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# Feminist Bookstore News



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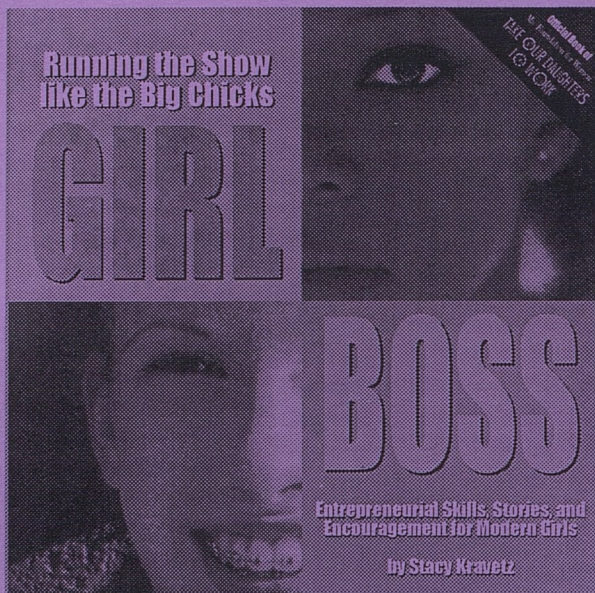


## **Spring Announcements**

March/April 1999

Volume 21 Number 6

*the*  
Femina series <sup>Special</sup> am F32978 3/29/99



# GIRL BOSS

*Running the Show  
Like the Big Chicks*

by Stacy Kravetz

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✧ APRIL 22ND, 1999 ✧

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# As we go to press...

Maybe it's spring or maybe it's the ludicrousness of everything, but I'm having an odd moment of hope in these difficult times. Some of our stores (though certainly not all) are actually seeing sales growth (see page 23). ABA is launching a national branding program for independent bookstores that will serve us all very well (see "Book Sense," page 28) and is developing an e-commerce /Web-site program for members that could shift some of those Internet sales back to independent bookstores (see page 25). And perhaps it's a sign of shifting popular sentiment that even Barnes & Noble seems to be embarrassed to say its own name (see "textbook.com," page 9). B&N's disgusting, greedy, gotta-have-it-all grab for Ingram and its everywhere-on-the-Internet advertising may be turning the tide against itself. Want more good news? The Association of American Publishers is launching a campaign to up reading's profile as a trendy, fashionable thing to do. Coca Cola is on the bandwagon and inserting book excerpts into cases of coke.

The two big news stories as we go to press? 1. Jerry Falwell screaming about the possible homosexual tendencies of a teletubby. (Get a life, Jerry. Or, if you must think about gay men *all* the time, then get a boyfriend — but leave little teletubbies alone!) 2. The dish about Amazon.com taking money — \$10,000 a shot — for books on its New and Notable and Destined for Greatness pages, and other prime promo.

People are shocked. Customers seem to think of Amazon.com as a special kind a friend, a "big brother" of literature that just altruistically recommends books because, *golly gee, the folks at Amazon.com just really like books*. Sorry, Charley, but Amazon.com's *raison d'être* is to make money by selling you books. Amazon.com's sterling image seems to be a bit tarnished.

It's entertaining to watch Amazon.com's attempts at damage control. My favorite line so far is

Bezos' "We're a buying cooperative on behalf of our 6.2 million customers. If we can lower costs by collecting co-op advertising money, that can lead to much lower prices." No, try that again, Jeff, but first look up the word "cooperative" in one of the dictionaries you sell. A cooperative's goal is to benefit its members. Amazon.com's goal is to benefit Jeff Bezos and Amazon.com's stockholders. We'll believe that Amazon.com is "a buying cooperative" as soon as we see Jeff and the stockholders disperse the money they've made on Amazon.com's escalating stock to the 6.2 million book buyers. Until then, this line is just more corporate b.s. wrapped up on a pretty package — and an insult to intelligent readers.

But the important — and so far uncovered — story in the Amazon.com scandal is what they are refusing to promote. Amazon.com is insisting that taking the odd \$10,000 for editorial placement doesn't *really* compromise their standards because they *do* reject some of the money from time to time. But let's look at the books Amazon.com is refusing to promote: Maybe it's just coincidence that all five of the titles Amazon.com has admitted taking money for are by men, and two of the three books it rejected are by women. Or maybe that just reflects the tastes and, well, the *values* of the influential we're-just-folks-who-love-books editorial board. But we have a very hard time understanding why Ann Padgett's *Magician's Assistant* was turned down. Certainly not because it's not well written — and certainly not for lack of good character development, entertaining narrative, unexpected plot, humor, or insight into the American male psyche. Perhaps it was rejected because the all-wise editorial board disliked the descriptions of Nebraskan snow storms? Or maybe it was that the content was too gay, and too sympathetic, and because it gave women too many options. Maybe it was just too feminist, or too radical to warrant top-of-the-page placement? I don't

hang out on Amazon.com so I don't know what they do and don't promote regularly. But it certainly gives me the creeps when a "mainstream" favorite at feminist bookstores for two years is deemed "unadvertiseable." It smacks of some kind of prejudice. And it provides a frightening perspective on the future of literature if booksales are left to supersites and monolithic chain stores.

I had a chance to address related issues on national radio a few weeks before the Amazon.com story broke, on CounterSpin's Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting program. It was exciting to have a national radio program explore how the shift in where and how books are sold affects the ideas and images that are — and aren't — circulated. (Check it out at [www.webactive.com/cspin/cspin990115.html](http://www.webactive.com/cspin/cspin990115.html)) if your Web browser does audio.)

I seem to be back to traveling again. I'm off to Boston tomorrow to see New Words and attend OutWrite. And, thanks to a consulting gig (with The Loft's mid-career writer's promotion program in

Minneapolis), I got to see the Midwest right after the big snow storms and to meet with — and ski with — feminist booksellers from Amazon, A Room of One's Own, and Women and Children First. ABA held its January Board meetings in San Francisco — and invited Feminist Bookstore Network (and the Association of Booksellers for Children) to join ABA's annual meetings with the regional associations' executive directors and presidents. The meetings were as helpful and inspiring as I'd hoped. Attending meetings in your own town is even more luxurious than traveling.

Next stop? BEA. I hope to see you there! Kristin, Teri Mae, and I will be staffing the FBN booth — #4710. Please stop by and say hello.

Yours in spreading the words,  
Carol Seajay

P.S. And this just in from Canada: The Supreme Court of Canada has agreed to hear Little Sisters' appeal in their suit against Canadian Customs!

### FBN DUE DATES

	<b>May - June</b>	<b>Summer &amp; Sidelines July - August</b>	<b>Fall Announcements Sept - Oct</b>
<b>Articles</b>	Mar. 5	May 7	July 2
<b>Ad Reservations</b>	Mar. 12	May 14	July 9
<b>Ad Mechanicals</b>	Mar. 19	May 21	July 16
<b>News Column Items</b>	Mar. 19	May 21	July 16
<b>Letters</b>	Mar. 24	May 26	July 21

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

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Kids' Lit: Linda Bubon

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& Heather Whipple

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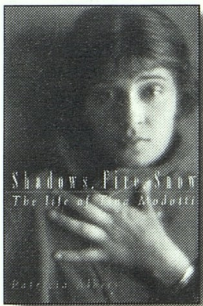
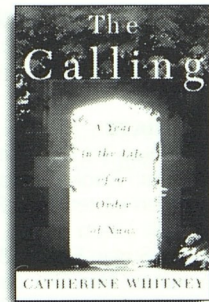
# Books for Women by Women

## THE CALLING

By Catherine Whitney

In the tradition of the best-selling *The Cloister Walk*, Catherine Whitney's narrative of her personal journey inside a Dominican order of nuns is a moving and revealing portrait of a contemporary religious order.

 **Crown • 0-517-70854-X • \$23.00 hardcover (March '99)**



## SHADOWS, FIRE, SNOW

By Patricia Albers

Revealing the flesh-and-blood woman behind the legend, here is the definitive biography of Tina Modotti, whom art historians have dubbed "the best-known unknown photographer of the 20th century" and "the next cult female artist after Frida Kahlo."

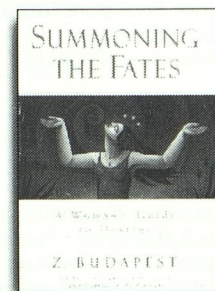
 **Clarkson Potter • 0-609-60069-9 • \$30.00 hardcover (April '99)**

## SUMMONING THE FATES

By Z. Budapest

Finally in paperback—the first book for women looking to get in touch with the inner workings of the Fates, by one of the founders of the Goddess Movement. "This charming book shows readers how rituals and faith can lead us inward to find the wisdom and goodness of the Goddess in our own lives" (*Publishers Weekly*).

**Three Rivers Press • 0-609-80277-1 • \$12.00 paperback (April '99)**

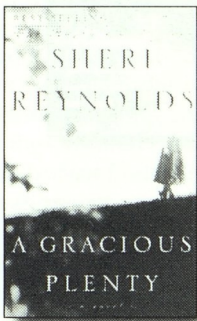
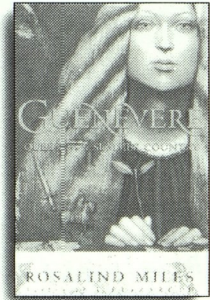


**GUENEVERE, QUEEN OF THE SUMMER COUNTRY**

By Rosalind Miles

The Arthurian legends continue to enchant millions. Now readers will be swept away by *Guenevere, Queen of the Summer Country*—a bold, magical retelling of the ancient saga as seen through the eyes of Queen Guenevere. By the best-selling author of *I, Elizabeth* and *Return to Eden*.

 **Crown • 0-609-60362-0 • \$24.00 hardcover (available now)**

**A GRACIOUS PLENTY**

By Sheri Reynolds

Now in paperback, this is a beautifully written tale of the redemptive nature of the human soul by the hugely talented author of the *New York Times* best-seller, *The Rapture of Canaan*. "Reynolds is a wonderful storyteller" (*The New York Times Book Review*).

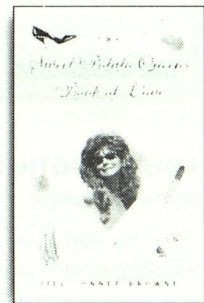
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**THE SWEET POTATO QUEENS' BOOK OF LOVE**

by Jill Conner Browne

Here is the anti-Southern Belle Primer—a droll and hilarious look at life and love from Mississippi's own Sweet Potato Queens (the world's only female drag queens), who seek to better the world with their brand of sassy, shamelessly funny Southern-fried wisdom.

**Three Rivers Press • 0-609-80413-8 • \$12.00 paperback (available now)**



To order, contact your Random House sales representative or call 1.800.733.3000.

