. by Lucy Jane Bledsoe — Sixteen essays by the likes of James Baldwin, Michael Nava, Michael Lassell, and Edmund White, describing the travel in their lives. Whereabouts Press/Consortium, $14.95 pb, 1-883513-06-5, May.

But Darling, I'm Your Auntie Mame: The Amazing History of the World's Favorite Madcap Aunt by Richard Tyler Jordan — The Mame of Patrick Dennis' bestselling 1955 novel comes to life in this survey of prose, film, theatre, and song which told the story of a larger-than-life character who revived Rosalind Russell's career and almost ruined Lucille Ball's. Capra Press/Consortium, $18 pb, 0-88496-431-0, June.

***Say Goodnight** by Timothy Liu — New collection from the author of the brilliant poetry debut *Burnt Offerings*. Copper Canyon/Consortium, $14 pb, 1-55659-085-7.

Go Gentle Into That Good Night by Malcolm Boyd — These essays by gay priest Boyd (*Are You Running With Me, Jesus?, Gay Priest*) reflect on the approach of death; they're collected from his regular column in *Modern Maturity*. Genesis Press/Consortium, $12 hc, 1-885478-48-8.

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Sexual Ecology by Gabriel Rotello — Paper edition of a book at the centre of the Sex Panic debate. Plume, $13.95 pb, 0-452-27719-1, June.

Men from the Boys by William Mann — Paper edition of a hardcover bestseller about summertime romance and the strength of relationships. -27856-2, June.

***There Are No Accidents: Synchronicity and the Stories of Our Lives** by Robert Hopcke — Paper edition of a (gay) Jungian therapist's exploration of coincidence and its meaning in our lives; think of Julia Cameron's *The Artists' Way* when you consider this title. Riverhead, $13 pb, 1-57322-681-5, July.

***How to Survive Your *Own* Gay Life: The Guide to Adult Gay Living and Relationships** by Perry Brass — Poet, sf author, erotic writer: Brass is an eclectic fellow who's built himself a broad and appreciative audience; this smart self-help book is a new direction for him. Belhue Press/INB, $11.95 pb, 0-9627123-9-6, August.

***A Flame for the Touch That Matters** by Michael Lassell — Strong, raw, real poems in which Lassell tackles coming to terms with age, family, loss, the erotic; this is the one collection to shelve if you have any room for gay male poetry. Painted Leaf/INB, $12 pb, 0-9651558-9-7.

Growing Through the Ugly by Diego Vazquez, Jr. — Paper edition of a Chicano coming-of-age novel, about 17-year-old Buzzy Digit's sexual confusion in the dusty El Paso of the mid-60s. Holt, $12 pb, 0-8050-5744-7.

***Story of the Night** by Colm Toibin — Paper edition of one of my fave novels of 1997, a unique coming-out story told by a man of British descent but native to the Argentina of the Falklands War period. $13 pb, -5825-7, May.

***The Other Side of Silence: Men's Lives and Gay Identities in Modern America** by John Loughery — Think of *Gay New York* or *Gay Metropolis* (respective bestsellers of 1996 and 1997) and broaden their scope to the entire country: that's the author's aim in this survey of 75 years of queerness in America. $35 hc, -3896-5, June.

Speaking Out: Voices on How to Live the Good Gay Life by Ken Hanes — Here's another book for the cash register area, a collection of pro-homo quotes, advising and inspiring, reflecting and observing; by the author of *The Gay Guy's Guide to Life* and *The Gay Guy's Guide to Love*. Three Rivers, 0-517-88791-6, $7.95 pb, June.

The Raj Quartet by Paul Scott — This was a steady-selling Avon paperback in the early 80s, and a popular PBS mini-series as well; now all four volumes and more than 2,000 pages of Scott's queer-infused saga of the last years of the British rule of India are back in print from the University of Chicago: *The Jewel in the Crown*, $16 pb, 0-226-74340-3; *The Day of the Scorpion*, $17 pb, -74341-1; *The Towers of Silence*, $16 pb, -74343-8; and *A Division of Spoils*, $18 pb, -74344-6; all May.

***The Rest of the Earth** by William Haywood Henderson — Paper edition of a haunting elegy to the homesteading of post-Civil War Wyoming; one of my top 10 novels of all time. Plume, $12.95 pb, 0-452-27416-8, August.

A Queer Geography: Journeys Toward a Sexual Self by Frank Browning — paper edition of a 1996 look at homosexuality in the world. FSG, $13 pb, 0-374-52542-0.

The Paris Diary & The New York Diary, 1951–1961 by Ned Rorem — Welcome re-issue of a tell-all-with-style diary, frank and unashamed, by the Pulitzer-winning composer, covering his years as a young man in France, Italy, and Morocco and his entry into the "monde" of New York 15 years before Stonewall. Da Capo, Consortium, $16.95 pb, 0-306-80838-2.

Now It's Time to Say Goodbye by Dale Peck — Third book by the author of *Martin and John* and *The Law of Enclosures*, a chilling story of violence and prejudice in rural America. FSG, $25 hc, 0-374-22271-1, May.

Now That You Know: What Parents Should Know about Their Gay and Lesbian Children by Betty Fairchild, with Nancy Hayward — New and revised edition of the single best coming-out book for parents, including an updated bibliography. HBJ, $13, 0-15-60060-57, June.

Death Wore a Fabulous New Fragrance by Orland Outland — Second daffy in-drag mystery by the author of *Death Wore a Smart Little Outfit*. Campy stuff. Berkley, $5.99 pb, 0425161978, June. ○

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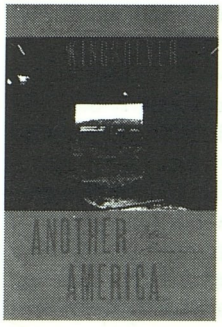

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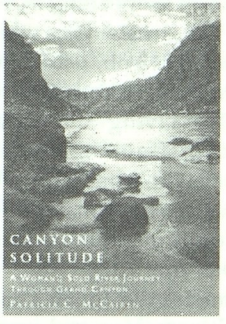

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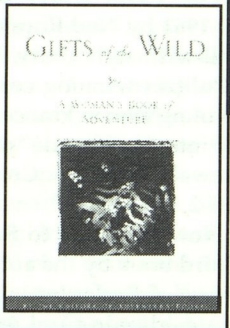

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Andrea Gabbard

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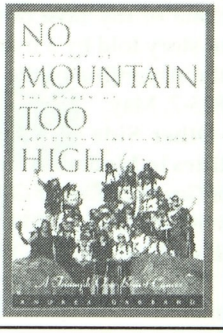

Spring 1998

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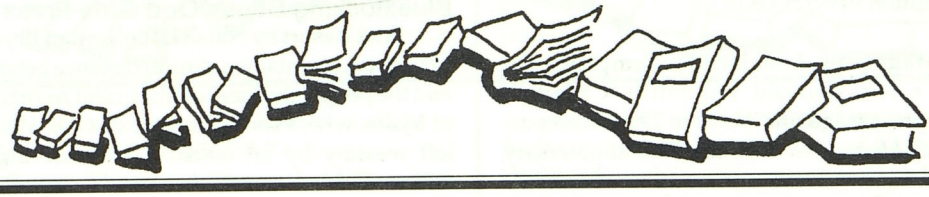

Compiled by Jenn Tust

Zines & Magazines

Lesbian Short Fiction is back! The Fall 1997 issue (Number 3) includes "Three Weddings" by Lucy Jane Bledsoe, "Things We Might Otherwise Never Have Known" by Linda Peavy, "Invasion of the k.d. langs" by Eleanor Dare and "Lovers' Dialogue" by Susan Hawthorn. Beginning with the next issue, **LSF** will be published quarterly. Edited by Jinx Beers. 40%. $9.95 pb, ISSN 1087-7169. Order from Jinx Beers, 6507 Franrivers Ave., West Hills CA 91307; 818-704-7825, email ⟨jinxbeers@aol.com⟩.

At last! A (non-glossy, non-slick!) lesbian magazine that addresses current issues and isn't afraid of either of the f-words: fun or feminism. **Circles Magazine** has made the leap from being a local based to a full-fledged national magazine and the lesbian community will be a better place for it. The March/April issue includes interviews with Dorothy Allison and her partner Alix Layman, Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch, and an excerpt from Ellen Bass and Kate Kaufman's book *Free Your Mind: The Book for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth and Their Allies*. "To heighten the visibility of feminist bookstores, **Circles** is carrrying a full-page advertisement in its first issue listing all the bookstores in the Feminist Bookstore Network. This national advertisement should generate considerable awareness and business interest in feminist bookstores. **Circles** is deeply dedicated to the cause of feminist and lesbian publishing, and it is in our interest to support your continued success." —Kit McChesney, Publisher of **Circles**. $4.95. Circles Magazine, Circles Publishing, Inc., 1705 Fourteenth Street #326, Boulder CO 80302; 888-633-0055, fax 303-245-8816, email ⟨circles@indra.com⟩. Available from Bookazine, Koen, Ingram, Desert Moon, Small Changes, Armadillo, and Doormouse.

Dream/Girl: Encouraging Creative Genius in Girls of All Ages is a new zine for girls focusing on art — and not just paintings, but also books, movies, music, poetry, chalk scrawls on the sidewalk, visionary tee shirts, and wild dancing that makes your head spin. The premiere issue includes an interview with Eleanora Tate, an article on how to start your own zine, a story about quilting, sources/resources on what's on the Web for girls, a craft project, a writing exercise and book, music and video reviews. Looks

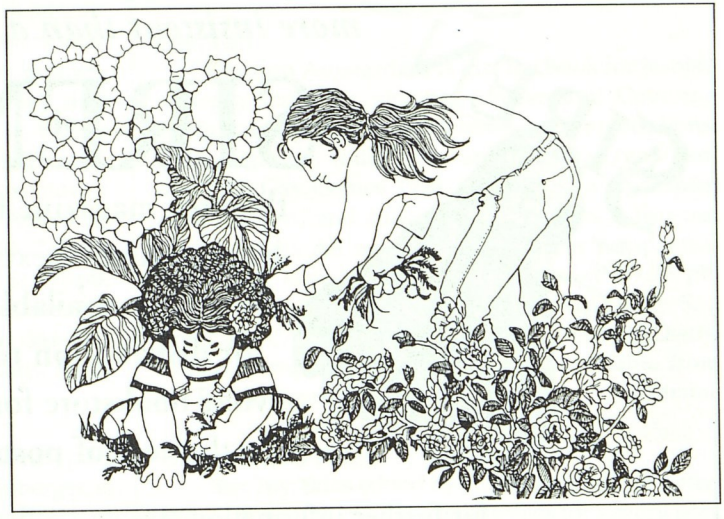

Illustration by Sandy Speidel, from *My Mother and I Are Growing Strong/Mi mamá y yo nos hacemos fuertes* (Volcano Press).

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great! Wish it would have been available when I was growing up! $3 each. 40%. Dream/Girl, PO Box 1427, Liberty NC 27298; 919-932-1136, or fax to Frances Dowell's attention 919-929-0535.

Siren Magazine: Irresistibly Tempting for Lesbians is a two-year-old bimonthly Canadian lesbian newsprint magazine. Volume 2#6 features articles on Black History Month, the 25th anniversary of Women's Press/Canada, Canadian Women's Hockey, and an interview with Jane Siberry. Regular columns include Dykes N' Tykes, Frame Fatale, Book Babes, The Grrrl Grooves and Women Who Make a Difference. This issue's Written on the Body column, titled "A Hand in the Bush," a how-to on fisting, is hilarious. Great variety and very fun to read. 8" x 10½". **Siren** is distributed for free in Toronto. An innovative approach is being tried to make it available to stores in the U.S.: they will send 25–50 copies of each issue c.o.d. to booksellers, who will pay mailing charges (in Canada $10/25 copies; in the U.S. $15–20/25 copies) and then charge a nominal fee for the sale of each copy. Siren, Box 109, 128 Danforth Avenue, Toronto ONT, M4K 1N1; fax 416-778-0102, email ⟨sirenmag@interlog.com⟩. —*JT*

Bluestocking Books/Odd Girls Press

First Resort by Nanci Little. Jordan Bryant, former LPGA star, maintains a clinical distance between herself and the people she meets at the grand resort on the coast of Maine where she is Director of Golf. Widowed and left wealthy by an abusive, philandering husband, Gillian Benson comes to Maine in search of peace. Bonds of affection, friendship and love grow between the two women. 50% for 3+ prepaid; $3 fixed shipping, no returns. $9 pb, 1-887237-01-1, June. Bluestocking Books, PO Box 50998, Irvine CA 92619; 714-835-5595, fax 714-835-5496, email ⟨publisher@bluestocking.com⟩, Web ⟨www.bluestocking.com⟩. Also available from Koen, BP, Alamo Square. —*Odd Girls*

Burning Bush

Antarctica: The Poetry of Patti Sirens. Eclectic poet Patti Sirens will delight you with her witty, imaginative and compelling language. Her charged poetry of this debut volume is a "must read" for anyone

Six times a year, a sound is heard from the largest lesbian community north of the border...it's noisier than a rattle... more insistent than a hum...

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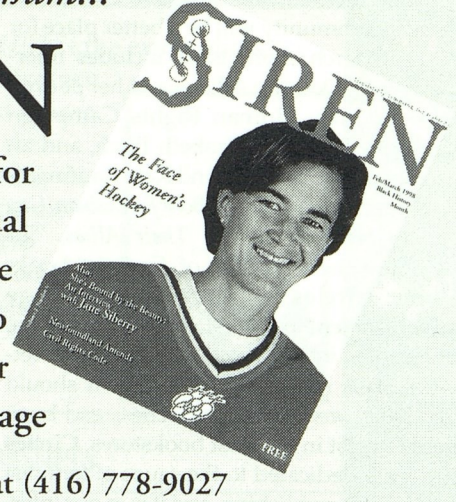
this free magazine for lesbians and bisexual women is available for distribution to your bookstore for only the cost of postage



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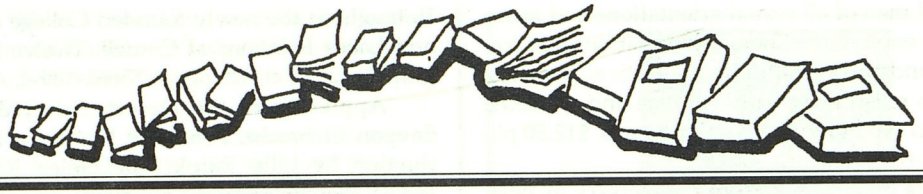

interested in women's, gay and lesbian studies, or poetry of the 90s. $14.95, 0-9650665-7-6, June.

Once Every Thousand Years: A Millennium Journal celebrates the turn of the millennium and the new age. Perfect for those who are looking for a way to make time for self-discovery and improve their writing, this book gives suggestions for writing and encourages readers to record their thoughts, hopes, wishes, goals, common or unusual life in this once-in-a-lifetime historic era! $12.95, 0-9650665-1-7, June.

[*Editor's Note: Burning Bush is a new women's press. See 20#4 pg. 17 for more information.*] 40%. Burning Bush Publications, PO Box 7361, Santa Cruz CA 95061; 408-426-9172. Available through Small Press Distribution and B&T as well as direct.

—Burning Bush Publications

Calyx Books

Switch, a novel by Carol Guess. Cartwheel, Indiana, seems normal enough. But the lyrical prose of Carol Guess reveals a town charged with secrets and magic. From Mormon conversion to cross-dressing to reincarnation, the townsfolk change themselves to realize their desires. Against a working-class, midwestern, quintessentially normal setting emerges a quirky and passionate cast of characters. As charming as Fannie Flagg's *Fried Green Tomatoes*, **Switch** celebrates the variety and dignity of human desire and the sensuality of everyday life. "Carol Guess...journeys to America's heartland and turns it inside out." —Irene Zahava (*Lesbian Love Stories* and *Love Shook My Heart*). $14.95 pb, 0-934971-60-9; $28.95 cl, -61-7, June. Calyx Books, PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97339; 541-753-9384, fax 541-753-0515. Distributed by Consortium. *—Calyx Books*

Chicory Blue Press

The new chapbook in our series by women past sixty, **Breathing Like a Jew** by Florence Weinberger, is a collection of poems rooted in details of personal and family life and their connection to this century's history. These poems grow out of "a conscious act, not only to look at what demanded my attention, but to look at it from the point of view of a Jewish woman." Child of Jewish immigrants, raised in a Jewish neighborhood, married to a survivor, and a questing spirit, Weinberger raises out of pleasure and horror, mysticism and skepticism, on long breaths and almost incantatory music, a moving affirmation of being in the world. $10, 1-887344-04-7.

We are happy to announce that our current and backlist titles are now being distributed by Small Press Distribution. Titles include *Memoir*, the poetry collection of distinguished writer Honor Moore; the ground-breaking anthology *A Wider Giving: Women Writing After a Long Silence* edited by Sondra Zeidenstein; the one-of-a-kind anthology *Heart of the Flower: Poems for the Sensuous Gardener*; and *The Crimson Edge: Older Women Writing*.

Chicory Blue Press, 795 East Street North, Goshen CT 06756; 860-491-2271 *—Chicory Blue Press*

Damron

Damron Amsterdam is just the book for lesbian and gay travelers visiting Amsterdam! Covering straight and gay points of interest, accommodations, food, nightlife, tourist resources, lesbian/gay centers, and Gay Games 1998, it's packed with helpful info, indexes, and full-color maps, plus a tear-out wallet guide. All written from a queer perspective and in an easy-to-carry 4" x 5" format. $9.95 pb, 0-929435-28-1. Damron Co., PO Box 422458, San Francisco CA 94142. Distributed by Publishers Distribution Company; 800-464-4574 and available from B&T and Ingram. *—Damron*

Down There Press

Sex Toy Tales edited by Anne Semans and Cathy Winks. Ten million Americans buy sex toys every year, and long-time Good Vibrations staffers Anne Semans and Cathy Winks have assembled 35 toy-enjoying

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women and men of all sexual orientations and tastes who avidly explore the liberating possibilities of traditional — and not-so-traditional — erotic accessories. For all who relish imaginative erotica and welcome new ways to expand their sexual horizons. $12.50 pb, 0-940208-21-0, May.

Herotica celebrates its 10th anniversary in 1998! The first collection of original women's erotica to encompass lesbian, bi and straight contributors, **Herotica** has birthed four subsequent volumes (licensed to Plume) and three audio editions (licensed to Passion Press). Hailed as "the most successful series of erotica written by women," (*Kirkus*) this anniversary edition includes a new Afterword by editor Susie Bright. $11 pb, 0-940208-24-5.

Down There Press, 938 Howard St. #101, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-974-8985 x105, fax 415-974-8989. Available from BP, Alamo, LPC/Womensource, Last Gasp, the distributors, Koen, Bookazine, Ingram, B&T, Marginal (Canada). —*Down There Press*

Eighth Mountain Press

Ursula K. Le Guin, one of the great writers of the twentieth century, offers an exhilarating workout for writers of narrative fiction or nonfiction in **Steering the Craft: Exercises and Discussions on Story Writing for the Lone Navigator or the Mutinous Crew**. With her sharp mind and wit, and a delightful sense of playfulness, Ursula Le Guin has turned a successful workshop into a self-guided voyage of discovery for a writer working alone or for a writing group or class. $14.95 pb, 0-933377-46-0. The Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214; 503-233-3936; fax 503-233-0774; email ⟨soapston@teleport.com⟩. Distributed by Consortium and available from BP and Airlift (U.K. and Europe). —*Eighth Mountain Press*

The Feminist Press

Lifetime of Labor: The Autobiography of Alice H. Cook, Foreword by Arlene Kaplan Daniels, The Cross-Cultural Memoir Series. Labor leader, teacher, activist — the work of Alice Hanson Cook has benefited the lives of working people, especially working women. In a life spanning the century, Cook has seen suffragists picketing the White House, organized poor and undereducated immigrant workers and, following World War II, taught at the newly founded College of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell. Twelve b&w photographs. $26.95 cl, 320 pps, 1-55861-189-4, August.

Apples From the Desert: Selected Stories by Savyon Liebrecht, Foreword by Grace Paley, Introduction by Lilly Ratok, The Helen Rose Scheuer Jewish Women's Series. Observant, morally ferocious, Savyon Liebrecht does for Israeli society what Nadine Gordimer did for South Africa. In Liebrecht's first English translation she explores the everyday tragedies emanating from strained relations between Arabs and Jews, women and men, older and younger generations in present-day Israel. $22.95 cl, 1-55861-190-8, July.

Confessions of Madame Psyche by Dorothy Bryant, Afterword by J. J. Wilson. From her birth as the daughter of a Chinese prostitute, through her accidental role as a psychic, through Depression-era migrant work camps in Salinas, finally to a Napa Valley mental hospital — Madame Psyche is looking for enlightenment. Enlightenment finds her in this richly historical novel set in California in the first half of the twentieth century. Eight b&w photographs. $18.95 pb, 400 pps, 1-55861-186-X, May.

Cast Me Out If You Will by Lalithambika Antherjanam, edited, translated, and introduced by Gita Krishnakutty, Foreword by Meena Alexander. There have been no women in our part of the country whose names posterity found it worthwhile to cherish, writes Antherjanam in "Come Back," her fictional account of an Indian woman activist's life. Every story and memoir piece in this moving collection cherishes and honors the experiences of women living at all levels of Indian society. $11.95 pb, 1-55861-188-6.

Women's Studies Quarterly: Working-Class Studies (Spring/Summer 1998), edited by Renny Christopher, Lisa Orr, and Linda Storm. This vital and engaging collection expands and builds upon *Women's Studies Quarterly*'s groundbreaking 1995 volume. The articles not only suggest connective threads for understanding working-class experiences and literatures but also explore intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and class. Among the leading scholars included in this volume are Patti See and Janet Zandy. ($18 pb, 256 pages, 1-55861-191-6, June.) *WSQ*'s Fall/Winter 1997 issue, Teaching African Literatures in a Global Literary Economy, includes "Visions of Freedom and Democracy in Postcolonial African

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Literature," "Black-White Love in African Novels," and "African and Caribbean Texts/White Critics and Teachers: The Search for New Academic Life." ($18 pb, 1-55861-169-X.)

Feminist Press at CUNY, Convent Avenue & 138th St., NY NY 10031; 212-650-8890. All Feminist Press titles are available to bookstores through Consortium. —*The Feminist Press*

Ferrari Guides

Gay Travel A to Z. Over 20,000 entries with everything you need to know about gay and lesbian travel worldwide. Throughout the city-by-city listings, feature articles highlight destinations and points of gay interest around the globe. Event calendar with over 1,000 entries. Extensive cross-reference index matches destinations and activities with the tour companies that offer them. Accommodations, nightlife, shopping, dining, excursions, tours, cruises from A to Z. $16, 0-942586-64-6.

Women's Travel in Your Pocket. Lesbian editors take a conscientious approach to updating and describing each location in this guide, which used to be entitled *Places for Women*. Travel the U.S. — or the world — with this book and have accurate listings of places to stay especially for women, nightlife, group and individual tours, restaurants, gift stores, vibrator and erotica shops, feminist bookstores, lesbian centers. Event calendar included. $14, 0-942586-66-2.

Men's Travel in Your Pocket is updated by phone just weeks before printing each year. Stressing information over advertisements allows this book to cover the entire world, yet remain truly pocket-sized. $16, 0-942586-65-4.

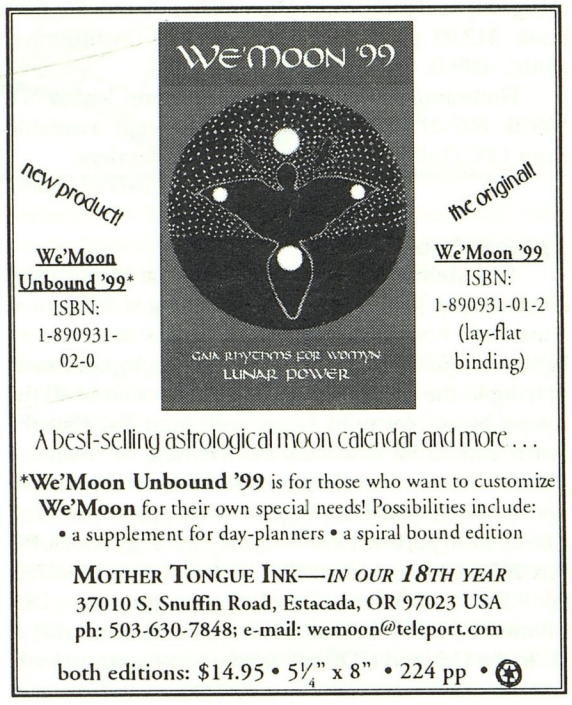
Ferrari Guides, PO Box 37887, Phoenix AZ 85069; 602-863-2408, fax 602-439-3952, email ⟨ferrari@q-net.com). Available from Alamo Square, B&T, Bookazine, BP, Ingram, Koen, Partners, New Leaf, The Distributors, Inc., Small Changes. —*Ferrari Guides.*

Firebrand Books

Don't Explain: Short Fiction by Jewelle Gomez. A mesmerizing science fiction novella, a new Gilda story, and seven other stories written in the full, sensuous Jewelle Gomez style. I love seeing the many different places her Black women characters inhabit, the variety of "costumes" they wear. **Don't Explain** has heart, sex, and a large political world view. $10.95 pb, 1-56341-094-X; $22.95 (institutional binding), -095-8, May.

The Indelible Alison Bechdel: Confessions, Comix, and Miscellaneous Dykes to Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel. I can't say enough good things about **The Indelible Alison Bechdel** and its author. This is autobiography, lesbian history, great anecdotes, previously unavailable cartoons, etc., etc. — a behind-the-scenes extravaganza. Alison Bechdel is incredibly talented, always open to exploring new things in ways that hold onto what she already knows, funny, incisive, and a superb person to work with. $16.95 pb, 1-56341-096-6; $26.95 (institutional cloth), -097-4.

The Wolf Ticket: A Novel by Caro Clarke. Caro Clarke is an unknown — for now. Canadian by birth, Londoner by residence, historian by avocation, storyteller and romantic by inclination — **The Wolf Ticket** is an engrossing read about women at the close of WWII. A serious but not heavy book, with lesbian characters appearing front and center: U.S. Army,



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refugees, collaborators, journalists. A terrific first book. $12.95 pb, 1-56341-098-2; $24.95 (institutional cloth), -099-0.

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

—*Firebrand Books*

gynergy books

The Memory Stone by Anne Louise MacDonald, illustrated by Joanne Ouellet. Everything is different at Aunt Pat's house: the only night-light is scary moonlight; breakfast is old-fashioned and yucky; and even playing in the garden isn't much fun because of all the creepy bugs. Not until Laura and Aunt Pat visit the beach and Laura discovers the meaning of "memory stones" does her first sleepover become a magical experience of love and trust. Ages 4–8. 24 pps, 8" x 8", full colour, $5.95 pb, 0-921556-71-3, May. gynergy books, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI, C1A 7N7; 902-566-5750, fax 902-566-4473, email ⟨books@gynergy.com⟩ . Distributed by LPC/ InBook/Womensource, Koen, BP, et al., in the U.S. and GDS in Canada. —*gynergy books*

Hysteria

Mother Voices: Women Write about the Experience of Motherhood edited by Traci Dyer. Far beyond their children's infant and toddler years, women adjust their identities, lifestyles and expectations to the challenges of motherhood. **Mother Voices** is one of the only books to acknowledge these aspects of motherhood within the larger context of a woman's life. Experiences may differ, but there is not a mother anywhere who won't recognize herself in the pages of this book and feel validated. $12.95 pb, 1-887166-26-2, Mother's Day (May 10), Rose Communications.

Your Inner Bitch Rules Romance by Elizabeth Hilts. The Inner Bitch is back, taking on love and romance. Author Elizabeth Hilts tips over Toxic Intimacy with a useful phrase for reality checking, plus anecdotes. Hilts covered a wide range of topics in her first book, *Getting in Touch with Your Inner Bitch* (over 60,000 copies sold), and is most often asked how to apply the Inner Bitch philosophy to relationships. $8.95 pb, 1-887166-27-0, June, Hysteria Publications.

LESBIAN FICTION TO STIR THE IMAGINATION

NO ESCAPE
Nancy Sanra

This edgy sequel to *No Witnesses*, also set in San Francisco, is a story of drugs, love, jealousy and rage. Late one rain-drenched night, nurse Melinda Morgan is found dead in her bed. Who cut her life short, plunging a scalpel into her heart, then disappeared into the night? As lesbian PI Tally McGinnis and partners, Cid and Katie, sort through the bizarre evidence, they can almost sense the evil Marsha Cox lurking in the shadows. Together, the brilliant and tenacious trio muster all their expertise to uncover the shocking secrets behind the grisly murder.

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RISING TIDE PRESS

SIDE DISH
Kim Taylor

A genuinely funny yet tender novel which follows the escapades of Muriel, a twenty-something waitress with a college degree, who has turned gay slacker living into an art form. Getting by on margaritas and old movies, she seems to have resigned herself to low standards, simple pleasures, and erotic daydreams about beautiful, unattainable women. But in her heart of hearts, Muriel (Mutt) searches for true love and life's meaning. Fine writing, humor, and a cast of memorable characters are the hallmarks of this exciting new voice in lesbian literature.

ISBN 1-883061-18-0; Avail. 6/98; $11.99

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Early Fatherhood Development by Jeff Yoder. Written by a self-proclaimed "feminist dad," **Early Fatherhood Development** makes a significant contribution to the conversation about men's full participation in parenting their children. This book allows for the sharing of experiences of early fatherhood in a sensitive and progressive way. And, it's hilarious. $8.95 pb, 1-887166-29-7, Father's Day (June 21), Hysteria Publications.

Hysteria Publications/Rose Communications, PO Box 38581, Bridgeport CT 06605; 203-333-9399, fax 203-367-7188, ⟨laugh@hysteriabooks.com⟩, Web ⟨www.hysteriabooks.com⟩. Distributed by Andrews & McMeel Publishing 800-826-4216; orders only fax 800-437-8683. —*Hysteria Publications*

Jane Evershed

Our card collection continues with the thought provoking release of the Emotional Equations series. Many feminists-to-be do not have the time to read a feminist manifesto. These cards cover volumes in the leap to empowerment with a snappy visual and a few inspirational words. "More than just a card line, a philosophy for life." Cards, blank inside, retail $2 each; 64–page full-color book *More Than A Tea Party*, $12. Jane Evershed Card Collection, PO Box 8874, Minneapolis MN 55408; 888-667-0599, email ⟨evershed@aol.com⟩. —*Jane Evershed*

Kelsey St. Press

The Four Year Old Girl, poetry by Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge. This volume of poems represents the most comprehensive collection of new work by Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge to date. The greater length encompasses new breadth, in which the reader is drawn into a profound act of rearrangement of human presence in the phenomenal world. The long lines hover between composition and decomposition. Reading proceeds by moments of exquisite vulnerability, perception suddenly exposed to the quick. $12 pb, 0-932716-44-X, May. Kelsey St. Press, PO Box 9235, Berkeley CA 94709, email ⟨kelseyst@sirius.com⟩, Web ⟨www.sirius.com/~kelseyst/⟩. Distributed by Small Press Distribution and available from BP.

—*Kelsey St. Press*

Knowledge, Ideas & Trends, Inc (KIT)

Be An Outrageous Older Man: Action Guide for Men 50 & Beyond by Bard Lindeman. In the book's introduction, Lindeman says: "To be an older man in our society is to wear your years well, and to feel the pride of being a tribal elder, a successful ager, someone who has lived and erred, but who has contributed, and made our earth-station a better place." Here for one of the good guys is a great gift for fathers, husbands, brothers, uncles, sons etc. etc. Good for all occasions. See as a companion guide to *Be An Outrageous Older Woman*, full of examples, directions, addresses and basic get-started information! $14.95, 1-879198-24-X. Knowledge, Ideas & Trends, Inc. KIT the Positive Publisher, 1131-O Tolland Turnpike #175, Manchester CT 06064; 800-826-0529, Web ⟨www.booktrends.com⟩. Distributed by LPC/ Inland/Womansource.

—*Knowledge, Ideas & Trends*

Mother Tongue Ink

We'Moon'99: Gaia Rhythms for Womyn and **We'Moon Unbound: '99. We'Moon** is a bestselling womyn-identified appointment book, astrological moon calendar, spiritual guide, and multicultural handbook in natural rhythm. Now available in two editions — **We'Moon'99**, which is bound with a durable lay-flat binding and **We'Moon Unbound: '99** (an unbound edition) which is identical in every way except for the binding and packaging. **We'Moon Unbound** is for those who want to customize the **We'Moon** for their own special needs! It can be customized to most any need by a local copy shop. Some customizing possibilities include: a spiral-bound edition, a supplement to day-planners, a customized

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journal. Both editions are printed on recycled paper. 224 pps, 5¼" x 8", $14.95, **We'Moon'99**, 1-890931-01-2; **We'Moon Unbound: '99**, 1-890931-02-0, August. Available from the publisher Mother Tongue Ink, 37010 SE Snuffin Rd., Estacada OR 97023; 503-630-7848, email ⟨wemoon@teleport.com⟩ or from our other fine distributors: B&T, BP, Ingram, Koen, Ladyslipper, New Leaf, Samuel Weiser, Small Changes, Vision Works. Outside the U.S. from Airlift (U.K.), Dempsey (Canada), and Neue Erde (Germany). —*Mother Tongue Ink*

The Naiad Press

In Karin Kallmaker's latest potboiler, three love-starved lesbians are **Making Up For Lost Time** at a beautiful country inn — and the result is hot, spicy, and mouth-wateringly delicious! The undisputed Mistress of Lesbian Romance, Kallmaker is the author of *Embrace In Motion*, *Wild Things*, *Painted Moon*, *Car Pool*, *In Every Port*, and *Paperback Romance*. $11.95 pb, 1-56280-196-1.

Gold Fever is a richly emotional account of the secret longings that can lead a woman to happiness... or to heartbreak. Having rebuilt her life after a devastating betrayal, Kate Bannister is leading a quiet, solitary existence — until she receives news that Ashley Maclean is returning to town. What will Kate do if Ashley wants to see her again? Even worse — what if Ashley doesn't? Lyn Denison is the author of the captivating romance, *Dream Lover*. $11.95 pb, 1-56280-201-1.

Therese Szymanski, author of the sexy thriller, *When the Dancing Stops*, returns with her second Brett Higgins/Sam Peterson Mystery, **When the Dead Speak**. In this spellbinding novel of love, murder, and revenge, former underworld figure Brett Higgins has moved to California and is living with her lover under an assumed name. She believes they have escaped her violent past — until she finds the gleaming butcher's knife...and the blood-soaked clothes... $11.95 pb, 1-56280-198-8.

In **Love in the Balance**, Marian Martin (*Legacy of Love*) takes the reader on a passionate journey into the mysteries of a woman's heart. Since her ex-girlfriend left her hurt and humiliated, carpenter Kasey Hollander has been determined to play it safe as far

SPRING TITLES from NEW VICTORIA

RAFFERTY STREET a novel by Lee Lynch

"Lynch is a mature novelist who retains the freshness of outlook."— Sarah Aldridge

Lynch deftly illustrates the groundswell of homophobia in this small town when lesbian bus driver Annie Heaphy strives to keep her job amidst sexual misconduct allegations.