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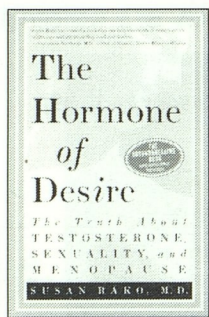
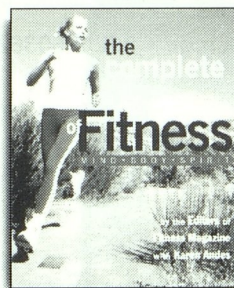
# From Three Rivers Press, Books for Health and Well-Being

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By the Editors of Fitness Magazine with Karen Andes

From one of today's fastest-growing magazines comes the essential reference for fitness, nutrition, and overall health. With line illustrations, a straightforward, appealing design, and nearly 500 pages of solid information, this is a virtual one-stop shop for people who want to get fit or stay that way.

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(available now)**



## THE HORMONE OF DESIRE

By Susan Rako, M.D.

Based on author Dr. Susan Rako's breakthrough research, *The Hormone of Desire* is the first book to reveal that testosterone is a key hormonal element in every woman's body and that menopause-related deficiencies can rob a woman of sexual desire and vitality.

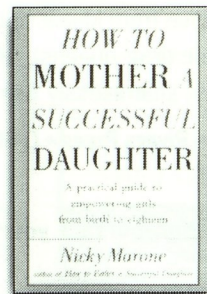
**Three Rivers Press • 0-609-80386-7 • \$12.00 paperback (available now)**

## HOW TO MOTHER A SUCCESSFUL DAUGHTER

By Nicky Marone

From the author of *How to Father a Successful Daughter* comes a unique program to help all mothers, whether corporate executives or homemakers, to mentor their daughters and become the positive role models girls need in order to grow into economically successful, self-assured, self-sufficient adults.

**Three Rivers Press • 0-609-80276-3 • \$14.00 paperback (April '99)**



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# News News News

## Canadian Customs Strikes Again

On January 3, a shipment of *The Best of Gay Erotica 1999* (edited by Richard Labonté, published by Cleis Press) was seized at the Canadian border. In their letter of January 28, customs officials at Sarnia said that the book contained "descriptions and/or depictions of sex with degradation and sex with bondage," and therefore ruled its contents obscene in accordance with the Criminal Code. The companion volume, *The Best of Lesbian Erotica 1999*, also included in the January 3 shipment, was deemed admissible and allowed to enter Canada. All 48 copies will be destroyed in 90 days unless PGW/Cleis Press decides to appeal this decision or chooses to ship the books back to the U.S. at their own expense. (The Canadian mail system refuses to ship "obscene" materials, so PGW/Cleis would have to find alternate means of shipment.) Sarah MacLachlan, PGW's director of sales and marketing, told the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, "They only stopped a small amount, and three weeks ago we shipped in 400." Toshiya Kuwabara of Toronto's Glad Day Book Shop pondered, "This book is so widely available in Canada, it's hard to imagine why Canada Customs would seize it."

## Legal Updates

### 6 African American Bookstores Sue B&N/Borders

Six African American bookstores — Marcus Books, Native Son, Pyramid Books, Positive Vibes, Arkar's Books & Things, and Tut-Ra-Ma — filed suit in California against Barnes & Noble and Borders, charging the companies with violations of the Robinson-Patman Act. The charges are similar to the charges made by ABA and 20 member stores against the superchains in the same court.

### Taylor Sues B&N for \$11M and Treble Damages

Taylor Ltd., which filed for bankruptcy in February 1996, recently filed a complaint in the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas charging B&N and a number of publishers with antitrust violations. The complaint charges that Taylor is "no longer in business because of the illegal, deceptive and anticompetitive actions of national book publishers as well as Barnes & Noble." It specifies that B&N conspired with publishers to obtain lower prices and to monopolize the Dallas/Ft. Worth retail market. Taylor is seeking \$11 million in damages plus treble damages, punitive damages, and attorney's fees.

### ABA Lawsuit on Schedule

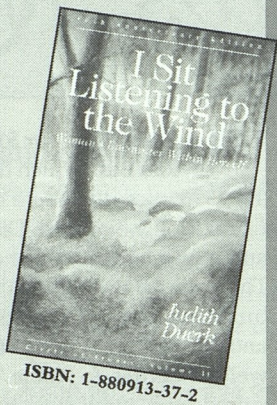
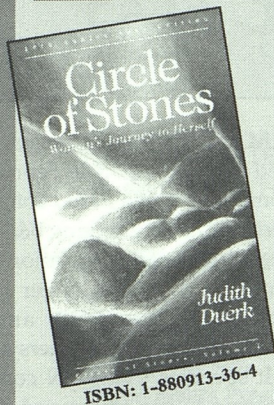
In a hearing in January, Judge Fern Smith of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, the judge who has been assigned to ABA's case, reviewed and approved the progress of the discovery process to date, including the chains' "third party" discovery of four independent bookstores in California that are not parties to the litigation. The next hearing is set for July. The trial remains scheduled for May, 2000.

## AAP and Coke Launch Reading Programs

The Association of American Publishers, headed by president and CEO Pat Schroeder, is launching a national program promoting reading and book buying, "Get Caught Reading." The program includes a print ad campaign featuring photos of Whoopi Goldberg and Rosie O'Donnell reading titles of their choosing. Each ad will have the tag line, "Get Caught Reading."

Schroeder said that, "Until now, publishing has done very little to promote reading. 'Get Caught

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**C**onsumer ads in *Parabola*, *SageWoman*, *Women's Review of Books*, *Intuition*, *Crone Chronicles*, and *Psychological Perspectives*.

**F**ree bookstore promotion kit (Call for Writing & Art entry forms, postcards, shelf-talkers, and reading group discussion guides, Innisfree Press, 800-367-5872).

**C**o-op funds (available through Consortium, 800-283-3572).



**Innisfree Press**  
800-367-5872

*Distributed by Consortium Book Sales & Distribution. Also available through Ingram, New Leaf, Baker & Taylor, Koen, and Bookpeople.*

Reading' is directed at the infrequent or lapsed readers and will serve as a surprising, eye-catching reminder of the joys of reading, particularly among 18-to-34 year-olds who often don't make time for books when the Internet, television, and so much other media compete for their attention."

The ad campaign will begin this spring, and the official program kickoff will occur at BEA. The program will run throughout the month of May.

Conde Nast has donated a page for the ad in *Vanity Fair*, the *New Yorker*, and *Mademoiselle*. Other magazine groups that will support the ad are Gruner & Jahr, Hearst, Reader's Digest, Disney Magazine Group, National Geographic, and Time, Inc. Several trade publishers will also run ads in their Spring catalogs, including HarperCollins, Hyperion, Simon & Schuster Children's Books, Avon, John Wiley & Sons, and Andrew McNeel. Warner, Hyperion, and William Morrow will run the "Get Caught Reading" logo in all of their ads appearing in May.

Pat Schroeder said that the decision to feature Rosie O'Donnell and Whoopi Goldberg came from the AAP's desire to feature "mainstream celebrities" for their recognizability among the target consumer group.

The AAP has been developing the "Get Caught Reading" program for months. Previously the tag line was to be "What are you reading?" but the AAP decided that "Get Caught Reading" was catchier and would be more effective with the target age group.

The ABA has offered its support of the program, along with Borders and Barnes & Noble.

In related news, Coca-Cola is inserting excerpts of forthcoming books in their twelve-packs and cases of Diet Coke. Forty-five million cases include excerpts from Maeve Binchy's *Tara Road*, Lisa Scottoline's *Mistaken Identity*, Nora Roberts' *River's End*, Barbara Taylor Bradford's *A Sudden Change*, Jack Danfield and Mark Hansen's *Chicken Soup for the Couple's Soul*, and Elmore Leonard's *Be Cool*.

**B&N Launches textbook.com**

B&N College Bookstores recently launched [textbooks.com](http://textbooks.com) to sell new and used textbooks online. Over 200,000 titles will be available and the books will, presumably, be warehoused rather than pulled from in-store stock in B&N's college stores.

The site will also buy back used books.

The site goes to great pains to avoid mentioning that it's owned by B&N, representing itself instead as "just a bunch of folks who want to make the process of buying textbooks a lot less painful. We want to provide students, faculty, alumni, and anyone else who wants a textbook [with] a single reliable, attractive alternative to...bookstores." [Editors note: Why do I think we should play some sinister music here? Such a terrible thing to imagine — college students having to enter a bookstore once a term! Imagine what evil, nasty, and thought-provoking ideas they might encounter in — cringe, cringe — a bookstore!]

The site also neglects to mention that, with the development of textbooks.com, B&N has a hand in every major aspect of the bookselling business: bricks-and-mortar stores, online sales (both new and used), college bookstores, and online textbook sales — not to mention its attempt to buy the nation's premier wholesaler and, via that purchase, on-demand publishing.

Meanwhile the National Association of College Stores (NACS) has hired attorneys to determine whether it can build a case for a price discrimination lawsuit. NACS is questioning whether publishers give higher discounts on textbooks to Internet book-sellers than they do to brick-and-mortar stores.

### FTC Debating Ingram Sale to B&N

As we go to press, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is still gathering information and debating the potential effects of superchain Barnes & Noble's attempt to purchase Ingram, the country's largest wholesale distributor and a key supplier for most independent bookstores. The FTC's decision is expected sometime this spring.

Even as the FTC deliberates, support is growing for the demand that FTC take a very serious look at this proposal. In January the ranking senators on the Antitrust Subcommittee, subcommittee chair Mike DeWine (R-OH) and the subcommittee's senior Democrat Herb Kohl (WI), sent a joint letter to the FTC urging it to scrutinize the situation, saying, "though this acquisition may make good business sense for Ingram and Barnes & Noble, other parties who compete with B&N harbor serious concerns," adding

that "close attention to its competitive effects are warranted" and "we must ensure both a level playing field and a competitive market for all."

Former Senator Howard Metzenbaum, who had served on the Crown Books Board of Directors, also delivered a letter to the FTC from the Consumer Federation of America, a nonprofit public interest group, saying "it goes without saying that if this merger goes through, Crown Books or any other bookseller using Ingram as its source of supply would be at the mercy of its competitors," adding that "the consumer is bound to get the short end." The letter continues, "[We] urge you to preclude this further concentration of market power that would threaten the free flow of intellectual property between authors, scholars, and American consumers."

In December Oregon Senator Ron Wyden had asked the FTC to conduct a thorough review of the antitrust implications of the acquisition and to consider that the buyout would give B&N a substantial and potentially unfair advantage over independent booksellers and would potentially curtail the publication of titles that did not have mass-market appeal.

Meanwhile, ABA President Richard Howorth and ABA COO Oren Teicher personally delivered 89,794 signatures to the FTC from consumers around the country urging the FTC to block the proposed sale of Ingram to B&N. The signatures were collected on petitions posted in ABA's member stores across the country and represented book readers' concerns that the proposed sale would seriously affect their access to books and ideas. A second delivery of signed petitions will be scheduled later this spring.

The petition drive, a cornerstone of ABA's response to the crisis, was part of a very effective grassroots organizing program. ABA sent all of its member bookstores copies of the petition to post on their counters, a statement that could be posted on the counter or blown up for window posters, and a sample letter to send to the FTC and/or to senators and representatives asking them to urge the FTC to consider this acquisition very carefully. The petitions helped booksellers mobilize their local communities and gave readers an effective (and easy) way to convey their concern. Stores also used the petition drive as a vehicle to take the issue to local media. An unexpected result was the amount of attention that the media gave to these stores.

# 1998 Lambda Literary Award Finalists



## LESBIAN FICTION

**bull-jean stories** by Sharon Bridgforth, RedBone  
**The Dogs** by Rebecca Brown, City Lights  
**Cavedweller** by Dorothy Allison, Dutton  
**They Call Me Mad Dog** by Erika Lopez, Simon and Schuster  
**Shimmer** by Sarah Schulman, Avon

## GAY MEN'S FICTION

**An Arrow's Flight** by Mark Merlis, St. Martin's  
**The Hours** by Michael Cunningham, Farrar Straus Giroux  
**Koolhaas** by Rabih Alameddine, St. Martin's/Picador  
**The Long Falling** by Keith Ridgeway, Houghton Mifflin  
**Where the Rainbow Ends** by Jameson Currier, Overlook

## LESBIAN STUDIES

**A Fragile Union** by Joan Nestle, Cleis  
**Gay Old Girls** by Zsa Zsa Gershick, Alyson  
**The Truth That Never Hurts** by Barbara Smith, Rutgers  
**Female Masculinity** by Judith Halberstam, Duke  
**Stagestruck** by Sarah Schulman, Duke

## GAY MEN'S STUDIES

**Becoming Visible** by Molly McGarry and Fred Wasserman, NYPL/Penguin Studio  
**Changing Ones** by Will Roscoe, St Martin's  
**Love Undetectable** by Andrew Sullivan, Knopf/RH  
**The Other Side of Silence** by John Loughery, Henry Holt  
**The Pleasure Principle** by Michael Bronski, St. Martin's

## LESBIAN POETRY

**In the Open** by Bea Gates, Painted Leaf  
**Juba** by Letta Neely, Wildheart  
**Marianne Faithful's Cigarette** by Gerry Gomez Pearlberg, Cleis  
**The Little Butch Book** by Leslea Newman, New Victoria  
**imagine being more afraid of freedom than slavery by** Pamela Sneed, Owl/Henry Holt

## GAY MEN'S POETRY

**A Flame for the Touch That Matters** by Michael Lassell, Painted Leaf  
**A Frieze for a Temple of Love** by Edward Field, Black Sparrow  
**Say Goodnight** by Timothy Liu, Copper Canyon  
**Sweet Machine** by Mark Doty, Harper Flamingo  
**Ten Commandments** by J. D. McClatchy, Knopf

## LESBIAN BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

**A Fragile Union** by Joan Nestle, Cleis  
**Empty Without You** by Rodger Streitmatter, The Free Press  
**Indelible Alison Bechdel** by Alison Bechdel, Firebrand  
**Queen of Whale Cay** by Kate Summerscale, Viking  
**Radclyffe Hall: A Woman called John** by Sally Cline, Overlook

## GAY MEN'S BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

**Auden and Isherwood** by Norman Page, St. Martin's  
**The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up** by Andrew Tobias, Random House  
**Gentleman Junkie** by Graham Caveney, Little Brown  
**In the Flesh** by Gavin Geoffrey Dillard, Barricade Books  
**Wisecracker** by William Mann, Viking

## LESBIAN MYSTERY

**Shaman's Moon** by Sarah Dreher, New Victoria  
**Past Due** by Claire McNab, Naiad  
**Blue Place** by Nicola Griffith, Avon  
**Mother May I** by Randye Lordon, Avon  
**Wicked Games** by Ellen Hart, St. Martin's

## GAY MEN'S MYSTERY

**Uprising** by Randy Boyd, Westbeach Books  
**Dead as a Doornail** by Grant Michaels, St. Martin's  
**Federal Fag** by Fred Hunter, St. Martin's  
**Outburst** by R.D. Zimmerman, Delacorte  
**Strachey's Folly** by Richard Stevenson, St. Martin's

## GAY AND LESBIAN ANTHOLOGIES/FICTION

**Mammoth Book of Gay Erotica** edited by Lawrence Schimel, Carroll & Graf  
**To Be Continued** edited by Michele Karlsberg and Karen X. Tulchinsky, Firebrand  
**Queer PAPI Porn** edited by Joel Tan, Cleis  
**Columbia Anthology of Gay Literature** edited by Byrne R. S. Fone, Columbia University  
**Men on Men 7** edited by David Bergman, Penguin/Plume

## LESBIAN AND GAY ANTHOLOGIES/NONFICTION

**Mom** edited by Nisa Donnelly, Alyson  
**Telling Tales out of School** edited by Kevin Jennings, Alyson  
**Lesbian Travels** edited by Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Whereabouts  
**Queer 13** edited by Clifford Chase, Weisbach  
**Q&A Queer in Asian America** edited by David L. Eng and Alice Y. Hom, Temple University

## GAY AND LESBIAN DRAMA

**Place for Us** by D. A. Miller, Harvard University  
**Stagestruck** by Sarah Schulman, Duke  
**The Vagina Monologues** by Eve Ensler, Villard/RH  
**O Solo Homo** by Holly Hughes and David Roman, Grove  
**Mr. Universe and Other Plays** by Jim Grimmsley, Algonquin

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**Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me** by Mike Ford, Alyson  
**Don't Get Me Started** by Kate Clinton, Ballantine  
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**Savage Love** by Dan Savage, Dutton  
**Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel,  
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**Bending the Landscape II** edited by Nicola Griffith and  
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**Desmond** by Ulysses Dietz, Alyson  
**Falling to Earth** by Elizabeth Brownrigg, Firebrand  
**Galilee** by Clive Barker, HarperCollins  
**Things Invisible to See** by Lawrence Schimel, Circlet/  
 Ultra Violet

**LESBIAN AND GAY RELIGION/ SPIRITUALITY**

**Both Feet Firmly Planted in Midair** by John McNeill,  
 Westminster John Knox  
**Closet Devotions** by R. Rambuss, Duke  
**Ferocious Romance** by Donna Minkowitz, Free Press  
**How to Survive Your Own Gay Life** by Perry Brass, Belhue  
**Sermons** by Peter Gomes, William Morrow

**GAY AND LESBIAN PHOTOGRAPHY/  
VISUAL ARTS**

**Affectionate Men**, Russell Bush, St. Martin's  
**Becoming Visible** edited by Molly McGarry and Fred  
 Wasserman, NYPL/Penguin Studio  
**Passionate Camera** by Deborah Bright, Routledge  
**The Male Nude** by David Leddick, Taschen  
**Women in Love** by Barb Seyda and Diane Herrera,  
 Bullfinch/Little Brown

**CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULTS**

**I Was a Teenage Fairy** by Francesca Lia Block,  
 HarperCollins  
**Lucy Goes to the Country** by Joseph Kennedy, Alyson  
**Outspoken** by Michael Thomas Ford, Morrow Junior Books  
**Queer 13** edited by Clifford Chase, Weisbach  
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**The Empress Is a Man** by Michael R. Gorman,  
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**Female Masculinity** by Judith Halberstam, Duke  
**Suits Me** by Diane Wood Middlebrook, Houghton Mifflin  
**TransLiberation** by Leslie Feinberg, Beacon

**LESBIAN AND GAY SMALL PRESS**

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**Indelible Alison Bechdel** by Alison Bechdel, Firebrand  
**Queer Japan** by Barbara Summerhawk, New Victoria  
**The Reluctant Pornographer** by Bruce la Bruce, Gutter  
**Uprising** by Randy Boy, Westbeach Book

Giovanni's Room for example, collected 1527 signatures and got coverage in both mainstream and alternative papers in Philadelphia.

FTC procedure gives the commission 30 days to review a proposed sale or merger after documents are filed and to request more information if necessary. Second requests occur in less than five percent of proposed deals, but the FTC did request further information from Barnes & Noble in December and has been engaged in fact-finding ever since.

**ABA Sends Second Letter to Ingram  
Asking for Assurances**

In the meantime, ABA's Executive Director, Avin Domnitz, sent a second letter to John Ingram, Ingram Book Group Chairman, pointing out Ingram's response to his previous letter (which Ingram published in ads in book industry journals) failed to address the primary issues and failed to assure independent booksellers that they would 1) receive the same terms of sale as B&N and other competitors, 2) receive the same service in terms of delivery and availability, and 3) that their financial and credit information and ordering patterns would not be disclosed to B&N at any point during the sale period or after it. Domnitz wrote, "If and when the government strikes down the proposed acquisition — as we confidently believe it will — perhaps that argument (Ingram's previous record of fairness and service to independent bookstores) will carry more weight. Until that time, it is difficult to rest on your laurels when you no longer own them." Later Domnitz continues, "Our members are quite familiar with your current suitor and have every reason to speak out against the proposed acquisition, and we will continue to encourage them to do so" and "In the meantime, we again ask that you publicly and specifically state how it is that you intend to protect the interests of the nation's independent bookstores."

Ingram's response was no more helpful than its initial letter.

**ZIBF/ALA Offer Free Pass to ZIBF 99**

The Zimbabwe International Book Fair, in collaboration with the American Library Association, is offering ten U.S. librarian members of the ALA free

visitor registration to ZIBF 99, three nights' complimentary bed and breakfast accommodation in Harare, and \$200 toward airfare to Zimbabwe.

ZIBF and the ALA will choose school, special, public, and academic librarians who wish to increase their knowledge of African writers and publishers, and who wish to expand their African book collections. The participants will "play an active part in the ZIBF 99 program." Both the ALA and ZIBF will make sure that the librarians develop contacts and visit Zimbabwe libraries. The Free Pass scheme was developed with the help of the Zimbabwe Library Association and the Black Caucus of the ALA. The Guadalajara International Book Fair has made a generous monetary donation, and Scholastic, Inc. is also a

sponsor. The deadline for applications is April 15.

The ZIBF 99 theme is women. The conference will examine policies affecting women and the book and information sector in Africa, the ways in which women organize to enter the publishing industry, and case studies of women who have succeeded in publishing, distribution, and selling. The symposium on women's role in publishing will take place July 31 to August 1, trade/professional days are August 3-5, and the fair is open to the public August 6-7. Seminars on Gender, Books, and the African Information Market at London's International Book Fair (Olympia, March 29) will look ahead to Zimbabwe's theme.

Interested librarians and all others who want  
See News page 14.

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**Izzie Harbaugh  
1927–1999**

Elizabeth Anne (Izzie) Harbaugh died of a stroke January 12. She had been manager of Mother Kali's Books since 1981, and died in the bookstore that evening in the company of a few of the many who loved her.

The stroke occurred at home and Izzie went into a coma relatively quickly. In the evening, after the hospital determined that there was nothing more that could be done, she was released from the hospital and her circle took her to her spiritual home, the bookstore, which is across the street from the hospital. She died a short time later. Izzie was a fierce and wonderful bookseller, and it's hard to imagine walking into Mother Kali's and not finding her there behind the desk, making the world a better, safer place for women.