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Skin to Skin *Erotic short fiction by Martha Miller*

"Martha Miller is one of my favorite erotic writers." —Susie Bright

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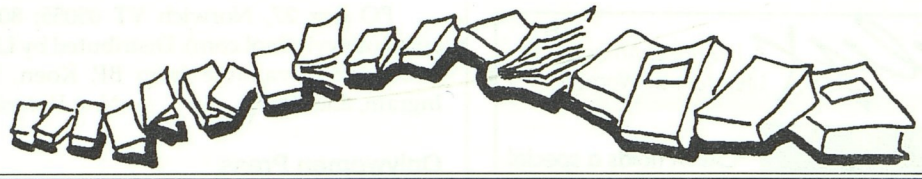

as relationships go — and what could be safer than a platonic friendship with a straight woman? $11.95 pb, 1-56280-199-6, May.

Okay, so you're a lesbian. Now what? That's the question newly out grad student Jess Hamlin tries to answer in Julia Watts' **Piece of My Heart**, another heartwarming, hilarious account of Southern lesbian life. Author of the critically acclaimed *Wildwood Flowers* and *Phases of the Moon*, Watts recently won a $5,000 writing grant from the Kentucky Foundation for Women. $11.95 pb, 1-56280-206-2, May.

The Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973. Naiad books are available from the publisher and distributed by BP, Login/Inbook, Ingram, et al. —*Naiad Press*

Naiad Video

Northern Arts/Naiad Press announce the video release of the feature film, **Work**. For the first time a theatrically released feature film will be immediately available on video at the sell-through price of $29.95. Set against the gritty backdrop of a small Missouri mill town, Rachel Reichman's film **Work** tells the tale of Jenny (Cynthia Kaplan), an unemployed housewife in her mid-twenties, as she looks for a job and yearns for passion. Jenny divides her days between the search for work and her deepening love affair with the young Black athlete June (Sonja Sohn), who lives next door. She spends her nights listening to her husband talk about the mill and the escalating violence among the workers. With visual grace and unsentimental strength Reichman trains her directorial eye on one woman's journey toward personal fulfillment. 40%. $29.95, 95 min., 1-56280-224-0.

The Naiad Press announces the video release of Jeff Lipsky's, **Childhood's End**. This incredible film is available May 12, at the sell-through price of $29.95. **Childhood's End** is a character-driven tale of the intersecting lives of a group of whip-smart Minneapolis teens fresh out of high school seeking love and sex. With a strong ensemble cast and dynamic performances, **Childhood's End** takes an incisive and uncompromising look at what happens when suburban alienation meets desire, as driven Generation Q and X-ers intersect with Baby Boomers in the throes of mid-life regrets. "Jeff Lipsky shows his years working with some of the world's great directors was time well spent. In **Childhood's End** John Hughes meets Holly Hughes for a frank and unexpurgated look at the queer and not-so-queer aspects of 90s suburban life." —Victoria A. Brownworth. $29.95, 115 min., 1-56280-225-9.

Order direct from Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 850-539-5965. —*Naiad Press*

New Victoria Publishers

Skin To Skin: Erotic Love Stories by Martha Miller. We decided to publish Martha Miller's erotic pieces because we liked not only their sex appeal, but the discussion of daily intimacy in relationships, of doubts and desires, fears and failures, and also the superlative moments we often wish we could hold on to — those issues we all find ourselves dealing with at one time or another. And Susie Bright says that Miller is "one of my favorite erotic writers." $12.95 pb, 0-934678-86-3.

Rafferty Street by Lee Lynch. Lee Lynch considers herself a lesbian storyteller, believing that by communicating experiences to one another we strengthen and shape our community and that by building a body of literature we leave an ineradicable mark on history. She is a well-recognized author who has a serialized fiction column running in *Girlfriends* magazine. This book not only builds on earlier engaging characters, but brings in current issues of gay rights, employment discrimination, and class distinctions. $10.95 pb, 0-934678-93-6, May.

We were eagerly awaiting the final draft of **Shaman's Moon: A Stoner McTavish Mystery** (7th) by Sarah Dreher so we could get it ready for BEA....

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But, unfortunately, the spirits have been uncooperative, or at least slow, and we will not get the book out at that time. I am hoping it manifests itself in July or August, but as yet I am making no firm commitment. I am sure it will be worth the wait. **Shaman's Moon** is a guaranteed crowd-pleaser. Sarah Dreher has a strong reputation with our readers. This time the spotlight is on dear, psychic Aunt Hermione who is preyed upon by sinister, ghostly influences. Is this a matter of senile dementia or supernatural forces? Through Stoner McTavish, Dreher delves into that fear of losing loved ones to age, and in effect, confronting our own mortality. First printing of 15,000. $12.95 pb, 0-934678-91-X, June.

In Every Laugh A Tear by Lesléa Newman. We decided to publish a new edition of a book that has been well-received, not only by the lesbian feminist readers but also by the Jewish community due to its sensitive investigation of Shayna Steinblatt's relationship to her beloved grandmother. It has the universal appeal of exploring family history and cross-generational dialogue, and Lesléa continues to widely promote all of her books. $10.95 pb, 0-934678-92-8.

PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055; 800-326-5297, email ⟨newvic@aol.com⟩. Distributed by LPC/Inbook Group and available from BP, Koen, Bookazine, Ingram, and B&T. —*New Victoria Publishers*

Onlywomen Press

Fact is, I am *very* happy to announce that Onlywomen Press has signed a contract for trade distribution by Alamo Square Distributors. Air Freight will deliver our books into San Francisco from London by mid-February (just in time for V-day celebrations?). We're pleased to move on from LPC Group to such a wonderful small press distributor.

Firstly, we expect to publish a much delayed title, **Leaving the Life: Lesbians, Ex-Lesbians and the Heterosexual Imperative** by Ann E. Menasche. Following on from Adrienne Rich's famous essay, *Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence*, Ms. Menasche aims to expose the cruel underside of mainstream heterosexual culture. This is a well-documented analysis of the lives of hundreds of North American lesbians — life long never-het as well as harder to find married lesbians, ex-lesbians and those who define themselves as bisexual — with many quotes from live interviews. $17.99 pb, R.R.P. 0-906500-53-2.

Many Are Called by Pat Arrowsmith. The author of this humorous, somewhat surreal novel is a "famous" pacifist and "out" lesbian, eleven times a political prisoner for her anti-war activities. Contemporary social workers, as well as their "clients," adore Pat's quizzical look at the profession. Written during the period it describes, this evocation of an earnest young woman in her first job is about British Social Work in the 1950s. $10.99 pb, 0-906500-59-1.

Not for the Academy: Lesbian Poets edited by Lilian Mohin. Elegant, graceful and forthright, this anthology of lesbian poets who write very deliberately in, but not of, the canon of fine literature is noticeably British. Here we have the virtuoso poetic craft of Marilyn Hacker and U.A. Fanthorpe alongside the emotional clarity of poems from award winners Judith Barrington, Rosie Bailey, Kate Foley and Pat Winslow and the rhythmic excitement of performance-poetry by young artists like Emma Greengrass. $14.99 pb, 0-906500-60-5.

Onlywomen Press' postal address is 40 St. Lawrence Terrace, London W10 5ST, tel +181-960-7122,

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—Lilian Mohin
Onlywomen Press

Papier-Mache Press

At Our Core: Women Writing about Power by Sandra Haldeman Martz. Millions of women want and need to understand their own power. This important collection offers women the opportunity to validate, honor, and ultimately define what power means to them. In this latest Martz anthology, a diverse group of women explore their intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual experiences of power through stories, essays, poems, and photographs. Poignant, sometimes disturbing, always compelling! Includes 15 b&w photos. $11 pb, 1-57601-007-4.

Rainlight by Alison McGhee. Written in a powerful and uncommon voice, McGhee's intricately intertwined characters seize the reader with their compelling need to preserve a loved one's memory while moving forward. Set in the Adirondack foothills and on a trek to the Yellow Emperor's tomb in China, this is the story of four people facing the death of Starr Williams — father, son, husband, and ex-lover. $22.95 cl, 1-57601-006-6.

One Small Step: Moving Beyond Therapy to a Life of Joy by Yvonne Dolan, MA. Sure to rise to the top of everyone's self-help list, this straightforward, simple-to-use, post-therapy guide will change lives by addressing an important but often overlooked step in the journey to wholeness and joyful living. Graduating from victim to survivor is not enough. For all those survivors who wonder when they will finally feel *good*, the answer is *now*. $11.95 pb, 1-57601-055-4.

Legacies: Children Celebrate Their Grandmothers by Sally and Libbey Koppinger. This delightful collection celebrates the universal bond between grandmothers and grandchildren. In their own words, children aged five to thirteen, reveal a loving and often humorous image of how profoundly grandmothers touch our lives. "These children echo the very best messages to be passed from generation to generation, reminding us life is both precious and fun." —from the Introduction. Includes eight b&w illustrations by Libbey Koppinger. $6 pb, 1-57601-058-9.

Papier-Mache Press, PO Box 1304, Freedom CA 95019; 800-927-5913. Papier-Mache Books are available from B&T, Bookmen, BP, Ingram, and Koen, or directly from Papier-Mache. *—Papier-Mache Press*

Seal Press

Another America/Otra América by Barbara Kingsolver. Graced by six new poems and an introduction by the author, this stunning collection of poetry by one of America's best-loved writers is not to be missed. Kingsolver takes us on a deeply moving and beautifully crafted exploration of American society and our individual place within it. Features a preface by Margaret Randell. $12 pb, 1-58005-004-2.

Canyon Solitude: A Woman's Solo River Journey Through Grand Canyon by Patricia McCairen. In this lyrical tale of personal discovery and highwater adventure, readers will join "Patch" McCairen on her 25-day solo raft trip down the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. McCairen's story tacks gracefully back and forth between her journey down the river and her personal quest to live true to herself. $14.95 pb, 1-58005-007-7.

Gifts of the Wild: A Woman's Book of Adventure is a collection of outdoor literature by women writers in Seal's Adventura Books series which includes both lyrical meditations on nature and bracing adventure travel tales in a beautifully designed and illustrated format. Centered around twelve themes and drawing inspiration from the ancient Celtic calendar, **Gifts of the Wild** illustrates women's deep and sustaining connection to the natural world. $14.95 pb, 1-58005-006-9, May.

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Exit to Reality Or Proteus and Euclid: A Love Story by Edith Forbes takes us 1,000 years into the future where imperfection has been eliminated and immortal beings search for meaning in a technology-driven landscape. Yet as Lydian and Merle discover in this confrontation between technology and civilization, such progress has not come without cost. $12 pb, 320 pps, 1-58005-003-4, June.

No Mountain Too High: A Triumph Over Breast Cancer by Andrea Gabbard. Join the women of Expedition Inspiration in this extraordinary book as Gabbard chronicles the story of 17 women who battled breast cancer and took on a further challenge: climbing the highest peak in the Western Hemisphere in order to raise public awareness about this epidemic disease. $16 pb, 1-58005-008-5, July.

Real Girl/Real World: Tools for Finding Your True Self by Heather Gray and Samantha Phillips. Teen girls receive a constant barrage of messages telling them who they should be — and what they should look like. This essential book is every girl's toolbox for navigating adolescence and covers such topics as sexuality, body image, media representations, ethnicity, self-esteem, feminism and many other topics of interest to young women. $14 pb, 1-58005-005-0, August.

Where the Oceans Meet: A Novel by Bhargavi C. Mandava. The original paperback edition of this searing debut novel takes the reader deep into the rich textures of Indian culture. With magical prose and a flair for storytelling, Mandava captures the lives of Indian and Indian American women and girls whose

New Spring Releases

SPINIFEX PRESS

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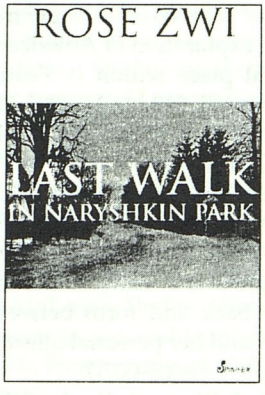
LAST WALK IN NARYSHKIN PARK
Rose Zwi



Naryshkin Park was a place where lovers once walked. On 2 October 1941 it became the site of a mass grave.

ISBN 1-875559-72-8 $17.95
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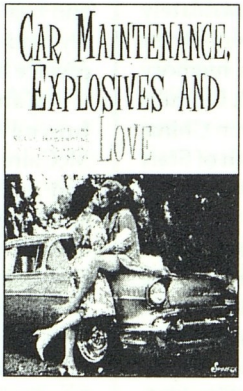
Susan Hawthorne, Cathie Dunsford & Susan Sayer (eds)



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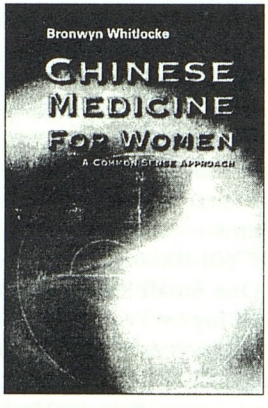

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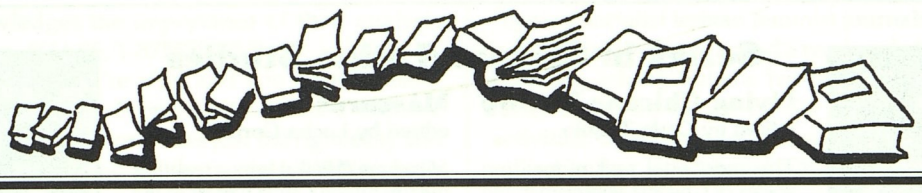

paths vividly intersect and gracefully glance off one another. $12 pb, 1-58005-000-X.

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision, Seal and The NARAL Foundation published **Choices: Women Speak Out About Abortion** edited by Karen A. Schneider, preface by Anna Quindlen. It includes profiles of twelve women — including actress Polly Bergen, U.S. Representative Elizabeth Furse, National Black Women's Health Project founder Byllye Avery and national NARAL President Kate Michelman — who tell their personal stories about abortion and illuminate the complex issues surrounding their experiences. Also includes 18 b&w photographs. $14.95 pb, 0-9662-2620-8.

Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. #410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844, fax 206-285-9410. Distributed by PGW and available from BP. —*Seal Press*

Second Story Press

The Women's Daybook 1999: Featuring Photographs by Women on the Theme of "Girlfriends." We are pleased that the **Women's Daybook** sold out in early December last year. A large-format, utilitarian women's organizer with striking original photographs, the **Daybook** for 1999 highlights "Girlfriends," often women's most long-lasting, supportive and important relationships. Recent books on the subject have been bestsellers so we expect this edition to be a great success as well. We recommend stores order more copies this year because we had numerous customers ordering from us directly when they couldn't find the **Daybook** in stores. 13 photographs. 7¼" x 9". $12.95 spiral binding, 0-896764-03-7, July.

The Other Side by Cynthia Holz. In this funny/serious novel by former *Business Week* writer Cynthia Holz, the ghost of protagonist Holly's recently deceased gay roommate takes up residence in their kitchen catapulting her into a wild journey of self-discovery. Holz has received fabulous reviews for her books with critics acclaiming her work as "luminescent," "funny, moving and highly satisfying," "a rich, poetic work of literature," "brimming with vivid images." $12.95 pb, 0-896764-01-0.

Jeremy and the Air Pirates by Felicity Finn. With film, foreign language and book club rights sold to *Jeremy and the Aunties*, this hilarious sequel will entertain readers 9–13 as they follow the antics of the aunties — the weird and wonderful old lady mannequins who come to life and take over the television air waves creating total chaos in the community. This terrific book encourages respect and appreciation for older women. 15 b&w illustrations. $6.95 pb, 0-896764-02-9.

Sudden Blow: A Jane Yeats Mystery by Liz Brady. A motorbike riding business writer is asked to investigate the death of a tycoon in the first of a new mystery series featuring the irreverent Jane Yeats. She's a still-grieving widow who smokes and sometimes drinks too much and who doesn't believe the murderer is the man's estranged gay son. One possibility instead may be Gerald O. Dawson, someone at the very pinnacle of the business establishment, whom people often call GOD. $12.95 pb, 1-896764-05-3.

Second Story Press, 720 Bathurst St. #301, Toronto ON, Canada M5S 2R4; 416-537-7850, fax 416-537-0588. Books are available from your favorite wholesalers or LPC Group. —*Second Story Press*

Sister Vision: Black Women and Women of Colour Press

"...But Where Are You Really From?" Stories of Identity and Assimilation in Canada, anthologized by Hazelle Palmer. "Where do you come from?... No, but where are you *really* from?" It's hard to imagine how so few words can unleash a rush of mixed emotion. In this dynamic anthology, 30 women from across Canada respond to this far-too-common question with courage, defiance and humour — challenging the assumptions that because they are

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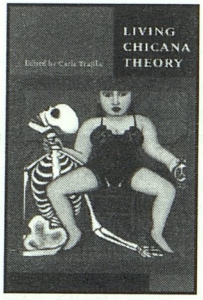

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edited by Carla Trujillo

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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people of colour, they must be from "somewhere else" and that no matter how long they live in Canada, they will never really belong. **"...But Where Are You Really From?"** presents fresh, wide-ranging and energetic writing on racism and cultural identity issues with essays, group discussions and poetry by some of the country's foremost woman of colour writers combined with those by emerging authors. The result is a frank and unapologetic collection spanning social analysis, family histories and reflections on identity and assimilation which will challenge all of us to re-examine our assumptions of what is "Canadian." Despite the intolerance of others, and through their struggles with their own conflicting cultural and racial identities, these women are sure of one thing — they belong! C$15.95/U.S.$12.95 pb, 1-896705-20-0. Sister Vision: Black Women and Women of Colour Press, PO Box 217, Station E, Toronto ON, Canada M6H 4E2; 416-533-9353, fax 416-533-9676, email ⟨sisvis @web.net⟩. Distributed in Canada by General, in the U.S. by LPC Group. —*Sister Vision: Black Women and Women of Colour Press*

Spinifex Press

Last Walk in Naryshkin Park by Rose Zwi tracks the stories of six Jews caught up in the Holocaust in Lithuania in 1941. Naryshkin Park is a place where lovers once walked, and now is the site of a mass grave. Moving and passionate, this is a tale of destruction and survival which resonates from 1940s Lithuania to Cambodia, Bosnia, and Rwanda. $14.95, 1-875559-72-8.

Spinifex releases two titles by Sheila Jeffreys, her groundbreaking new book, **The Idea of Prostitution** which asks important questions about the impact of this idea. Sheila Jeffreys examines the history of prostitution, the incentives and challenges to it since the nineteenth century, the experiences of male prostitutes and the expanding international traffic in women. This is an even-handed well-researched book which looks at many of the issues other authors have ignored. (sorry, no price, 1-875559-65-5.) The re-release of her classic, **The Spinster and Her Enemies**, accompanies the release of **The Idea of Prostitution. The Spinster and Her Enemies** looks at the thriving feminism of the nineteenth century,

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and acknowledges the importance of their analysis and activism. ($14.95, 1-875559-63-9.)

If it's health you're after, and you want to maintain it without drugs, Bronwyn Whitlocke's **Chinese Medicine for Women** provides just the right easy and accessible introduction to the subject. Written by a practitioner with 20 years of experience, she explains basic concepts with diagrams and charts to help you understand this very different system of thought. $13.95, 1-875559-70-1.

Customers won't be able to walk past the cover of **Car Maintenance, Explosives and Love**, the latest anthology of lesbian writing edited by Susan Hawthorne, Cathi Dunsford and Susan Sayer. The title piece, a play, muses on how much easier it is to own a car than have a relationship. Others consider the advent of the mobile phone, the traditions of lesbian culture, the erotics of a red-headed woman or a kiss or of aging. $14.95, 1-875559-62-0.

Spinifex Press, 504 Queensberry Street, PO Box 212, North Melbourne Victoria 3051 Australia; +61-03-9329-6088, fax +61-03-9329-9238, email ⟨women@spinifexpress.com.au⟩, and on the Web ⟨www.spinifexpress.com.au/~women⟩. Distributed by LPC. —*Spinifex Press*

Spinsters Ink

Turnip Blues, the brilliant debut novel by Helen Campbell, is the story of the journey of a lifetime for two feisty 75-year-old women — Mrs. Kuzo and Mrs. Lemack. As the two drive across Pennsylvania to visit the grave of blues artist Bessie Smith, Mrs. Kuzo reflects upon her own life's journey, growing up in a dysfunctional "Hunkie" family — her immigrant mother, a schemer and a bootlegger; sister Annie, who leaves the old neighborhood for "America" at great cost; brother Nicky, a sadistic war veteran; husband Al, simple but belligerent. And behind them all looms the memory of Lily, Annie's twin, whose tragic death at a young age haunts the family through the years. When the two women arrive at their journey's end, Mrs. Kuzo arrives at her own destination, learning an important truth that recasts her entire life. $10.95 pb, 1-883523-23-0, May.

Val McDermid's first novel, **Report for Murder**, is the debut of Lindsay Gordon, self-proclaimed "cynical socialist lesbian feminist journalist." Lindsay is less than thrilled to spend a weekend at a posh girls' boarding school, but she has been commissioned to write a feature article on the school's fundraising activities. Soon after her arrival, Lindsay meets best-selling author Cordelia Brown, and the sparks begin to fly. When a murder occurs at the school's gala fundraising concert, Lindsay and Cordelia find their new relationship tested in unique ways as they seek to find a killer among a long list of suspects. Originally published in England by The Women's Press, Ltd. $10.95 pb, 1-883523-24-9.

Shelly Roberts, internationally-syndicated humor columnist, author of the wildly popular, bestselling Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living series, and mainstay on the Gay Pride event circuit every summer, now turns her attention to that quintessential lesbian institution: dating. **Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Dating** leads the way through that eternal source of hope and anticipation, as well as confusion and perplexity: the intricate maze of lesbian dating and mating rituals. A perfect choice for Gay Pride Month counter and

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1998 Titles

First Resort by *Nanci Little*. Jordan Bryant, former LPGA star, maintains a clinical distance between herself and the people she meets at the grand resort on the coast of Maine where she is Director of Golf. Widowed and left wealthy by an abusive husband, Gillian Benson comes to Maine in search of peace. Bonds of affection, friendship and love grow between the two women. $9 pb, Summer 1998, 1-887237-01-1

Undelete: Women of achievement and herstory by *Irene Stuber*. The deletion of women and their accomplishments from history has been so complete that even feminist Irene Stuber, who studied and loved history, never missed them. This book is the result of Stuber's 20 year quest to undelete our past. It contains articles and facts about thousands of women, and is a warm fuzzy that you can keep under your pillow, in your office, or in your car to remind you that you are the latest in a long, long line of capable, intelligent, accomplished women and the best is yet to be. Undelete women's herstory! Oct 1998, pb, 1-887237-02-X

SELECTED BACKLIST

Bloodsong by *Karen Minns*. Sequel to "Virago." Ginny's metamorphosis. $12.95 pb, 1-887237-08-9

Virago by *Karen Minns*. Erotic lesbian vampire tale. Limited collector's edition, $20, 1-887237-97-6

Tory's Tuesday by *Linda Kay Silva*. Two women fight the Nazis. $8.95pb, 1-887237-06-2

Lesbians In Print editor *M. Gillon*. A bibliography of 1,500 books with synopses. $19.50 pb, 1-887237-13-5

Bluestocking Books

Distributed by Bookpeople, Koen, and Alamo Square.

PO Box 50998, Irvine, CA 92619-0998
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http: //www.bluestocking.com

window displays. $5.95 pb, 1-883523-25-7; 5–copy P.O.P. Display 1-883523-26-5, May.

Shelly Roberts' wit, wisdom, and skewed perspective can be enjoyed all 365 days of the year on this compact **1999 Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Life** desk calendar. Fans of the Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living life-instruction handbook series will revel in receiving a daily dose of hilarity from Shelly's repertoire of new and recycled one-liners on life, love, and the pursuit of lesbian happiness. $9.95 pb, 1-883523-27-3, July.

Spinsters Ink, 32 East First St., #330, Duluth, MN 55802; 800-301-6860; email ⟨spinster@spinsters-ink.com⟩, Web ⟨www. spinsters-ink.com⟩. Note: Now distributed by Words; 800-593-9673, and available from BP, Ingram, B&T and all other wholesalers.

—Spinsters Ink

Third Side Press

Now in paperback: **The Mayor of Heaven**, warm and well-crafted, reveals the inner life of four people whose link to one another was Claire Morganstern, who died from breast cancer six months before the opening of the novel. Special audiences: grieving/surviving partners and friends, multicultural, deaf, cancer activists, lovers of lesbian literary fiction, fans of Lynn Kanter's first novel, *On Lill Street*. Introduction by Susan Hester, founder of the Mautner Project for Lesbians with Cancer. $12.95 pb, 1-879427-30-3; $22.95 cl, -29-X. Third Side Press, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago IL 60625-1863; 773-271-3029, fax 773-271-0459, email ⟨ThirdSide@aol.com⟩. Discounts (via Consortium): 1-4, 20%; 5-24, 42%; 25-99, 43%; 100-249, 44%; 250-499, 45%; 500-750, 46%, 750+, 47%. Our titles are available from all major wholesalers, including Ingram, B&T, Koen, and BP, but much more of the money comes back to us if you buy from Consortium. Titles from all Consortium publishers combine for discount. *—Third Side Press*

Volcano Press

Volcano Press is republishing Inez Maury's **My Mother and I Are Growing Strong/Mi mamá y yo nos hacemos fuertes**, a wonderful English/Spanish book first published by New Seed Press in 1979. "Lupe and her young daughter Emilita live alone; the father has been imprisoned for an assault he

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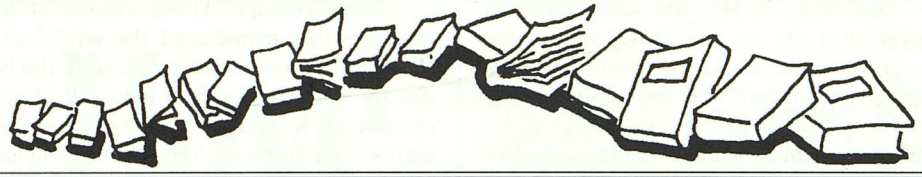

committed in response to a racist insult. They take over the father's job as gardener, learn how to use mechanical equipment, chase away a would-be burglar, become physically strong. They are two females working to survive in a home without a man, and they learn to do so with delight and pride." —*Interracial Books for Children*. Illustrated by Sandy Speidel, translated by Anna Muñoz. $5.95 pb, 1-884244-18-1. Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689; 209-296-3445, fax 209-296-4515, email ⟨sales@volcanopress.com⟩, Web ⟨www .volcanopress.com⟩. Distributed by B&T and available from BP. —*JT*

Wildcat Press

Billy's Boy by Patricia Nell Warren. Alternative family story for the 90s: lesbian mother raises her son, who was conceived by artificial insemination with a gay man, and who struggles to understand his sexuality. Off to a great start with the first printing sold out, glowing reviews in *Library Journal* and other major publications. Film interest. $14.95 pb, 0-9641099-3-X; $24.95 cl, -4-8. Tentatively scheduled for June.

One Is The Sun by Patricia Nell Warren. In response to popular demand, quality trade paper reissue of Warren's 1991 historical novel about a great mixed-blood woman chief of the 1800s. Illustrated by author. $18.95 pb, 188913502X. Tentatively scheduled for June.

Wildcat Press, 8306 Wilshire Blvd. Box 8306, Beverly Hills CA 90211; 213-966-2466, email ⟨Wildcat Prs@aol.com⟩. Available from Alamo, B&T, Bookazine, BP, Bulldog (Australia), Ingram, Koen, Marginal (Canada) and Turnaround (U.K.).

— *Wildcat Press*

Wolfe Video

Correction: The price reductions on *Losing Chase* and *When Night Is Falling* have been postponed until further notice.

First Time on Video: New from Cris Williamson and Tret Fure: **A Peek.... Between the Covers**. Cris and Tret are joined by June Millington and a host of favorites from women's music. Join this delightful group of friends and musicians behind the scenes in the making of their new CD, *Between the Covers*. Coming soon.

New Erotic Release: **Hey, Sailor, Hey, Sister** is the story of a naval officer who, coming to port with just her duffel bag and leather chaps, goes looking for

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adventure — and finds it. Has the sailor returned home for good or is she on weekend leave? Is the woman she meets on the docks a working girl or a kindred soul looking for fun? Do they fall in love, or do they just...?

Twilight of the Golds. Brendan Fraser, Jennifer Beals, Garry Marshall, Faye Dunaway and Jon Tenny lead an all-star ensemble in this riveting and electrifying story of a family in crisis. With loving parents, a handsome son, and an expectant daughter married to a doctor, the Golds make a picture-perfect family. But when they find out that the baby-on-the-way has the "gay gene" the blessed event turns into a trial of values and ideals that challenges every member of the family. Special guest appearance by Rosie O'Donnell.

In & Out. Kevin Kline plays Howard Brackett, a popular high school English teacher whose small-town sanity and impending marriage to Joan Cusack are exploded when a former student turned movie star (Matt Dillon) cops the big prize for a gay role and credits teach, adding, "And he's gay." In a flash, Howard is working overtime to convince family, fiancee, students, drinking buddies, the media (Tom Selleck) and, most important, himself, that he is "all man." 90 min.

Kiss Me Guido. Imagine *La Cage aux Folles* in reverse, with a pair of gay men coaching a strictly hetero Italian American stud in the fine points of swishing. "Walk like this!" gushes platinum-haired Terry (Craig Chester) with a head toss and a grand, Auntie Mame extension of both arms. Good try, but hopeless: Frankie Zito, a wannabe actor from the Bronx tries desperately to impersonate a queen — he has to play one on stage — but he can't shake the swagger out of his bones. 90 min.

k.d. lang Live in Sydney. Her first-ever live home video captures performances from her '96 world tour; includes the sought-after "What's New Pussycat?" plus "Barefoot," "Constant Craving," "Miss Chatelaine," "Crying," "Rose Garden," "Sexuality," and more. Plus backstage footage and interviews. 83 min.

Tracey Takes On...Sex Romance Fantasy. The hilarious Tracey Ullman performs her famous sketch comedy including an extended routine as the "nutritionist" of the fictional closeted lesbian golfer, Midge Dexter. Trust us — this one is a must have! 78 min.

Xena Trilogy. Three videos of the Hercules episodes that introduced the world to Xena. "The Warrior Princess" tells the story of the beautiful and deadly Xena who sets out to kill Hercules to gain control of Arcadian. In "The Gauntlet," Hercules learns that his enemy, Xena, is building her power and territory by raiding villages throughout the land. And, in "Unchained Heart," Xena and Hercules join forces to stop the evil Darphus from slaughtering innocent people. Each tape is 49 min.

Late Bloomers. A heart-warming story about two women working at a Texas High School who decide to defy their community and hold a marriage ceremony. To their surprise, the community turns up to cheer rather than jeer. Part comedy, part family drama, and all love story. 104 min.

Wolfe Video, PO Box 64, New Almaden CA 95042; 408-268-6782, fax 408-268-9449, Web ⟨www.wolfevideo.com⟩. —*Wolfe Video*

Women's Press — Canada

Tongues on Fire: Caribbean Lesbian Lives and Stories edited by Rosamund Elwin is a groundbreaking anthology of the lives and personal stories of Caribbean lesbians. Rosamund Elwin has been in the forefront of creating work that enhances the lives of lesbians. She has co-edited several anthologies including *OutRage: Dykes and BIs Resist Homophobia, Getting Wet: Tales of Lesbian Seductions* and its sequel *Tangled Sheets: Stories and Poems of Lesbian Lust*. She has also written two children's books *The Moonlight Hide and Seek Club in the Pollution Solution* and *Asha's Mums*. $17.95 pb, 0-88961-226-9.

Exile and the Heart: Lesbian Short Stories by Tamai Kobayashi. These are beautiful stories of women of the diaspora negotiating love, identity, and friendship. Gen Tanaka and Kathy Nakashima slowly piece together the fragments of their lives, naming their exile, tracking their journeys, making the connections of who they are and what that means. Tamai Kobayashi's work has appeared in several journals and anthologies. She has also co-authored with Mona Oikawa, *All Names Are Spoken* (Sister Vision Press). $12.95 pb, 0-88961-229-3, May.

From the gifted author of *Granny and Me* comes Gales Henry's second enchanting children's story,

See **Our Presses**, *page 154.*

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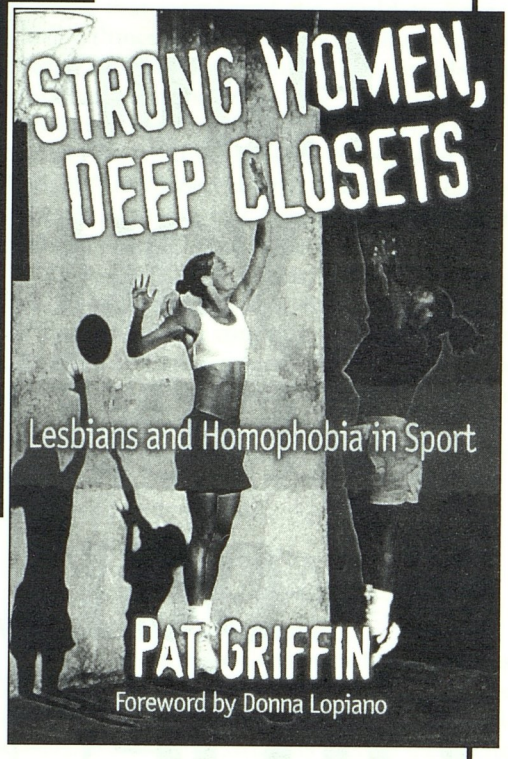
Leveling the playing field for lesbian athletes



Former athlete and coach Pat Griffin makes a provocative and impassioned call for attention to a topic too long avoided by women's sports advocates. In *Strong Women, Deep Closets*, she provides a critical analysis of discrimination and prejudice against lesbians in sport.

The book is the first to provide a comprehensive analysis of homophobia and heterosexism in women's sport and the experience of lesbianism in sport. It brings to light the experiences of lesbian coaches and athletes in their own words.

1998 • Paper • 264 pp • Item BGRI0729
ISBN 0-88011-729-X • $19.95 ($29.95 Canadian)

"In this ground-breaking book, Pat Griffin brings the shameful consequences of the long-standing and deep-seated association between women's sports and lesbianism out of the closet. This book reminds us once again how all of us who work for girls and women in sport owe a great personal and professional debt to Pat Griffin."
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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Jenn Tust

Uncovering the Right on Campus: A Guide to Resisting Conservative Attacks on Equality and Social Justice from the Center for Campus Organizing provides information for activists who might be angry, isolated or silenced by the conservative backlash. Essays include "Turning Back the Clock on Affirmative Action," "Little Right Lies: Anti-Affirmative Action Propaganda," "Saving Your Child from 'Raving Marxist Lesbo-Feminists'" and "Academic Support for Racism, Sexism, Homophobia, Anti-Environmentalism, and Militarism," as well as resources for fighting the Right. $8 pb, 0-945210-07-8. 40%. Distributed by Center for Campus Organizing, PO Box 748, Cambridge MA 02142; 617-354-9363.