Under her leadership, Mother Kali's has served the community as a referral center, a cultural and political forum, a resource center for health and survival issues, and a safe and sustaining gathering place for women. Izzie had worked in the store for seventeen years, working with part-time staff and a Board of Directors to keep the store a vital, important, effective community resource and feminist center.

Izzie also reached out to the street youth on 13th Avenue, where the store is located. And she

organized educational events and materials regarding the environmental causes of cancer and about the importance of small presses and independent bookstores to the preservation of free speech. She was an ardent feminist, dedicated environmentalist, community activist, booklover, and organic gardener.

Izzie was born May 19, 1927 near Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Her third attempt to run away from home as a teenager was successful, and she worked in a steel mill in Pittsburgh during World War II. Displaced by returning veterans, she worked as a telephone operator and fast food preparer and was homeless part of the time. She served in the Army during the Korean War and as a psychiatric social worker in Denver. She then studied at Temple University and the University of California, receiving her Bachelor's degree in Psychology.

In California, she worked at a parts warehouse in a naval shipyard and then as a management consultant in a large bank. She was an active member of the War Resisters' League during the Vietnam War. In 1971, she moved to Elmira, a town just outside Eugene, where she grew a large organic garden each year and worked for seven years as a computer programmer at the University of Oregon. She was a founding member of the national organization, Old Lesbians Organizing for Change, and served on its Board for several years. In recent years, she facilitated an old (not "elder" or "senior") women's group at Willamalane Community Center and actively promoted the New Community Meeting, a group facilitating dialogue between the local lesbian and gay communities and conservative Christian groups. She was presented with many awards and honors, including the prestigious Harvey Milk Award, the 1993 International Women's Day Human Rights Recognition Award for her dedication to the empowerment of women of her community, and the 1997 Pride Achievement Award in honor of exemplary service to the lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender community.

Harbaugh is survived by her life partner of 20 years, Lorraine Ironplow. Six hundred people attended a celebration and remembrance of her life on January 23. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mother Kali's Books. ○

**News, continued from page 12.**

information about ZIBF should contact David Brine, ZIBF (U.K.) PO Box 21303, London WC2E 8PH; +44-0-0171-836-8501, fax same, email <zibf.kingstreet@dial.pipex.com>.

### COPA Declared Unconstitutional

Six hours before the Child Online Protection Act (COPA) was to go into effect, U.S. District Judge Lowell A. Reed, Jr., ruled it unconstitutional and issued a preliminary injunction blocking its enforcement. Seventeen plaintiffs (among them the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, Powell's Books, and A Different Light Bookstores) represented by lawyers from the American Civil Liberties Union challenged the law, which had passed as a part of the federal budget bill.

Online distributors of materials "harmful to minors" could be subjected to as much as six months in prison and fines as high as \$50,000 under COPA. COPA exempted Web sites that require credit card numbers for access or otherwise restricted access to those over 16. COPA is the second bill regarding governmental restriction of online material that ABFFE, et al., has blocked. The Communications Decency Act of 1996, which would have criminalized the transmission of "indecent" materials via the Internet, was unanimously ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1997.

During the six-day hearing, the ACLU lawyers argued that COPA would force companies to remove from their sites all material with sexual content, regardless of the material's serious literary, artistic, political, and scientific value. Chris Finan, president of ABFFE, said that the law affected "far more than the commercial pornographers it purport[ed] to cover." Christopher Barr, the editor-in-chief of the Web news service CNET, said that he would have not posted the Starr Report if COPA had been in effect at the time. The Department of Justice lawyers argued that the law applied only to companies whose main activity was distributing pornography, but in his ruling, Judge Reed rejected the government's argument, saying that the statute's parameters were too wide. He concurred with the plaintiffs' argument that the

law would likely cause the self-censoring of constitutionally protected speech to escape persecution under COPA. He expressed regret that "this preliminary injunction will delay once again the careful protection of our children," but said that "I without hesitation acknowledge the duty imposed on the Court and the greater good such duty serves. Indeed, perhaps we do the minors of this country harm if First Amendment protections, which they will with age inherit fully, are chipped away in the name of their protection."

### Vandals, Fire Hit Lambda Rising

A few minutes into 1999, vandals threw two beer bottles into the front window of the Lambda Rising Bookstore in Norfolk, Virginia. According to fire investigators, one of the bottles broke the store's neon sign, which ignited a row of rainbow teddy bears in the window. The resulting fire filled the building with flames and fumes. Firefighters responded quickly, so damage was minimal; however the store still had to close for a week for repairs and clean-up. Losses are estimated at \$10,000. Though Deacon Maccubbin, co-owner of the store, does not feel that the fire was intended, he said that "We suspect anti-gay attitudes were behind the bottle attack." The recent vandalism has increased organizing in Virginia around hate crime legislation. Another, unrelated fire occurred two doors from Lambda Rising two days after the store's reopening. Lambda Rising closed again, due to firefighters' fear that the fire might spread. The fire was contained and the store was open within a few hours.

### TLC Draws 125 Booksellers, 325 Publishers

The midwinter Literary Congress met January 16-18 in Phoenix. It featured educational panels and book exhibits. TLC's founder, Eileen Dengler, reported that it was a "decent" show, that programming was well received, and that "all we need is more booksellers." Last year's show drew 200 booksellers and 400 publishers. This year's show attracted 125 booksellers and 325 publishers. Next year's Literary Congress may get a boost from the location: Ft. Lauderdale on February 3-5. ○





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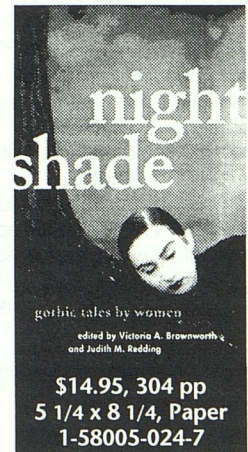
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# Stroppy Shelias



## New Zealand's Women's Bookshop Hosts Women's Book Weekend

By Teri Mae Rutledge

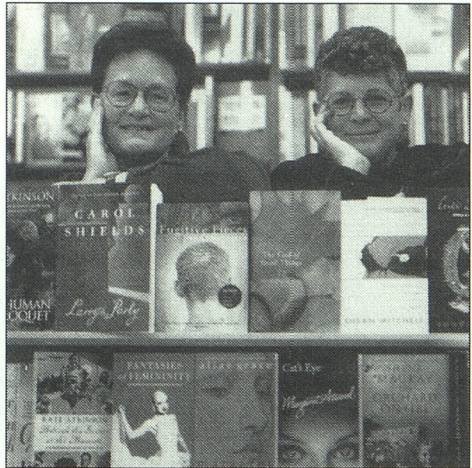
The Women's Bookshop in Auckland, New Zealand, hosted its second Women's Book Weekend last October. Owner Carole Beu and manager Kaaren McKinstry report that, once again, the event was a great success.

Every other year, New Zealand hosts the *Listener* Women's Book Festival — a country-wide celebration of women's writing. The Women's Bookshop runs the Book Weekend during the festival's off years. Created to gather the words and ideas of New Zealand's fine women writers and thinkers, this year's roster was packed: over 40 women authors were on the program. All the writers' books were released in 1998, on subjects from politics to cooking to travel to fiction and poetry.

Among the highlights was the opening event of the weekend, a speech by New Zealand Labour Party leader Helen Clark (who will be running for Prime Minister this fall). Irish poet Sinead Morrissey read her work, and Beu said that she "stole the show.... Her lilting Irish voice held the audience in attentive rapture; a collective sigh broke the silence at the end of every poem." Union Made, a women's choir, performed their "deliciously irreverent" political songs on Friday night. Sandra Coney, author of *Stroppy Shelias* and *Gutsy Girls: New Zealand Women of Dash and Daring*, led a discussion on Friday evening on the impact of social policy on women.

Twelve more events followed on Saturday and Sunday covering fiction, food, travel, relationships, playwriting, and getting published. Beu said that "All the sessions were superb. The standard of the writing and the skills of the authors in reading their own works were very impressive. There is an incredible range of work being published in New Zealand by highly articulate women."

The Women's Book Weekend was supported by several New Zealand publishers: Publishers covered authors' travel expense, and people from Random



Carole Beu (owner) and Kaaren McKinstry (manager) of Auckland, New Zealand's Women's Bookshop, a community bookstore and women's resource center.

House, Penguin, and Tandem volunteered their time to staff the event and build the stage.

Beu is getting lots of positive feedback from the weekend attendees. One woman said the event was "Exciting, incredibly moving; it was well worth the trip from Napier for such a magical and stimulating weekend." Another woman said, "I particularly enjoyed the warmth and good feeling. What a supportive atmosphere, what energy!"

The Women's Bookshop, which stocks titles from New Zealand, Australia, Britain, and the U.S., will celebrate its tenth birthday in April. Carole Beu and Kaaren McKinstrie produced T-shirts for the occasion, one of which proclaims (à la the Sandra Coney book) "I like Stropky Shelias." ("Shelia" is a slang term for women in New Zealand and Australia that feminists are reclaiming.)

Is Amazon.com, which claims worldwide sales, dipping into The Women's Bookshop's sales? It's hard to know for sure, but Beu and McKinstrie recently took on a customer's challenge that pitted the Bookshop against the global Internet giant. The customer ordered a book from both Amazon.com and the Women's Bookshop at the same time. And the race was on. Guess who won? The Women's Bookshop. They got the book to the customer faster and more cheaply than Amazon.com. "We can't guarantee that we'll always manage it," Beu says modestly. But you know she'll not only try — she'll succeed most of the time.

The Women's Bookshop, 228 Dominion Rd., Mt. Eden, Auckland New Zealand; 09-630-7162, fax same.



# the WOMEN'S BOOKSHOP

*The Booksellers News: The Official Journal of Booksellers New Zealand* interviewed Carole Beu of the Women's Bookshop in Auckland for their "Inside Story" section. The interview follows:

**If you had a motto, what would it be?**

Books — they can change the world.

**What's your worst character trait?**

Books — too many of them.

**What annoys you most in other people?**

Books — not enough of them.

**What keeps you awake at night?**

Books — either reading them or worrying about whether the cash flow will allow me to pay for them.

**What do you do to relax?**

Books — read lots of them.

**When did you last buy a book?**

1989 — I no longer "buy" books; I just take my profits home and arrange them in a New York skyline beside my bed.

**What are you reading now?**

*The Ventriloquist* by Pauline Melville. I have just finished Barbara Trapido's brilliant new novel, *The Travelling Hornplayer*, and Shonagh Koea's exquisite *The Lonely Margins of the Sea*.

**Which book would you most like to have written?**

*Fugitive Pieces* by Anne Michaels. What incredible general knowledge, what superb language, what integrity! But

---

At one of the Women's Book Weekend workshops for budding authors, Harriet Allan, (Random House), Helen Benton (Tandem), Chris Cole Catley (Cape Catley), and chair Penny Hansen enjoyed themselves immensely as they informed and entertained the attendees.



Carole Beu (left) introduces Helen Clark, Labour Party leader (and perhaps New Zealand's new Prime Minister later this year), to kick off the Women's Book Weekend last October.

The challenge to the industry as a whole to work co-operatively for the promotion of books in an environment that must inevitably become more competitive and hostile.

**Which person in the trade has influenced you most?**

Carol Seajay from San Francisco, editor of the *Feminist Bookstore News*.

**What has been the greatest satisfaction in your career to date?**

Seeing women's ideas, experiences, and perspectives explored in the great explosion of women's books that has happened in the last three decades — and personally playing a small part in that.

**When and where were you happiest?**

At the end of the opening night of our Women's Book Weekend in October 1996 at Auckland Girls', when Marilyn Waring, Anne Else, Jane Kelsey, and 700 women burst into song. ○

actually I have no wish to write a book — I am content with the joyous indulgence of reading them for the rest of my life.

**Do you have a favourite book?**

*The Women's Room* by Marilyn French.

**What's the worst book you've read?**

None. I wouldn't waste the time — there are too many brilliant women waiting to be read.

**When did you start your current job?**

April 1989.

**What was your first book trade job?**

Proprietor of the Women's Bookshop.

**How did you get it?**

By giving up 20 years of secondary school teaching, gaining lots of help and advice from generous people in the book trade, and taking the plunge into setting up my own small business.

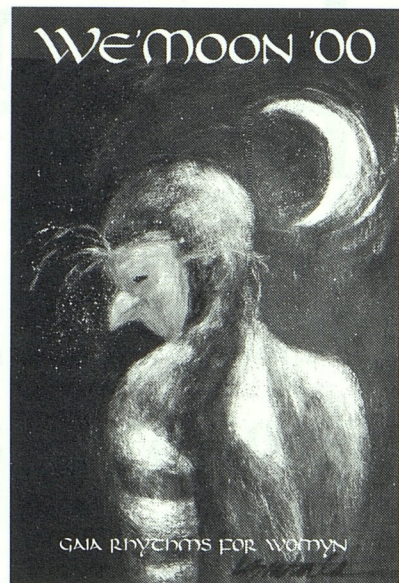
**How much were you paid?**

Nothing.

**Who was your boss?**

Myself.

**What do you see as the next big thing for the book trade?**



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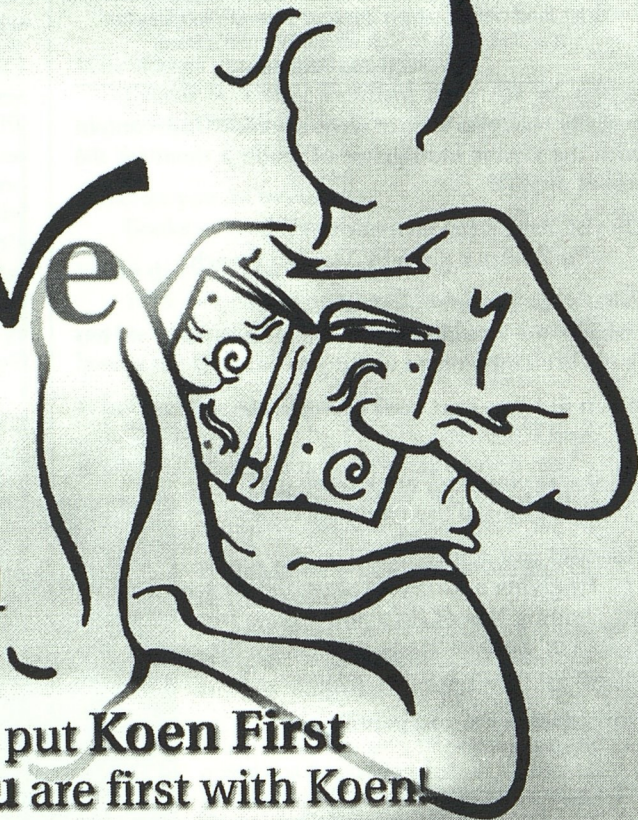
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# Holiday Sales, 1998 Sales

Compiled by Carol Seajay

## Holiday Sales

The excellent news is that holiday sales were all over the map in feminist bookstores this year — with an exciting number of stores showing steady or increased sales and three of the six largest stores showing sales increases.

Common Language (Ann Arbor) saw sales for 1998 increase by 23 percent over the previous year for the months of January through October. But sales in the hard-wired university town leveled off (to -2 percent) for the months of November and December.

Charis Books in Atlanta also reported a flat December as compared to the year before. But total sales for 1998 were *way* above 1997 figures — by \$57,000. Charis reports that sales between 1996 and 1997 grew by only \$6000, so the \$57,000 leap represents an important change. Textbook sales accounted for some of the difference, but, even more importantly, Charis' Linda Bryant says that "Folks have started to 'get it' [about superchains and online ordering] and are more conscientious about shopping here." That conscientiousness will make the long-term difference.

Charis' top holiday seller was *Vagina Monologues*. Other strong sellers included *The Flying Biscuit Café Cookbook*, *Poisonwood Bible*, *Women's Lip*, *What Do Dogs Dream*, *Life Lessons from Xena*, *Walking with the Wind* (by local author John Lewis), and all of Charis' Girls to Women titles.

In Canada, the Toronto Women's Bookstore didn't seem to be particularly disturbed that December 98 sales were a tad lower than sales in December 97 — but that's because 1997 was a very good year for TWB, and they didn't expect to repeat the growth immediately.

The Women's Bookstop (Hamilton, Ontario) saw declining sales of nearly 25 percent over the last year. Renée cited a number of factors: declining foot traffic in the deteriorating downtown retail area, a bus strike that ran from the end of October to mid-January, and

spending cuts in the public sector. Ontario elected "a small-minded conservative government" that cut funding for all kinds of social service and human needs, including education, health care, and welfare and mothers' allowance payments. The Bookstop's sales began to decline within a month of the budget cuts. And then, of course, there's the superstore explosion in Canada. But the good news is that February has been busy.

The Bookstop's surprise holiday seller was Anne Hine's *Fishing Up the Moon* (Pedlar Press, distributed by University of Toronto Press). "It's a delicious adventure," Renée wrote to *FBN*, "presenting a heroine who strips away the neurotic cross of life to discover a wonder of possibilities." She started handselling it and soon women were coming in to ask for it. The popularity of this Cape Breton novel also boosted the sales of *Strange Heaven* (by Lynn Cody, published by Goose Lane Editions). *We'moon* continues to win the "most sought after" engagement calendar award. *Circle Round*, unexpectedly, didn't start selling until after the holiday season. Pema Chödrön's books and *Women's Bodies Women's Wisdom* also moved well. Declining sales notwithstanding, the Women's Bookstop expects to catch up with 1998 invoices by Chinese New Year. (May the year of the rabbit be a good year for independent booksellers!)

## Year's Sales

Stores that were forced to move this year had a hard time. Prairie Moon (Mt. Prospect IL) packed up the store the last week of May — during BEA — and re-opened June 5. They expected a big summer slump and they had one. What they didn't expect was for that slump to continue into the fourth quarter. Old customers seem not to have found their way back to the store, and fourth quarter sales were down 27 percent from 1997 (which was still vast improvement over the summer-quarter decline). Another store with a forced move — and a new superstore smack in the

center of their neighborhood saw similar figures. The owner's response? To take a three-week vacation in a warm climate.

But two stores that chose to move and expand — A Room of One's Own in Madison and Women and Children First in Chicago — both reported satisfying sales. A Room of One's Own moved a few doors down the street two years ago, doubling their space and adding a café. They reported a sales increase of over 20 percent the year they moved, thanks to the expanded store space, the café, and the slightly-closer-to-State-Street location. 1998 sales held steady. There weren't any big increases, but sales didn't fall, either, proving that the previous year's jump in sales created committed, ongoing customers rather than being the result of a lot of sales from one-time, "just to check it out" visits. The new café, Sandi Torkildson told *FBN*, still doesn't quite pay its own way, "but I think of that 'loss' as advertising — and it's far and away the most successful advertising we've ever done. It consistently brings new people into the store. And many of them stay to buy books."

Women and Children First moved into the storefront next door, expanding their sales space by about 50 percent. Ann Christophersen reported that "After two virtually dead-heat Decembers (with only a \$200 difference between 1996 and 1997 December sales), this year was heartening. Sales were up about 17 percent for the month, which brought our year-to-date up 12 percent." (W&CF's fiscal year begins in August.) Operating expenses were also up, due to the new space — 11 percent YTD — but profits have outpaced the costs. Ann credits the publicity from the lawsuit filed last spring — including the expensive media coverage the store received as a co-plaintiff — with raising the store's profile and customers' awareness of the political aspects of the book industry. The petition drive protesting the proposed B&N/Ingram sale also contributed significantly — as did the expansion, new awnings (which dramatically improved the store's visibility), and in-store display improvements.

"Who knows where this will all end up?" Ann concluded, "But the picture this year is rosier than it's been for the last five years." ○

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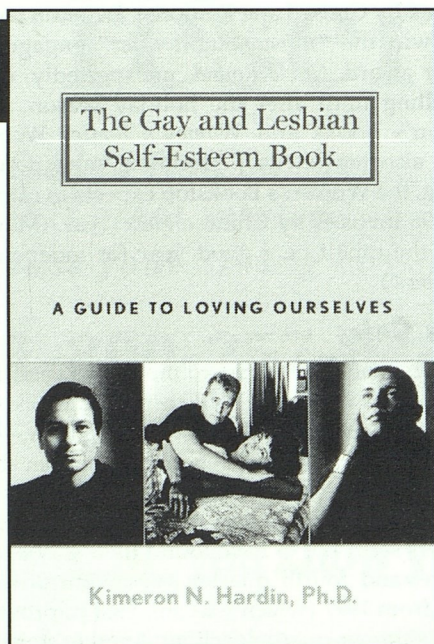
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# ABA in Action

- **Affordable Web Sites for All — with Point-and-Click Ordering**
- **National Branding Campaign for Independent Bookstores**
- **In-store Database**
- **Bringing Specialty Stores into ABA Advisory Councils**

By Carol Seajay

ABA senior staff and board members travel the country, spring and fall, to meet with member stores in every region, allegedly to listen to members' issues and concerns and gather information to prioritize the use of ABA's resources. But now that the "new ABA" has had time to respond to members' needs and develop new programs, the meetings are also being used to present new programs, often as works-in-progress, and to get member feedback.

While ABA representatives did a good bit of listening at the NCIBA Forum in January, they also presented two major programs to the assembled booksellers: work-in-progress toward making state-of-the-art e-commerce and Web-based book sales a viable, affordable (and possibly even profitable) option for member stores, and a national expansion of NCIBA's own Book Sense branding campaign for independent bookstores.