A Genealogy of Resistance by M. Nourbese Philip, author of *Harriet's Daughter* (Women's Press, Toronto) and *She Tries Her Tongue* (Women's Press, England) looks great. "[Nourbese Philip combats] the holy trinity of tokenism, multiculturalism, and the inexorable exclusion of The Other artist within our democratic Canadian mosaic. [Her essays] are significant not only because they broach the subject of racism in the arts, but because they project a detailed, unconventional exegesis for the problem." —Julian Samuel, *Matrix*. Although it's expensive, every store should carry at least one. $18.95 pb, 1-55128-047-7. Mercury Press, 2569 Dundas Street West, Toronto ON M6P 1X7; 416-767-4352. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

In **Soon We Will Not Cry: The Liberation of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson** Cynthia Griggs Fleming chronicles the life of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson, a student at Spelman College in the late 1950s who was passionately involved in the Civil Rights movement and was elected to Executive Secretary for SNNC, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1966. She died of cancer at the age of 26 in 1967. "Cynthia Fleming has given us a provocative biography in which the woman whose memory was once a driving force for activists like myself emerges in all her strength, vulnerability, and complexity. **Soon We Will Not Cry** is a vital addition to civil rights literature." —Angela Y. Davis. $24.95 cl, 0-8476-8971-9.

Kelly Dyer, in *Too Many Men on the Ice* (Polestar)

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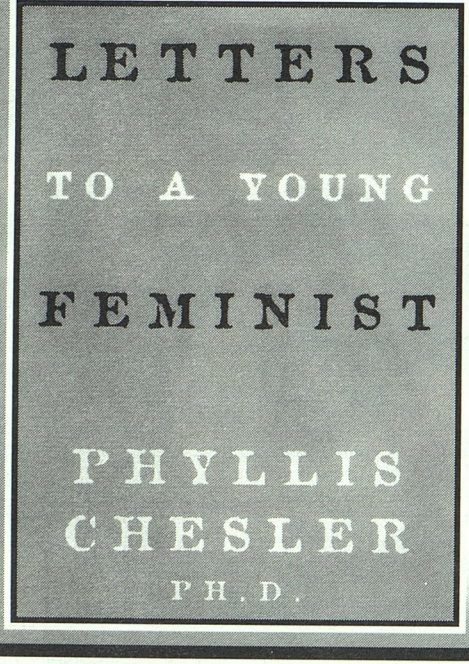
The Voice of Anna Julia Cooper: Including *A Voice from the South* and Other Important Essays, Papers, and Letters edited by Charles Lemert and Esme Bhan is just that: a compilation of works by African American feminist leader Anna Julia Cooper. "Cooper may be the founding figure in contemporary writings bringing together race, class, and gender — the 'foremother' of today's influential Black feminist writers. This collection is a major contribution to the reconstruction of gender balance in African-American history." —Manning Marable, director of the Institute for Research in African American Studies, Columbia University. $15.95 pb, 0-8476-8408-3.

Rowman & Littlefield, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706; 301-459-3366. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420.

Jewish Women Living the Challenge: A Hadassah Compendium edited by Carol Diament collects essays, short stories, poetry, biblical passages and commentary that address what it is to be a Jewish woman today. The book is divided into five sections: self, family and home, women and the workplace, social action, and spirituality. $20 pb, 8½" x 11", 280 pages, 1-889525-04-9. 20% for 1-9; 40% for 10+. Hadassah Books, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah Jewish Education Department, 50 West 58th Street, New York NY 10019; 800-880-9455, fax 212-303-7486.

Josefina Learns A Lesson: A School Story, Book Two, 1824 by Valerie Tripp, illustrated by Jean-Paul Tibbles. Josefina is an Hispanic girl living around 1824, whose heart and hopes are as big as the New Mexico sky. Book one was *Meet Josefina*, book three is *Josefina's Surprise: A Christmas Story*. Also available in Spanish. Insipid "American girl" stuff, but girls love them. Manages to be quite female positive. $5.95, 1-56247-517-7, Pleasant Co.; 800-233-0246. Available from Ingram, B&T, Bookazine. —*Dorothy Holland*

After her father is killed in the Korean War Blanca and her mother leave California to spend the summer



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Four Walls Eight Windows
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in Mexico with her grandmother in Beatriz de la Garza's **Pillars of Gold and Silver**. At first Blanca misses the comforts and amenities of the U.S. but she soon enjoys communicating with her newly acquired Spanish, learns about love and friendship, and discovers a home away from home. ($7.95 pb, 1-55885-206-9.) In Ofelia Dumas Lachtman **Leticia's Secret**, eleven-year-old Rosario can't put a finger on why her cousin Leticia always gets the red-carpet treatment when she visits. Conflicts with siblings and school friends fill Rosario's day, yet her imagination is filled with every conceivable reason for her cousin's mysterious visits. As the two cousins grow closer Rosario learns Leticia's dreadful secret: she is dying. ($7.95 pb, 1-55885-209-3.) Both are YA novels in Arte Público's Piñata imprint.

In **Dew on the Thorn** Jovita González recreates the life of the Texas Mexican Olivares clan during the Anglo encroachment on their land in the early part of the 20th century. González utilizes history, folklore, "sense of place" and cultural traditions to describe the impact of race and class on everyday people, culture, and community of Mexican Texas. Edited and introduced by José Limón. A Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project Publication. $12.95 pb, 1-55885-175-5.

Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 800-633-ARTE. Available from BP.

The stories in **A Necklace of Words: Short Fiction by Mexican Women** edited by Marjorie Agosín and Nancy Abraham Hall explore the history of Mexico, the arrival of the Europeans and the mixing of races, the often confining spaces inhabited by women within the social fabric of Mexico, and the lives of women who lived in these limited spaces. Writers Elena Poniatowska, Rosario Castellanos, Martha Cerda, Angeles Mastretta and others, tell stories of Mexico's women trying to find their place in a country with a strong tradition of male domination. $14 pb, 1-877727-73-3. White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia NY 14063; 716-672-5743. Distributed by Consortium.

The 85 poems in Marjorie Agosín's **Melodious Women**, translated by Monica Bruno Galmozzi, celebrate individuality, beauty and courage. From the mythical Ariadne and the literary genius Rosario Castellanos to the passionate conviction of Rachel Carson, Marjorie Agosín's verses honor accomplished, groundbreaking figures as well as universal roles women play. **Melodious Women** paints a portrait of both the diversity of and the unity of female experience. $13.95 pb, 0-935480-91-9. Latin American Literary Review Press, 121 Edgewood Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15218; 412-371-9023, fax 412-371-9025. Distributed by Consortium and available from Ingram, B&T, SPD.

First Love & Look for My Obituary: Two Novellas by Elena Garro, translated by David Unger, was the winner of the 1996 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize. In *First Love* Elena Garro examines the consequences of two tourists befriending German prisoners of war in France and explores the tension between human kindness and social convention. Elena explores a love affair set in a world of arranged marriages in the surrealistic *Look for My Obituary*. "A fascinating read by a groundbreaking voice among Mexican authors." —Demetria Martinez (*Mother Tongue*). $11.95 pb, 1-880684-51-9. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson Street, Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110. Distributed by Consortium.

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: Religion, Art, and Feminism by Pamela Kirk explores this nun and poet's life and work as well as her contributions to Latin American theology. Kirk also addresses Sor Juana's tenuous position as a strong-willed woman in an age when her strong feminist voice invoked the wrath of ecclesiastical authorities in both Mexico and Europe. Kirk contrasts this with the fact that Sor Juana's writing was, as least initially, supported and

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JILL JOHNSTON
Admission Accomplished:
The Lesbian Nation *Years (1970–75)*

Jill Johnston has been acknowledged as one of the most vital, original thinkers of her time. As vanguard feminist, she was at the forefront of a movement that changed the way we think about gender and sexuality. These essays, many of which appeared in her books *Lesbian Nation* and *Gullibles Travels*, break with convention and tackle social issues as current today as when they were written. Johnston was the first writer to come out in the mass media, and the only one to sustain this kind of exposure over a revolutionary span of time.

"Jill Johnston's book [*Lesbian Nation*] is honest, outrageous, stylistically unique, brave, vulnerable and full of love. If you read it, you will never be sure of anything." *Gloria Steinem*

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encouraged by those in power. $34.50 cl, 0-8264-1043-X. Continuum, 370 Lexington Ave. #1700, NY NY 10017; 800-937-5557. Distributed by Publishers Resources and available from BP.

In **Here to Stay: Five Plays from the Women's Project** editor Julia Miles collects five amazing plays by women playwrights, all of which the Women's Project has produced in the last 20 years. In *Why We Have a Body* by Claire Chafee, Mary is an artist who has feminist nightmares; in *Aye, Aye, Aye I'm Integrated* Anna Deavere Smith looks at absurd aspects of racial discrimination in America; in *Black* Joyce Carol Oates explores the moral and social conditions of her generation; in *Dream of a Common Language* Heather MacDonald tells a love story about a married couple, both painters, in France in 1874; and in *Frida: The Story of Frida Kahlo* Hilary Blecher and Migdalis Cruz explore Frida's life using music, images from her paintings and puppets. $16.95 pb, 1-55783-315-X. 42% for 10+. Applause Theatre Books, 1841 Broadway #1100, New York NY 10023; 800-798-7787.

The Women's Great Lakes Reader edited by Victoria Brehm is a collection of narratives from women lighthouse keepers, fur traders, cooks on sailing vessels, missionaries, and fearless travelers, spanning 1789 to the present. Beginning with Native American myths and stories and continuing through writings by pioneer wives and working women, the 50 selections of autobiography, fiction, newspaper accounts and poetry chronicle what it has meant to live on the lakes from childhood to old age. $18.95 pb, 0-930100-79-4. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by Consortium.

The Source of the Spring: Mothers Through the Eyes of Women Writers compiled by Judith Shapiro explores the changes in perception of "mother" over the generations through its fifty essays and short stories by Barnard alumnae and winners of the Barnard College Essay Contest for high school students. Includes work by Zora Neale Hurston, Erica Jong, June Jordan, Margaret Mead, Ntozake Shange and Sigrid Nunez. Includes photos. $21.95 cl, 1-57324-041-9, A Barnard College Collection. Conari Press, 2550 Ninth Street #101, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-649-2940. Distributed by PGW and available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

In **The Women We Become: Myths, Folktales, and Stories About Growing Older** Ann G. Thomas, Ed.D. shows how women at midlife can find personal peace and meaning in a culture that has belittled their value. Stories, myths and folktales from Native American, African, European, and Asian cultures are combined with insights from modern psychology to illustrate a positive process of aging and empower women on that journey. $15 pb, 0-76151-292-6. Prima

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Publishing, 3875 Atherton Road, Rocklin CA 95765. Distributed by Random House and available from B&T and Ingram.

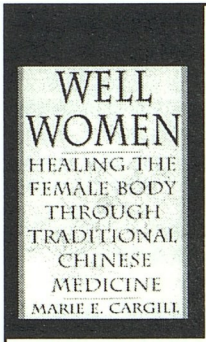
Eccentric Circles: An Uncommon Tale of Five Women by Lynn Buck is certainly that. The story opens with 84-year-old Ada, "quirky" Greenwich Village painter, over-medicated and trapped in a nursing home after breaking her hip at a protest rally. Her four activist friends come to the rescue and bring her to an old house in Southampton where they will all live together. As the women fight Ada's son's court petition to be her conservator they experience the unexpected romance, passion, humor and pathos of life — living, loving and supporting each other. Not to spoil the plot, but yes, you can put it in the lesbian section. $19 cl, 0-8059-4014-6. 40% for 5+. Dorrance Publishing, 643 Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh PA 15222; 800-788-7654. Available from B&T.

In Ann Mohin's **The Farm She Was: A Novel**, Irene Leahy, a tough-minded old farmwoman, battles to save the sheepfarm in upstate New York where she has lived since birth. Irene scoffs at the minister who tries to convince her to move into a nursing home, and roars at the realtor who presses her to sell out, all the while reliving her life's experiences on the farm: love and betrayal, loss, longing, self-sufficiency and joy. "This book is rich with nostalgic anecdotes and surprises, as well as good old country sense." —Tricia Bauer (*Boondocking*). $22.95 cl, 1-882593-21-9. Bridge Works Publishing, Box 1798, Bridgehampton NY 11932. Distributed by National Book Network and available from BP, B&T, Bookazine, Koen and Ingram.

Through fiction and poetry, comics, drawings, photographs, scripts, and song lyrics **The Girl Wants To** edited by Lynn Crosbie offers an uncompromising and challenging look at sex in the 90s. From sex pioneers to third-wave femmes, 39 women writers and artists — including Beth Bryant, Nicole Brossard, Rebecca Brown, Erica Jong, Evelyn Lau, Makeda Silvera and Barbara Wilson — explore contemporary sexuality. Originally published by Coach House Press in 1993. $17.95 pb, 1-55199-011-3. McFarlane Walter & Ross, 37A Hazelton Avenue, Toronto ON, Canada M5R 2E3. Distributed in both Canada and the U.S. by General.

French Surrealists invented a game they called "Exquisite Corpse" to write collaborative poems, which inspired the title of Denise Duhamel and Maureen Seaton's collaborative poetry. **Exquisite Politics** probes the mysteries of relationships, personal histories, and issues of sexual and political identity. "A powerful mix of provocative poetry. **Exquisite Politics** is wicked, insightful, bold and fun. —Jessica Hagedorn. $10.95 pb, 1-882688-15-5. Tia Chucha Press, PO Box 476969, Chicago IL 60647. Distributed by Northwestern University Press.

In **A Four-Sided Bed** Elizabeth Searle explores a complicated tangle of relationships and examines the limits and challenges of sexual love. Searle's novel is a tale of gender identity and the sexual boundaries of friendship and love through the passion of a relationship with multiple partners. "Elizabeth Searle writes like a poet, evoking her people with haunting



Well Women
Healing the Female Body Through Traditional Chinese Medicine
By Marie E. Cargill

A guide to treating the most common gynecological problems—from puberty, through pregnancy and beyond menopause—with traditional Chinese medical practices. Cargill, the author of *Accupuncture: A Viable Medical Alternative*, presents a strong body of evidence supporting the use of these treatments as alternatives or accompaniments to conventional surgery and drugs, while providing specific suggestions for preventing illness.

1998. 144 pages.0-89789-543-6. $12.95.

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By Anne Cope Wallace
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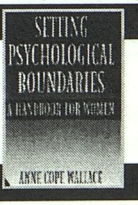

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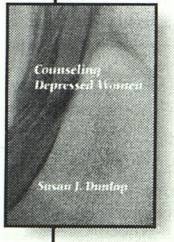
The Battered Wife
How Christians Confront Family Violence
Nancy Nason-Clark
Paper $18.00
A helpful study of how pastors, congregations, and lay persons have identified problems of domestic abuse and their positive responses to counter it. Contains suggestions for how groups can be more effective in ending abuse.

Faith of Our Foremothers
Women Changing Religious Education
Barbara Anne Keely, editor
Paper $15.00
Before feminism was popular, many women were active in and contributed to religious education. These are the stories of twelve women educators whose enthusiasm, commitment, and innovative creativity throughout the years continue to transform this field.



Counseling Depressed Women
Susan J. Dunlap
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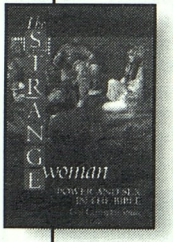
Dunlap integrates findings from several disciplines to propose a pastoral theological response to depression in women, as well as its roots which are embedded in a sense of powerlessness.



The Strange Woman
Power and Sex in the Bible
Gail Corrington Streete
Paper $19.00
In the worlds of ancient Israel and early Christianity, political and religious laws limited women's options. But some women created options by participating in adultery, prostitution, and other sexual crimes, thus resulting in a kind of independence not available to other women. These actions subverted the social system, leading to punishment for some women and power for others.

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intimacy and graceful lyricism. She lives not only with them, but inside of them, as if she is the soul in each of their bodies, as if she herself is that secret place where the most dangerous desires erupt." —Melanie Rae Thon. Erotica for any sexuality. $14 pb, 1-55597-265-9. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Avenue #203, St. Paul MN 55114; 612-641-0077. Distributed by Consortium.

Irene Zahava, who ran Smedley's for many years, has just completed **Love Shook My Heart: New Lesbian Love Stories**, a collection of 28 stories exploring romantic love between women — crushes, flirtations, enduring relationships, the immediacy and urgency of erotic lust, and the daily routine of laundry and cooking.... Contributors include Carolyn Gage, Carol Guess, Julie Mitchell (ex-*FBN* Sci Fi columnist), Jess Wells and Barbara Wilson. $10.95 pb, 1-55583-404-3. Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 213-871-1225. Distributed by Consortium and available from Koen and Ingram.

After playing herself in the semi-documentary "Strangers in Good Company," Mary Meigs wrote about her experiences in *In the Company of Strangers*. Now, in her new autobiographical novel, **The Time Being**, she tells of an affair born of a correspondence which leads two women — one in her late sixties, the other in her mid-seventies — to an arranged meeting in Australia. With a lifetime of relationships already behind them each woman, constrained by her past, cautiously approaches the other. $12.95 pb, 0-88922-374-2. Talon Books, #104-3100 Production Way, Burnaby BC, Canada V5A 4R4. Distributed by General in the U.S.

Good For You: A Handbook on Lesbian Health and Wellbeing by Tamsin Wilton (*Finger-Licking Good: The Ins and Outs of Lesbian Sex*) offers information on a range of health issues that effect lesbians today including lesbian motherhood, sexual health, high rates of breast and cervical cancer, and how lesbians can get the best out of existing health care services. Wilton also tackles topics such as mental health, diet, exercise, aging and long-term illness. Includes a bibliography and an index. $18.95 pb, 0-304-33632-7, Cassell. Distributed by Books International, PO Box 605, Herndon VA 20172; 800-561-7704.

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Jill Johnston has been acknowledged as one of the most vital, original thinkers of her time. As vanguard feminist, she was at the forefront of a movement that changed the way we think about gender and sexuality. **Admission Accomplished: The Lesbian Nation Years (1970–75)** collects her essays, many of which appeared in her books *Lesbian Nation* and *Gullibles Travels* are as current today as when they were written: coming out and "outing" public icons; gay marriage and monogamy; solidarity and betrayal between gay men and lesbians, and between straight feminists and lesbians; the men's movement and misogyny. Johnston was the first writer to come out in the mass media, and the only one to sustain this kind of exposure over a revolutionary span of time. $18.99 pb, 1-85242-450-8.

In 1996 the Asham Literary Endowment Trust organized a short story competition for women in honor of Asham House in Sussex where Virginia Woolf and Leonard Woolf lived. The competition attracted a thousand entries, of which the judges selected the 13 published in **The Catch: Prize-Winning Stories by Women** edited by Carole Buchan. It also includes specially commissioned work by Kate Atkinson, Rachel Cusk, Louise Doughty, Candia McWilliam and Deborah Moggach. $14.99 pb, 1-85242-573-3.

Serpent's Tail, 1489 Lincoln Avenue, St. Paul MN 55105; 612-690-0907. Distributed by Consortium.

The First Year of the Rest of Your Life: Reflections for Survivors of Breast Cancer edited by Charla Hudson Honea compiles stories and reflections from 75 women who share their personal experiences with breast cancer. "These stories remind us that shared feelings — from sorrow to triumph — can reach out and teach those who may be at the start of our already traveled path," writes Nancy G. Brinker in her foreword. $16.95 pb, 0-8298-1209-1. Pilgrim Press, 700 Prospect Avenue East, Cleveland OH 44115; 216-736-3717. Available from Ingram.

Strong Women, Deep Closets: Lesbians and Homophobia in Sport by Pat Griffin analyzes homophobia and heterosexism in women's sport and portrays troubling experiences of lesbian athletes. The author explores the images of women athletes, how lesbians have been demonized, how lesbian coaches and athletes manage their identities, and what motivates lesbian athletes and coaches to come out. She also discusses how participants in women's sport can be more supportive and accepting of each other. $19.95 pb, 0-88011-729-X. Human Kinetics, 1607 North Market Street, PO Box 5076, Champaign IL 61825; 217-351-5076, fax 217-351-2674.

Too Many Men on the Ice: Women's Hockey in North America by Julie Stevens and Joanna Avery chronicles the development of women's hockey and examines its successes and challenges. From the grassroots game to the training of elite players Stevens and Avery explore all levels of women's hockey. They document the formation of national teams and the preparation for the sports' debut at the 1998 Olympic games in Nagano. The book includes profiles of individual players and great b&w photos. $16.95 pb, 1-896095-33-X. Polestar Book Publishers, PO Box 5238, Station B, Victoria BC, Canada V8R 6N4. Distributed by Orca Book Publishers; 800-210-5277.

In **A View from the Red Tees: The Truth About Women and Golf** Dorothy Langley humorously challenges the stereotypes and discrimination that women golfers face today and examines the role golf plays in women's relationships with male family members, friends and colleagues. **A View from the Red Tees** is a celebration of how and why women play golf and the joys and frustrations the sport brings to women players. Includes cartoons. $14.95 cl, 1-55972-440-4. Carol Publishing Group, 120 Enterprise Avenue, Secaucus NJ 07094; 201-866-0490. Available from BP.

In **Breaking the Glass Ceiling: A Woman's Guide to Golf as a Business Tool**, Cheryl Leonhardt, founder

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In the vein of "The New Worlds of Women," *Stars Inside Her* presents the magical and futuristic erotic fantasies of women who love women. Hot, fresh, and genuine, these women's voices will transport you to another world.

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of The Business and Professional Women's Golf Association, addresses initial reservations and concerns women have about golf and explains specifically what women can learn in business by playing golf. Cheryl covers everything from why golf is a necessary business skill to learning the rules, buying the right equipment, and networking your way to success. $15.95 pb, 1-57243-276-4, May. 40% for 5+. Triumph Books, 644 South Clark Street, Chicago IL 60605; 800-335-5323. Distributed by the LPC Group and available from BP, B&T, Ingram, Koen and Partners.

Yoga for Your Spiritual Muscles: A Complete Yoga Program to Strengthen Body and Spirit by Rachel Schaeffer, photographs by Adam Mastoon and David S. Waitz, shows readers how to develop spiritual qualities that help bridge the gap between mind and body including balance, flexibility, confidence, strength, playfulness, focus and energy. Special sections include yoga during pregnancy, yoga for kids, yoga for the elderly and even yoga to increase productivity on the job. $24.95 pb, 8½" x 11", 224 pages, 0-8356-0763-1, June. Quest Books/Theosophical Publishing House, 306 W. Geneva Road, Wheaton IL 60189; 800-669-9425. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420 and available from BP, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.

In **Wild Communion: Experiencing Peace in Nature**, Ruth Baetz (*Lesbian Crossroads*) tells how she, a self-described city slicker at 33, decided to do something different and went to the Canadian Rockies alone. Both a how-to and a spiritual adventure book, **Wild Communion** addresses the barriers that prevent contact with nature, such as busy schedules and guilt at spending "nonproductive" time outdoors. Baetz provides practical strategies for allowing the wonder of nature to enter our racing minds in the little time we can spare. $14 pb, 1-56838-187-5. 45%. Hazeldon, Center City MN 55012; 800-328-0094. Available from B&T and Ingram.

Unspeakable Truths and Happy Endings: Human Cruelty and the New Trauma Therapy by Rebecca Coffey is a clearly written, accessible book on a very difficult and important subject. Survivors of human cruelty often find that their stories are too personally threatening for others to acknowledge: listeners bring to the listening a desperate hope that what they are about to hear didn't really happen. This book can help therapists, friends and families of survivors to overcome their own fears and prejudices about violence and victims enough to talk and listen. It can be used as a resource for survivors (of sexual assault, violent crime, incest, Holocaust survivors, and parents of murdered children). Coffey, a health journalist who specializes making perplexing mental health topics comprehensible to the general public, has won awards and acclaim for her previous work. In this book she tells the stories of 15 survivors, balancing them with commentary by mental health experts and social critics about the healing potential of listening and listeners. She also recounts her own

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progress in learning to listen well to tales of trauma, bringing a refreshing slant to the controversies about recovered memory. $19.95 pb, 1-886968-05-5; $34.95 cl, -04-7. 40% for 3-49. Sidran Foundation, 2328 West Joppa Road #15, Lutherville MD 21093; toll-free 888-825-8249, fax 410-337-0747. —*Lisa McGowan*

The Scarred Soul: Understanding & Ending Self-Inflicted Violence, A Self-Help Guide by Tracy Alderman, Ph.D. is a book every feminist bookstore should stock. In it Dr. Alderman provides information about self-inflicted violence (SIV) for both people who self-injure — and tells them they are not alone — and for people who want to support self injurers. **The Scarred Soul** offers activities and exercises on topics such as what SIV is and why people injure themselves, how to talk about SIV, and how to be supportive to people who engage in SIV. Resources and a bibliography are also included. $13.95 pb, 1-57224-079-2. New Harbinger Publications, 5674 Shattuck Avenue, Oakland CA 94609; 510-652- 0215. Distributed by PGW.

Daughters of Saturn: From Father's Daughter to Creative Woman by Patricia Reis explores various aspects of the father-daughter relationship on adult women's creativity. "Patricia Reis's penetrating exploration of the 'Wildzone,' in which women can track 'their way out of the confines of patriarchal prescriptions,' is an intricate weaving together of Greek goddesses and contemporary women writers — all

Short Raves

I do most of my reading at night, and the world Rosina Lippi creates in **Homestead** is one I've been reluctant to leave for sleep, one that haunts me throughout the day at work; it's a world I can't wait to jump back into as soon as I get home. **Homestead** is the story of a community in Rosenau, a tiny, isolated village surrounded on all sides by the Austrian Alps, told by three generations of women who live there. The beginning is perfect: It's 1909, and a misaddressed postcard arrives at the general store, bringing with it visions of a larger, more glamorous world. Anna chooses to answer it, and a brief, formal reply turns into a recounting of her life; she finds her voice and goes on to paint a vivid portrait of herself. Each chapter is like that: a closely observed, transforming moment in the life of the woman whose story is the focus of that chapter. Often it is some seemingly little thing that is said, is done, that just takes your breath away. This is a mesmerizing, powerful and beautiful book. It's also an attractively designed book — a good hand-sell and a great gift. $21 cl, 1-883285-14-3, Delphinium Books. Distributed by HarperCollins.

"This is a taboo story, I know, for it's the stories of reconciliation that are told over and over...[but] not the stories of leaving." As a child Julie Hilden excelled in school not out of a joy of learning, but out of fear: this was the only way she saw of getting away from home. In **The Bad Daughter**, an intensely personal memoir written with grace and unflinching honesty, Julie Hilden tells of the lonely, isolated existence she shared with her mother, of keeping her distance from others, not making friends, telling lies and making excuses to cover up for her increasingly angry and erratic mother — she graduated from high school in three years, was accepted to Harvard and left home to reinvent herself, feeling that what love she had for her mother as a child was long gone and that she needed to get away from her — to cut all ties — in order to survive. When her mother was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's and put in a nursing home by an aunt, Hilden chose not to leave school or visit her. She went on to Yale Law and then a legal career in New York, visiting her mother just once a few months before she died. In a final, chilling irony, she learns that there is a fifty-fifty chance that she carries the gene for early-onset Alzheimer's. With intelligence and insight — and without apology or excuses — Hilden writes of her abandonment of her mother and how this decision influenced the relationships she formed in her new life. $17.95 cl, 1-56512-185-6, Algonquin. Distributed by Workman. —*Lisa McGowan* ○

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working out their unfinished father relationships...." —Marion Woodman, Ph.D. (*Leaving My Father's House*). 20% for 1-4; 40% for 5-9; 43% for 10-24, plus $3 s&h. $15.95 pb, 0-8264-0893-1. Continuum, 370 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017; 800-937-5557. Distributed by Publisher Resources; 800-937-5557 and available from BP.

Women Invent! Two Centuries of Discoveries That Have Shaped Our World provides inspiring stories of successful women and girl inventors written for kids ages 9–13. The author, Susan Casey, takes the reader on a step-by-step journey through the process of inventing — from coming up with an idea and creating a model to gaining a patent and having it manufactured and sold. **Women Invent!** also offers details on inventors' camps, contests, books, organizations, and more. $14.95 pb, 1-55652-317-3. Chicago Review Press; 773-337-0747. Distributed by IPG and available from Ingram, B&T.

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Building A Mystery: The Story of Sarah McLachlan & Lilith Fair by Judith Fitzgerald will sell to your young music-loving customers! But beware: it doesn't address the fact that Lilith Fair distanced itself from the independent world of women's music — and feminist bookstores! But it does offer fans of Lilith Fair and Sarah McLachlan insight into this singer/songwriter's life and work. Fitzgerald examines Sarah's roots, tours the underside of the music business world, chronicles incidents of cyber-harrassment and the suicide of an obsessed fan, reviews Sarah's year-by-year and recording-by-recording rise to the top, and explores *some* of the musical and philosophical influences shaping Lilith Fair. $14.95 pb, 1-55082-190-3. Quarry Press, PO Box 1061, Kingston ON, Canada K7L 4Y5; 613-548-8429. Distributed by Stoddardt in Canada, LPC/InBook in the U.S. and Turnaround in the U.K.

Jan Zobel's **Minding Her Own Business: The Self-Employed Woman's Guide to Taxes and Recordkeeping** is a comprehensive down-to-earth guide that answers frequently asked questions re: starting and running a business. This revised edition addresses recent tax law changes that affect small business owners. $16.95 pb, 0-9654778-9-4. Easthill Press, 6114 LaSalle Avenue #599, Oakland CA 94611; 510-530-5474. Distributed by Words and available through Koen and Ingram.

The Estrogen Alternative: Natural Hormone Therapy with Botanical Progesterone by Raquel Martin with Judi Gerstung, D.C. Among my menopausal friends, I would say half have been successfully experimenting with these non-synthetic alternatives to estrogen therapy. This revised and expanded edition is an invaluable resource, especially as the "we want to know alternatives" baby boomers are looking for this hard-to-find information. It's very easy to locate only what you want to know, with ordering numbers, a thorough index and bibliographic info. $14.95 pb, Inner Traditions, 0-89281-780-1, available from B&T, Ingram, Koen and New Leaf.

—Donna Niles

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Magazines

Congrats to **Skipping Stones: A Multicultural Children's Magazine** on 10 years and for its 1997 Children's Book Award of the National Association for Multicultural Education! The theme for the January Issue (Vol. 9#5) was Festivals, Foods, Families, Folktales and Folkarts and for the March issue (Vol. 10#1) was Challenging Disability: Swing Wide the Doors of Diversity. This is a fabulous magazine! 40% for 5+; 25% for 1-4. Skipping Stones, PO Box 3939, Eugene OR 97403; 541-342-4956. $4.75 each, ISSN: 0899-529X. Available from Ubiquity.

The theme of **Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends**, Volume 7#1, (Winter 97/98) is "Sephardi and Mizrahi Women Write about Their Lives," edited by Debra Crespin and Sarah Jacobus, and it includes interviews, fiction, poetry and narratives by Jewish women from Sephardi (Spanish/Portuguese) and Mizrahi (Middle East and North Africa) backgrounds. Highlights include the story "My Mothers Wedding" by Rita Arditti (co-founder of New Words feminist bookstore in Cambridge), the memor "Survivors and Pieces of Glass" by Miriam Israel Moses, an interview with Alice Haya Lotate Kinberg, and the essay "Sephardic Lesbian at the Bar Mitzvah Games" by Sherri Cassuto.

"Young Jewish Women" **Bridges'** Spring 1997 issue examines themes from queer phobia and racism to the Holocaust, grief, Jewish continuity, and secular, cultural, spiritual and feminist Jewish identity.

50% for back issues. $7.50 each, ISSN 1046-8358. Bridges, PO Box 24839, Eugene OR 97402; phone/fax 541-935-5720. Distributed by Small Changes, Koen, Ubiquity. ○

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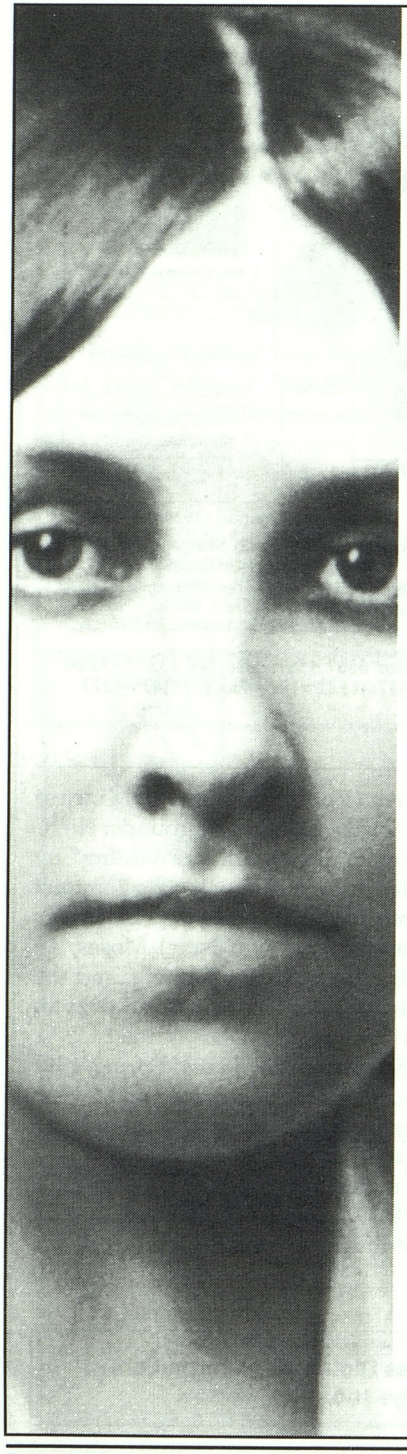

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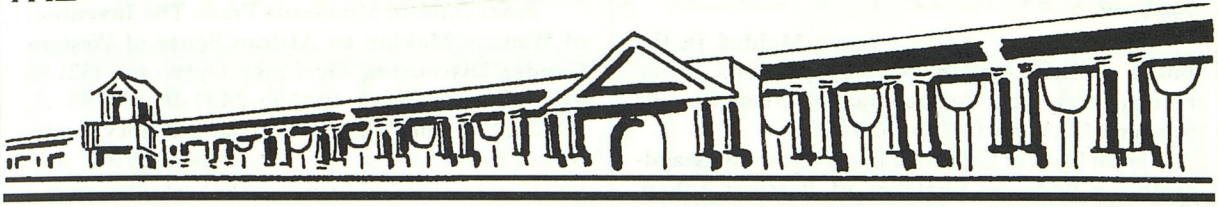
FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller

1997 titles keep arriving at my doorstep. Here are some that are worth mentioning and now available. I'm still using the rating guide — 1* for most accessible through 4**** for most technical and scholarly. Several of you have commented on its usefulness. I just want to remind you that I use it only for books that I've actually seen.

From Guilford Publications: **The Mother's Voice: Strengthening Intimacy in Families**, Kathy Weingarten ($16.95 pb, 1-57230-259-3**). Informed by two decades of feminist analysis and told in an intimate and conversational manner, this book opens up new ways for families to communicate, share, and cope across gender and generational lines.