Both programs are so exciting that it's hard to decide where to start.

## E-Commerce & Building a Better Web Site

Virtually (if I may use that word) every brick-and-mortar bookstore in North America is losing sales to the big "brand-name" Web sites. Amazon.com tripled its sales this holiday season and it's clear that a large chunk of those sales are coming right out of independents' market share. Worse news: industry estimates are that Amazon.com could control 9 to 10

percent of bookstore sales by next Christmas. B&N and, to a lesser extent, Borders are fighting back with supersites of their own, which will cannibalize sales in their own brick-and-mortar stores as well as drain sales from independents. B&N sold half of B&N.com to Bertelsmann, putting the superstore and the super-publisher solidly in one another's pockets.

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*This is a brilliant program —  
one that will make a telling difference  
in independent bookstores' survival rates.*

*Dealing with the rest of the titles  
that independent stores —  
especially specialty stores — stock  
is the key to providing the customer  
satisfaction that will make  
the program a success.*

---

Independent bookstores need a way to fight back. We need a way to establish sites that are easy to use, that access a competitively large collection of titles, and that doesn't cost half of a store's gross income to set up or require a lot of staff hours to maintain. ABA has taken up that challenge in a big way. Talk about the project was some of the most exciting news at ABA's forum during the NCIBA trade show last fall.

This January ABA's Avin Domnitz and Len Vlahos reviewed ABA's e-commerce project at the NCIBA winter forum. Still a work-in-progress, the current version of the program looks like this: each participating store will set up its own "front end" Web site (via easy-to-use templates) and ABA will provide "invisible" (to the customer, not the bookseller) back-end services including access to a competitive database of titles (a projected 1.6 million titles with book covers, blurbs, etc.), a search engine, point-and-click shopping cart technology, shipping and fulfillment services, and credit card transaction capabilities — all the features that are so attractive on the big supersites.

Customers would include each store's loyal customers (who would pick up the Web site address from the store's advertising, newsletter, book marks, book bags, etc.), customers who find a store's site while surfing or via search engines, and customers referred by ABA's Book Sense Web site (see below).

The front end of each store's Web site would include whatever store profile (address, directions,

photos), special information, event calendars, and/or book recommendations, etc. that the store chooses to post. Each store would update and maintain its own front end. Thus, even though a thousand stores could share the database and "back end" services, each site would convey a unique entity to the customer, and the sites would preserve the independence and individuality of each store. Once the first phase of the program is up and running, ABA will add features to allow additional customization, including a feature that will allow each store to overlay their own inventory database onto the common database, so that their customers will simultaneously search (and order from) both the store's unique collection of books and the mega-database.

When a customer arrives at the site s/he can peruse the information the store has posted, search the database, order books and pay for books and shipping via credit card. Orders will be routed to a central warehouse (definitely not Ingram!) for fulfillment. The warehouse will ship the books to the customer in an envelope bearing the store's mailing label and then

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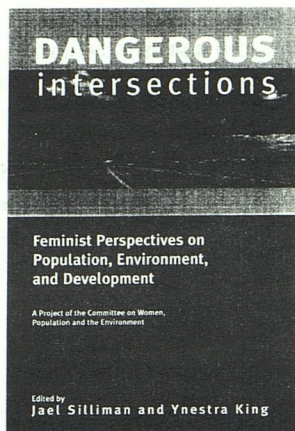
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not most) customers will already have ordered the book from a competitor’s site.

This 24-hour delay would give independents a chance to provide the excellent (and personalized) customer service for which we are renowned. It would give the store a chance to recommend a similar title if the work requested was OP or OSI. If the store didn’t want to special order the book, it would give the bookseller a chance to refer the customer to another store that would be likely to have that title — a service the independents frequently choose to provide, both as part of their excellent customer service and as a part of their support for other independent bookstores. Failing to provide booksellers with this opportunity would sabotage the program’s potential success — and erode the participating stores’ reputations.

Once the database overlay feature is up and running, this problem will be resolved — for stores that can afford that feature and who have the staff with skills necessary to implement it. But all participating stores need the opportunity to fill orders for

non-warehoused titles from their own stock if this program is to work for the majority of ABA’s members.

**Pricing**

Figuring out how to charge for a program like this is a challenge. Setting it up is expensive and ABA needs to be reimbursed for those expenses. Because Web visibility is a promotional/advertising tool as well as being a sales vehicle, there are problems inherent with charging a commission based on sales. But charging all members the same fee creates a regressive tax-like situation. For large stores, the fee might be less than they’re paying for yellow pages advertising — and they could benefit enormously.

Stores with multiple outlets would be further advantaged by having all of their stores tied to same site. For small stores and specialty stores, the same fee could be prohibitive. We don’t have a solution to propose, but do want to add our voice to the urgency that this program — including the database overlay and customization features — must be available and affordable for all ABA members, and that it not

become a program that serves the top 25 or 35 percent of ABA's members at the expense of the smaller and the specialty stores.

## Rumor Control

All books sold on this program will be sold by individual stores. ABA will not sell books, nor compete with its member stores for sales. If you're going to BEA, be sure to block out time to stop at the ABA booth and review the program with ABA staff. The Canadian Booksellers Association is also working on a joint Web site for Canadian booksellers. It is expected to launch soon.

## Book Sense

### The National Branding Campaign for Independent Bookstores

Last fall NCIBA, with the tremendous enthusiasm of its members, developed and launched the Book Sense program, a strategic marketing campaign for independent bookstores. It was designed to build an identity — to "brand"\* — independent bookstores as a whole, based on independents' knowledge of and passion for books while, at the same time, celebrating the unique character of each store. The goal is to clearly differentiate independent bookstores from the other "brands." ABA has recently decided to adopt the Book Sense program and promote it nationally.

Book Sense is a multi-faceted program. The identity includes the name "Book Sense," the tagline "Independent Bookstores for Independent Minds," and a distinctive logo. The program was created by NCIBA and the Addison group — a branding and communication company who provided their creative and professional expertise pro bono to the NCIBA — and was launched in Northern California in December.

\*"Branding" — developing and promoting a recognizable brand name — is the key component in national and multinational companies' advertising and promotional campaigns. It is difficult for locally based companies to compete with nationally "branded" companies (such as Nike, McDonald's and Coke). Amazon.com has become a highly recognized brand name, even among people who don't use computers. Brand name recognition often drives purchasing decisions, but independent companies can rarely afford to invest in this kind of promotion.

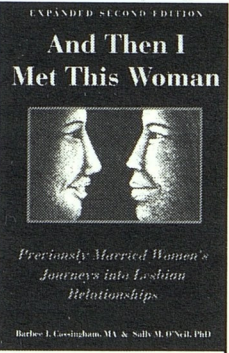
After surveying booksellers and collecting material about independents, Addison identified five key attributes that applied to independent bookselling — knowledge, passion, involvement, personality, and community — and then worked with NCIBA to develop an identity for independent bookstores that would reflect these qualities and still celebrate the uniqueness of each independent store, rather than merging them into a boring lump. After the name and tagline were selected, Addison worked with NCIBA to develop the graphic identity.

NCIBA is investing \$75,000 in advertising and promotion and is encouraging member stores to promote the brand in all of their advertising, to put posters in their windows, and to put logos on their doors and cash registers, etc. While advertising helps to launch the program, it will be the bookstores' consistent, steady effort at keeping the "brand" in the public eye that will build Book Sense brand recognition among consumers. To encourage stores to make the leap and put the logo in their holiday advertising, NCIBA gave \$100 against advertising costs to every member bookstore that

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— Deborah Peifer, Bay Area Reporter

"She captures the physical worlds — of the fairways, the clubhouse, of high society elegance — and the emotional worlds — of fear, of confusion, of friendship — with precision. Little distinguishes between what characters say and what they keep to themselves, and those distinctions reveal the facades that people use to maintain propriety or to survive. . . . Don't let the golf scare you away from this read. Even if putt-putt under the windmills is the closest you'll ever come to a round of eighteen, *First Resort* offers more than a lesson in teeing up. And if you are a golfer, it may improve your short game."  
— N. Boutilier, Lambda Book Report

ODD GIRLS PRESS 1-800-821-0632

included an authorized Book Sense logo (including tagline) in a print ad in December. NCIBA's Book Sense ads ran 42 times in 19 Northern California newspapers.

The launch was rated as a huge success and ABA, after taking time to do consumer research to verify that the Book Sense brand would work nationwide, has made a commitment to launch the program nationally. ABA's Michael Hoynes stresses that in the Book Sense program, "the individual store's name is still the primary identification since the primary goal is to encourage more consumers to visit and shop at their local independent bookstore." The participating stores will have to agree to display the program decal in store windows and at the cash/wrap, to use the Book Sense in-store posters, and to employ the Book Sense logo on store bags (if they have printed bags), but Hoynes said, "this is by no means a one-size-fits all program. It has been very carefully designed to provide participating stores with a wide range of options."

Highlights of ABA's Book Sense campaign will include national and regional advertising, a Book Sense toll-free number (1-888-BOOK-SENSE) that readers can call to find the nearest Book Sense store, a Web site that refers browsers to a Book Sense store or Web site, and a public relations campaign to generate consumer press coverage of the new program. Participating stores will be supported with in-store materials such as Book Sense decals, program posters, a supply of Book Sense shopping bags, and Book Sense book marks imprinted with the store's name, address, and phone number.

ABA's nationally based Book Sense program will be launched on May 1. Introducing booksellers to the program and signing up participants will be one of ABA's primary goals at BEA this year. A major segment of the educational programming on Saturday will be on how member stores can take advantage of the Book Sense program.

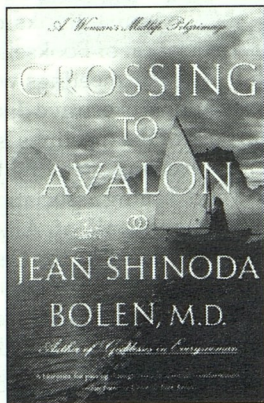
FBN encourages all of its bookstore subscribers to check out the program. It should be a boon to both general independents and specialty stores and it needs the full range of bookstores to participate so that it can truly represent the diversity and strength of independent bookselling. If you're not currently a member of ABA, this program and the Web site/e-commerce program make it time to reconsider. You might not be able to afford not to join.





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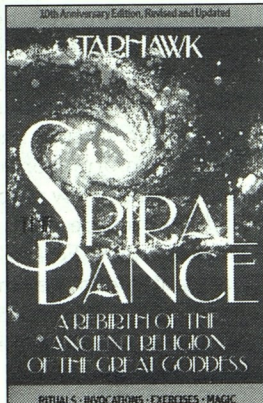
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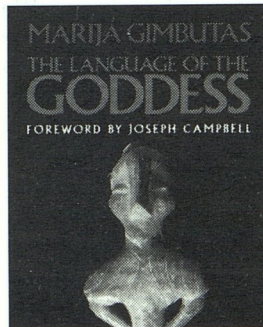
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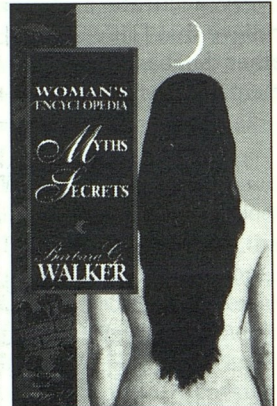


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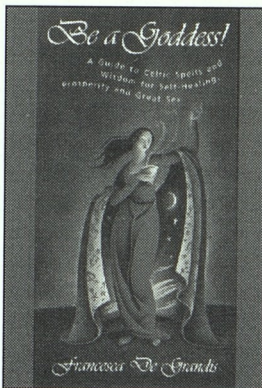


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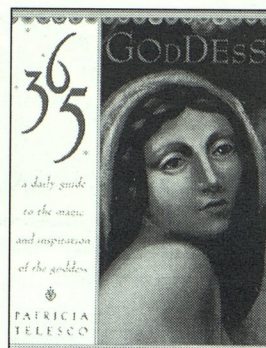
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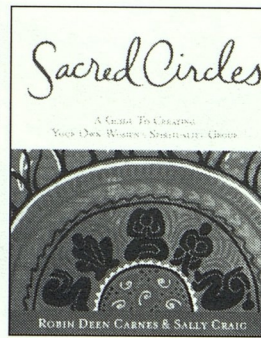
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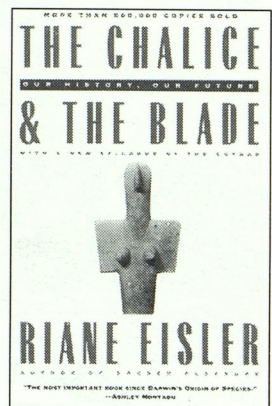
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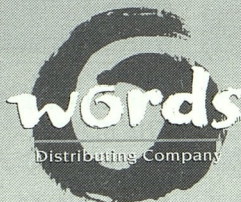
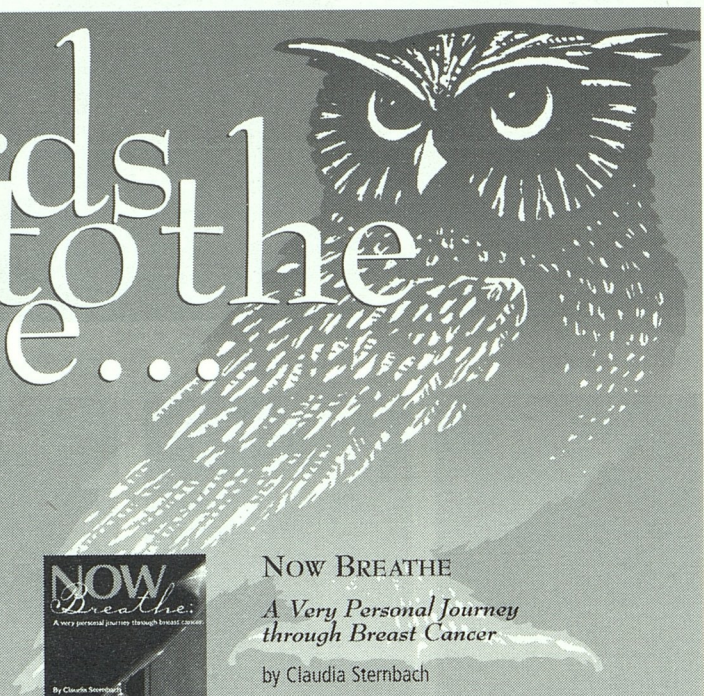
—Isabel Allende



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# Words to the wise...



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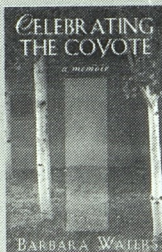
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## CELEBRATING THE COYOTE

by Barbara Waters  
foreword by John Nichols

The widow of Frank Waters (the grandfather of Southwestern literature) describes coming through the grief process after his death in 1995. This portrait in healing describes a woman, late in life, redefining herself both as an individual and as an artist.

DIVINA, paper, \$16.00, 0-9659521-4-2; cloth, \$20.00, 0-9659521-5-0



# 1999 BEA/LA

Visit  
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Compiled by Carol Seajay

BEA 99 is in California, and I have to admit that I'm beginning to be quite excited about it.

In addition to *not* being in Chicago for the eleventh-seventh year in a row, being in a new venue means that, for the first time in years, the show will draw a new audience: all of those West Coast and Southwestern booksellers who don't have the time or money — or inclination — to fly to the Midwest every year. It will be one of those "Oh what the hell, let's just pile in the car and go" shows, full of that everyday vitality and spontaneity that is the hallmark of independent booksellers.

After the year we've all had — possibly the most intense and maddening and difficult year in the history of bookselling — this BEA/ABA should be a gathering of the clan: a chance to talk, a chance to celebrate our survival and to mourn the stores that were forced to close, a chance to see who we are now — individually and as a bookselling industry, and a chance to clarify how to persevere. ABA is launching at least one — and maybe two — kick-back, kick-ass programs, Association of American Publishers and Coca Cola (See News) are promoting reading, and BEA is actually celebrating independent publishing. It's going to be a good party.

BEA pushed the show to an unseasonably early date (April 30 to May 2) and shifted the event to a Friday-through-Sunday schedule to secure convention space on short notice. Here's hoping that the response is so enthusiastic that BEA immediately books convention space on the East Coast, in the South, and at a variety of locations all around the country.

The show will start, for some, with the *Los Angeles Times'* Festival of Books the weekend before BEA. Held on UCLA's Dickson Plaza, the outdoor book fair draws over 100,000 people and features 70 author events and 300 exhibitors. Booths are \$700 and may be shared. For general information, call 800-LATIMES, ext. 7BOOK or check the Web site at ([www.latimes.com/festival](http://www.latimes.com/festival)). Exhibitors should call 213-237-7321.

## Feminist Bookstore Days

Feminist Bookstore Network stores will meet for two days (Wednesday April 28 and Thursday April 29) to share skills and insights, and to strategize for our collective future. Theresa Corrigan (Lioness Books) is coordinating the meetings. For program details and location, contact the Feminist Bookstore Network at 415-642-9993.

## Feminist Bookstore/Publisher Dinner

The eleventh annual Feminist Bookstore/Publisher Dinner, a meeting for feminist specialty booksellers and publishers, will be held Thursday evening (April 29). For details contact Louise Fleming at gynergy/Ragweed 902-566-5750, email ([books@gynergy.com](mailto:books@gynergy.com)) or call the Feminist Bookstore Network at 415-642-9993.

## The Lammys

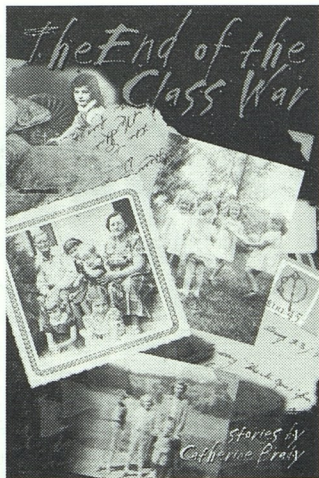
The eleventh annual Lambda Literary Awards Banquet will be Thursday night at the historic Orpheum Movie Palace. The event will feature

**THE END OF THE CLASS WAR**

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These stories are vivid snapshots of the lives of working-class Irish American women. With no illusions about the American Dream, these women rebel against circumstance and inner doubt, discovering astonishing possibility for change.

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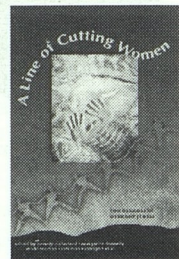
edited by Beverly McFarland, Margarita Donnelly, Micki Reaman, Teri Mae Rutledge, et al.

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"heavy appetizers" rather than a sit-down banquet. Tickets are \$75 or \$65 for advance sales (by March 15). Call 202-462-7924 to book tickets.

**Other Important Pre-BEA Programs**

African American Booksellers will meet on Thursday, starting with a luncheon at 11:30, followed by meetings from 1 to 5:30, and the African American Booksellers Reception from 5:30 to 7:30. Meetings will be at the convention center in rooms 303 and 304.



The Association of Booksellers for Children also does an excellent two-day conference for children's booksellers. The program starts on Wednesday with a children's bookstore tour (11-4) and the Children's Author-Illustrator Reception (4-7) on Wednesday. Thursday's events include ABC's annual meeting,

roundtable discussions, the ABA-ABC-CBC Children's Award Luncheon, and sessions on creating community and sales in connection with Young People's Poetry Week. The day concludes with the Children's Bookseller Dinner. For more information call the ABC at 800-421-1665.

College stores are also facing huge challenges. Their conference theme is "Take a Leading Role." It runs from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday. For more information call Cindy Thompson, National Association of College Stores at 800-622-7498, ext. 2226, email (cthompson@nacs.org).

ABA is running an intensive, day-and-a-half-long Perspective Booksellers School for anyone who is interested in opening a bookstore. Topics include site selection, store layout and design, capital sources and requirements, bookstore financial management, the book-buying process, and customer service. The school will meet on Thursday and Friday. The fee is \$175, advance registration only. To register, call Audrey Eisman at 914-591-2665 or 800-637-0037, ext. 289.

BEA has also developed a series of pay-per-session workshops at \$49 per workshop. For more information, check (<http://bookexpo.reedexpo.com>).

### The Show

The exhibit hall is open Friday and Saturday from 9 to 6 and Sunday from 9 to 3. FBN is in booth #4710. Please stop and say hello. The first day, Friday, is Bookseller Day, Saturday is Independent Publisher Day, and Sunday is Author Day.

BEA has finally chosen to acknowledge that 75 percent of their exhibitors are independent publishers (which is how and why the show survived when corporate publishers pulled back a couple of years ago) and has declared Saturday to be Independent Publisher Day. The day will feature a raffle where booksellers will collect colored stickers from independent publishers' booths to fill their tickets and turn them in by 4 p.m., when five \$500 prizes will be drawn. Booksellers may enter as many cards as they can fill. (Gee, that sounds a lot like a last year's lesbian/gay/feminist publishers' Passport to Pride

program! Now I'm just waiting for our program to get some acknowledgment or publicity as a thank you for the inspiration — instead of, or at least in addition to, that pesky little call that informs me that mentioning this that or the other thing is considered a *promotion* — and there's an additional fee to list promotions. Miss Manners certainly wouldn't approve of this kind of all-take-but-no-give situation, and neither do we.)

That kvetch aside, I fully agree with BEA's pronouncement that "Th[e] diversity [that independents bring] is what attracts book buyers and the book industry professionals from around the world." And I'm very pleased to see BEA celebrating and publicizing that strength.

Special offers: The Association of American Publishers is offering a special membership rate for independent publishers who'd like to join the organization. The Book Industry Study Group will offer a 50 percent discount on their soon-to-be-released study *The Rest of Us: The First Study of America's 53,000 Independent Smaller Book Publishers*, which has a suggested list price of \$50.