From Harvard Univ. Press: **Ordaining Women: Culture and Conflict in Religious Organizations**, Mark Chaves. ($29.95 cl, 0-674-64145-0.**) **Daddy's Girl: Young Girls and Popular Culture**, Valerie Walkerdine. ($22.95 cl, 0-674-18600-1.**)

From Haworth Press: **Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: Healing Through Group Work — Beyond Survival** by Judy Chew offers the practical "how tos" of conducting a 13-session group, emphasizing the discovery of solutions, strengths, and internal/external resources ($14.95 pb, 0-7890-0284-1**). **Classics in Lesbian Studies** edited by Esther Rothblum collects previously published articles addressing such issues as identity, history, physical and social sciences, lesbian politics, etc. ($24.95 pb, 1-56023-093-2***). **Intimacy of Equals: Lesbian Feminist Ethics** edited by Lilian Mohin and co-published with Onlywomen Press ($19.95 pb, 1-56023-881-X**). **Feminist Theories and Feminist Psychotherapies: Origins, Themes, and Variations** by Carolyn Zerbe Enns provides a way for therapists to think about their therapeutic methods within the framework of feminist theory ($24.95 pb, 1-56023-873-9***). **Income Security and Public Assistance for Women and Children** edited by Keith Kilty, Virginia Richardson, Elizabeth Segal ($17.95 pb, 0-7890-0047-4***).

From New York Univ. Press: **Tituba, Reluctant Witch of Salem: Devilish Indians and Puritan Fantasies**, Elaine Breslaw. $17.95 pb, 0-8147-1307-6.

From Tia Chucha Press, distributed by Northeastern Univ. Press: **Exquisite Politics**, poetry by Denise Duhamel and Maureen Seaton. $10.95 pb, 1-882688-15-5.*

From Ohio State Univ. Press: **Mothers and Motherhood: Readings in American History** edited by Rima D. Apple and Janet Golden presents dramatic documentation of the social, cultural, demographic, medical, and political factors that shape the experience of motherhood. $19.95 pb, 0-8142-0739-1.***

From Princeton Univ. Press: **Shattering Silence: Women, Nationalism, and Political Subjectivity in Northern Ireland**, Begoña Aretxaga. $14.95 pb, 0-691-03754-X.***

From State Univ. of New York Press: **The Women of Hull House: A Study in Spirituality, Vocation, and Friendship** by Eleanor Stebner shows the interconnections of spirituality, vocation, and friendship, and argues that individual actions for social change must take place within communities that provide a uniting vision while supporting diverse actions and viewpoints. $19.95 pb, 0-7914-3488-5; $59.95 cl, -3487-7.

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From Texas A&M Press: **Now Hiring: The Feminization of Work in the United States, 1900–1995**, Julia K. Blackwelder. $17.95 pb, 0-89096-798-9.****

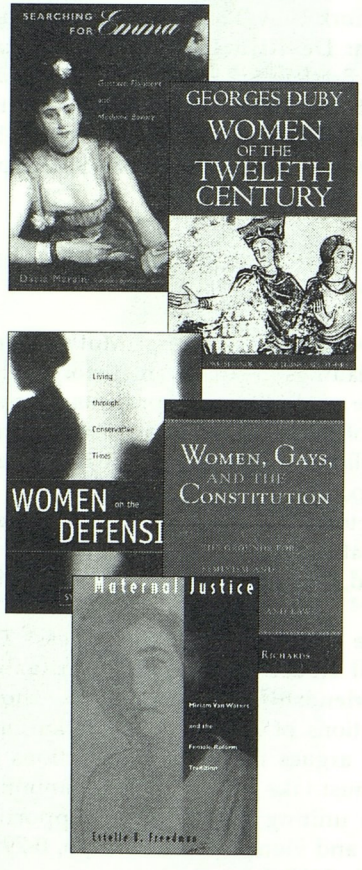
From Univ. of Arizona Press: **Molded in the Image of Changing Woman: Navajo Views on the Human Body and Personhood**, Maureen Trudelle Schwarz. $21.95 pb, 0-8165-1627-8.***

From Univ. of California Press: **From My Grandmother's Bedside: Sketches of Postwar Tokyo**, Norma Field. $24.95 cl, 0-520-20844-7.**

From Univ. of Michigan Press: **Virginia Woolf: The Common Ground**, essays by Gillian Beer. ($16.95 pb, 0-472-08463-1.**) And now available in paperback: **Doris Lessing: The Poetics of Change**, Gayle Greene ($16.95 pb, 0-472-08433-X***).

From Univ. of Georgia: **The Journals of Louisa May Alcott** edited by Joel Myerson and Daniel Shealy. $21.95 pb, 0-8203-1950-3.

From Univ. of Minnesota Press: **The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourses**, Oyeronke Oyewumi. ($21.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8166-2441-0; $54.95 cl, -2440-2.***) **The West Pole**, Diane Glancy, juxtaposes personal essays, Cherokee myths, and imaginative sketches to explore her experiences as a Native American mixed-blood coming to terms with the fragmentary nature of her life. ($17.95 cl, 0-8166-2894-7.*) **Between the Sheets, In the Streets: Queer, Lesbian, Gay Documentary** edited by Chris Holmlund and Cynthia Fuchs. ($21.95 pb, 0-8166-2775-4; $54.95 cl, -2774-6.**) **Becoming-Woman**, Camilla



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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Jenn Tust

Uncovering the Right on Campus: A Guide to Resisting Conservative Attacks on Equality and Social Justice from the Center for Campus Organizing provides information for activists who might be angry, isolated or silenced by the conservative backlash. Essays include "Turning Back the Clock on Affirmative Action," "Little Right Lies: Anti-Affirmative Action Propaganda," "Saving Your Child from 'Raving Marxist Lesbo-Feminists'" and "Academic Support for Racism, Sexism, Homophobia, Anti-Environmentalism, and Militarism," as well as resources for fighting the Right. $8 pb, 0-945210-07-8. 40%. Distributed by Center for Campus Organizing, PO Box 748, Cambridge MA 02142; 617-354-9363.

A Genealogy of Resistance by M. Nourbese Philip, author of *Harriet's Daughter* (Women's Press, Toronto) and *She Tries Her Tongue* (Women's Press, England) looks great. "[Nourbese Philip combats] the holy trinity of tokenism, multiculturalism, and the inexorable exclusion of The Other artist within our democratic Canadian mosaic. [Her essays] are significant not only because they broach the subject of racism in the arts, but because they project a detailed, unconventional exegesis for the problem." —Julian Samuel, *Matrix*. Although it's expensive, every store should carry at least one. $18.95 pb, 1-55128-047-7. Mercury Press, 2569 Dundas Street West, Toronto ON M6P 1X7; 416-767-4352. Distributed by LPC/InBook.

In **Soon We Will Not Cry: The Liberation of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson** Cynthia Griggs Fleming chronicles the life of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson, a student at Spelman College in the late 1950s who was passionately involved in the Civil Rights movement and was elected to Executive Secretary for SNNC, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1966. She died of cancer at the age of 26 in 1967. "Cynthia Fleming has given us a provocative biography in which the woman whose memory was once a driving force for activists like myself emerges in all her strength, vulnerability, and complexity. **Soon We Will Not Cry** is a vital addition to civil rights literature." —Angela Y. Davis. $24.95 cl, 0-8476-8971-9.

Kelly Dyer, in *Too Many Men on the Ice* (Polestar)

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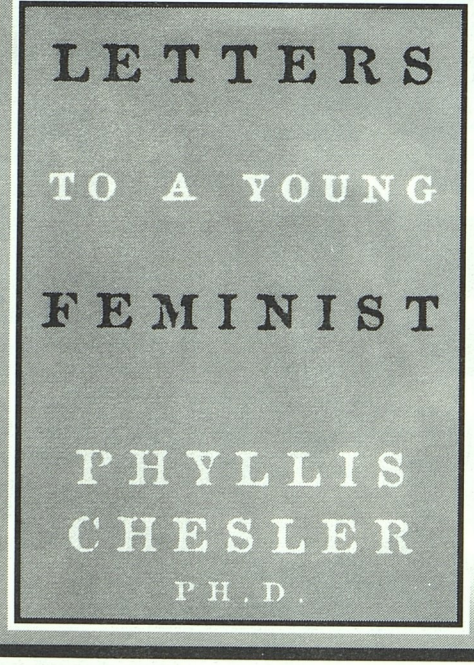
The Voice of Anna Julia Cooper: Including *A Voice from the South* and Other Important Essays, Papers, and Letters edited by Charles Lemert and Esme Bhan is just that: a compilation of works by African American feminist leader Anna Julia Cooper. "Cooper may be the founding figure in contemporary writings bringing together race, class, and gender — the 'foremother' of today's influential Black feminist writers. This collection is a major contribution to the reconstruction of gender balance in African-American history." —Manning Marable, director of the Institute for Research in African American Studies, Columbia University. $15.95 pb, 0-8476-8408-3.

Rowman & Littlefield, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706; 301-459-3366. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420.

Jewish Women Living the Challenge: A Hadassah Compendium edited by Carol Diament collects essays, short stories, poetry, biblical passages and commentary that address what it is to be a Jewish woman today. The book is divided into five sections: self, family and home, women and the workplace, social action, and spirituality. $20 pb, 8½" x 11", 280 pages, 1-889525-04-9. 20% for 1-9; 40% for 10+. Hadassah Books, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah Jewish Education Department, 50 West 58th Street, New York NY 10019; 800-880-9455, fax 212-303-7486.

Josefina Learns A Lesson: A School Story, Book Two, 1824 by Valerie Tripp, illustrated by Jean-Paul Tibbles. Josefina is an Hispanic girl living around 1824, whose heart and hopes are as big as the New Mexico sky. Book one was *Meet Josefina*, book three is *Josefina's Surprise: A Christmas Story*. Also available in Spanish. Insipid "American girl" stuff, but girls love them. Manages to be quite female positive. $5.95, 1-56247-517-7, Pleasant Co.; 800-233-0246. Available from Ingram, B&T, Bookazine. —*Dorothy Holland*

After her father is killed in the Korean War Blanca and her mother leave California to spend the summer



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Phyllis Chesler, Ph.D.

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in Mexico with her grandmother in Beatriz de la Garza's **Pillars of Gold and Silver**. At first Blanca misses the comforts and amenities of the U.S. but she soon enjoys communicating with her newly acquired Spanish, learns about love and friendship, and discovers a home away from home. ($7.95 pb, 1-55885-206-9.) In Ofelia Dumas Lachtman **Leticia's Secret**, eleven-year-old Rosario can't put a finger on why her cousin Leticia always gets the red-carpet treatment when she visits. Conflicts with siblings and school friends fill Rosario's day, yet her imagination is filled with every conceivable reason for her cousin's mysterious visits. As the two cousins grow closer Rosario learns Leticia's dreadful secret: she is dying. ($7.95 pb, 1-55885-209-3.) Both are YA novels in Arte Público's Piñata imprint.

In **Dew on the Thorn** Jovita González recreates the life of the Texas Mexican Olivares clan during the Anglo encroachment on their land in the early part of the 20th century. González utilizes history, folklore, "sense of place" and cultural traditions to describe the impact of race and class on everyday people, culture, and community of Mexican Texas. Edited and introduced by José Limón. A Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project Publication. $12.95 pb, 1-55885-175-5.

Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 800-633-ARTE. Available from BP.

The stories in **A Necklace of Words: Short Fiction by Mexican Women** edited by Marjorie Agosín and Nancy Abraham Hall explore the history of Mexico, the arrival of the Europeans and the mixing of races, the often confining spaces inhabited by women within the social fabric of Mexico, and the lives of women who lived in these limited spaces. Writers Elena Poniatowska, Rosario Castellanos, Martha Cerda, Angeles Mastretta and others, tell stories of Mexico's women trying to find their place in a country with a strong tradition of male domination. $14 pb, 1-877727-73-3. White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia NY 14063; 716-672-5743. Distributed by Consortium.

The 85 poems in Marjorie Agosín's **Melodious Women**, translated by Monica Bruno Galmozzi, celebrate individuality, beauty and courage. From the mythical Ariadne and the literary genius Rosario Castellanos to the passionate conviction of Rachel Carson, Marjorie Agosín's verses honor accomplished, groundbreaking figures as well as universal roles women play. **Melodious Women** paints a portrait of both the diversity of and the unity of female experience. $13.95 pb, 0-935480-91-9. Latin American Literary Review Press, 121 Edgewood Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15218; 412-371-9023, fax 412-371-9025. Distributed by Consortium and available from Ingram, B&T, SPD.

First Love & Look for My Obituary: Two Novellas by Elena Garro, translated by David Unger, was the winner of the 1996 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize. In *First Love* Elena Garro examines the consequences of two tourists befriending German prisoners of war in France and explores the tension between human kindness and social convention. Elena explores a love affair set in a world of arranged marriages in the surrealistic *Look for My Obituary*. "A fascinating read by a groundbreaking voice among Mexican authors." —Demetria Martinez (*Mother Tongue*). $11.95 pb, 1-880684-51-9. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson Street, Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110. Distributed by Consortium.

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: Religion, Art, and Feminism by Pamela Kirk explores this nun and poet's life and work as well as her contributions to Latin American theology. Kirk also addresses Sor Juana's tenuous position as a strong-willed woman in an age when her strong feminist voice invoked the wrath of ecclesiastical authorities in both Mexico and Europe. Kirk contrasts this with the fact that Sor Juana's writing was, as least initially, supported and

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JILL JOHNSTON
Admission Accomplished:
The Lesbian Nation *Years (1970–75)*

Jill Johnston has been acknowledged as one of the most vital, original thinkers of her time. As vanguard feminist, she was at the forefront of a movement that changed the way we think about gender and sexuality. These essays, many of which appeared in her books *Lesbian Nation* and *Gullibles Travels*, break with convention and tackle social issues as current today as when they were written. Johnston was the first writer to come out in the mass media, and the only one to sustain this kind of exposure over a revolutionary span of time.

"Jill Johnston's book [*Lesbian Nation*] is honest, outrageous, stylistically unique, brave, vulnerable and full of love. If you read it, you will never be sure of anything." *Gloria Steinem*

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encouraged by those in power. $34.50 cl, 0-8264-1043-X. Continuum, 370 Lexington Ave. #1700, NY NY 10017; 800-937-5557. Distributed by Publishers Resources and available from BP.

In **Here to Stay: Five Plays from the Women's Project** editor Julia Miles collects five amazing plays by women playwrights, all of which the Women's Project has produced in the last 20 years. In *Why We Have a Body* by Claire Chafee, Mary is an artist who has feminist nightmares; in *Aye, Aye, Aye I'm Integrated* Anna Deavere Smith looks at absurd aspects of racial discrimination in America; in *Black* Joyce Carol Oates explores the moral and social conditions of her generation; in *Dream of a Common Language* Heather MacDonald tells a love story about a married couple, both painters, in France in 1874; and in *Frida: The Story of Frida Kahlo* Hilary Blecher and Migdalis Cruz explore Frida's life using music, images from her paintings and puppets. $16.95 pb, 1-55783-315-X. 42% for 10+. Applause Theatre Books, 1841 Broadway #1100, New York NY 10023; 800-798-7787.

The Women's Great Lakes Reader edited by Victoria Brehm is a collection of narratives from women lighthouse keepers, fur traders, cooks on sailing vessels, missionaries, and fearless travelers, spanning 1789 to the present. Beginning with Native American myths and stories and continuing through writings by pioneer wives and working women, the 50 selections of autobiography, fiction, newspaper accounts and poetry chronicle what it has meant to live on the lakes from childhood to old age. $18.95 pb, 0-930100-79-4. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by Consortium.

The Source of the Spring: Mothers Through the Eyes of Women Writers compiled by Judith Shapiro explores the changes in perception of "mother" over the generations through its fifty essays and short stories by Barnard alumnae and winners of the Barnard College Essay Contest for high school students. Includes work by Zora Neale Hurston, Erica Jong, June Jordan, Margaret Mead, Ntozake Shange and Sigrid Nunez. Includes photos. $21.95 cl, 1-57324-041-9, A Barnard College Collection. Conari Press, 2550 Ninth Street #101, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-649-2940. Distributed by PGW and available from BP, Koen, B&T and Ingram.

In **The Women We Become: Myths, Folktales, and Stories About Growing Older** Ann G. Thomas, Ed.D. shows how women at midlife can find personal peace and meaning in a culture that has belittled their value. Stories, myths and folktales from Native American, African, European, and Asian cultures are combined with insights from modern psychology to illustrate a positive process of aging and empower women on that journey. $15 pb, 0-76151-292-6. Prima

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Publishing, 3875 Atherton Road, Rocklin CA 95765. Distributed by Random House and available from B&T and Ingram.

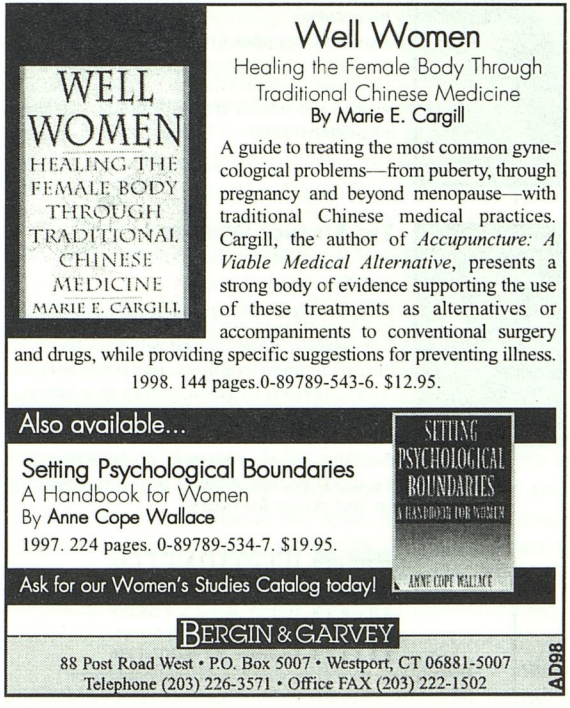
Eccentric Circles: An Uncommon Tale of Five Women by Lynn Buck is certainly that. The story opens with 84-year-old Ada, "quirky" Greenwich Village painter, over-medicated and trapped in a nursing home after breaking her hip at a protest rally. Her four activist friends come to the rescue and bring her to an old house in Southampton where they will all live together. As the women fight Ada's son's court petition to be her conservator they experience the unexpected romance, passion, humor and pathos of life — living, loving and supporting each other. Not to spoil the plot, but yes, you can put it in the lesbian section. $19 cl, 0-8059-4014-6. 40% for 5+. Dorrance Publishing, 643 Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh PA 15222; 800-788-7654. Available from B&T.

In Ann Mohin's **The Farm She Was: A Novel**, Irene Leahy, a tough-minded old farmwoman, battles to save the sheepfarm in upstate New York where she has lived since birth. Irene scoffs at the minister who tries to convince her to move into a nursing home, and roars at the realtor who presses her to sell out, all the while reliving her life's experiences on the farm: love and betrayal, loss, longing, self-sufficiency and joy. "This book is rich with nostalgic anecdotes and surprises, as well as good old country sense." —Tricia Bauer (*Boondocking*). $22.95 cl, 1-882593-21-9. Bridge Works Publishing, Box 1798, Bridgehampton NY 11932. Distributed by National Book Network and available from BP, B&T, Bookazine, Koen and Ingram.

Through fiction and poetry, comics, drawings, photographs, scripts, and song lyrics **The Girl Wants To** edited by Lynn Crosbie offers an uncompromising and challenging look at sex in the 90s. From sex pioneers to third-wave femmes, 39 women writers and artists — including Beth Bryant, Nicole Brossard, Rebecca Brown, Erica Jong, Evelyn Lau, Makeda Silvera and Barbara Wilson — explore contemporary sexuality. Originally published by Coach House Press in 1993. $17.95 pb, 1-55199-011-3. McFarlane Walter & Ross, 37A Hazelton Avenue, Toronto ON, Canada M5R 2E3. Distributed in both Canada and the U.S. by General.

French Surrealists invented a game they called "Exquisite Corpse" to write collaborative poems, which inspired the title of Denise Duhamel and Maureen Seaton's collaborative poetry. **Exquisite Politics** probes the mysteries of relationships, personal histories, and issues of sexual and political identity. "A powerful mix of provocative poetry. **Exquisite Politics** is wicked, insightful, bold and fun. —Jessica Hagedorn. $10.95 pb, 1-882688-15-5. Tia Chucha Press, PO Box 476969, Chicago IL 60647. Distributed by Northwestern University Press.

In **A Four-Sided Bed** Elizabeth Searle explores a complicated tangle of relationships and examines the limits and challenges of sexual love. Searle's novel is a tale of gender identity and the sexual boundaries of friendship and love through the passion of a relationship with multiple partners. "Elizabeth Searle writes like a poet, evoking her people with haunting



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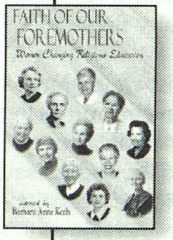
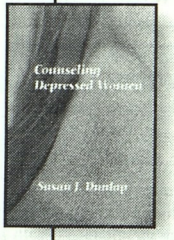
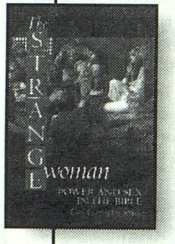
The Battered Wife
How Christians Confront Family Violence
Nancy Nason-Clark
Paper $18.00
A helpful study of how pastors, congregations, and lay persons have identified problems of domestic abuse and their positive responses to counter it. Contains suggestions for how groups can be more effective in ending abuse.



Faith of Our Foremothers
Women Changing Religious Education
Barbara Anne Keely, editor
Paper $15.00
Before feminism was popular, many women were active in and contributed to religious education. These are the stories of twelve women educators whose enthusiasm, commitment, and innovative creativity throughout the years continue to transform this field.



Counseling Depressed Women
Susan J. Dunlap
Paper $16.00
Dunlap integrates findings from several disciplines to propose a pastoral theological response to depression in women, as well as its roots which are embedded in a sense of powerlessness.



The Strange Woman
Power and Sex in the Bible
Gail Corrington Streete
Paper $19.00
In the worlds of ancient Israel and early Christianity, political and religious laws limited women's options. But some women created options by participating in adultery, prostitution, and other sexual crimes, thus resulting in a kind of independence not available to other women. These actions subverted the social system, leading to punishment for some women and power for others.

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intimacy and graceful lyricism. She lives not only with them, but inside of them, as if she is the soul in each of their bodies, as if she herself is that secret place where the most dangerous desires erupt." —Melanie Rae Thon. Erotica for any sexuality. $14 pb, 1-55597-265-9. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Avenue #203, St. Paul MN 55114; 612-641-0077. Distributed by Consortium.

Irene Zahava, who ran Smedley's for many years, has just completed **Love Shook My Heart: New Lesbian Love Stories**, a collection of 28 stories exploring romantic love between women — crushes, flirtations, enduring relationships, the immediacy and urgency of erotic lust, and the daily routine of laundry and cooking.... Contributors include Carolyn Gage, Carol Guess, Julie Mitchell (ex-*FBN* Sci Fi columnist), Jess Wells and Barbara Wilson. $10.95 pb, 1-55583-404-3. Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 213-871-1225. Distributed by Consortium and available from Koen and Ingram.

After playing herself in the semi-documentary "Strangers in Good Company," Mary Meigs wrote about her experiences in *In the Company of Strangers*. Now, in her new autobiographical novel, **The Time Being**, she tells of an affair born of a correspondence which leads two women — one in her late sixties, the other in her mid-seventies — to an arranged meeting in Australia. With a lifetime of relationships already behind them each woman, constrained by her past, cautiously approaches the other. $12.95 pb, 0-88922-374-2. Talon Books, #104-3100 Production Way, Burnaby BC, Canada V5A 4R4. Distributed by General in the U.S.

Good For You: A Handbook on Lesbian Health and Wellbeing by Tamsin Wilton (*Finger-Licking Good: The Ins and Outs of Lesbian Sex*) offers information on a range of health issues that effect lesbians today including lesbian motherhood, sexual health, high rates of breast and cervical cancer, and how lesbians can get the best out of existing health care services. Wilton also tackles topics such as mental health, diet, exercise, aging and long-term illness. Includes a bibliography and an index. $18.95 pb, 0-304-33632-7, Cassell. Distributed by Books International, PO Box 605, Herndon VA 20172; 800-561-7704.

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Jill Johnston has been acknowledged as one of the most vital, original thinkers of her time. As vanguard feminist, she was at the forefront of a movement that changed the way we think about gender and sexuality. **Admission Accomplished: The Lesbian Nation Years (1970–75)** collects her essays, many of which appeared in her books *Lesbian Nation* and *Gullibles Travels* are as current today as when they were written: coming out and "outing" public icons; gay marriage and monogamy; solidarity and betrayal between gay men and lesbians, and between straight feminists and lesbians; the men's movement and misogyny. Johnston was the first writer to come out in the mass media, and the only one to sustain this kind of exposure over a revolutionary span of time. $18.99 pb, 1-85242-450-8.

In 1996 the Asham Literary Endowment Trust organized a short story competition for women in honor of Asham House in Sussex where Virginia Woolf and Leonard Woolf lived. The competition attracted a thousand entries, of which the judges selected the 13 published in **The Catch: Prize-Winning Stories by Women** edited by Carole Buchan. It also includes specially commissioned work by Kate Atkinson, Rachel Cusk, Louise Doughty, Candia McWilliam and Deborah Moggach. $14.99 pb, 1-85242-573-3.

Serpent's Tail, 1489 Lincoln Avenue, St. Paul MN 55105; 612-690-0907. Distributed by Consortium.

The First Year of the Rest of Your Life: Reflections for Survivors of Breast Cancer edited by Charla Hudson Honea compiles stories and reflections from 75 women who share their personal experiences with breast cancer. "These stories remind us that shared feelings — from sorrow to triumph — can reach out and teach those who may be at the start of our already traveled path," writes Nancy G. Brinker in her foreword. $16.95 pb, 0-8298-1209-1. Pilgrim Press, 700 Prospect Avenue East, Cleveland OH 44115; 216-736-3717. Available from Ingram.

Strong Women, Deep Closets: Lesbians and Homophobia in Sport by Pat Griffin analyzes homophobia and heterosexism in women's sport and portrays troubling experiences of lesbian athletes. The author explores the images of women athletes, how lesbians have been demonized, how lesbian coaches and athletes manage their identities, and what motivates lesbian athletes and coaches to come out. She also discusses how participants in women's sport can be more supportive and accepting of each other. $19.95 pb, 0-88011-729-X. Human Kinetics, 1607 North Market Street, PO Box 5076, Champaign IL 61825; 217-351-5076, fax 217-351-2674.

Too Many Men on the Ice: Women's Hockey in North America by Julie Stevens and Joanna Avery chronicles the development of women's hockey and examines its successes and challenges. From the grassroots game to the training of elite players Stevens and Avery explore all levels of women's hockey. They document the formation of national teams and the preparation for the sports' debut at the 1998 Olympic games in Nagano. The book includes profiles of individual players and great b&w photos. $16.95 pb, 1-896095-33-X. Polestar Book Publishers, PO Box 5238, Station B, Victoria BC, Canada V8R 6N4. Distributed by Orca Book Publishers; 800-210-5277.

In **A View from the Red Tees: The Truth About Women and Golf** Dorothy Langley humorously challenges the stereotypes and discrimination that women golfers face today and examines the role golf plays in women's relationships with male family members, friends and colleagues. **A View from the Red Tees** is a celebration of how and why women play golf and the joys and frustrations the sport brings to women players. Includes cartoons. $14.95 cl, 1-55972-440-4. Carol Publishing Group, 120 Enterprise Avenue, Secaucus NJ 07094; 201-866-0490. Available from BP.

In **Breaking the Glass Ceiling: A Woman's Guide to Golf as a Business Tool**, Cheryl Leonhardt, founder

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New For 1998

Things Invisible to See
Lesbian & Gay Tales of Magic Realism

edited by Lawrence Schimel
$12.95 Trade Paper ISBN 1-885865-22-8

Sarah Schulman, Lesléa Newman, Nancy Springer, Laura Antoniou, and eight other top writers in both the fantasy field and lesbian and gay letters come together in this anthology of contemporary fantasy and magic realism with lesbian and gay themes.

Shipping In May

Stars Inside Her
Lesbian Erotic Fantasy
edited by Cecilia Tan
$14.95 Trade Paper ISBN 1-885865-19-8

In the vein of "The New Worlds of Women," *Stars Inside Her* presents the magical and futuristic erotic fantasies of women who love women. Hot, fresh, and genuine, these women's voices will transport you to another world.

Shipping In November

of The Business and Professional Women's Golf Association, addresses initial reservations and concerns women have about golf and explains specifically what women can learn in business by playing golf. Cheryl covers everything from why golf is a necessary business skill to learning the rules, buying the right equipment, and networking your way to success. $15.95 pb, 1-57243-276-4, May. 40% for 5+. Triumph Books, 644 South Clark Street, Chicago IL 60605; 800-335-5323. Distributed by the LPC Group and available from BP, B&T, Ingram, Koen and Partners.

Yoga for Your Spiritual Muscles: A Complete Yoga Program to Strengthen Body and Spirit by Rachel Schaeffer, photographs by Adam Mastoon and David S. Waitz, shows readers how to develop spiritual qualities that help bridge the gap between mind and body including balance, flexibility, confidence, strength, playfulness, focus and energy. Special sections include yoga during pregnancy, yoga for kids, yoga for the elderly and even yoga to increase productivity on the job. $24.95 pb, 8½" x 11", 224 pages, 0-8356-0763-1, June. Quest Books/Theosophical Publishing House, 306 W. Geneva Road, Wheaton IL 60189; 800-669-9425. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420 and available from BP, B&T, Ingram and New Leaf.

In **Wild Communion: Experiencing Peace in Nature**, Ruth Baetz (*Lesbian Crossroads*) tells how she, a self-described city slicker at 33, decided to do something different and went to the Canadian Rockies alone. Both a how-to and a spiritual adventure book, **Wild Communion** addresses the barriers that prevent contact with nature, such as busy schedules and guilt at spending "nonproductive" time outdoors. Baetz provides practical strategies for allowing the wonder of nature to enter our racing minds in the little time we can spare. $14 pb, 1-56838-187-5. 45%. Hazeldon, Center City MN 55012; 800-328-0094. Available from B&T and Ingram.

Unspeakable Truths and Happy Endings: Human Cruelty and the New Trauma Therapy by Rebecca Coffey is a clearly written, accessible book on a very difficult and important subject. Survivors of human cruelty often find that their stories are too personally threatening for others to acknowledge: listeners bring to the listening a desperate hope that what they are about to hear didn't really happen. This book can help therapists, friends and families of survivors to overcome their own fears and prejudices about violence and victims enough to talk and listen. It can be used as a resource for survivors (of sexual assault, violent crime, incest, Holocaust survivors, and parents of murdered children). Coffey, a health journalist who specializes making perplexing mental health topics comprehensible to the general public, has won awards and acclaim for her previous work. In this book she tells the stories of 15 survivors, balancing them with commentary by mental health experts and social critics about the healing potential of listening and listeners. She also recounts her own

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progress in learning to listen well to tales of trauma, bringing a refreshing slant to the controversies about recovered memory. $19.95 pb, 1-886968-05-5; $34.95 cl, -04-7. 40% for 3-49. Sidran Foundation, 2328 West Joppa Road #15, Lutherville MD 21093; toll-free 888-825-8249, fax 410-337-0747. —*Lisa McGowan*

The Scarred Soul: Understanding & Ending Self-Inflicted Violence, A Self-Help Guide by Tracy Alderman, Ph.D. is a book every feminist bookstore should stock. In it Dr. Alderman provides information about self-inflicted violence (SIV) for both people who self-injure — and tells them they are not alone — and for people who want to support self injurers. **The Scarred Soul** offers activities and exercises on topics such as what SIV is and why people injure themselves, how to talk about SIV, and how to be supportive to people who engage in SIV. Resources and a bibliography are also included. $13.95 pb, 1-57224-079-2. New Harbinger Publications, 5674 Shattuck Avenue, Oakland CA 94609; 510-652- 0215. Distributed by PGW.

Daughters of Saturn: From Father's Daughter to Creative Woman by Patricia Reis explores various aspects of the father-daughter relationship on adult women's creativity. "Patricia Reis's penetrating exploration of the 'Wildzone,' in which women can track 'their way out of the confines of patriarchal prescriptions,' is an intricate weaving together of Greek goddesses and contemporary women writers — all

Short Raves

I do most of my reading at night, and the world Rosina Lippi creates in **Homestead** is one I've been reluctant to leave for sleep, one that haunts me throughout the day at work; it's a world I can't wait to jump back into as soon as I get home. **Homestead** is the story of a community in Rosenau, a tiny, isolated village surrounded on all sides by the Austrian Alps, told by three generations of women who live there. The beginning is perfect: It's 1909, and a misaddressed postcard arrives at the general store, bringing with it visions of a larger, more glamorous world. Anna chooses to answer it, and a brief, formal reply turns into a recounting of her life; she finds her voice and goes on to paint a vivid portrait of herself. Each chapter is like that: a closely observed, transforming moment in the life of the woman whose story is the focus of that chapter. Often it is some seemingly little thing that is said, is done, that just takes your breath away. This is a mesmerizing, powerful and beautiful book. It's also an attractively designed book — a good hand-sell and a great gift. $21 cl, 1-883285-14-3, Delphinium Books. Distributed by HarperCollins.

"This is a taboo story, I know, for it's the stories of reconciliation that are told over and over...[but] not the stories of leaving." As a child Julie Hilden excelled in school not out of a joy of learning, but out of fear: this was the only way she saw of getting away from home. In **The Bad Daughter**, an intensely personal memoir written with grace and unflinching honesty, Julie Hilden tells of the lonely, isolated existence she shared with her mother, of keeping her distance from others, not making friends, telling lies and making excuses to cover up for her increasingly angry and erratic mother — she graduated from high school in three years, was accepted to Harvard and left home to reinvent herself, feeling that what love she had for her mother as a child was long gone and that she needed to get away from her — to cut all ties — in order to survive. When her mother was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's and put in a nursing home by an aunt, Hilden chose not to leave school or visit her. She went on to Yale Law and then a legal career in New York, visiting her mother just once a few months before she died. In a final, chilling irony, she learns that there is a fifty-fifty chance that she carries the gene for early-onset Alzheimer's. With intelligence and insight — and without apology or excuses — Hilden writes of her abandonment of her mother and how this decision influenced the relationships she formed in her new life. $17.95 cl, 1-56512-185-6, Algonquin. Distributed by Workman. —*Lisa McGowan* ❍

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working out their unfinished father relationships...." —Marion Woodman, Ph.D. (*Leaving My Father's House*). 20% for 1-4; 40% for 5-9; 43% for 10-24, plus $3 s&h. $15.95 pb, 0-8264-0893-1. Continuum, 370 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017; 800-937-5557. Distributed by Publisher Resources; 800-937-5557 and available from BP.

Women Invent! Two Centuries of Discoveries That Have Shaped Our World provides inspiring stories of successful women and girl inventors written for kids ages 9–13. The author, Susan Casey, takes the reader on a step-by-step journey through the process of inventing — from coming up with an idea and creating a model to gaining a patent and having it manufactured and sold. **Women Invent!** also offers details on inventors' camps, contests, books, organizations, and more. $14.95 pb, 1-55652-317-3. Chicago Review Press; 773-337-0747. Distributed by IPG and available from Ingram, B&T.

Building A Mystery: The Story of Sarah McLachlan & Lilith Fair by Judith Fitzgerald will sell to your young music-loving customers! But beware: it doesn't address the fact that Lilith Fair distanced itself from the independent world of women's music — and feminist bookstores! But it does offer fans of Lilith Fair and Sarah McLachlan insight into this singer/songwriter's life and work. Fitzgerald examines Sarah's roots, tours the underside of the music business world, chronicles incidents of cyber-harrassment and the suicide of an obsessed fan, reviews Sarah's year-by-year and recording-by-recording rise to the top, and explores *some* of the musical and philosophical influences shaping Lilith Fair. $14.95 pb, 1-55082-190-3. Quarry Press, PO Box 1061, Kingston ON, Canada K7L 4Y5; 613-548-8429. Distributed by Stoddardt in Canada, LPC/InBook in the U.S. and Turnaround in the U.K.

Jan Zobel's **Minding Her Own Business: The Self-Employed Woman's Guide to Taxes and Recordkeeping** is a comprehensive down-to-earth guide that answers frequently asked questions re: starting and running a business. This revised edition addresses recent tax law changes that affect small business owners. $16.95 pb, 0-9654778-9-4. Easthill Press, 6114 LaSalle Avenue #599, Oakland CA 94611; 510-530-5474. Distributed by Words and available through Koen and Ingram.

The Estrogen Alternative: Natural Hormone Therapy with Botanical Progesterone by Raquel Martin with Judi Gerstung, D.C. Among my menopausal friends, I would say half have been successfully experimenting with these non-synthetic alternatives to estrogen therapy. This revised and expanded edition is an invaluable resource, especially as the "we want to know alternatives" baby boomers are looking for this hard-to-find information. It's very easy to locate only what you want to know, with ordering numbers, a thorough index and bibliographic info. $14.95 pb, Inner Traditions, 0-89281-780-1, available from B&T, Ingram, Koen and New Leaf.

—Donna Niles

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"Until liberty is attained—
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there can be no permanent peace."
Civil War Flag Presentation Speech, Fayetteville, NY, 1862
Matilda Joslyn Gage

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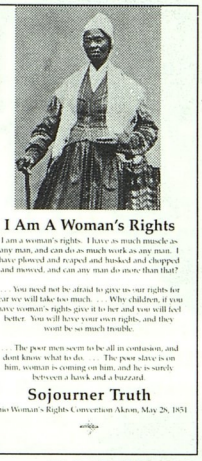

Poster: 12x24 **P476...$12**

Woman, Church and State
by Matilda Joslyn Gage
NEW EDITION of the 1893 feminist classic. Softcover, 5.5x8.5, 400pp., 1998.
K122RW...$19.95. Available 6/15/98

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Magazines

Congrats to **Skipping Stones: A Multicultural Children's Magazine** on 10 years and for its 1997 Children's Book Award of the National Association for Multicultural Education! The theme for the January Issue (Vol. 9#5) was Festivals, Foods, Families, Folktales and Folkarts and for the March issue (Vol. 10#1) was Challenging Disability: Swing Wide the Doors of Diversity. This is a fabulous magazine! 40% for 5+; 25% for 1-4. Skipping Stones, PO Box 3939, Eugene OR 97403; 541-342-4956. $4.75 each, ISSN: 0899-529X. Available from Ubiquity.

The theme of **Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends**, Volume 7#1, (Winter 97/98) is "Sephardi and Mizrahi Women Write about Their Lives," edited by Debra Crespin and Sarah Jacobus, and it includes interviews, fiction, poetry and narratives by Jewish women from Sephardi (Spanish/Portuguese) and Mizrahi (Middle East and North Africa) backgrounds. Highlights include the story "My Mothers Wedding" by Rita Arditti (co-founder of New Words feminist bookstore in Cambridge), the memor "Survivors and Pieces of Glass" by Miriam Israel Moses, an interview with Alice Haya Lotate Kinberg, and the essay "Sephardic Lesbian at the Bar Mitzvah Games" by Sherri Cassuto.

"Young Jewish Women" **Bridges'** Spring 1997 issue examines themes from queer phobia and racism to the Holocaust, grief, Jewish continuity, and secular, cultural, spiritual and feminist Jewish identity.

50% for back issues. $7.50 each, ISSN 1046-8358. Bridges, PO Box 24839, Eugene OR 97402; phone/fax 541-935-5720. Distributed by Small Changes, Koen, Ubiquity. ○

For Small Press Distributor information, please see page 104.

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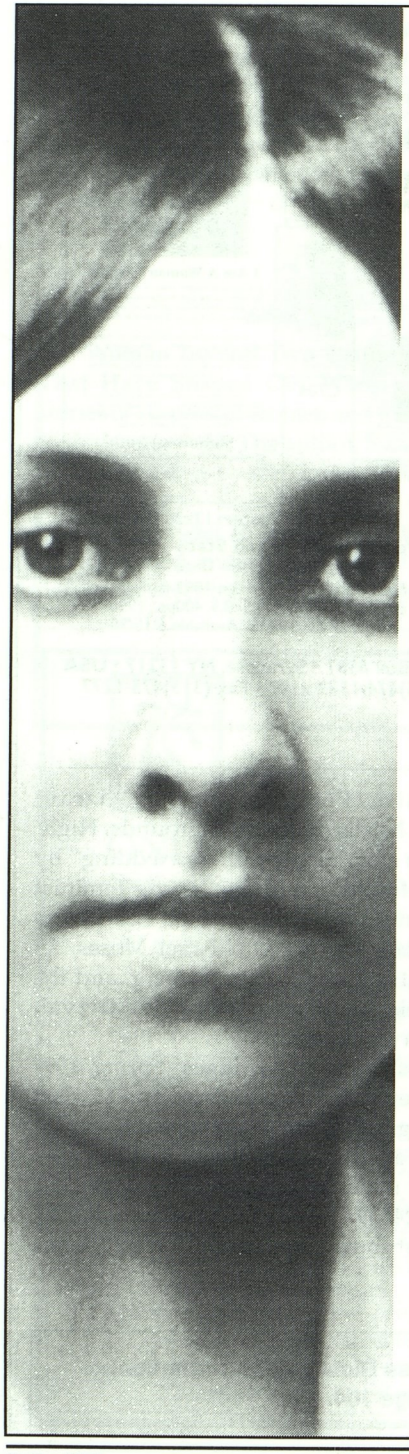

New Titles From Northeastern

Louisa May Alcott
From Blood & Thunder to Hearth & Home

Madeleine B. Stern

Gathered together for the first time in this volume, these influential articles by distinguished Alcott scholar Madeleine Stern illuminate Louisa May Alcott's development as an individual and a writer, revealing a surprisingly complex personality. The essays trace her growing professionalism, uncover her feminist and abolitionist convictions, and discuss the discoveries that unmasked her double literary life.

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Public Opinions on Abortion and the Death Penalty

Kimberly J. Cook

Drawing on interviews and statistical analysis, Kimberly Cook examines the range and combinations of public beliefs about abortion and the death penalty. Asking, for example, why some are against the right to choose abortion but simultaneously in favor of capital punishment, she finds that the level of punitiveness — the desire to punish those perceived to violate ethical codes — explains many such inconsistencies in public opinion.

The Northeastern Series on Gender, Crime, and Law

$45.00 cloth

Ebb Tide in New England
Women, Seaports, and Social Change, 1630-1800

Elaine Forman Crane

Examining the status of women in four New England seaports in the 17th and 18th centuries, Elaine Forman Crane argues that women suffered a deterioration in economic and social standing as the market economy and government expanded. She makes a strong case for viewing the feminization of poverty in contemporary America as a product of these historical origins.

$50.00 cloth • $17.95 paper

Women's Voices, Women's Lives
Documents in Early American History

Edited by Carol Berkin and Leslie Horowitz

Offering a wealth of primary sources that cut across race, class, and region, this reader creates a rich mosaic of women's experiences in colonial America. Diaries, letters, essays, and other documents are grouped into six thematic chapters focusing on sex and reproduction, marriage and family, women's work, religion, politics and law, and changing gender ideologies.

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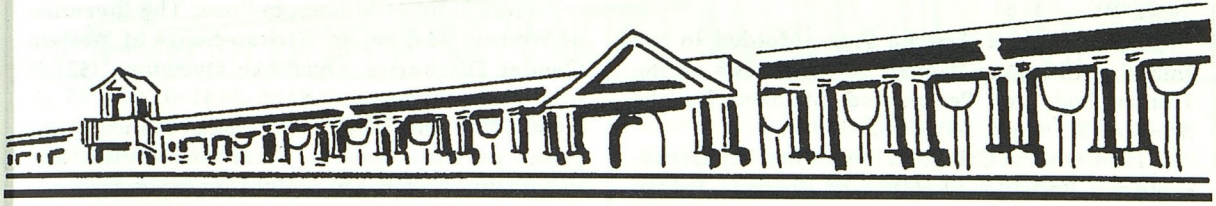

By Mev Miller

1997 titles keep arriving at my doorstep. Here are some that are worth mentioning and now available. I'm still using the rating guide — 1* for most accessible through 4**** for most technical and scholarly. Several of you have commented on its usefulness. I just want to remind you that I use it only for books that I've actually seen.

From Guilford Publications: **The Mother's Voice: Strengthening Intimacy in Families**, Kathy Weingarten ($16.95 pb, 1-57230-259-3**). Informed by two decades of feminist analysis and told in an intimate and conversational manner, this book opens up new ways for families to communicate, share, and cope across gender and generational lines.

From Harvard Univ. Press: **Ordaining Women: Culture and Conflict in Religious Organizations**, Mark Chaves. ($29.95 cl, 0-674-64145-0.**) **Daddy's Girl: Young Girls and Popular Culture**, Valerie Walkerdine. ($22.95 cl, 0-674-18600-1.**)

From Haworth Press: **Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: Healing Through Group Work — Beyond Survival** by Judy Chew offers the practical "how tos" of conducting a 13-session group, emphasizing the discovery of solutions, strengths, and internal/external resources ($14.95 pb, 0-7890-0284-1**). **Classics in Lesbian Studies** edited by Esther Rothblum collects previously published articles addressing such issues as identity, history, physical and social sciences, lesbian politics, etc. ($24.95 pb, 1-56023-093-2***). **Intimacy of Equals: Lesbian Feminist Ethics** edited by Lilian Mohin and co-published with Onlywomen Press ($19.95 pb, 1-56023-881-X**). **Feminist Theories and Feminist Psychotherapies: Origins, Themes, and Variations** by Carolyn Zerbe Enns provides a way for therapists to think about their therapeutic methods within the framework of feminist theory ($24.95 pb, 1-56023-873-9***). **Income Security and Public Assistance for Women and Children** edited by Keith Kilty, Virginia Richardson, Elizabeth Segal ($17.95 pb, 0-7890-0047-4***).

From New York Univ. Press: **Tituba, Reluctant Witch of Salem: Devilish Indians and Puritan Fantasies**, Elaine Breslaw. $17.95 pb, 0-8147-1307-6.

From Tia Chucha Press, distributed by Northeastern Univ. Press: **Exquisite Politics**, poetry by Denise Duhamel and Maureen Seaton. $10.95 pb, 1-882688-15-5.*

From Ohio State Univ. Press: **Mothers and Motherhood: Readings in American History** edited by Rima D. Apple and Janet Golden presents dramatic documentation of the social, cultural, demographic, medical, and political factors that shape the experience of motherhood. $19.95 pb, 0-8142-0739-1.***

From Princeton Univ. Press: **Shattering Silence: Women, Nationalism, and Political Subjectivity in Northern Ireland**, Begoña Aretxaga. $14.95 pb, 0-691-03754-X.***

From State Univ. of New York Press: **The Women of Hull House: A Study in Spirituality, Vocation, and Friendship** by Eleanor Stebner shows the interconnections of spirituality, vocation, and friendship, and argues that individual actions for social change must take place within communities that provide a uniting vision while supporting diverse actions and viewpoints. $19.95 pb, 0-7914-3488-5; $59.95 cl, -3487-7.

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From Texas A&M Press: **Now Hiring: The Feminization of Work in the United States, 1900–1995**, Julia K. Blackwelder. $17.95 pb, 0-89096-798-9.****

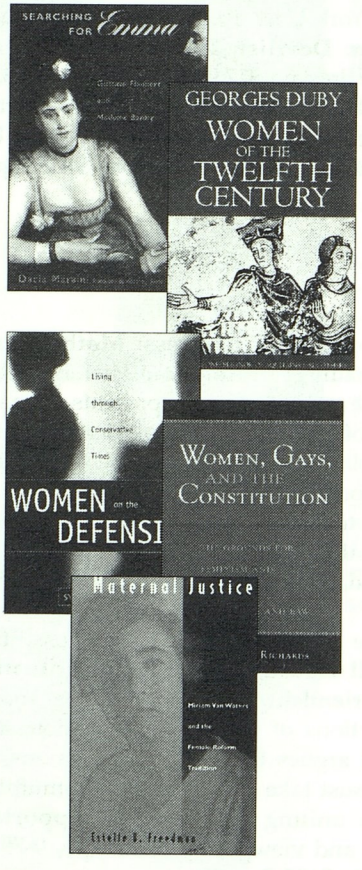
From Univ. of Arizona Press: **Molded in the Image of Changing Woman: Navajo Views on the Human Body and Personhood**, Maureen Trudelle Schwarz. $21.95 pb, 0-8165-1627-8.***

From Univ. of California Press: **From My Grandmother's Bedside: Sketches of Postwar Tokyo**, Norma Field. $24.95 cl, 0-520-20844-7.**

From Univ. of Michigan Press: **Virginia Woolf: The Common Ground**, essays by Gillian Beer. ($16.95 pb, 0-472-08463-1.**) And now available in paperback: **Doris Lessing: The Poetics of Change**, Gayle Greene ($16.95 pb, 0-472-08433-X***).

From Univ. of Georgia: **The Journals of Louisa May Alcott** edited by Joel Myerson and Daniel Shealy. $21.95 pb, 0-8203-1950-3.

From Univ. of Minnesota Press: **The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourses**, Oyeronke Oyewumi. ($21.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8166-2441-0; $54.95 cl, -2440-2.***) **The West Pole**, Diane Glancy, juxtaposes personal essays, Cherokee myths, and imaginative sketches to explore her experiences as a Native American mixed-blood coming to terms with the fragmentary nature of her life. ($17.95 cl, 0-8166-2894-7.*) **Between the Sheets, In the Streets: Queer, Lesbian, Gay Documentary** edited by Chris Holmlund and Cynthia Fuchs. ($21.95 pb, 0-8166-2775-4; $54.95 cl, -2774-6.**) **Becoming-Woman**, Camilla



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Searching for Emma
GUSTAVE FLAUBERT AND *MADAME BOVARY*

Dacia Maraini
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VOLUME 2: REMEMBERING THE DEAD

Georges Duby
Translated by Jean Birrell
***Paper $17.00 March**

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LIVING THROUGH CONSERVATIVE TIMES

Sylvia Bashevkin
***Paper $18.00 May**

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David A. J. Richards
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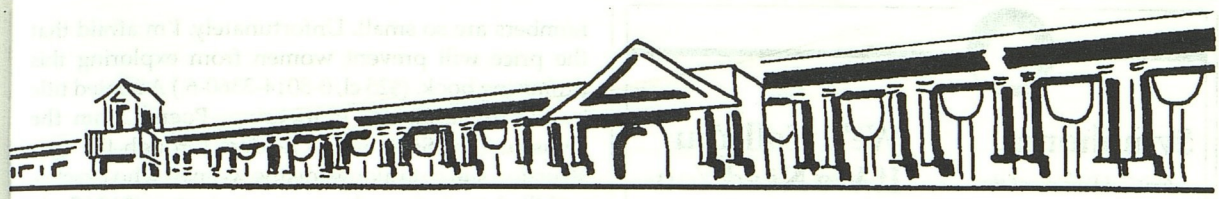

Griggers. ($17.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8166-2717-7; $44.95 cl, -2716-9.***)

From Univ. of Mississippi Press: "I think that women do tell lots of stories and I think they're probably among the last of a great oral tradition, and it's called gossip." Find this and other important observations in **Conversations with Grace Paley**, edited by Gerhard Bach and Blaine Hall, as Paley discusses issues such as civil disobedience, racism, writing and storytelling, Jewish life in the U.S., and so much more. $17 pb, 0-87805-962-8.

From Utah State Univ. Press: **Woman of the River: Georgie White Clark** by Richard Westwood is the biography of an eccentric outdoor adventurer and one of the best-known rafting guides in the canyons along the Colorado River. $19.95 pb, 0-87421-234-0.**

And now, a look at 1998 Spring titles...

Cambridge University Press

Pearl Buck influenced American and Chinese cultural and literary history but not much has been done to study her life or her work. **Pearl S. Buck: A Cultural Biography** by Peter Conn changes that. This biography offers an in-depth study of one of the most renowned and controversial figures in U.S./China history. Now available in paperback. $17.95, 0-521-63989-1.

Re-Orienting Western Feminisms: Women's Diversity in a Post-Colonial World by Chilla Bulbeck presents a bold challenge to the hegemony of white, Western feminism in this incisive and wide-ranging exploration of the lived experiences of "women of color." She examines debates on human rights, family relationships, sexuality, and notions of individual and community. ($19.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-521-58975-4; $59.95 cl, -58975-4.) Related title: In **Colonial Fantasies: Towards a Feminist Reading of Orientalism**, Meyda Yegenoglu investigates the intersection between post-colonial and feminist criticism, via the Western fascination with veiled women of "the Orient." ($18.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-521-62658-7; $59.95 cl, -48233-X, May.)

Also of interest: **Votes without Leverage: Women in American Electoral Politics, 1920–1970**, Anna L. Harvey. ($19.95, *short discount*, 0-521-59743-9, June.) **Pragmatic Women and Body Politics** edited by Margaret Lock and Patricia Kaufert — Cambridge Studies in Medical Anthropology 5. ($22.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-521-62929-2; $64.95 cl, -62099-6.) **Picturing Women in Renaissance and Baroque Italy** edited by Geraldine Johnson and Sara Matthews Grieco. Art and Art History. ($29.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-521-56580-4; $85 cl, -56276-7.)

Cornell University Press

Call me nostalgic — or just tell me I'm traveling in different circles — but I remember a time when I actively knew several women who worked in the trades. It seems that there are still women in these fields but there's not as much talk about it anymore. Is it because these fields have so many women working in them that we take it for granted, or do we not care about the position of women in the trades as an economic strategy, or has the feminist "movement" abandoned these perspectives to move onto more "professional" concerns? I'm excited about **We'll Call You If We Need You: Experiences of Women Working Construction** by Susan Eisenberg because it tackles these concerns as well as others for women in construction. With 20 years experience as a master electrician, Eisenberg expected not only a challenging job and the camaraderie of a labor union but also the chance to be part of a historic transformation, social and economic, that would make the construction trades accessible to women. This transformation did not happen and this book explores the reasons through the weaving of voices of 30 women who have worked as electricians, carpenters, ironworkers, painters, and plumbers to examine why their

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Conspiracy Cultures from Outerspace to Cyberspace

JODI DEAN

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DAVID RAYSIDE

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0-8014-8526-6 $12.95 paper
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Philosophical Perspectives

EDITED BY STANLEY G. FRENCH, WANDA TEAYS, AND LAURA M. PURDY

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0-8014-8452-9 $16.95 paper
May

Welfare's End

GWENDOLYN MINK

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March

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CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

numbers are so small. Unfortunately, I'm afraid that the price will prevent women from exploring this promising book. ($25 cl, 0-8014-3360-6.) A related title by Susan Eisenberg, **Pioneering: Poems from the Construction Site**, brings readers through the construction site gate alongside the women who practice a skilled trade in a dangerous industry. ($12.95 pb, 0-8014-8526-6.)

Unlike most books on welfare that struggle with the economic, legal, and social policy aspects of welfare, **Welfare's End** by Gwendolyn Mink seems to start from a different place — single moms. Mink asserts that welfare is an assault on poor mothers and charges that the basic elements of the new welfare policy subordinate poor single mothers in a separate system of law. She points to the racial, class, and gender biases of both liberals and conservatives to explain the odd but sturdy consensus behind welfare reforms that force the poor single mother to relinquish basic rights and compel her to find economic security in work outside the home. Showing how welfare reform harms women, Mink invites the design of policies to promote gender justice. $21 cl, 0-8014-3347-9.

Now available in paperback: **Land of Women: Tales of Sex and Gender from Early Ireland**, Lisa Bitel. ($16.95, *short discount*, 0-8014-8544-4.) **Women in Old Norse Society**, Jenny Jochens. ($19.95, *short discount*, 0-8014-8520-7.)

Duke University Press

Novel Gazing: Queer Readings in Fiction edited by Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick is queer criticism of the history of the novel exploring queer worlds of taste, texture, joy, and ennui — focusing on such subjects as flogging, wizardry, exorcism, dance, Zionist desire, and Internet sexuality. $21.95 pb, 0-8223-2040-1; $59.95 cl, -2028-2.****

Also of interest: **High Contrast: Race and Gender in Contemporary Hollywood Films**, Sharon Willis. $16.95 pb, 0-8223-2041-X; $49.95 cl, -2029-0.

Haworth Press

Anne Herrmann awoke from surgery for endometriosis and discovered that, without her consent, her physician had given her a hysterectomy. **A Menopausal Memoir: Letters from Another Climate** examines her journey through loss, recovery, and healing; the connection between

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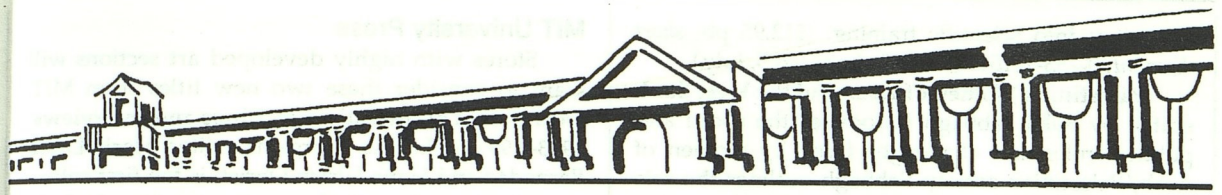

precipitated menopause, mourning, and memory; the instability of sexual identity; structures of storytelling; and the category of experience within feminist theory. $14.95 pb, 1-56023-919-0.

Eating Positive: A Nutrition Guide and Recipe Book for People with HIV/AIDS by Jeffrey Huber and Kris Riddlesperger helps people with HIV/AIDS to maintain proper nutrition while taking into consideration the difficulties faced by the variety of conditions associated with the disease. $14.95 pb, 1-56023-893-3.

Disability and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Clinical, Legal and Patient Perspectives edited by Nancy Klimas and Roberto Patarca discusses the difficult subject of how to diagnose disability in chronic fatigue syndrome patients, how to determine severity of a patient's disability, and how new disability guidelines would make more CF patients eligible to apply for benefits. $14.95 pb, 0-7890-0501-8.

Breaking the Rules: Women in Prison and Feminist Therapy edited by Judy Harden and Marcia Hill examines how women in prison can reconstruct their lives if offered the correct help with such problems as drug abuse, domestic violence, and prostitution. $19.95 pb, 1-56023-107-6.

Offering readers a unique look at the problems gays and lesbians face in a rural community, **Rural Gays and Lesbians: Building on the Strengths of Communities** edited by James Donald Smith and Ronald Mancoske provides ideas, programs, and services for helping gays and lesbians with mental health issues. $14.95 pb, 1-56023-106-8.

Haworth is offering an increasing number of titles for the lesbian and gay community — especially concerning youth. New offerings include: **School Experiences of Gay and Lesbian Youth: The Invisible Minority** edited by Mary B. Harris ($14.95 pb, 1-56023-109-2), **Gay and Lesbian Literature Since World War II: History and Memory** edited by Sonya Jones ($19.95 pb, 1-56023-102-5), and **Gays and Lesbians in Mental Health** edited by Christopher Alexander ($19.95 pb, 1-56023-936-0).

Indiana University Press

Culture, culture, who owns the culture in academia? This is the premise behind **In the Canon's Mouth: Dispatches from the Culture Wars** by Lillian S. Robinson. Robinson counters the Right's claim that feminists and cultural critics have taken over the universities with the observation that the Right is so frightened at losing its own strangle-hold on culture that it misrepresents a foothold as hegemony. $13.95 pb, 0-253-21134-4; $29.95 cl, -33309-1.

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, IUP is reissuing several reports from the Kinsey Institute. They're too expensive (esp. at short discount) for stores to carry in stock, but libraries and those with customers very interested in this topic will want to know about these volumes. Of special interest is **Sexual Behavior in the Human Female**, from the staff of the Institute, Alfred C. Kinsey, et al. $49.95 cl, 0-253-33411-X, May.

Sandra Harding is back with a new book on women and science which researches the commonalties and oppositions between Western, feminist, and postcolonial science. **Is Science Multicultural? Postcolonialisms, Feminisms, and Epistemologies** explores what practitioners of Euro-American, feminist, and postcolonial science and technology studies can learn from each other. She discusses the array of postcolonial science studies that have flourished over the last three decades, and probes their implications for "northern" science. ($14.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21156-5; $35 cl, -33365-2.) Of related interest is **Common Science? Women, Minorities, and Science** by Jean Barr and Lynda Birke, which explores the relationship of women and minorities to scientific knowledge. They survey the wide range of initiatives designed to encourage the entry of women and

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minorities into scientific training. ($12.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21181-6; $29.95 cl, -33386-5, July.)

Palestinian Women of Gaza and the West Bank edited by Suha Sabbagh introduces the social and political roles and challenges faced by women of Arab/Palestinian society. Sabbagh outlines the role of women within the struggles of Gaza and the West Bank and demonstrates how neither the international media nor Arab commentators have accurately assessed the contributions of women's institutions nor how traditional women have supported the Intifada. $16.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21174-3; $39.95 cl, -33377-6.

Also of interest: **African American Women in the Struggle for the Vote, 1850–1920** edited by Rosalyn Terborg-Penn ($16.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-253-21176-X; $39.95 cl, -33378-4), **Nation, Empire, Colony: Historicizing Gender and Race**, edited by Ruth Roach Pierson and Nupur Chaudhuri ($14.95 pb, *text discount*, 0-253-21191-3; $29.95 cl, -33398-9, July), and **It's Not Unusual: A History of Lesbian and Gay Britain in the Twentieth Century**, Alkarim Jivani ($15.95 pb, 0-253-21150-6; $35 cl, -33348-2).

MIT University Press

Stores with highly developed art sections will want to consider these two new titles from MIT. **Destruction of the Father: Writings and Interviews, 1923–1997** by Louise Bourgeois, edited Marie-Laure Bernadac and Hans-Ulrich Obrist, is the first collection of writings by artist Louise Bourgeois and is both intellectually rich and psychologically revealing. This internationally renowned sculptor has been writing since the age of 12. This collection of her writing also includes 120 illustrations. $30 pb, 0-26252246-2.

Another addition to the collection of art books from MIT includes **Mirror Images: Women, Surrealism, and Self-Representation** edited by Whitney Chadwick. It offers a fresh look at women Surrealist artists of the 30s and 40s finding provocative parallels with many of today's leading women artists. **Mirror Images** includes works of Clause Cahun, Dorothea Tanning, Leonora Carrington, Frida Kahlo and others. Their works are compared to Louise Bourgeois, Cindy Sherman, Dorothy Cross to name a few. $35 pb, 0-262-53157-7, May.

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Women, Surrealism, and Self-Representation
edited by Whitney Chadwick
"This is a welcome successor to Chadwick's significant work on the hitherto neglected history of women and surrealism. An impressive list of contributors explores the byways, bringing this tragic, funny, and engrossing story up to recent times."
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The MIT Press

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Writings and Interviews, 1923-1997
Louise Bourgeois
edited by Marie-Laure Bernadac and Hans-Ulrich Obrist
This first collection of writings by artist Louise Bourgeois is both intellectually rich and psychologically revealing.
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Essays on the Virtue of Images
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Why So Slow? The Advancement of Women by Virginia Valian looks at how men and women — despite their best egalitarian intentions — still carry internalized (learned) understandings about gender difference. These gender schemes, as she calls them, create small sex differences in characteristics, behaviors, perceptions, expectations, and evaluations of men and women. These small imbalances accumulate to advantage men and disadvantage women. Her point is to understand how these work in order to begin to perceive others and ourselves more accurately. Very readable. $30 cl, 0-262-22054-7.**

New York University Press

Women of the American South: A Multicultural Reader, edited by Christie Anne Farnham, looks beyond the stereotypical "Southern" woman and ntegrates experiences of white women and women of color in a myriad of subjects — Black women's suffrage, economic realities of Choctaw women, female kin and female slaves in planters' wills, the Northern myth of rebel girl, second wave feminism, and lesbianism. $18.95 pb, 0-8147-2655-0; $55 cl, -2654-2.

State University of New York Press

Steel Butterflies: Japanese Women and the American Experience by Nancy Brown Diggs explores how Japanese women living in the U.S. see themselves and how they see American women. Some of the topics discussed include: education, ethics, freedom of living in the U.S., why Japanese women both envy and feel sorry for American women, the past and future of status of women in Japan, family life, women's responsibility in the home, community involvement, and aspects of Japanese culture. $18.95 pb, 0-7914-3624-1; $56.50 cl, -3623-3.

"In the Mix": Struggle and Survival in a Women's Prison by Barbara Owen describes life inside the world's largest women's prison, from the point of view of the women themselves. Based on three years of study, the book describes daily life at the prison from a variety of perspectives, with an emphasis on the gendered nature of its social organization, roles, and normative frameworks. Common themes, such as substance abuse, limited economic opportunity, patriarchy, and survival on the streets thread through the individual chapters. $19.95 pb, 0-7914-3608-X; $59.50 cl, -3607-1.

SUNY offers two books this season in which women's experiences with abuse and violence impact their writing. An anthology of literary essays — **Creating Safe Space: Violence and Women's Writing** edited by Tomoko Kuribayashi and Julie Tharp — focuses on the ways in which sexual, emotional, physical, racial, and other forms of violence have affected women artists' imagination. The book examines the ways in which women use their writing to redefine their experiences of abuse, to give themselves a voice in order to break the silence imposed on women in patriarchal society, and to start challenging and changing a culture that objectifies, degrades, and destroys women. ($21.95 pb, 0-7914-3564-4; $65.50 cl, -3563-6.) **Authoring a Life: A Woman's Survival in and Through Literary Studies** by Brenda Daly begins as an autobiography — the story of an incest survivor who became an English professor — but it ends with an argument that we must reconceptualize language arts curriculum, from grade school through graduate school, in order to meet the needs of students — an alarming number of whom are survivors of childhood sexual abuse. ($19.95 pb, 0-7914-3680-2; $59.50 cl, -3679-9.)

Women/Writing/Teaching edited by Jan Zlotnik Schmidt presents autobiographical visions of women writing teachers — their complex lives as writers, as instructors, as feminists, as professionals in the academy. The authors explore their complex identities as teachers: the particular configurations of their pasts, gender, class, ethnic backgrounds, personalities, and cultures that have shaped their personae as writing

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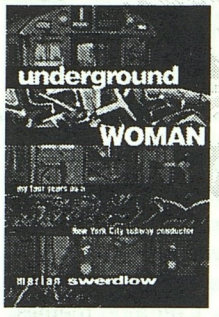
Ride into Spring with Temple



Underground Woman
My Four Years as a New York City Subway Conductor
Marian Swerdlow
1-56639-610-7 $18.95 paper

Silicone Survivors
Women's Experiences with Breast Implants
Susan M. Zimmermann
1-56639-612-3 $19.95 paper April

Families in the U.S.
Kinship and Domestic Politics
Edited by Karen V. Hansen and Anita Ilta Garey
This engaging collection of essays attempts to do justice to the complexity of contemporary families and to situate them in their economic, political, and cultural contexts. Includes a guide to topics that should prove useful to teachers, students, and researchers.
1-56639-590-9 $22.95 paper April

The Politics of Women's Health
Exploring Agency and Autonomy
Susan Sherwin
with The Feminist Health Care Ethics Research Network
An examination of both the real world of women's health status and health care delivery in different countries, and the assumptions behind the dominant medical model of solving problems without regard to social conditions.
1-56639-633-6 $19.95 paper June

Misconceiving Mothers
Legislators, Prosecutors, and the Politics of Prenatal Drug Exposure
Laura E. Gomez
1-56639-558-5 $19.95 paper

One-Eyed Science
Occupational Health and Women Workers
Karen Messing
Foreword by Jeanne Mager Stellman
A provocative look at why researchers are blind to the health problems of women workers.
1-56639-598-4 $22.95 May

Temple University Press
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instructors. Unfortunately, the catalog copy doesn't provide a list of contributors. $19.95 pb, 0-7914-3592-X; $59.50 cl, -3591-1.

Providing new information on women's participation on the Moroccan independence movement, **Voices of Resistance: Oral Histories of Moroccan Women** by Alison Baker, offers a rare opportunity to hear Moroccan women speak freely about their personal lives. The narratives reconstruct the little-known history of Moroccan feminism and nationalism and probe the lives of a remarkable group of Islamic women whose voices have never been heard until now. $24.95 pb, 0-7914-3622-5; $74.50 cl, -3621-7.

Also of interest: **Hitchcock's Bi-Textuality: Lacan, Feminisms, and Queer Theory** by Robert Samuels. $19.95 pb, 0-7914-3610-1; $59.50 cl, -3609-8.

Teachers College Press

Until We Are Strong Together: Women Writers in the Tenderloin by Caroline Heller witnesses the power of literacy in the lives of the members of the Tenderloin Women Writers Workshop, who gathered weekly in one of San Francisco's roughest neighborhoods, to share their writing and life experiences. Heller's narrative — which includes telling the women's stories and samples of their writing — offers a fresh conception of critical literacy and liberation education, drawing on the words and perceptions of those outside the mainstream of American life. $19.95 pb, 0-8077-3646-5.**

Texas A&M University Press

In **Sisters in Sorrow: Voices of Care in the Holocaust**, Roger A. Ritvo and Diane M. Plotkin give voice to women who took care of the sick in the camps of Nazi Germany. $35.95 cl, 0-89096-810-1, June.

University of California Press

Faith Ringgold fans will be happy to know about this new collection of her work. **Dancing at the Louvre: Faith Ringgold's *French Collection* and Other Story Quilts** edited by Dan Cameron is the first full-length publication devoted to the exquisite story quilts of this talented and multifaceted artist. Combining painted images, handwritten texts, and quilting techniques, Ringgold weaves together modernist painting; feminist critique; postmodernist strategies of appropriation, parody, and montage; and

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personal memoir in a remarkable synthesis that takes on European modernism, African American folk art, and the "Black aesthetic" of the 60s and 70s. Includes a cataloging of her quilt exhibits. $29.95 pb, 0-520-21430-7; $45 cl, -21429-3.

New Edition/Reprint: **The Rouge of the North** by Eileen Chang is a novel which tells the melancholy life of a lower-class woman trapped within the confines of an unhappy marriage — and her gradual descent into madness. First published in 1967. ($14.95 pb, 0-520-21087-5; $40 cl, -21438-2, May). Also by Eileen Chang, **The Rice-Sprout Song**, a novel first published in 1955, portrays the horror and absurdity that the land-reform movement brought to a southern village in China during the early 50s. ($14.95 pb, 0-520-21088-3; $40 cl, -21437-4, May).

Beyond Second Opinions: Rethinking Questions about Fertility by Judith Steinberg Turiel is both an exposé of the risks, errors, and distortions surrounding fertility medicine and an authoritative guide for people seeking treatment. It shows how some fertility treatments may actually reduce chances for successful pregnancy, includes disagreements among physicians about diagnosis and treatments of fertility problems, explores how the government has abdicated responsibility, and portrays the ways in which physician excitement about new methods may compromise and harm patients' health. $16.95 pb, 0-520-20854-4; $45 cl, -08945-6, May.

Of local interest but with broad national ramifications, **The Color Bind: California's Battle to End Affirmative Action** by Lydia Chávez goes behind the mass media coverage of Proposition 209 and narrates the complex underlying motivations and maneuvering of the people, organizations, and political parties involved in the campaign to end affirmative action in California. Also, for those interested in political process, Chávez provides a rare behind-the-scenes journalistic account of the complex and fascinating workings of the initiative process. $16.95 pb, 0-520-21344-0; $40 cl, -20687-8.

I hope this book is as promising and helpful as it sounds. **Reconcilable Differences: Confronting Beauty, Pornography, and the Future of Feminism** by Lynn Chancer, examines controversial faultlines in contemporary feminism — pornography, the beauty myth, sadomasochism, prostitution, and the issue of rape — from an original and provocative perspective. She focuses on how, among many feminists, the concepts of sex and sexism became fragmented and mutually exclusive. Exploring the dichotomy between sex and sexism as it developed through five current feminist debates, Chancer seeks to forge positions that bridge oppositions between unnecessary (and sometimes unwitting) "either/or" binaries. This books attempts to incorporate both the need for sexual freedom and the depth of sexist subordination into feminist thought and politics. $18.95 pb, 0-520-20923-0; $50 cl, -20285-6.

Also of interest: **Women Preachers and Prophets Through Two Millennia of Christianity** edited by Beverly Mayne Kienzle and Pamela J. Walker ($17.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-520-20922-2; $50 cl, -20921-4). **A Nationality of Her Own: Women, Marriage, and the Law of Citizenship**, Candice Lewis Bedbenner ($45 cl, *short discount*, 0-520-20650-9). History/Gender Studies/Law.

Now in paperback: In **Without Lying Down: Frances Marion and the Powerful Women of Early Hollywood**, Cari Beauchamp combines biography with social and cultural history to examine the lives of Frances Marion and her many female colleagues who shaped filmmaking from 1912 through the 1940s. ($17.95, 0-520-21492-7.) **A Little Original Sin: The Life and Work of Jane Bowles**, Millicent Dillon, first published in 1981 includes b&w photographs. ($17.95, 0-520-21193-6.) **Three Artists (Three Women): Modernism and the Art of Hesse, Krasner, and O'Keeffe**, Anne Middleton Wagner, mentioned in *FBN* 20#1. ($24.95, 0-520-21433-1.) **Holy Women of the Syrian Orient**, translated with introduction by Sebastian P. Brock and Susan Ashbrook Harvey, with new preface since 1987 edition. ($15.95, *short discount*, 0-520-21366-1.)

New edition: **Brave New Families: Stories of Domestic Upheaval in the Late Twentieth-Century America**, Judith Stacey. $16.95 pb, 0-520-21400-5, May.

University of Illinois Press

Focusing on the concept of two-spirit people — individuals not necessarily gay or lesbian, transvestite or bisexual, but whose behaviors or beliefs may sometimes be interpreted by others as uncharacteristic of

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their sex — **Two-Spirit People: Native American Gender Identity, Sexuality, and Spirituality**, edited by Sue-Ellen Jacobs, Wesley Thomas, and Sabine Lang, is the first book to provide an intimate look at how many two-spirit people feel about themselves. $19.95 pb, 0-252-06645-6.

University of Michigan Press

U. Michigan offers two law books this season that will be important not only for legal sections but also for two specific groups of people — gays and Black women. **Strangers to the Law: Gay People on Trial** by Lisa Keen and Suzanne Goldberg describes the legal challenge to the Colorado anti-gay civil rights initiative. Starting with the background of the initiative, the authors tell about the debates over strategy, court proceedings, and the impact of each stage of litigation. They explore the meaning of legal protection for gay people and the arguments for and against the Colorado initiative. ($34.50 cl, *short discount*, 0-472-10644-9, June). On the other hand, **Rebels in Law: Voices in History of Black Women Lawyers** by J. Clay Smith, Jr., offers reflections on the lives and law of pioneer Black women lawyers. This book introduces some of these important women through their own writing and tells the compelling story of the little-known involvement of Black women in law and politics. ($37.50 cl, *short discount*, 0-472-10883-2, May).

University of Minnesota Press

Third Wave Agenda: Being Feminist, Doing Feminism edited by Leslie Heywood and Jennifer

TIPTOE THROUGH THE SPRING LIST

BETTER RED
The Writing and Resistance of Tillie Olsen and Meridel Le Sueur
CONSTANCE COINER

This first book-length study of the intersection of American feminism and the political Left as shown in the writing of Tillie Olsen and Meridel Le Sueur has been critically acclaimed.

"A meticulous scrutiny of two exceedingly important creative and political lives." — Alice Walker

"A great read." — Grace Paley
Illus. Paper, $19.95

THE FAMILY TRACK
Keeping Your Faculties while You Mentor, Nurture, Teach, and Serve
EDITED BY CONSTANCE COINER AND DIANA HUME GEORGE

At a time when the academy is an ever more demanding arbiter and shaper of the lives of those it employs, *The Family Track* discusses the challenges and benefits of balancing a rewarding professional life with the competing needs to nurture children, care for aging parents, and engage in other personal relationships.
Cloth, $49.95; Paper, $19.95

OTHER SISTERHOODS
Literary Theory and U.S. Women of Color
EDITED BY SANDRA KUMAMOTO STANLEY

Where are the women writers of color? These fifteen contributors to *Other Sisterhoods* examine the ways that women writers of color have contributed to the discourse of literary and cultural theory.

"A sophisticated resource that will do much to carry us through to the next century. Great work!" — Alvina E. Quintana, author of *Home Girls: Chicana Literary Voices*
Cloth, $49.95; Paper, $19.95

WOMEN AMONG WOMEN
Anthropological Perspectives on Female Age Hierarchies
EDITED BY JEANETTE DICKERSON-PUTMAN AND JUDITH K. BROWN
Foreword by Nancy Foner

Are the prerogatives of age universal? This first-ever anthropological exploration of relationships between older and younger women suggests that this may be the case. This volume looks at relationships between women of different age groups around the world from Taiwan to Australia.
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Drake adds to the growing and exciting list of writings by young feminists. These are women writing in contradiction to Naomi Wolf and Katie Roiphe. These writers seek to not only embrace second wave critique of beauty culture, sexual abuse, and power structures, but also emphasize how desires and pleasures such as beauty and power can be used to enliven activist work. $17.95 pb, 0-8166-3005-4.

University of Missouri Press

Becoming Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Woman Behind the Legend by John E. Miller looks beyond the Laura Ingalls of *Little House on the Prairie* fame and explores her life as an adult. Utilizing her unpublished autobiography, letters, newspaper stories, and other documentary evidence, Miller fills in the gaps of Wilder's autobiographical novels. What emerges is a portrait of Wilder based on autobiographical experience, artistic embellishment, historical context and authorial skill. $29.95 cl, 0-8262-1167-4, May.

Women, America, and Movement: Narratives of Relocation edited by Susan Roberson explores the experiences of migrating American women. The narratives examine the impact of race, class, and sexual economics on migratory women, their self-identity, and their roles in family and social life. Writers considered include Louise Erdrich, Zora Neale Hurston, and Gertrude Stein among others. $37.50 cl, *short discount*, 0-8262-1176-3, May.

Simone Weil and the Politics of Self-Denial by Athanasios Moulakis delivers what no other book on Weil has done — a comprehensive study of her political thought. He situates Weil's political thought within the context of the intellectual climate of her time and connects it to her epistemology, her cosmology, and her personal experience. Best suited for stores with strong sections in philosophy and political thought. $34.95 cl, *short discount*, 0-8262-1162-3.

Also of interest: **Beyond Image and Convention: Explorations in Southern Women's History**, edited by Janet Lee Coryell, Martha H. Swain, Sandra Gioia Treadway, and Elizabeth Hayes Turner. $16.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8262-1173-9; $37.50 cl, -1172-0, May.

University of New Mexico Press

For fans of *Faultline* — you remember, the bunny book from Naiad — Sheila Ortiz Taylor resurfaces with a new novel called **Coachella**. It's 1983 and Coachella Valley holds many secrets, false fronts, and deep roots. Blurbs from writers such as Rita Mae Brown and Virgil Suárez indicate that this is a promising addition to your Chicana literature shelves. $14.95 pb, 0-8263-1843-6.

From the Faraway Nearby: Georgia O'Keeffe as Icon edited by Christopher Merrill and Ellen Bradbury offers a collection of critical essays, memoir, and poetry, first published in 1992 which offers a unique view of O'Keeffe as artist and cultural icon. $19.95 pb, 0-8263-1834-7.

National Parks and the Woman's Voice: A History by Polly Welts Kaufman offers a lively study showing the history of the nation's preservation of historic space and wild and scenic landscapes. Now available in paperback, it presents the untold story of women's contributions to national parks, making clear for the first time the role of women who have helped shape the national park system. This edition also includes information on women's history sites in the national parks. $18.95 pb, 0-8263-1870-3.

Those with strong sections on Native American women will want to consider **Southern Ute Women: Autonomy and Assimilation on the Reservation, 1887–1934**. Katherine M.B. Osburn studies how — in spite of federal policies that stripped women of many legal rights after the Dawes Severalty Act in 1887 — Southern Ute women demanded participation in political, economic, and legal decisions that affected their lives. They insisted on and retained control over their marital and sexual behavior. $19.95 pb, 0-8263-1863-0; $45 cl, -1862-2, May.

Part essay, anthropology, and memoir, **The Gift of Life: Female Spirituality and Healing in Northern**

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Peru by Bonnie Glass-Coffin explores the concepts of sorcery, shamanism, and witchcraft, case studies of woe and their ritual healing techniques, the healers' religious and symbolic space, and the healing attributes unique to women. $15.95 pb, 0-8263-1893-2; $50 cl, -1893-4, May.

UNM offers several interesting literature options this Spring. **The Divine Narcissus/El Divino Narciso** by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz and translated and annotated by Patricia Peters and Renée Domeier is the finest extant example of *auto sacramental*, a medieval genre similar to mystery plays. This writing is an allegory ostensibly written to explain Christian concepts to the Aztecs whose plight under colonization she also dramatizes. ($19.95 pb, 0-8263-1888-6; $40 cl, -1930-0, May.) **Fire from the Andes: Short Fiction by Women from Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru** edited and translated by Susan Benner and Kathy Leonard (with a foreword by Marjorie Agosín) provides an opportunity for English-speaking audiences to read previously untranslated fiction by women in the Andes region. ($19.95 pb, 0-8263-1825-8; $45 cl, -1824-X.)

Two poetry collections from West End Press and distributed by UNM are **What the Fortune Teller Didn't Say** by Shirley Geok-lin Lim ($8.95 pb, 0-931122-91-0, May) and **Told in the Seed**, Sanora Babb ($8.95 pb, 0-931122-90-2).

Being reissued: **The Owl's Song: A Novel** by Native Canadian writer Janet Campbell Hale. $12.95 pb, 0-8263-1861-4.

University of Toronto Press

Madonna: Bawdy and Soul by Karen Faith is a celebration and critical analysis of Madonna from a feminist perspective. It will, like Madonna, provoke controversy among fans, critics, and scholars. The book includes a comprehensive listing of songs, videos, tours, films, stage roles, and Internet sites. $19.95 pb, 0-8020-8063-4; $45 cl, -4208-2. Titles from UT Press are available in the U.S. through their distribution location in Buffalo, NY; 716-683-4547, fax 716-685-6895.

University Press of Kentucky

For more than 150 years writers from Appalachia, especially women writers, have lived on the margins of American literature. **Bloodroot: Reflections on Place by Appalachian Women Writers** edited by Joyce Dyer includes essays and cumulative works that welcome Appalachian women writers to the full light of public appreciation. Unfortunately, the catalog copy does not mention some of the names of the contributors or the writers considered. $28 cl, 0-8131-2059-4.

University Press of New England

Talking Back: Images of Jewish Women in American Popular Culture edited by Joyce Antler is a collection of 14 essays challenging traditional notions of Jewish female identity. The book explores the ways in which Jewish women think and feel about themselves in relation to how this identity is shaped by popular culture, mass media images, films, literature, and so on. Brandeis University, $21.95 pb, 0-87451-842-3.***

Emily Dickinson and Her Contemporaries: Women's Verse in America, 1820–1885 by Elizabeth Petrino eschews the views of Dickinson as an isolated phenomenon and enigma. Petrino places her in the context of other 19th-century women poets and examines the feminist implications of their work. $40 cl, *short discount*, 0-87451-8385, May.

Darkly comic fiction, visionary, horror and humor — these are some of the descriptions used for **Weird Women, Wired Women** by Kit Reed. These 20 stories deal with women's lives and feminist issues from the kitchen sink and pink dishmop era through the war-like years of the women's movement to the uneasy accommodations of the present. $16.95 pb, 0-8195-2255-4; $40 cl, -2225-6.

Back in print and in paperback: **The Hottest Water in Chicago: Notes of a Native Daughter**, Gayle Pemberton ($14.95, *short discount*, 0-8195-6337-4) and **Dear Anne Frank, Poems**, bilingual edition, Marjorie Agosín ($10.95 pb, 0-87451-857-1, Brandeis University).

Correction: University of Nebraska is the publisher of Wynema: A Child of the Forest *by S. Alice Callahan and* Some Went West *by Dorothy Johnson. University of Nevada is the publisher of* Breathe Something Nice: Stories *by Emily Hammond and* A History of the Garden: Poems *by Katherine Coles, not the other way around as announced in Volume 20#4. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. —JT* ○

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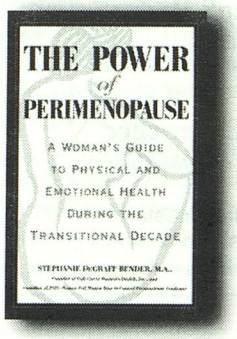

The Power of Perimenopause
by Stephanie DeGraff Bender, L.P.N., M.A.

Bender, a nurse practitioner and founder of Full Circle Women's Health, Inc., describes simple modifications in diet, exercise, and mental attitude along with conventional and alternative treatments, to make this transitional period before menopause easier.

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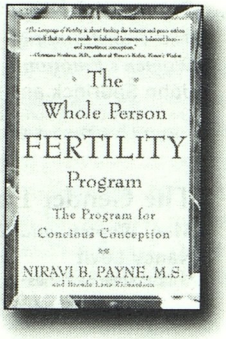

The Whole Person Fertility Program
by Niravi B. Payne, M.S., and Brenda Lane Richardson

Payne and Richardson provide a unique program for conscious conception that includes: processes to enhance conception efforts with or without medical fertility treatments, the latest mind-body research, exercises and visualizations for uncovering and exploring family histories, beliefs, and emotions that can affect fertility.

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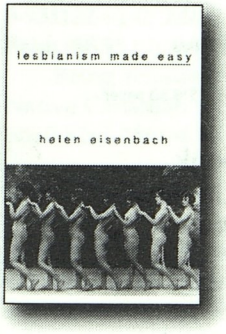

Lesbianism Made Easy
by Helen Eisenbach

A hilarious, irreverent, and surprisingly perceptive look at lesbianism which walks the entire "self-help" genre upstairs. Essential reading for anyone who wants to heal or heel her inner lesbian. This alternately canny and campy book will keep you and your girlfriend(s) laughing for hours.
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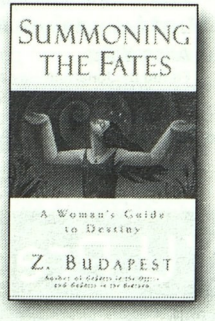

Summoning the Fates
by Z. Budapest

Z. Budapest, a pioneer in women's spirituality and one of the founders of the Goddess movement, teaches readers how to use the mythical powers of the three Fates to help shape and give direction to their lives. Personal anecdotes, historical facts, and "fateworks" exercises teach readers how to recognize, interact with, and ultimately summon the Fates.

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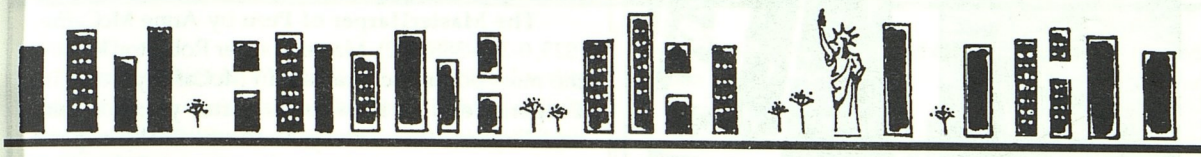

Compiled by Jenn Tust

Addison-Wesley

True Love Waits: Essays and Criticism, Wendy Kaminer, the author of *I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional*, takes her wit and observations to our cultural obsessions, from sex and violence to feminism and pop psychology. $14 trade, 0-201-32793-7.

—Dorothy Holland

Algonquin

Jesse Lee Kercheval's memoir, **Space**, is about being a girl, growing up in the late sixties, "when America was on the brink of the big changes coming by way of Apollo 11, *The Feminine Mystique*, and the Vietnam War." Kercheval and her sister "cope with displacement and encroaching adolescence." Their family's story is a "microcosm of the technological advances and domestic deterioration of the times." $18.95 cl, 1-56512-146-5.

In the biography **Notorious Victoria: The Life of Victoria Woodhull, Uncensored**, Mary Gabriel "brings to life this daring woman who was years ahead of her time — and maybe *our* time as well." This work explores the question of why Victoria Woodhull is unknown to so many, and depicts Woodhull's "penchant for reinventing herself" through a variety of interests and occupations. Victoria Woodhull was the "loudest and most radical voice for women's equality" in an era of Victorian morality. In this work, we are exposed to Woodhull's radical spirit, and also see her work in relation to that of other suffragists. $24.95 cl, 1-56512-132-5. *—Dylan Besk*

Lioness Books/Sacramento CA

In **Other People's Dirt** Louise Rafkin (*Different Daughters* and *Gay & Lesbian Couples and Parenting*) takes readers on a tour of other people's lives, introducing unsuspecting clients and other housecleaners who, like Rafkin, are well-versed in all types of dirt. There's Rose, a retired Englishwoman who cleaned for the Kennedys and the Hearsts; Kathy Jo, who cleans up after the nastiest of crime scenes; two women, each named Lisa, who call themselves "exotic" cleaners; and Ayako, who helps run a spiritual cleaning sect in Japan, where Rafkin learns the Zen of clean living. $15.95 cl, 1-56512-162-7.

When Jill McCorkle feels a short story coming on, she uses "all her best stuff to write it." She goes right ahead and "wastes" wonderful ideas, characters, plot twists, and resolutions on her short stories when she might have "stuck them away in a desk drawer" to save for a "bigger" project, like a novel. The result — in this case **Final Vinyl Days: And Other Stories** — is another extraordinary collection of stories about characters readers cannot possibly forget. $18.95 cl, 1-56512-204-6, June.

The Unexpected Salami: A Novel by Laurie Gwen Shapiro is an off-beat comedy about the music biz, media play, and meeting the right mate. Set in Melbourne and NYC, a floundering rock band's deceitful plan to put their record on the charts unwittingly ensnares their biggest fan, neurotic New Yorker Rachel Levine Ganelli. $18.95 cl, 1-56512-194-5. *—JT*

Ballantine

Intimate Nature: The Bond Between Women and Animals by Linda Hogan, Deena Metzger and Brenda Peterson ($25, 0-449-91122-5). This groundbreaking anthology includes original work by many of the best women nature writers in America, as well as a unique section that focuses on women scientists'

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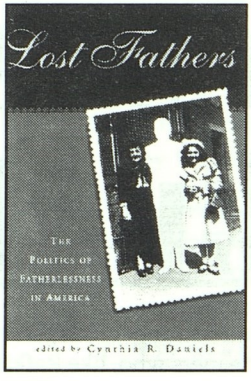

Lost Fathers

The Politics of Fatherlessness

Edited by Cynthia R. Daniels

Do children need fathers? Do mothers need husbands? Should we celebrate or grieve the loss of fatherhood? Nine highly diverse voices reflect on the culturally and politically charged concept of fatherlessness.

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day-to-day, intimate observation of and bond with animals. The editors have collected stories, essays, meditations, and poetry from 75 contributors, including Diane Ackerman, Gretel Ehrlich, Barbara Kingsolver and Jane Goodall.

The MasterHarper of Pern by Anne McCaffrey ($25, 0-345-38823-2). MasterHarper Robinton is one of the most popular characters in McCaffrey's ongoing Dragonrider's of Pern series. After years of being asked by fans for his story, Anne was finally inspired, and the result is probably the best Pern novel since *All the Weyrs of Pern*. A must-have for all Pern fans, and a wonderful character study that could bring new readers to this all-time favorite series! Also available in audio: ($17.95, 1-56740-762-5, Nova, 3 hours, 2 cassettes, abridged). **Dragonseye** by Anne McCaffrey ($6.99, 0-345-41879-4, Del Rey). Now in paper. Dragonriders are back, facing a new threat to their beloved home planet.

Big Fat Lies: The Truth about Your Weight and Your Health by Glenn Gaesser ($12.50, 0-345-40906-X). Now in paper. Exposes the myth that being fat is a life-threatening condition. There is no connection between fat-clogged arteries and obesity. Stop dieting!

Errands by Judith Guest ($7.50, 0-345-40905-1). Now in paper. Critically acclaimed and bestselling author of *Ordinary People* chronicles a family's devastation and struggle to survive emotionally in the wake of a sudden death.

Dreamtime Alice: A Memoir by Mandy Sayer ($24.95, 0-345-42332-1). Catalog copy compares it to *The Liars Club* and *The Road to Coorain*. A young girl, searching for her father's love, becomes his partner on the stage, but turns into a woman who can create her own language and find her own voice. "The triumphant chronicle of a young woman who discovers that she can invent her own story at last."

Animals as Teachers and Healers: True Stories and Reflections by Susan Chernak McElroy ($12, 0-345-42117-5). Stories of McElroy and others who have been touched by the loving energies of animals. Invites us to reconnect with the gifts that flow from our ageless and intimate relationship with the animal kingdom.

Sarah Canary by Karen Joy Fowler ($12, 0-345-41644-9). A strange white woman dressed all in black wanders into a Chinese laborer's camp in 1873 in the unsettled Pacific Northwest. —*Dorothy Holland*

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Beacon

Nancy Mairs in **Waist-High in the World** writes about living in the world of the non-disabled and the effects of disability on life, work and spirit. $12 pb, 0-8070-7087-4.

Becoming Gentlemen, Lani Guinier. About women, law school and institutional change. $12.50 pb, 0-8070-4405-9.

Does Your House Have Lions? Sonia Sanchez. Poetry from one of the leaders of the Black Arts Movement. $10 pb, 0-8070-6831-4.

Questions of Heaven, Gretel Ehrlich. Ehrlich's memoir of her pilgrimage to a holy mountain in China. $12 pb, 0-8070-7311-3.

Breathless, Louise DeSalvo. A meditation on asthma and the creative mind. $12 pb, 0-8070-7097-1.

Sharing Her Words: Feminist Biblical Interpretation in Context, Elizabeth Schüssler Fiorenza. A major new work on feminist biblical analysis from the well-known feminist theologian. $23 cl, 0-8070-1230-0.

—Patty Callaghan
Brigit Books/St. Petersburg FL

I Begin My Life All Over: The Hmong and the American Immigrant Experiences by Lillian Faderman with Ghia Xiong chronicles the story of 35 Hmong immigrants to California, tracing their journey from Laos, into the camps of Thailand, to relocation to a new continent, and to a new century. "That these immigrants have endured so much and lived to tell the tale is almost more than the average reader can comprehend. **I Begin My Life All Over** belongs on everyone's reading list; this is truly a book to be grateful for." —Gish Jen. $23 cl, 0-8070-7234-6. *—JT*

In the Name of the Family: Rethinking Family Values in the Postmodern Age by Judith Stacey ($12.50, 0-8070-0433-2). Reveals how popular nostalgia for the "traditional" family takes a heavy toll on real families, and makes a strong case for protecting family diversity.

Equal Value: An Ethical Approach to Economics and Sex by Carol Robb ($14, 0-8070-6505-6). Incisive exploration of economic discrimination against women, and the policy and ethical reforms that could create a more just future. *—Dorothy Holland*

Berkley

In **The Seeing Glass**, Jacquelin Gorman recounts her physical and emotional experiences as her vision becomes impaired. "Once her world fades to black, she relives moments from her childhood — and memories of her autistic brother, Robin." This memoir is not only about Jacquelin Gorman's loss of vision, it also focuses on the experience of having an autistic family member. $13 trade, 1-57322-679-3, Riverhead, June.

From the "self-assured woman who effortlessly terrorizes her Anglo boss, to the junior-high friend who berated her 'sloppy Spanish' and accused her of being a 'Chicana Falsa,' the people and places that Michele Serros brings to vivid life in **Chicana Falsa**...introduce a unique viewpoint to the American literary landscape." $11 trade, 1-57322-685-8, Riverhead, June.

Andrea Frank Henkart and her daughter, Journey Henkart, worked together to write **Cool Communication**, a guide for "coping with everything from curfews to self-esteem to responsibility." This book bridges the gap between parent and child "through articulation of both points of view, and the validation of both parents' and children's perspectives." $14 trade, 0-399-52400-2, Perigee, May. *—Dylan Besk*

A Woman's Book of Power: Using Dance to Cultivate Energy and Health in Mind, Body, and Spirit by Karen Andes ($14, 0-399-52372-3, Perigee). Presents a unique way for women to achieve fitness by blending body, mind and spirit. Author and teacher-trainer Andes shows how movement and dance can invigorate, strengthen and inspire women. Her approach to physical fitness is a welcome alternative to pumping iron and grueling aerobic workouts.

The Names of Things: Life, Language, and Beginnings in the Egyptian Desert by Susan Brind

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Morrow ($13, 1-57322-680-7, Riverhead, June). Now in paper. A striking memoir of a woman's work and wanderings in the vast Egyptian desert. Takes readers from her magical and troubled childhood in New York to the austere splendors of the desert. Written with a keen understanding of language, Morrow traces the routes of ideas and images through word origins and time, bringing forth an inner life of words.

Homegrown Healing: Traditional Home Remedies from Mexico by Annette Sandoval ($6.99, 0-425-16155-2). All natural herbs, foods and treatments for health and well being, recipes and herbs to cure ailments of the body as well as the soul, from *curanderas* and *yerberas* of the old ways in Mexico. The cures which have been passed down through the women in that culture.

A Woman's Book of Life: The Biology, Psychology, and Spirituality of the Feminine Life Cycle by Joan Borysenko ($14, 1-57322-651-3, Riverhead). Now in paper. Biologist and psychologist Borysenko worked in mind-body medicine at Harvard Medical School. In this book, she shows the interconnected loop of mind, body and spirit in women. Teaches women how to maximize health and well-being as well as discover the power that comes with each stage of the feminine life cycle.

Soul Kiss by Shay Youngblood ($12, 1-57322-658-0, Riverhead). Now in paper. The extraordinary first novel of an African American girl in the rural South who loses her mother and finds herself. A richly textured tale of sorrow, sensuality and triumph.

Second Nature by Alice Hoffman ($13, 0-425-16163-3). Tells the story of a suburban woman, Robin Moore, who discovers her own free spirit through a stranger she brings home to her perfectly ordered neighborhood. As she impulsively draws this beautiful "uncivilized" man into her world, meanwhile coping with divorce and a troubled teenage son, she begins to question her wisdom and doubt her own heart, and ultimately she changes her ideas about love and humanity. Author of *Turtle Moon*.

True Beauty: Positive Attitudes and Practical Tips from the World's Leading Plus Size Model by Emme with Daniel Paisner ($14, 0-399-52383-9, Perigee). An inspirational book for women who aren't the perfect size. Emme shares her story of triumph over negative body image and offers tips on developing a positive self image and overcoming stereotypes through dressing, shopping, dating, relationships, job interviews, travel and exercise.

A Different Angle: Fly Fishing Stories by Women edited by Holly Morris ($6.99, 0-425-16187-0). Featuring E. Annie Proulx, Pam Houston and more. Both men and women will enjoy these sometimes poignant, more often humorous tales of uniformly high literary quality. Now in paper. —*Dorothy Holland*

Carol Publishing Group

A Woman's Book of Faith: 2000 Years of Inspirational Writing By and For Women edited by M. Shawn McFarry ($15.95, 1-55972-435-8). An alternative to modern devotional fare. A stirring collection of more than 100 ecumenical selections (all from Judeo-Christian sources) in which women writers

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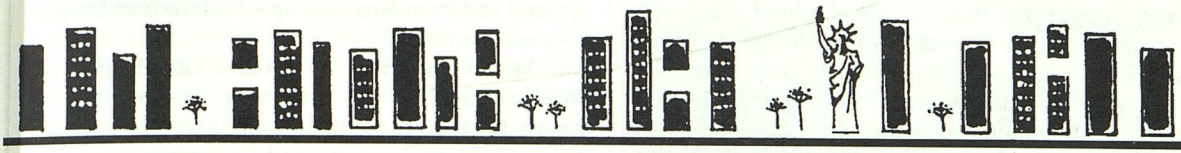

from two millennia contemplate their relationships to God, the meaning of their own traditions, and the place of spirituality in their lives. From Joan of Arc, through Louisa May Alcott and Willa Cather to Mother Theresa.

Roots of Healing: A Woman's Book of Herbs by Deb Soule ($12.95, 0-8065-1578-3, Citadel Press). Don't know why I have this one right now! Takes you through the whole process of creating your own botanical medicine chest, from organic gardening and gathering to step-by-step preparation, storage and use. Tinctures, tonics and teas for a variety of women's health concerns are featured. —*Dorothy Holland*

Chronicle Books

Chronicle continues to provide us all with pretty additions to our photography sections, such as **Expectations: 30 Women Talk about Becoming a Mother**, with text by Laurie Wagner and photos by Anne Hamersky. This book looks beautiful and will be available in time for Mother's Day! ($22.95 cl, 0-8118-1674-5.) Another volume combining photos and (more) text is **Altars and Icons: Sacred Spaces in Everyday Life** by Jean McCann. It contains how-to tips, photos, and interviews with folks who have altars, or personal shrines, be they religious or secular, formal or casual, or anywhere in between. ($16.95 cl, 0-8118-1816-0.)

Photographer Mariana Cook, creator of *Mothers and Sons*, now brings us **Generations of Women: In Their Own Words** ($27.50 pb, 0-8118-1907-8, May). This features a wonderful cover photo of Whoopi Goldberg and the women in her life, as well as an introduction by Jamaica Kincaid. One more in time for Mother's Day is **Mothers & Daughters: An Anthology** edited by Alberto Manguel. This offers short stories by an eclectic collection of writers including Dorothy Allison, Margaret Atwood, Carson McCullers, Dorothy Parker. ($15.95 pb, 0-8118-1629-X, May.)

Kathleen Alcala (*Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist*) has completed her sequel to *Spirits of the Ordinary*, **The Flower in the Skull**. The book begins in the late 19th century while weaving in a modern-day story of a Latina in Los Angeles looking into her ancestry. $22.95 cl, 0-8118-1916-7, May. —*Suzanne Corson*
Boadecia's Books/North Berkeley CA

Farrar, Straus & Giroux

As the first tenured female neurosurgeon in the country, Dr. Frances K. Conley seemed to have broken through the gender block into the men's club that has characterized that elite science. But she was not content to rest at that paltry ratio, so in 1991 she resigned her position at Stanford to protest the medical school's long-standing gender discrimination. **Walking Out on the Boys** is her account of her history within the science of neurosurgery, her struggles to overcome its biases, and her state-of-the-field views on how women fare both as patients and doctors. $24, 0-374-28621-3.

The Service of Clouds, the first novel by Australian writer Delia Falconer, is a luscious journey back to a turn-of-the-century romance involving a pharmacist's apprentice and a young man who photographs clouds. The rich prose and romantic characters move the story forward so preciously that you feel you could use the book as her characters use notebooks, "pressing storms into them like flowers." $23, 0-374-26105-9.

Jill Bialosky and Helen Schulman have edited a fantastic anthology in **Wanting a Child: 22 Literary Writers on Their Difficult but Mostly Successful Quests for Parenthood**. Coming at the subject from various emotional angles, the collection spans the spectrum from the hilarity of Tama Janowitz' attempts to adopt to the frustration and eventual jubilation of Agnes Rossi's in vitro fertilization. Also included are inspiring accounts of families that defy the traditional definition, from homes with same-sex partners to those with single parents or stepparents. $25, 0-374-28634-5.

Man or Mango? Does the title say it all? Lucy Ellman's third novel is a hilarious, inspired, profound

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romp through the lives of one-of-a-kind characters such as Eloise, who describes her life as "half-alive hermitude," needing set amounts of time to recover from various human interaction: glance from a stranger = 10 minutes, speaking to the postman = half an hour, etc. This is an eclectic novel made up of the stories of eclectic people who, when we get right down to it, sort of remind us of ourselves with the insecurities and idiosyncrasies that drive our lives. $22, 0-374-20228-1.

Patricia J. Williams delivered the five pieces collected in **Seeing a Colorblind Future** as the prestigious 1997 Reith Lectures on the BBC. With her characteristic wit and power, Williams presses us to strive for a world where "color doesn't matter," and offers her words up as a starting point — "a sensible and sustained consideration" — from which we can learn to think honestly and openly about our prejudices — the legacies and the realities. $11, 0-374-52533-1. —*Janet Newton*

Forge

Ladies of the Goldfield Stock Exchange: Women of the West by Sybil Downing ($23.95, 0-312-86331-4). Based on real events that occurred in 1906, this title unfolds the drama behind the little-known but historic event that begins when three women set up their own stock exchange, choosing to defy tradition in order to assert their claim to wealth and independence in Goldfield, Nevada. Fun read. —*Dorothy Holland*

Harcourt Brace

Wistawa Szymborska: Poems New and Collected 1957–1997 — Translated by Baranczak and Cavanagh ($27 cl, 015100353X). This winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1996 has been a winner for us at Charis. Although we sell lots of Audre Lorde, Adrienne Rich, and Mary Oliver, we sell other things little by little. We've sold eight of each of Szymborska's paperbacks and we've just had them for a short time, so I will get this even though it is pricey. She is wonderful.

An American Daughter — Wendy Wasserstein ($20 cl, 0151003327). A new play about what happens when a qualified woman is considered for surgeon general and the media digs up a mistake from her past — sound familiar?

Mister Sandman — Barbara Gowdy ($12 pb, 0156005778). I do not remember this in cloth, but clearly the folks at Harcourt Brace love it — it sounds like a wonderfully wacky and fun novel.

Spirits of the Ordinary: A Tale of Casas Grandes — Kathleen Alcala ($12 pb, 0156005689, May). Magical realism set in Mexico — first novel, sounds interesting.

Friends for Life: Enriching the Bond Between Mothers and Their Adult Daughters — Susan Jonas and Marilyn Nissenson ($14 pb, 0156005913, May). This is a book by mothers for mothers — the authors interviewed 100 mothers about their needs, feelings, experiences.

Now That You Know: A Parents' Guide to Understanding Their Gay and Lesbian Children (Updated edition) — Betty Fairchild with Nancy Hayward ($13 pb, 0156006057, June). This book has been a staple in our store for a long, long time, helping many parents and many children. Now here is an updated version that looks more closely at gays and religion, as well as a chapter on AIDS, and some words on gay/lesbian marriage. An important resource.

Eden Close — Anita Shreve ($13 pb, 0156005891, June). Sounds like a right haunting novel — they call it a "compelling modern gothic tale."

Portrait of the Walrus by a Young Artist — Laurie Foos ($11 pb, 0156005433, July). *Ex Utero* was in our catalogue, but I admit I never was quite able to read it and I don't know what to make of this one either. Sounds a little bizarre, but interesting and fun in a quirky kind of way.

Children's book — **Amistad Rising: A Story of Freedom** by Veronica Chambers ($16 cl, 0152018034). We love Veronica Chambers, author of *Mama's Girl*, so I thought I would mention this one children's book. Subject is obvious, ages 8 and up, illustrated.

—*Linda Bryant*
Charis Books & More/Atlanta

Harper*Collins*

The God of Small Things: A Novel, Arundhati Roy's Booker Prize–winning novel is now available in paper. Set in southern India, 1969, twins Rahel and Esthappen fashion a childhood for themselves in the

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shade of the wreck of their family. When their English cousin and her mother arrive for a Christmas visit, the twins learn that things can change in an instant, and that lives can take on new, ugly shapes and even cease forever. ($13 pb, 0-06-097749-3, HarperFlamingo, June.) Audio: two 90-minute cassettes ($25, 0-694-51960-X, HarperCollins AudioBooks).

Mitz: The Marmoset of Bloomsbury by Sigrid Nunez follows Mitz, "a sickly pathetic marmoset" who came into the care of Leonard Woolf in 1934. Mitz moved between the Woolfs' homes in London and Sussex and developed her own special relationships with the family's dogs and with various members of the Woolfs' circle, including T.S. Eliot and Vita Sackville-West. Using letters, diaries, and memoirs, Nunez reconstructs Mitz' life against the backdrop of Bloomsbury in its twilight years. $18, 0-06-017407-2, HarperFlamingo, May.

Available for the first time in a single volume, Francesca Lia Block's **Dangerous Angels: The Weetzie Bat Books** is a luminous saga of interwoven lives for young adults. These five post-modern fairy tales chronicle the thin line between fear and desire, pain and pleasure, cutting loose and holding on in a world where everyone is vulnerable to the most excruciatingly beautiful and dangerous angel of all: love. $12, 0-06-440697-0, May.

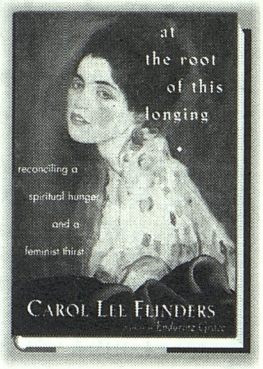
A Mother's Place: Rewriting the Rules of Motherhood by Susan Chira addresses the distortions that have wrongly convinced many women that "good mothers stay at home" and demonstrates how women can strike the balance that best suits both them and their children. Chira offers reassurance while insisting that all of us — mothers, fathers, society — fulfill our obligations to our children. $25 cl, 0-06-017327-0, May. —*JT*

Still selling Dr. Harriet Lerner's "Dance of" books? Then, the **Mother Dance** will be of interest to you. This spotlight shines on how a woman is changed when she becomes a mother. Enlivened with personal tales and vivid case studies that run the gamut from the hilarious to the heart-wrenching, Lerner spells out what happens to a woman and her partner when two become three...and four. $24 cl, 0-06-018768-9.

The Ten Commandments, Dr. Laura Schlessinger and Rabbi Stewart Vogel. Personally, this author is not for me. *But*, we sell her books (*Ten Stupid Things*

RECONCILING
A SPIRITUAL HUNGER
AND A FEMINIST THIRST

"Imagine that you're enjoying that rarest of pleasures— a leisurely visit in the late afternoon with a dear friend, a visit where together you explore the subtle, hard-to-penetrate questions that you never before have put into words. Questions about what it means to be a woman on a spiritual path, about the path itself, about yourself as a woman. You feel yourself relax more deeply than you have in a long time. You sigh and put your feet up. And you smile with relief and gratitude that, finally, you have found your way to such a good, honest, engaged discussion. This is how I felt reading Flinders' book. Grateful. And full, and wanting to send copies to all my friends."



—Sherry Ruth Anderson, Ph.D.,
coauthor of *The Feminine Face of God*

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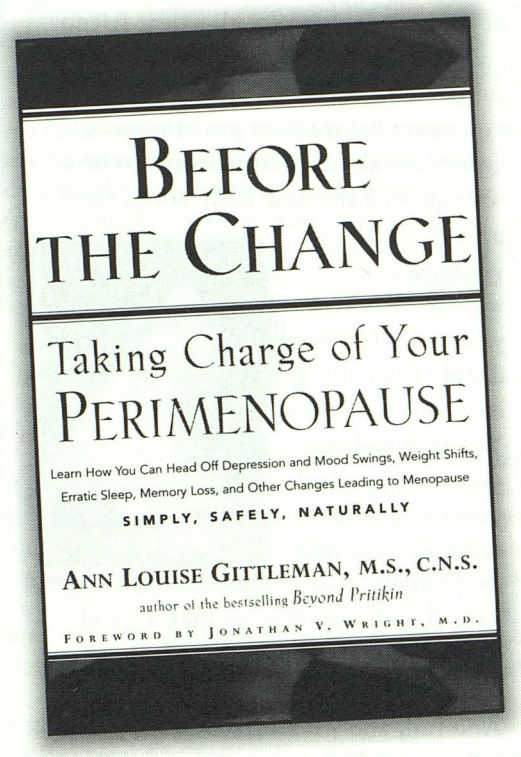
FOR WOMEN 35–50



"The single best book you can read on cooperating with nature as your body shifts gears in preparation for the powerful menopausal years."
—**Joan Borysenko, Ph.D.,** author of *Minding the Body, Mending the Mind*

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Women Do to Mess Up Their Lives, etc.). This, her newest book, explores the Bible's Ten Commandments, and "brings their relevance to light with wit, wisdom, humor, and everyday scenarios." We'll see! $24 cl, 0-06-01938-4.

Dancing the Dream, Jamie Sams. Bestselling Native American author and internationally renowned teacher and healer — offers her first book of practical advice for living on a spiritual path. This book draws our attention to the four directions of the Medicine Wheel (East, South, West, and North) *and* the three unseen directions — Above, Below, and Within — and explains how each represents a specific path on the spiritual journey. $22 cl, 0-06-251513-6.

PAPERBACKS

Inventing Memory, Erica Jong. A "mesmerizing, beautifully written saga of modern womanhood and the struggle for freedom, vividly brought to life through four generations of remarkable mothers and daughters," according to the HarperCollins catalog. I enjoyed her nonfiction, but haven't read her novels. This might just be my first. $6.99 pb, 0-06-109180-4.

Up Island, Anne Rivers Siddon's bestselling title in recent years, spent 17 weeks on the *NY Times* list, 7 weeks on the *Wall Street* list and 15 weeks on *Publishers Weekly*'s. Not a reader of much of her work, I did read this one. With her family scattered to the wind, through death and divorce, Molly retreats to a remote up-island pond on Martha's Vineyard. This seems to be a current theme and I have read at least four books that go along with it. This one is pretty good. $6.99, 0-06-109921-X.

Health sells well for us and I expect with all the publicity this will do well. **Food Your Miracle Medicine**, by Jean Carper reveals little-known discoveries such as: a daily cup of yogurt can wipe out 25% of common cold symptoms, an avocado a day can improve blood cholesterol twice as much as a low-fat diet, and a third of a teaspoon of ginger helps alleviate migraine headaches. Frequently on "Good Morning America," her advice "is taken by more than 10 million readers nationwide" ($6.99, 0-06-101330-7). Also, available in trade paper is **Miracle Cures** ($14, 0-06-098436-8).

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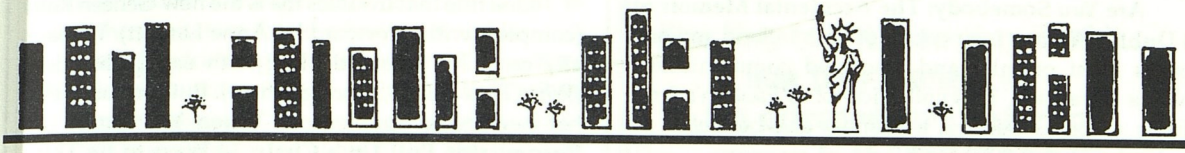

TRADE PAPERBACKS

Whitney Otto, the author of two bestsellers, *How to Make an American Quilt* and *Now You See Her*, captures the two enduring, sometimes conflicting passions of love and work in this luminous novel. It blends fiction with history and love with work. I loved this book. **The Passion Dream Book**, $13, 0-06-109623-7.

The Good Divorce by Constance Ahrons, Ph.D., is now updated with a new introduction and, according to our readers, is and has been a great guide to getting through a divorce with the children intact. With lots of examples it helps couples understand the crisis they are in and learn to deal with the transition of divorce. $13, 0-06-092634-1.

Shelter for the Spirit, Victoria Moran. Lots of publicity for this book. We've only sold two copies in hardback, but will order in trade. Serial rights were sold to *New Woman Magazine* and second serial rights to lots of others including *Yoga Journal*, and *Natural Way Magazine*. The author brings readers back to what home should be, sacred, comfortable, mindful and simple. $12, 0-06-092992-7.

What does it mean to feel at home, truly present with ourselves, comfortable with our choices, and alive to the possibilities of conscious change? Melody Beattie guides us to a higher level of living and loving, showing us how to be at home with ourselves wherever we are in the world with her new book **Finding Your Way Home**. $11, 0-06-251118-1.

Goddess in My Pocket by Patricia Telesco. This pocket-sized treasure trove of easy-to-follow spells, charms, potions, edibles, and rituals will delight and surprise every modern-day Goddess on the go. Stir your morning coffee counterclockwise to reduce negativity or clockwise to jump start your day with positive, empowering energy? I guess it couldn't hurt! $10, 0-06-251550-0, HarperSanFrancisco.

All About Dreams, Gayle Delaney, Ph.D. A beautiful cover will probably sell this book for us amid all the books about dreams. Lots of publicity as well from a well-known author. She has lots of resources of books, tapes, study groups, and Web sites as well as a fascinating dream history — from Aristotle to Jung. $14, 0-06-251411-3, HarperSanFrancisco.

—Sherry Thompson
New Woman Books/Kent WA

Henry Holt

The Embroidered Shoes by Can Xue takes a healthy imagination to appreciate and explore. Her stories are irreverent, witty, sometimes confusing but on the second time around appreciation builds for her ability to weave a story. If you're looking for something different and complex, this may be the book for you. $20 cl, 0-8050-5413-8. *—Barb Dubee*

Flat-footed Truths: Telling Black Women's Lives edited by Patricia Bell-Scott (*Life Notes, Double Stitch*) brings together 27 creative spirits who, through essays, interviews, poetry, and photographic images, tell of Black women's lives. In the first section Sapphire writes about the challenges in recording her experiences when there has never been any validation that her life was important. Alice Walker searches for the real story of Zora Neale Hurston in the second section. The third section, which affirms lives of resistance, includes Audre Lorde's "Poetry Is Not a Luxury." And the fourth section focuses on transformed lives, and includes an interview with Sonia Sanchez. Looks fabulous! $22 cl, 0-8050-4628-3, June.

At age 28 Andrea Ashworth was one of the youngest fellows at Oxford University. In her memoir, **Once in a House on Fire**, she paints a portrait of a family terrorized by the rage of one stepfather and then another, and of a sensitive and observant child, caught in a remorseless cycle of poverty and brutality, who refuses to give in to despair. In the midst of her misery, Andrea found a haven in the work of Joyce and Eliot, who allowed her to see a world beyond her own and set her on the path toward intellectual and artistic awakening. $23 cl, 0-8050-5762-5, May.

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Are You Somebody: The Accidental Memoir of a Dublin Woman is a portrait of both Ireland and one of its most popular and respected commentators, Nuala O'Faolain. This collection of O'Faolain's *Irish Times* columns became a number-one bestseller in Ireland. $21 cl, 0-8050-5663-7. —*JT*

Houghton Mifflin

The stories in Michelle Cliff's **The Store of a Million Items** show people confronting the central dualities of a complex world: Black and white, colonialism and revolution, America and the Third World, femininity and masculinity. "Cliff is rare, and is already distinguished as a writer of great substance and power." —Tillie Olsen. I can't wait to read it. $12 pb, 0-395-90129-4, May, Mariner Books. —*JT*

Hyperion

Gloria Naylor revisits Brewster Place, the setting of her bestselling 1982 novel, with a new novel, **The Men of Brewster Place** ($22.95 cl, 0-7868-64214).

The Sacrificial Mother by Carin Rubenstein ($22.95 cl, May, 0-7868-6262-9) is a guide to help mothers escape the "trap of self-denial."

The Baby Boat: A Memoir of Adoption by Patty Dann ($22.95 cl, May, 0-7868-63803) is a literary chronicle of one woman's journey to adopt her infant son and is compared to the popular *Operating Instructions*.

For stores with a teaching or education section, LouAnne Johnson, inspiration for the popular movie *Dangerous Minds*, has a new book on teaching, **Two Parts Textbook, One Part Love** ($18.95 cl, June, 0-7868-6275-0).

Everyday Blessings: The Inner Work of Mindful Parenting by Myla and Jon Kabat-Zinn ($14.95 pb, May, 0-7868-83146) receives rave reviews from the likes of Marian Wright Edelman, Rachel Remen (*Kitchen Table Wisdom*) and Dr. Spock.

Living the Simple Life: A Guide to Scaling Down and Enjoying More by Elaine St. James ($9.95, July, 0-7868-8242-2) is finally coming in paper.

I'm Not As Old As I Used to Be by Frances Weaver ($10.95 pb, July, 0-7868-8325-1) looks at "reclaiming your life in the second half."

One title that troubles me is the new Geneen Roth (complete with a forward by Anne Lamott). We usually carry her books dealing with eating disorders (*When Food Is Love*, among others). But the subtitle of her new book troubles me: **When You Eat at the Refrigerator, Pull Up a Chair: 50 Ways to Be Thin, Gorgeous, and Happy When You Feel Anything But.** *Hmm...thin and gorgeous??*

For the kids and us grown-up kids, Hyperion has two new board books featuring art work by Keith Haring: **Big** ($6.95, 0-7868-0390-3) and **Ten** ($6.95, 0-7868-03916).

Another good board book is **One Hundred Is a Family** by Pam Ryan ($5.95, 0-7868-0405X), a counting book that explores the many types of groups that can be called families. —*Trudy Mills*
Antigone Books/Tucson AZ

The Hip Mama Survival Guide subtitled "Advice from the Trenches," covers pregnancy, clueless doctors, potty training, support groups, Right-wing losers, day care, family law, collection agents, and a lot more. By Ariel Gore, the editor and founder of *Hip Mama: The Parenting Zine*. $12.95 pb, 0-7868-8232-8, May.

The Reading Group Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Start Your Own Book Club, Revised Edition by Rachel W. Jacobsohn includes information on choosing members, finding a site, and leading discussions. This edition features new reading lists, which include classics, some of the most interesting books published in the last three years, and some of Oprah's picks. $11.95 pb, 0-7868-8324-3.

Now in paper: **Blue Jelly: Love Lost and the Lessons of Canning** by Debby Bull is wise, funny, and enlightening, and argues that depression can sometimes be good for the soul. $10.95 pb, 0-7868-8320-0. —*JT*

Little, Brown

Women in Love: Portraits & Stories of Lesbian Families ($29.95 cl, May, 0-8212-2523-5) is a beautiful large-format photography book (that looks as classy as the popular *Sisters*) and will be available in time for Mothers Day. Wow!

The Hacienda: A Memoir by Lisa St. Aubin de Teran ($23.95 cl, 0-316-816345) tells of this British author's years in the Venezuelan Andes, where she moved at the age of 17, following her marriage to a South American aristocrat 20 years her senior. Her

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marriage becomes a nightmare, and she is left to restore the plantation that she finds in shambles.

A new Sandra Scoppettone mystery, **Gonna Take a Homicidal Journey** ($22.95 cl, July, 0316-77665-3), finds Lauren Laurano investigating a homicide while on vacation in a sleepy resort town and also trying to regain the trust of her lover, Kip, after her recent infidelities.

Story of Junk by Linda Yablonsky ($12.95 pb, May, 0-316-968080), a novel about life among heroine dealers and addicts, received great reviews.

Life Support by Suzanne Gordon ($13.95 pb, May, 0-316-329630) is a critically acclaimed look at nursing, through compelling portraits of three women.

I just read Helen Dunmore's **Talking to the Dead** ($12.95 pb, June, 0-316-196452) and found it mesmerizing. The mysterious and sensual story of two sisters who are bound by the death of their infant brother years earlier is one of those books to be read in one sitting. Wonderful!

The Estrogen Answer Book by Ruth Jacobowitz ($11.95, 0-316-458082) will be available in paper in August to answer the "150 most-asked questions about hormone replacement therapy." —*Trudy Mills*

From her first encounter with an autoerotic device (when a vibrator accidentally fell on her head) to being crowned the "queen of high-tech porn" by the *New York Times*, Lisa Palac charts her dizzying course from Midwestern Catholic schoolgirl to collegiate anti-smut crusader to sex-positive feminist and cutting-edge pornographer in **The Edge of the Bed: How Dirty Pictures Changed My Life**. $22.95 cl, 0-316-68849-5, May.

For **Maxing Out: Why Women Sabotage Their Financial Independence** Colette Dowling (*The Cinderella Complex*) interviewed women, psychologists, and financial experts and found that even though most women today support themselves, many are spending compulsively, drowning in debt, and handing over the management of their money to husbands, lawyers, and accountants, often with disastrous results. Through these stories, Dowling reveals cultural and psychological forces that stand in the way of women's financial well-being. $23.95 cl, 0-316-19120-5, May. —*JT*

Morrow

In **We Are Our Mothers' Daughters** Cokie Roberts (co-anchor of "This Week") celebrates the

How they saw it...how they lived it... how they changed it — the extraordinary history of women in the United States

THE READER'S COMPANION TO U.S.

Women's History

Edited by Wilma Mankiller, Gwendolyn Mink, Marysa Navarro, Barbara Smith and Gloria Steinem

Here is the first major volume to cover the experience of women in the United States from earliest times to today. Issues that have been muted, erased, lost, or forgotten are examined with fresh clarity in this landmark one-volume reference.

With over 300 contributions, the book includes more than 400 narrative and interpretive articles dealing with such topics as African American women, the cult of domesticity, fashion and style, feminist theology, and the labor movement. Among the contributors, the legal scholar Catherine A. MacKinnon writes on feminist jurisprudence; the Lakota anthropologist Beatrice Medicine discusses the roles of women in Native American religions, and Patsy T. Mink writes on Women's Educational Equity Act.

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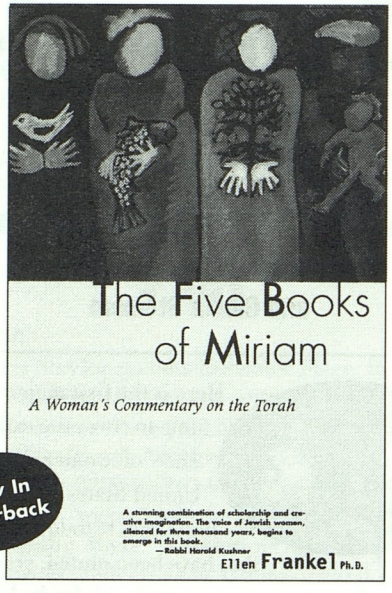
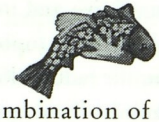
The Acclaimed Female Commentary



Scholar ELLEN FRANKEL presents a compelling commentary on the Torah from a modern Jewish woman's perspective.



"A stunning combination of scholarship and creative imagination. The voice of Jewish women, silenced for three thousand years, begins to emerge in this book."—RABBI HAROLD KUSHNER

"A wonderful weave of women's voices that invites the reader to participate in a conversation both thousands of years old and utterly new."
—JUDITH PLASKOW

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diversity of choices and perspectives available to women of today, ultimately affirming a bond of female solidarity. Roberts addresses issues including the balance of work and family, the diverse roles of women, and the connections and distinctions between different generations of women. $19.95 cl, 0-688-15198-1, May.

Embracing Victory: Life Lessons in Competition and Compassion by Mariah Burton Nelson teaches women how to embrace victory unapologetically, to compete respectfully and openly with women and men and to see opponents as opportunities. Integrating personal stories, interviews, and the results of an original survey of 1,000 women, Nelson presents 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. —*JT*

New Directions

Now in paper: Muriel Spark's **The Girls of Slender Means**. "One of Muriel Spark's most evocative novels." —Anne Tyler. $10.95 pb, 0-8112-1379-X. —*JT*

Norton

Reinventing the Enemy's Language: Contemporary Native Women's Writings of North America, edited by Joy Harjo and Gloria Bird with Patricia Blanco, Beth Cuthand, and Valerie Martinez, looks fabulous! "These women writers stand on their own terms, unassimilated, speaking from the heart of many cultures. For the non-Indian reader, this is a chance to overhear what's not primarily addressed to us, truth-telling unsweetened by wishful thinking, histories we never learned, voices of unquenchable beauty and integrity." —Adrienne Rich. Works from Chrystos, Lee Maracle, Winona LaDuke, Louise Erdrich, Leslie Marmon Silko, Paula Gunn Allen, Gloria Bird, Carol Lee Sanchez, and many others are included here. $25 cl, 0-393-04029-1.

In **A Desperate Passion: An Autobiography** Helen Caldicott looks back on her life and career as an activist, physician, wife, and mother offering an intensely personal look at her struggles, and setting an inspiring example for those who choose to redirect their paths in mid-life. $13.95 pb, 0-393-31680-7. —*JT*

Power by Linda Hogan is "about a young girl at a crossroads who must determine her place in the world." Omishto, of the Taiga tribe, witnesses her

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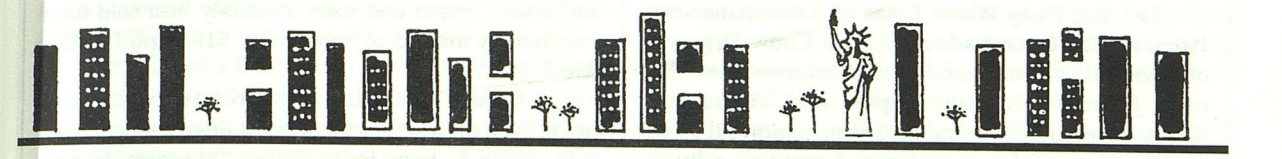

grandmother killing a panther, considered to be a sacred ancestor of Taiga people and Omishto finds herself torn between the Western world and her people's traditions. "She must reckon with her own spiritual connection to her people, to nature, and to the world itself." $23 cl, 0-393-04636-2, May.

Fearless Girls, Wise Women, and Beloved Sisters is a "definitive sourcebook of folktales and fairytales featuring a variety of multicultural heroines." Kathleen Ragan has collected folktales for all who are searching "to redefine the world and shape their collective sensibility...and to help build a more just vision of woman." $27.50 cl, 0-393-04598-6, May.

During her years of writing **The Improvised Woman: Single Women Reinventing Their Lives in an Age of Uncertainty**, Marcelle Clements asked a hundred women to talk about being single. "They spoke with stunning frankness and eloquence on subjects such as power, status, money, class, family, sense of home, romance, love, sex, fears of old age and death, and the future of gender." $26.95 cl, 0-393-04643-5, June.

In **Letter to the World**, Susan Ware recovers the people behind the legends of Eleanor Roosevelt, Dorothy Thompson, Margaret Mead, Katharine Hepburn, Babe Didrikson Zaharias, Martha Graham and Marian Anderson. This work shows how these women not only had impact in their professions, but also greatly influenced the way other women would see themselves and the world. $25.95 cl, 0-393-04652-4, June.

Carol F. Karlsen "reveals the social construction of witchcraft in seventeenth-century New England and illuminates the larger contours of gender relations in that society" in **The Devil in the Shape of a Woman**. $13.95 trade, 0-393-31759-5.

Archie Givens has developed a resource guide which describes a wide variety of literary works honoring the African American women's experience. **Strong Souls Singing** is "for parents, teachers, mentors, and others.... Here is the key to unlocking a rich cultural heritage for African American young women and helping them become lifelong readers." $11 trade, 0-393-31780-3. —*Dylan Besk*

Penguin/Viking

Do the Windows Open? by Julie Hecht. I don't even remember this novel in cloth, but this paper edition sounds like a welcome hoot. "Furious, polite, and genuinely funny, Julie Hecht knows that life is the plot and there is no solution." —Fran Lebowitz. $11.95 pb, 0-14-027145-7.

The Guerrilla Girls' Bedside Companion to the History of Western Art by the Guerrilla Girls. "Forget the stale, male, Yale textbooks: this is Art Herstory 101." Irresistible, funny and informative, this NYC-based collective of female artists and art-world professionals means to educate and entertain. They succeed. $18.95 pb, 0-14-025997-X.

Turn Ons: Pleasing Yourself While You Please Your Lover by Lonnie Barbach, Ph.D. This was previously released as a Dutton hardcover, *50 Ways to Please Your Lover*. Now in paper, this new tome from the candid, well-respected Dr. should sell very well with the new improved price and title. $10.95 pb, 0-452-27759-0.

Herotica 5: A New Collection of Women's Erotic Fiction edited by Marcy Sheiner. This fifth collection in this bestselling series has a beautiful cover, stories by past Herotica contributors as well some new voices. As always, a rich diversity of sexual voices. $12.95 pb, 0-452-27812-0.

On the Edge of Dream: Classic Tales of Women in Celtic Myth and Legend by Jennifer Heath. A collection of tales and legends of the women of the Celts, a people known for their Goddess worshipping affinity for earth and her animals. $11.95 pb, 0-452-27938-0.

The Healing Circle: Authors Writing of Recovery edited by Patricia Foster and Mary Swandor. Not the "recovery" book of yesteryear, this anthology is unique in that it contains the works of authors such as Jane Smiley, Linda Hogan, Carolyn Knapp and Faye Moskowitz examining strategies of coping and healing from physical and emotional illness. Looks like an even mix of male and female contributors. $13.95 pb, 0-452-27756-6.

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Leaving Deep Water: Lives of Asian-American Women at the Crossroads by Claire S. Chow. Drawing on personal narratives of dozens of women from Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino and Vietnamese descent, this counselor and professor explores themes such as coming-of-age, career, and complex cultural identity issues. $23.95 cl, 0-525-094075-8.

Shiva Dancing by Bharti Kirchner. This novel concerns 35-year-old American Meena Kumari's search for her connection with her past as well as her cultural heritage. She decides to try to find the village from which she was abducted as a 7-year-old, and the man she was designated to marry. Her departure is complicated by her involvement with another woman. Hmm...hard to say, but perhaps a shelving in Asian Women's Fiction and Lesbian Fiction? We shall see. $23.95 cl, 0-525-94367-6.

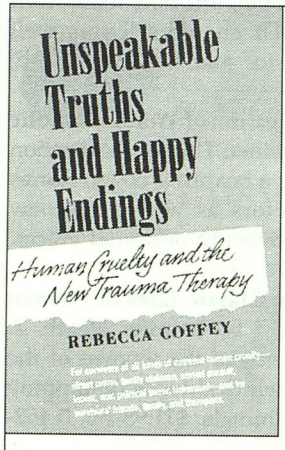
The Book of Meditation: The Complete Guide to Modern Meditation by Patricia Carrington, Ph.D. This guide to a form of meditation known as Clinically Standardized Meditation seems concerned not only with teaching the technique, but scientifically proving its benefit, origin and uses. Probably best sold from psychology instead of Spirituality. $19.95 pb 1-86204-236-5, July.

A Lover's Almanac by Maureen Howard. A new novel from the author of *Bridgeport Bus* (reissued in pb, 0-14-005566-5). From the publisher, "Maureen Howard weaves together history, art, science, astronomy and the compelling needs of family into this intensely radiant, intelligent and witty story." $24.95 cl, 0-670-87597-X.

NOW IN PAPER:

The Love Letter by Cathleen Schine. An unlikely romance begins with an anonymous love letter delivered to bookstore owner Helen MacFarquhar. A divorcee with an 11-year-old daughter, Helen soon realizes its author is a much younger man in her employ. $12.95 pb, 0-452-27948-8.

Crossing the Moon by Paulette Bates Alden. "Alden's memoir displays a subtle intelligence that quietly addresses the deepest issues of everyday life." —Blanche McCrary Boyd. This is a writer's memoir of her struggle to have a child, and her discovery of a



"Read this book and you will find it stretches your heart and mind."
—Jennifer Freyd, Ph.D. , Author, *Betrayal Trauma: The Logic of Forgetting Childhood Abuse*

UNSPEAKABLE TRUTHS AND HAPPY ENDINGS
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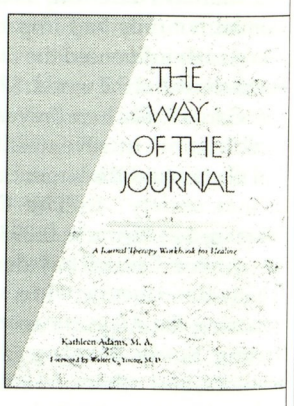
The first book to explore the important controversies about recovered memories and trauma therapy in a way that is helpful to survivors, friends, family, and therapists.



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Kathleen Adams, ISBN 0-9629164-2-0, 88 pp., pbk, **$18.95**
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deeper, clearer sense of self-acceptance. $11.95 pb, 0140272097.

Memoirs of a Beatnik by Diane di Prima. Long regarded as an underground classic, this counterpart of Allen Ginsberg portrays the gritty, erotic Beat years in this moving account of an artist's coming-of-age ($11.95 pb, 0-14-023539-6). Also available is **Loba** ($14.95 pb, 0-14-058752-7) di Prima's classic collection of poems called "an epic act of language" by Adrienne Rich.

The Best of the Best: 18 New Stories by America's Leading Authors edited by Elaine Koster and Joseph Pittman ($22.95 cl, 325 pps, Penguin, 0-451-19390-3). Believe it or not, there are more women in this collection of *new* stories, Lisa Alter, Joan Hess, Joy Fielding, Sharon McCrumb, Joyce Carol Oates and others.

Foster Child: An Intimate Biography of Jodie Foster by Her Brother, $5.99 pb, Penguin, 0-451-19561-2.

Mothers and Daughters: Celebrating the Gift of Love with 12 New Stories edited by Jill M. Morgan. ($14.95 pb, Penguin, 0-451-19383-0, May). Notice the stress on *new* in these titles. Makes sense as the public begins to wonder if they are buying the same thing over and over, and often in these collections, they are. Another good-looking list of writers including Anne McCaffrey, Faye Kellerman, Joy Fielding and Diana Gabaldon.

Three by Flannery O'Connor, with a new afterword by Dorothy Allison ($6.95 pb, Penguin, 0-451-52694-5, July). An inexpensive version of three of her best, *Wise Blood*, *The Violent Bear it Away*, and *Everything That Rises Must Converge*.

My Year of Meats by Ruth L. Ozeki ($23.95 cl, Viking, 0-670-87904-5, June). A novel using the allegory of consuming beef, encompassing the lives of two women, both Japanese, one in America, one in Japan. Lots of promo and promise for this filmmaker's first book.

The Most Wanted by Jacquelyn Mitchard ($24.95 cl, Viking, 0-670-87884-7, May). A second novel from the writer that brought us *The Deep End of the Ocean*, now one of Oprah's picks, and soon to be a film. In what sounds like a tender and terrifying story, we follow 14-year-old Arley Mowbray, her baby daughter, her imprisoned husband, and a public-aid lawyer, Annie Singer, as they tangle their lives together. Audio also available ($16.95, 0-14-086771-6, 3 hours, 2 cassettes, abridged, May).

The Queen of Whale Cay by Kate Summerscale ($21.95 cl, Viking, 0-670-88018-3, May). The cover alone should sell this intriguing bio of this cross-dressing, speedboat racer, Marion "Joe" Carstairs. Already a bestseller in the U.K., her fast-lane living and considerable fortune kept her in the company of Marlene Dietrich, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and many others. She was an out lesbian, viewed as a lovable eccentric by her friends. Can't wait!

—Donna Niles

Private Choices, Public Consequences: Reproductive Technology and the New Ethics of Conception, Pregnancy, and Family by Lynda Beck Fenwick ($27.50, 0-525-94263-7, Dutton). Looks at the legal, ethical and moral dilemmas of reproductive alternatives, from the perspective of the experts, and also from the real life experiences of the people who have struggled with complex decisions. Fenwick doesn't seem to take a side or position, rather she seems to provide a wealth of research and experiences of many people and situations. Fetal tissue research, custody of frozen sperm, biological vs. genetic vs. adoptive parents. What a mess we've created!

—Dorothy Holland

Gunnar's Daughter by Sigrid Undset is a moving and violent tale set in eleventh-century Norway and Iceland and is now available in paper. ($11.95 pb, 0-14-118020-X.) Introduction and Notes by Sherrill Harbison, translated from the Norwegian by Arthur G. Chater. Also available is a new translation of Sigrid Undset's **Kristin Lavransdatter I: The Wreath**, the first in the trilogy about fourteenth-century Norway that won her the Nobel Prize. ($11.95 pb, 0-14-118041-2.)

Defiance by Carole Maso is "astonishing in its dark brilliance, its power to disturb, its fearlessness in taking on the terrifying subjects of sex, class, gender, the life of the mind — to say nothing of its stated subject: murder. Carole Maso is an utter original, one of the true and plangent voices in American writers." —Mary Gordon. $23.95 cl, 0-525-94307-2, Dutton.

—JT

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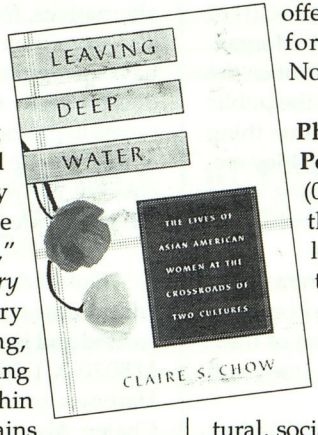
Pocket Books

My Mama's Waltz: A Book for Daughters of Alcoholic Mothers by Eleanor Agnew and Sharon Robideaux. Four and a half million women nationwide live with the legacy of an alcoholic mother but little has been focused on this area. Personal accounts reflect how daughters, more than sons, are forced to tend to their mothers as well as their families. Speaking as one of these daughters, I felt support, wonder, sorrow, and encouragement from this book. $24 cl, 0-671-01385-8. —*Barb Dubee*

Putnam

Transforming the lessons of the extraordinarily popular Take Our Daughters to Work Day into the successful habits of a lifetime, **Girls Seen and Heard: 52 Life Lessons for Our Daughters**, the first-ever book by the Ms. Foundation for Women (and Sondra Forsyth), ensures that girls' march toward self-esteem is a one-way trip. "Readable, irresistible, and practical, this is a book to put in homes, schools, and every place where girls gather." —Gloria Steinem. Published to coincide with Take Our Daughters to Work Day 1998. Preface by Carol Gilligan, Ph.D. and Marie Wilson. $11.95 pb, 0-87477-926-X, Tarcher.



Your Life As Story: Discovering the "New Autobiography" and Writing Memoir as Literature by Tristine Rainer is "the definitive guide to writing the story only you can tell," from the author of *The New Diary* (75,000 copies sold). Blending literary scholarship with practical coaching, Rainer shares her techniques for finding the essentials of story structure within scattered life experiences. She explains how to treasure the struggles in the past and discover the meaning within those experiences to capture the unique myth at work in one's own life. $14.95 pb, 0-87477-922-7, Tarcher. —*JT*

Random House

Outside Passage: A Memoir of an Alaskan Childhood by Julia Scully is a spare, moving, mesmerizing account of one family's struggles at the edge of America and on the brink of disaster — her life growing up during the Depression. Julia and her sister discover her father's body after he commits suicide, soon after Julia's mother leaves her daughters in an orphanage and journeys to Alaska in search for a better life. She buys an old roadhouse, sets up gold miners with drinks, and runs all-night poker games. On her feet at last, she brings her children to live with her in one of the strangest places on earth. $23 cl, 0-375-50083-9.

The Short History of a Prince: A Novel by Jane Hamilton (*The Book of Ruth* and *A Map of the World*) is set against the backdrop of a summer home in Wisconsin and reveals how a family — and a son's place in it — can change overnight. Here, Hamilton explores art, talent, friendship, family, sexuality, and redemption. ($23 cl, 0-679-45755-0). Also available in audio ($24, 0-375-40191-1) and large print ($23 pb, 0-375-70222-9). —*JT*

RH-Crown

Awakening Intuition: Using Your Mind-Body Network for Insight and Healing, Mona Lisa Schulz (0517707586, $25 cl, May). This book teaches readers how to hone in on the messages that intuition offers. The best recommendation is that the foreword is by the esteemed Christiane Northrup.

As We Change: A Woman's Guide to Physical and Emotional Health During Perimenopause, Stephanie DeGraff Bender (0517708949, $22.50 cl, May). Finally a book that offers assistance during those years leading up to menopause when the symptoms begin — looks at diet, exercise, mental attitude.

Slaying the Mermaid: Women and the Culture of Sacrifice, Stephanie Golden (0517708124, $25, June). Historical, cultural, social, mythic reasons women are so drawn to self-sacrifice and care-taking, though not an argument against it — rather a look at the original meanings of sacrifice and how to experience that as empowering. I don't really know *what* this book says?!

The Language of Fertility: The Revolutionary Mind-Body Program for Conscious Conception, Niravi Payne and Brenda Richardson (0609801988, $14 pb, June). Unique program to enhance conception efforts without drugs.

All About Birth Control: A Complete Guide, Planned Parenthood (0517885069, $20 pb, June).

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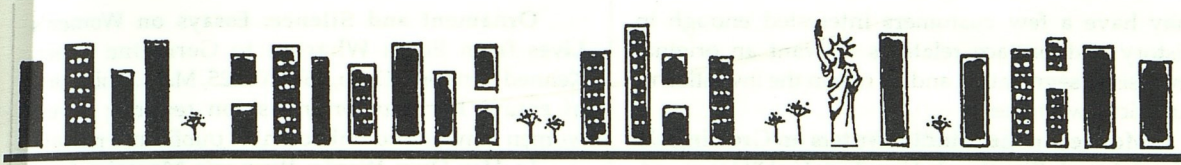

Serious exploration of contraceptive options. Important for both individuals and educators.

Lesbianism Made Easy, Helen Eisenbach (0609800949, $12 pb, June). Now in paper in time for Pride Month.

Overcoming Your Strengths: 8 Ways to Jump-Start a Stalled Career, Lois Frankel (0609801368, $14 pb, July). We have lots of women looking at their job experiences and seeking change — here is another book that could be helpful.

Big Girl in the Middle, Gabrielle Reece and Karen Karbo (0609801937, $14 pb, July). A bio of the popular beach volleyball star and Nike designer.

Wearing Purple, Alexander, Harper, Owens, and Patterson (0609801740, $12 pb, August). Collection of letters, inspired by *When I Am an Old Woman, I Shall Wear Purple*, by four African American women who met in 1954. —*Linda Bryant*

Charis Books & More/Atlanta GA

The Creation of Health: The Emotional, Psychological, and Spiritual Responses That Promote Health and Healing by Caroline Myss, Ph.D. (*Why People Don't Heal and How They Can* and *Anatomy of the Spirit*) and C. Norman Shealy, M.D., Ph.D. "The pioneering work of Dr. Shealy and Caroline Myss is the best way I know to learn the dynamics of the human energy system. Applying the principles...outlined in this book in your own life may be the most important thing you do for your health this decade." —Christiane Northrup, M.D. $15 pb, 0-609-80323-9, Three Rivers Press.

Reprinted: In **The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom: Practical & Spiritual Steps So You Can Stop Worrying** Suze Orman explores how deeply rooted feelings and anxieties about money can keep people from getting ahead and shows how to break free of unconscious limitations and take power over money. $14 pb, 0-609-80186-4, Three Rivers Press. —*JT*

RH-Knopf

Patchwork Planet, Anne Tyler ($24 cl, 0375-40256X, May). Novel about a lovable loser, Barnaby Gaitlin, his unforgiving family, his ex-wife and child, and the new woman in his life.

Hometown Brew, Ellen Akins ($22 cl, 0679447954, June). Novel set in small Wisconsin beer town revolves around two of the brewery's women: the one who unexpectedly inherited the chairmanship instead of her brother and the one who has left a bad marriage and returned to her brewery job and finds herself the object of sinister pranks.

Park City: New and Selected Stories, Ann Beattie ($25 cl, 067945506X, June). Collection of short stories chronicling the 70s, 80s and early 90s.

Quite a Year for Plums, Bailey White ($22 cl, 0679445315, July). First novel from the NPR commentator creates a small southern Georgia town which she peoples with quirky, hilarious characters.

—*Linda Mowry*

Prairie Moon/Arlington Heights IL

RH-Modern Library

What We Keep, Elizabeth Berg (0375500995, $23 cl, May). We sold *Talk Before Sleep* very well and her other novels pretty well, so we look forward to this one about a woman re-united with her mother after 35 years.

I Praise My Destroyer: Poems, Diane Ackerman (0679448780, $18.50 cl). Always hard to sell poetry it seems but this one looks like worth trying.

Everything Matters: Autobiographical Essays by Native American Writers, Krupat and Swann, ed. (0375751386, $17 pb, July). No listing of who is included in this — like what women? But we try to have a strong Native American section, so I will try this. —*Linda Bryant*

RH-Pantheon

Making Whiteness: The Culture of Segregation in the South, 1890–1940, Grace Elizabeth Hale ($30 cl, 0679442634, May). Although Mary Morrell advises us not to stock books with dates in the title, some stores

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may have a few customers interested enough in history and/or race relations to want an original analysis of segregation and its role in the invention of American whiteness.

Monkey in the Middle: Writers on Growing Up Biracial and Bicultural, Claudine C. O'Hearn, ed. ($12 pb, 0375700110, July). Collection of 17 essays in which the writers' personal accounts of claiming their membership in more than one culture and/or race reflect the rapidly changing physical and psychological face of our nation. Contributors include Julia Alvarez and Gish Jen. —*Linda Mowry*

The Lunch-Box Chronicles: Notes from the Parenting Underground by Marion Winik (*Telling* and *First Comes Love*). When Winik's husband died in 1994 she was left with the care of her two children and the task of rebuilding all of their lives. "**The Lunch-Box Chronicles** is about real as it gets. At once hilarious and wrenching, it's about being a parent, but also about so much more: love, survival, transcendence — and macaroni and cheese." —Anne Lamott. $22.95 cl, 0-375-40156-3. —*JT*

RH-Reference

Dr. Susan Love's Hormone Book: Making Informed Choices about Menopause, Susan Love (081296392X, $15 pb, May, Times). Now out in paper — serious book by the expert on breast cancer.

Updated version of **Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: A Book for Teens on Sex and Relationships**, Ruth Bell (081292990X, $23 pb, July). —*Linda Bryant*

RH-Villard

Estrogen: The Natural Way, Over 250 Easy and Delicious Recipes for Menopause, Nina Shandler ($14.95 pb, 0375751416, May). Hormone replacement therapy using the kitchen instead of the drugstore, primarily with soy and flaxseed.

Relax — You May Have Only a Few Minutes Left: Using the Power of Humor to Overcome Stress in Your Life and Work, Loretta Laroche. $21 cl, 0375501452. —*Linda Mowry*

RH-Vintage

Fugitive Pieces, Anne Michaels ($12 pb, 0679776591, May). Lannan literary fiction award winning novel.

Ornament and Silence: Essays on Women's Lives from Edith Wharton to Germaine Greer, Kennedy Fraser ($13 pb, 0375701125, May). Collection of essays by *New Yorker* fashion reporter covers women famous and unknown, in public and private.

In Her Own Words: Women's Memoirs from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States, Jill Kerr Conway, ed. ($16 pb, 0679781536, June). Twelve women write about their experiences in four offshoots of the old British world, including Shirley Chisholm and Lillian Hellman.

Our Guys, Bernard Lefkowitz ($15 pb, 0-375702695, May). Author examines the Glen Ridge, New Jersey 1989 gang rape of a retarded girl and comes up with a haunting portrait of our society's cult of the jock and its culture of unrestrained adolescent sexuality. —*Linda Mowry*

Routledge

Emotional Rescue: The Theory and Practice of a Feminist Father, Isaac D. Balbus. The catalog copy says, "Weaving personal narrative with a synthesis of feminist mothering theory and psychoanalytic theories of narcissism, Balbus describes his effort to share in the care of his daughter during her first four years." A study in the tensions between child rearing practice and theory. $20.99 pb, 0-415-91918-5; $75 cl, -91917-7.

Feminist Review #57: Citizenship: Pushing the Boundaries edited by Feminist Review Collective. If you have a Routledge sales rep, talk to her/him about setting up a standing order for this *Review*. Now in it's 20th year, the journal explores contemporary feminist theory. Each issue has its own topic. My experience is that I only sell one or two per issue. My guess is most folks who really want this have a subscription. $12.99 pb only, 0-415-16174-6.

The Phenomenal Woman: Feminist Metaphysics and the Pattern of Identity, Christine Battersby. If you have a strong audience for philosophy, this perspective on definitions of self and identity within feminist metaphysics will sell. It promises to explore a place for a metaphysics of fluidity in the current debates concerning postmodernism, feminism, and identity politics. $18.99 pb, 0-415-92036-1.

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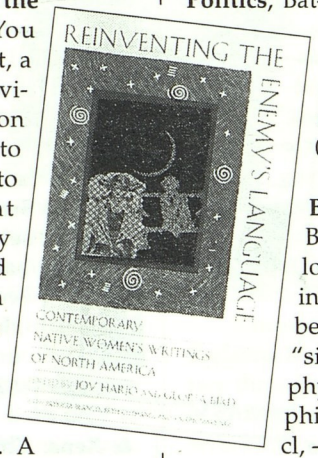
Artificial Knowing: Gender and the Thinking Machine, Alison Adams. Challenges the masculinist slant in the Artificial Intelligence view of the world, filling the large gap in science and technology studies by showing how gender is inscribed in AI-based computer systems. $20.99 pb, 0-415-12963-X; $65 cl, -12962-1.

Maternal Personality, Evolution and the Sex Ratio: Do Mothers Control the Sex of the Infant? Valerie Grant. From the "You Heard It First Here" department: Grant, a lecturer in New Zealand, examines evidence that women who score high on personality questionnaires designed to measure dominance are more likely to conceive sons. She concludes that mothers produce the gender child they are most suited to raise. Let your mind go with this one, girls — you'll have a good time.... $24.99 pb, 0-415-15880-X; $75 cl, -15879-6.



Changing the Subject: Psychology, Social Regulation and Subjectivity, Julian Henriques, et al. A reprint, with a new foreword. If it worked for you first time around, go for it. If you don't remember it, it will sell to folks interested in feminist theory about foundations of critical and feminist psychology. $25.99 pb, 0-415-15138-4; $85 cl, -15137-6.

Women's Lifeworlds: Women's Ways of Shaping Their Realities, Edith Sizoo, ed. Engaging narratives from fifteen women of various age groups, cultures, religions, social and geographical backgrounds. The stories cover the lives of their grandmothers, mothers, and daughters to illustrate the changing meaning of "place" in women's lives over time. $25.99 pb, 0-415-17177-6; $80 cl, -17176-8.

Dancing Women: Female Bodies on Stage, Sally Banes. Close readings of performances with analysis of the sociopolitical and cultural context of specific dances provides an innovative approach to dance history. Sets the stage for a continuing conversation about the roles of women in dance. $22.99 pb, 0-415-11162-5; $75 cl, -09671-5.

Neural Geographies: Feminism and Microconstruction of Cognition, Elizabeth Wilson. If you can sell deconstructive theory, Freudian neurology and connectionist theories of cognition, pile 'em up. $19.99 pb, 0-415-91600-3; $70 cl, -91599-6.

Daring to Be Good: Essays in Feminist Ethico-Politics, Bat-Ami Bar On and Ann Ferguson, ed. A collection addressing philosophical issues and controversies of interest to feminists including prostitution and reproductive technology. $19.99 pb, 0-415-91555-4; $70 cl, -91554-6.

Philosophy and the Maternal Body: Reading Silence, Michelle Boulous Walker. Timely look at the overlooked question of the role of maternity in feminist thought. In what ways has it been used by male theorists to effectively "silence" the voices of women in philosophy. Will sell if you have a crowd reading philosophy. $22.99 pb, 0-415-16858-9; $75 cl, -16857-0.

Roles of the Northern Goddess, Hilda Ellis Davidson. Explores the worship of the pre-Christian, Northern goddesses, revealing how and why goddesses were worshipped by both men and women. Author based in England. My guess is that this will not interest the wider population looking for goddess information. $22.99 pb, 0-415-13611-3; $85 cl, 0-415-13610-5.

New Frontiers in Space, Bodies and Gender, Rosa Ainley, ed. Taking gender to be something we do rather than something we are, the contributors consider the interrelations between birth and reassigned genders and sexuality; cultural spaces; and spaces created by specific communities. Will work anywhere you have folks looking at gender from a theoretical perspective. $25.99 pb, 0-415-15490-1; $85 cl, -15489-8.

—Mary Ellen Kavanaugh
My Sisters' Words/Syracuse NY

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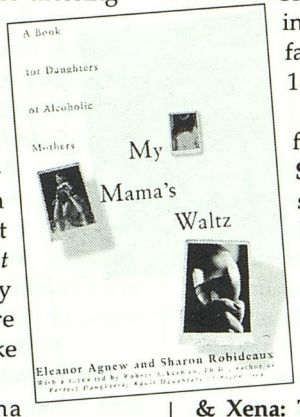
St. Martin's

If you've done well with *Girljock* (the zine), you'll be happy to hear about **Girljock: The Book** edited by the zine's creator, Roxxie Rosen. This book will also be of interest if your clientele is interested in lesbians, sports, libido, humor, and the connections between them! $14.95 pb, 0-312-15134-9.

Positively False: Exposing the Myths Around HIV and AIDS by Joan Shelton, a medical journalist and documentarian from London, looks at the relationship between AIDS research, scientific inquiry, and commercial interests. $29.95 cl, 1-86064-333-7.

Changing Ones: Third and Fourth Genders in Native America by Will Roscoe, the author of *The Zuni Man-Woman* and editor of *Living the Spirit*, brings us more information on sex roles and cross-dressing among Native Americans. $24.95 cl, 0-312-17539-6.



Atkins: Girls Night Out by Chloe Atkins is a small, hardcover gift book with photos of women at several San Francisco lesbian clubs. ($13 cl, 0-312-18044-6.) This is the first lesbian version of St. Martin's popular small format photo books, such as *Bianchi: Outpost* and several others produced by gay male photographers. Finally they're recognizing the talents of women like Chloe Atkins!

The Necessary Hunger by Nina Revoyr is now available in paperback. I loved this book and handsold several in cloth. Its themes include basketball, cross-cultural families, class, racism, and being in love with your father's new girlfriend's daughter! $13.95 pb, 0-312-18142-6.

Though not lesbian, I can't resist mentioning **The Gay Man's Guide to Heterosexuality** by Cathy Crimmins and Tom O'Leary ($10.95 pb, 0-312-18102-7) which is a humorous book in the vein of *Why Gay Guys Are a Girl's Best Friend*. Crimmins has written several other humorous books including *Madonna and Child: A Maternally Hip Baby Book: A Parody*.

Ruth Anne Kocour tells her story of being the only female member of an expedition up Mt. McKinley in **Facing the Extreme: One Woman's Story of True Courage, Death-Defying Survival, and Her Quest for the Summit**. This is sure to be an exciting book! ($22.95 cl, 0-312-17942-1.) An adventure of the spiritual kind can be found in the paperback release of Barbara Wilson's **Blue Windows: A Christian Science Childhood** ($14 pb, 0-312-18054-3).

Sandra Dallas, author of *The Persian Pickle Club*, returns with **Buster Midnight's Cafe** ($10.95 pb, 0-312-18062-4) and a plot reminiscent of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*. The newest novel by Gail Tsukiyama, author of *Women of the Silk* and *The Samurai's Garden*, is **Night of Many Dreams** ($22.95 cl, 0-312-17194-3). This is a coming-of-age story of two sisters in Hong Kong, from 1940 to 1965. Other new fiction titles include Kate Wilhelm's newest, **The Good Children** ($22.95 cl, 0-312-17914-6), **An Army of Angels: A Novel of Joan of Arc** by Pamela Marcantel ($15.95 pb, 0-312-18042-X), and a reprint of Dodie Smith's **I Capture the Castle**, first published in 1948, about a 17-year-old chronicling her family's adventures in 1934 ($23.95 cl, 0-312-18110-8).

Delta Burke, of "Designing Women" fame, brings us **Delta Style: Eve Wasn't a Size 6 and Neither Am I**, part memoir, part self-help book. She discusses her own battles with body image and her current work as an advocate for "real-size" women. Hmm.... Hard to tell how this will be, sight unseen, but it might be worth checking out. $24.95 cl, 0-312-15454-2.

For your Xena fans, check out **Hercules & Xena: The Unofficial Companion** by James Van Hise. This book includes season-by-season episode guides and lots of photos, including eight pages of color photos. $15.95 pb, 1-58063-001-4.

In the health section, consider **Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A Treatment Guide** by Erica F. Verrillo and Lauren M. Gellman, two women with CFIDS ($15.95 pb, 0-312-18066-7) and the third edition of **A Woman's Decision: Breast Care, Treatment & Reconstruction** by Karen Berger and John Bostwick III, M.D. ($18.95 pb, 0-312-18229-5). A humorous take on aging is provided in **Boomer Babes: A Woman's Guide to the New Middle Ages** by Linda Stasi and Rosemary Rogers ($12.95 pb, 0-312-18061-6). —*Suzanne Corson*

Feminism and the Politics of Reading looks at what it means to be a self-conscious "feminist reader," at what happens when that feminism is "off-duty," and explores the complex personal and political implications of what feminists do every time we read.

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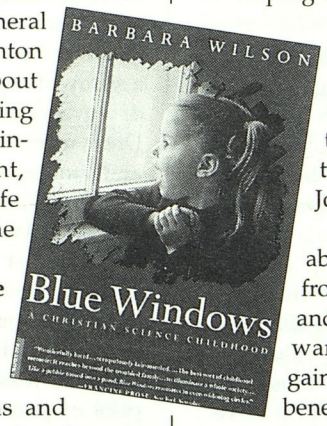
Should be of vital interest to the readers who shop in *our* stores. $19.95 pb, 0-340-61413-7; $59.95 cl, -70062-9, Arnold. Distributed by St. Martin's. —*JT*

Simon & Schuster

Lift Every Voice: Turning a Civil Rights Setback into a Vision of Social Justice by Lani Guinier breaks her silence and tells the real story of how her nomination for Assistant Attorney General was derailed by the weakness of the Clinton administration and reveals the truth about her life, her politics, and her unwavering quest for civil justice. In this strongly opinionated and often self-critical account, Guinier goes on to explain what her life has been like in the five years since the nomination. $25 cl, 0-684-81145-6.



In My Wildest Dreams: Living the Life You Long For by Gail Blanke "opens the door to [the reader's] fabulous future" — however each woman defines fabulous. These are the ideas and strategies that are the basis for her national workshops, offering the reader the tools to begin her process and start toward her goals. $23 cl, 0-684-84113-4.

The Itch by Benilde Little follows her earlier title *Good Hair* with a wonderful love story with deeper undercurrents: what happens to thirty-somethings who breeze through seemingly flawless lives only to be derailed by unexpected misfortunes that can shake a relationship to its very foundation. $23 cl, 0-684-83834-6.

Daddies & Daughters: Tender Moments, Lasting Joys by Carmen Renee Berry and Lynn Barrington. This collection of stories from both daughters and fathers examines a vast array of experiences, from an anxious daddy-to-be's dreams for his new baby girl to the contentious moments shared by budding teenagers and their bewildered fathers. Each account is unique and special, filled with dreams, joy, pain, sorrow, disappointment, and most of all, hope. $20 cl, 0-684-84992-5.

Menopause Madness: An Empathetic Little Book by Pat Ross takes a hilarious look at the often serious subject of menopause. While much has been written on the subject, little has been written with humor and warmth. Thoroughly readable and enjoyable, Ross' pithy observations prove that nothing is sacred or above scrutiny. As she observes, "It's a relief to be off the pedestal, but you miss the view." $8 pb, 0-684-84227-0.

Creating Women's Networks: A How-to Guide for Women and Companies, Catalyst, foreword by Sheila Wellington, President of Catalyst. With women comprising nearly 50 percent of today's workforce, developing the human capital within an organization is as important as investing in the latest technology. A valuable toolkit that shows how to create and support women's networks, this is a guide geared towards developing the leadership of tomorrow. $24 cl, 0787940143, July, Jossey-Bass.

Spending by Mary Gordon is a "novel about pleasure in all its varieties — pleasure from sex, work, food, nature, friendships — and what happens when we get what we want." As a moderately successful artist gains a muse (and eventually lover) offering benefits she can't refuse, she produces her best and most controversial work. As her star rises, her benefactor's falls upsetting the relationship dynamics. $24 cl, 0-684-83945-8, Scribner.

From the Mississippi Delta: A Memoir by Endesha Ida Mae Holland, Ph.D. is a wonderful journey through the poverty, strength, and harsh beauty of growing up poor and Black in the south. Travelling with Holland on her journey — from rape survivor to civil rights activist to award-winning poet, playwright, essayist, and storyteller — is truly worth the journey. Every woman will see a bit of herself in this book; if only we all had the guts to do what Holland has done. $23 cl, 0-684-810115. —*Barb Dubee*

Absolutely Now! A Futurist's Journey to Her Inner Truth by Lynne Franks ($23.95 cl, Overlook, 0-87951-859-6, May). The model for "Edina" on the cult television series "Absolutely Fabulous," this legendary figure in fashion and public relations tells the story of her journey from the high profile 20-hour-day years to the inner quest that took her around the globe. —*Donna Niles*

In **The Bodacious Book of Succulence**, SARK shares her one-of-a-kind views on a wide range of topics including business, love, sex, and dealing with death. With her trademark enthusiasm and exuberance, and her uniquely vibrant and distinctively

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colorful style, she shows readers how it is possible to stay true to their passions and their individuality, and still be successful — financially and spiritually. $15 pb, 0-684-83377-8, May, Fireside. —*JT*

Verso

"Rigoberta Menchu is a worldwide symbol of courage in the continuing fight of indigenous peoples for justice. The Guatemalan Indian leader first came to the world's attention with the publication of her autobiography *I, Rigoberta Menchu*." In **Crossing the Borders**, Rigoberta picks up where her first volume left off — as she flees Guatemala in 1981, resolving to dedicate her life to building "a solidarity movement with the Indians living as outlaws in Guatemala's mountains." $25 cl, 1-85984-893-1, July. —*Dylan Besk*

"[Roxanne] Dunbar-Ortiz reminds those of us who struggle for social justice of all that is at stake.... **Red Dirt** is a testament to her talents as a researcher, a writer and a storyteller." —Sheila Tully, *Bay Guardian*. Social history to be sure, but told from the perspective of memoir and personal history. Carol (Seajay) couldn't put it down, and is still talking about it months after reading it. $15 pb, 1-85984-162-7, June. —*JT*

Walker

Whitewash by Ntozake Shange ($15.95, 0-8027-8490-9). A young African American girl is traumatized when a gang attacks her and her brother on their way home from school and spray paints her face white. Helene Angel will never forget that day. Based on a series of true incidents, this powerful story by renowned poet Ntozake Shange, illustrated with art from the Carnegie Meal winning video, tells of a terrible racial incident that becomes a lesson in tolerance and triumph. —*Dorothy Holland*

Warner

Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts ($12, 0-446-67221-1). A wondrous tale of life, love and the indomitable spirit of one unforgettable girl in this feel-good novel. A moving, funny and unforgettable journey to "where the heart is."

—*Dorothy Holland* ○

Our Presses, *continued from page 104.*

Grandpa's Garden. Simone helps her Grandpa come to terms with his loss of sight. Illustrated by Belinda Ageda (*Crabs for Dinner*). $5.95 pb, 0-88961-213-7.

My Bicycle Trip by Monna Dingman. Set in California in the 1960s, this novel is a riveting, romantic and hilarious story about friendship and love, about connection and separation, about living with loss and growth. On a hundred mile bike trip, Drew Collins leaves everything that hurts behind in a spray of dirt from her back tire. Amid the quiet lap of waves, a cool ocean mist, and freshly rolled reefers, Drew meets Kate in the orange light of a beach party and unleashes a sweltering romance. $12.95 pb, 0-88961-212-9.

With Women's Press' 25-year history of inspiring feminist publishing and the advent of a new century, the 1999 **Everywoman's Almanac** spotlights the most intriguing interviews that have been featured in this *original* women's datebook. The first almanac was released 23 years ago and began as a pool of practical information for women on topics ranging from day care to sexism in schools to self-defence to health care. Over the years, the almanac has featured interviews with women on a range of topics. Don't miss the **Best of the Everywoman's Almanac**. $8.95 sewn, 0-88961-227-7; $9.95 spiral, 0-88961-228-5, July.

Women's Press, 517 College Street #302, Toronto Ontario M6G 4A2; email ⟨wompress@web.net⟩. Distributed by Login/InBook. —*Women's Press*

Women in Translation

Allskin and Other Tales by Contemporary Czech Women edited by Alexandra Büchler. This collection of 16 stories by well-known women writers from the Czech Republic is part of our ongoing effort to give visibility to women's lives around the world. Since the Velvet Revolution, Prague has become a popular travel destination and expatriate hub. This anthology is for those travelers as well as any reader curious about the slightly fantastic and often ironic world of Czech literature. $14.95 pb, 1-879679-11-6, May. Women in Translation, 523 84th St., Seattle WA 98103. Distributed by Consortium and Airlift.

—*Women in Translation* ○

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Index of Advertisers

A&M Books 103
Alamo Square 116
Alyson Publications 80
Astarte Shell Press 16
Bergin & Garvey 111
Bluestocking Books/Odd Girls Press 102
Bookpeople/Words 22-23
Calyx 19, 96
Circles Magazine 105
Circlet Press 114
Consortium 21, 110
Cornell University Press 122
Crabtree 52
Crown Publishing/Harmony 132
Down there Press 36
Dundurn Press 44
Firebrand Books 24
Four Walls Eight Windows 108
Goldenrod Distribution 60
gynergy books 37
HarperPrism 62
HarperCollins C1
HarperSanFrancisco 136, 139, 140, 144
Haworth ..... insert
Houghton Mifflin 143
Human Kinetics Publishers 106
Innisfree 27
Koen Book Distributors 4, 48
Ladyslipper, Inc. 46
Little, Brown and Company 3
MIT Press 124
Mercury Press 6-7
Milkweed Editions 18
Mother Tongue Ink 91
Naiad Press 70
Napoleon Publishing/Rendezvous Press 42
New Harbinger 41
New Victoria 94
New York University Press 131
Northeastern University Press 118
Oxford University Press 32
Papier-Mache 30
Penguin/Berkley 64
Perfect Pitch/Shamaneya Music 58
Pilgrim Press 61
Press Gang 34
Rising Tide 92
St. Martin's Press 134
Seal Press 86
Second Story Press 14
Serpent's Tail 110
Sidran Foundation 146
Siren Magazine 88
Sister Vision Press 8
Spinifex Press 20, 98
Spinsters Ink C3
Syracuse Cultural Workers 117
Temple University Press 126
Third Woman Press 100
U.S. Games Systems, Inc. 56
University of Chicago Press 120
University of California Press 69
University of Illinois Press 128
University Press of Kentucky C2
Westminster John Knox 112
Wilfrid Laurier University Press 79
Women's Press/Canada 38
Words Distribution 22-23

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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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Tired of low-profit margins on magazines? Lost your distributor in The 1997 meltdown? Buy 2 great zines *SageWoman* and *PanGaia* direct from the publisher at fabulous discounts! Low minimum orders, easy, no-paperwork terms. Call 707-882-2052, or fax 707-882-2793, for more information. SageWoman, PO Box 641, Point Arena CA 95468, email ⟨info@sagewoman.com⟩.

Goddessing Regenerated, international multi-cultural 36–page feminist newspaper: Oh, Black Madonnas, Yes, Double Goddesses! Some Vulva Goddesses, Tree Goddesses, and Bird Goddesses, too. Sing me of Crones, Gorgons, Bread Goddesses, Fat Goddesses, Sun Goddesses, and Menstrual Muse! Prehistoric cultures, environmental issues, sacred sites, plus *snazzy* pictures, too! $4 retail/$2.40 wholesale. Inquiries: Willow LaMonte, Goddessing, Box 269, Valrico FL 33595 or PO Box 73, Sliema, Malta, email ⟨goddssng@maltanet.net⟩.

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Book and Catalog Design. For more than 15 years we have been designing and producing award-winning books, catalogs (including the Feminist Bookstores' Catalog), and other publications. We are located in San Francisco, but have worked successfully with writers, publishers, and printers in all parts of the country. Call if you would like to see samples of our work and discuss an upcoming project. Pat Koren and Laurie Smith, Kajun Design: 415-863-2494.

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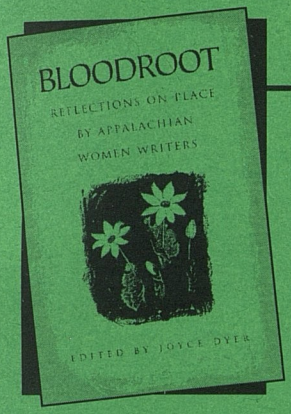
Women of Note



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Joyce Dyer, Editor

"Every one of these 35 pieces goes down smooth as a glass of Georgia peach, even when it bites."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Dyer succeeds admirably in a dual purpose: to promote a vital and virtually unknown body of work, and to suggest an Appalachian spirit that transcends state borders and artistic genres."
—*Publishers Weekly,* starred review

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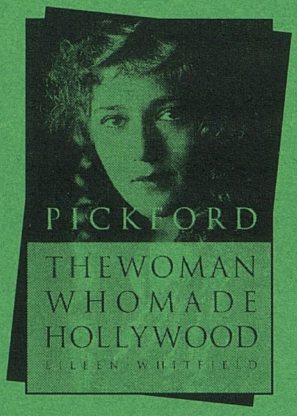

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Betty Lee

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Carolyn Sigler, Editor

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—*Publishers Weekly*

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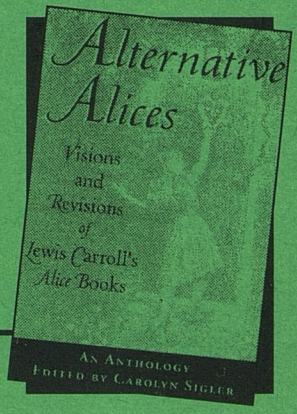

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Women Writing a Feminist Future!

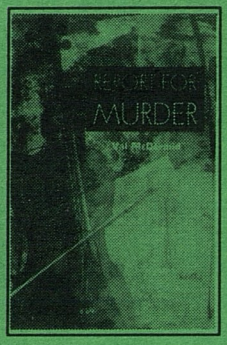
Spinsters Ink

Turnip Blues

Helen Campbell

ISBN 1-883523-23-0 $10.95 **(Pub. date: May 1998)**

A brilliant collage of personalities and relationships, family and friends, *Turnip Blues* is the enduring story of the journey of a lifetime for two spunky 75-year-old women—Mrs. Kuzo and Mrs. Lemack. As the two drive across Pennsylvania to visit the grave of blues artist Bessie Smith, Mrs. Kuzo reflects upon her own life's journey, growing up in a dysfunctional immigrant family. When the two women arrive at their journey's end, Mrs. Kuzo arrives at her own destination, learning an important truth that recasts her entire life.



Report for Murder

Val McDermid

ISBN 1-883523-24-9 $10.95 **(Pub. date: April 1998)**

From the critically acclamed, award-winning author of the popular Kate Brannigan series, the debut of Lindsay Gordon, self-proclaimed "cynical socialist lesbian feminist journalist," issued in paperback in the U.S. for the first time. "McDermid has created a complex and prickly detective whose working class background sets her at odds with her companions, particularly her new lover, Cordelia. The shifting relationship intertwines a realistic romance with a solid detective story." — *Publishers Weekly.*

Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Dating

Shelly Roberts

ISBN 1-883523-25-7 / five-copy pre-pack ISBN 1-883523-26-5

$5.95 **(Pub. date: May 1997)**

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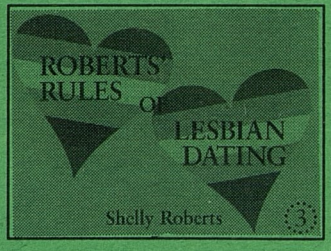
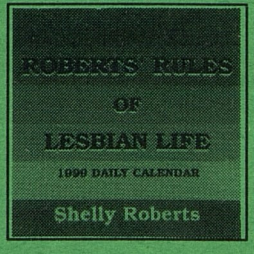


Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Life 1999 Daily Calendar

Shelly Roberts

ISBN 1-883523-27-3 $9.95 **(Pub. date: July 1998)**

The wit, wisdom, and wonderfully skewed perspective of the irrepressible Shelly Roberts now can be enjoyed all 365 days of the year on this compact 1999 desk calendar. Begin each day right with a pearl of wisdom from this popular humorist's inexhaustible repertoire of new and recycled one-liners on life, love, and the pursuit of lesbian happiness.



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