# Eleventh Annual Lambda Literary Awards



Join us as we pay tribute to the  
G/L/B/T Literary Community

at the historic  
**Orpheum**  
movie palace

Los Angeles, California  
April 29, 1999

tickets: \$65 before March 15, 1999  
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## BEA/ABA Program Highlights

### Friday

Friday's big event is ABA's Celebration of Bookselling (5–6:30, Concourse Hall). It will showcase ABA's new Book Sense national marketing program, celebrate bookselling, and present the ABBYs. It should be well worth attending.

Friday's Luncheon Roundtables include the Small Store Roundtable, the One-Year-or-Less-in-Bookselling Roundtable, and the Young Adult Bookselling Roundtable. They run from 12 to 1.

A second group of Luncheon Roundtables, including Selling Used Books facilitated by Miraim Sontz (Powells Bookstore), will run from 1 to 2.

The Young Adult Bookselling roundtable will focus on the growing (and largely ignored) market for 11-to-16-year-olds. The panelists include Girl Press publisher Pam Nelson (whose forthcoming *Girl Boss* will be the featured book for the Ms. Foundation's Take Our Daughters to Work Day), *Girl Power* author Hilary Carlip, Charis Books co-founder Linda Bryant, Weezie Bat series author Francesca Lia Block, Hungry Mind Children's book buyer Judy Geck, and 14-year-old reader Nora Pillsbury. It will be facilitated by LPC Group president David Wilk.

### Saturday

ABA's program on "branding" (10–11) should be one of the highlights of the show — despite its dreadfully obtuse title: Integrated Marketing & Communication with a Leveraging Branding Identity: An Overview. We expect it to follow up on the announcements of ABA's new Book Sense branding program Friday night. It will be presented by ABA's new marketing guru Michael Hoynes. *FBN's* advice: Be there! And get there early to stake out seats. (See page 28 for more information on ABA's branding program.)

It's followed by a series of programs on marketing tools, including Basic Principles of Relationship Marketing, How to Use Co-Op Marketing Communications, and Protecting Consumer Privacy in Bookstores (each occurring from 11 to 12).

The next round of workshops (12–1) include Using Relationship Marketing Strategically, In-Store Events, and Publicity.

All of these workshops will be presented by booksellers or ABA staff. None of them are "puff promo" events pushing anyone's brand-new book.

ABA will also be hosting a special Q&A session from 2 to 3 on how stores can benefit from the new Book Sense Program.

The Saturday Roundtables may make you feel a bit schizophrenic as booksellers are forced to choose between being "feminists" and being "gay/lesbian." (And here I thought most people were both? I certainly know that most of the stores in either classification sell tremendous numbers of both classifications of titles. Maybe we should mutiny and meet together?)

The Feminist Roundtable will be facilitated by Sandi Torkildson (*A Room of One's Own*); the Gay/Lesbian Roundtable will be facilitated by Larry Bailey (*The Open Book*).

### ABA's Town Meeting & Annual Meeting (Sat.)

The Town Meeting runs from 3 to 4 and gives ABA members a chance to voice their opinions and share ideas with the ABA Board and one another in a more informal setting.

ABA particularly requests that members attend the Annual Meeting (4–5) to vote on the proposed by-laws.

Both events are must-attends for every bookseller who believes that our national organization can — and should — do everything possible to help independents survive through the next few years.

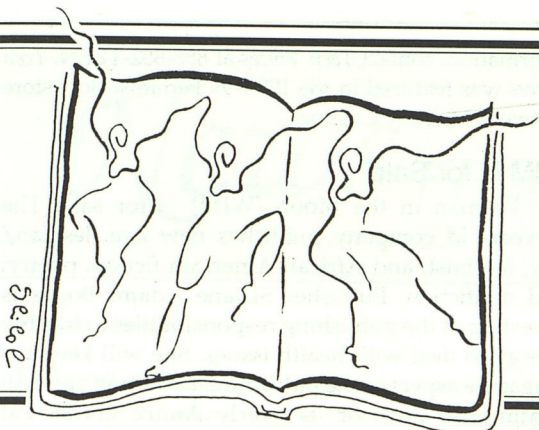
### Sunday

Some stores will want to check out the Cash Management seminar (10–11), but the E-Commerce workshop at the same time also looks excellent — ABA is actively building e-commerce facilities with state-of-the-art features for its member stores. Myself, I think that independents' future depends on finding a way to compete successfully for Internet sales.

### The Breakfasts and Luncheons

Speakers at the Children's Book and Author Breakfast (8 a.m., Friday) include Mem Fox and Naomi Shihab Nye. Julia Child and Frances Mayes highlight Saturday's Breakfast. Elie Wiesel, Iyanla Vanzant, Jane Goodall, and Frank McCourt will make Sunday's Breakfast an event to remember. Luncheon speakers include Nikki Giovanni. Reserve tickets when you register with BEA (203-840-5614) or check the BEA Web site at (<http://bookexpo.reedexpo.com>). ○





# ON FEMINIST PUBLISHING

By Carol Seajay

## Girl Press Invites Booksellers to Join TODTW Day Promotion

The still-young Girl Press ("publishing slightly dangerous books for girl mavericks") always invites a partner to join the press in promoting — and benefiting from — each of their books. The partner for their forthcoming *Girl Boss: Running the Show Like the Big Chicks* will be the Ms. Foundation for Women, and the book will be the official book for the foundation's annual Take Our Daughters to Work Day (TODTW Day). Official spokespeople for TODTW Day 99 are WNBA basketball star, Jamila Wideman, and her father, author/professor John Edgar Wideman. It will be observed on April 22.

Ms. Magazine is expected to run a major article on TODTW Day that will also feature the book, (hopefully) run a list of feminist bookstores that stock *Girl Boss* and other titles of interest to girls, and highlight stores, workplaces, and other venues with TODTW Day programs.

Girl Press is asking feminist bookstores to partner with them in promoting *Girl Boss* by doing TODTW Day programs, window displays, and other promotions to invite girls and their families into the stores and to make the connection between girls and girl-power books. It's a multiple-win situation: booksellers can use their promotional efforts to garner local media attention for the Day and their stores, as well as the book. Seventy-five percent of Americans are aware of TODTW Day, and national and local media give the Day a good deal of attention. TODTW Day promotions can also be used to draw attention to Ms. Magazine's new issue and its relaunch under the new, all-woman

ownership; Ms. is expected, in turn, to promote the event and the participating bookstores.

Major events are scheduled in several key cities — stores can participate by hosting any of those events (including events with Jamila and her father, other WNBA players, the Ms. Foundation TODTW Day coordinator, or the author) or by creating their own in-store events. In-store events could include lunchtime and after-work programs — many people who brought their daughters to work will be looking for a place to go during those times, as will parents who wanted to take their daughters to work but couldn't. One way to address the Day would be with a program that encourages girls to talk about what they learned or what they think about their parent's job and/or the world of work. A facilitator could start by asking girls to write down what they liked most about the job they experienced, what they liked least, and what they'd like to pursue as a career. Girls (or their parent or sponsor, if they're shy) could read their responses to the first two questions (which could be enlightening to the adults!) and then talk about what career they'd like to pursue and why. Stores could also: use the quizzes from the book as discussion starters or invite a local girl and a "lady boss" to speak about an entrepreneurial project.

Available promotional materials include TODTW Day posters and *Girl Boss* posters (both suitable for in-store or window displays), and there may be other point-of-sale materials as well. The LPC Group, Girl Press' distributor, will back the promotion with mailings, telemarketing, and advertising. Stores that are interested in doing tie-in events, in-house programming, and/or who would like posters should contact Pam Nelson at Girl Press

(323-651-0880, fax 323-651-4947, email <pam@girlpress.com>) as soon as possible. Girl Press — and, through Girl Press, the Ms. Foundation — is available to help stores develop appropriate programs and find speakers. There is also TODTW Day info on the Ms. Foundation's Web site at <www.ms.foundation.org>.

## The Magazines

Despite successful bookstore sales, *Circles*, the Colorado-based lesbian magazine that went national last year, has had difficulty collecting enough money from their national distributor to pay the printer. *Circles* is shifting to regional distributors (see below) and is recouping the losses with a direct fundraising campaign. All donations and early renewals will be matched by an anonymous donor. Publisher Kit McChesney hopes the magazine will be back at press by the time this issue reaches bookstores. *Circles* now has distribution agreements with Desert Moon, Small Changes, Ingram Periodicals, Bookazine, Ubiquity, and Doormouse (in Canada). Agreements with Armadillo, Koen, Tower, New Leaf, and RPM are in the works. *Circles* has been very supportive of feminist bookstores and publishers. Each issue includes a full-page listing of all Feminist Bookstore Network stores, and the *Circles* Web site links to the FB-Net bookstore list. Donations, subscriptions, early renewals, and encouragement can be sent to *Circles* at 1705 14th St. #326, Boulder CO 80302; 303-245-8815, email <circles@indra.com>, web site <www.circlesmagazine.com>.

*Teen Voices* was featured on Boston's WCVB-TV newsmagazine, "Chronicle." The episode focuses on *Teen Voices'* after-school program, where teens work with mentors in an editors-in-training program and do research on the Internet for the magazine, as well as participate in workshops in life-skills training, job skills and technology, diversity and tolerance, and dating violence and sexual assault. The feature also showed the girls visiting a bookstore where they offered critiques of commercial magazines that target young women and rated *Teen Voices* in comparison. *Teen Voices*, which is edited by teen girls for their peers, saluted Black History Month in February with a feature titled, "Why Be Blind to Color?" in its Cultural Harmony section. Teen writers described their own experiences with racism, shared their thoughts on stereotyping, and explained how being "blind to color" can prove problematic. For more

information, contact *Teen Voices* at 888-882-TEEN. *Teen Voices* was featured in the 1998-99 Feminist Bookstore Network Holiday Catalog.

## WIM Is for Sale

Woman in the Moon (WIM) is for sale. The 20-year-old company publishes new age, lesbian/gay, feminist, and African American fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Publisher SDiane Adamz-Bogus is divesting of the publishing responsibilities to free her energy to deal with health issues. She will keep the magazine aspect of the publishing operation and will continue to sponsor its yearly Audre Lorde, Pat Parker, and T. Nelson Gilbert writing contests. If no buyer is found, WIM will suspend publication for two years and reorganize "after the turn of the millennium." If interested, contact SDiane by May 31 at 408-279-6626, <womaninthemoon@earthlink.net>, or PO Box 2087, Cupertino CA 95015.

## Sales

Naiad reports that, after several challenging years, "1998 was our second-best year of all time, exceeded only by the Claire-of-the-Moon year." Naiad reports that sales were strong "across the board" — not as the result of any one super-selling book or video. While January sales were slow, payments for December orders were arriving in a timely manner. November and December were strong months for Naiad, with both Borders and Ingram clearing up problems on old invoices. Stores generally waited until December to order holiday books. Naiad also reported that sales to Borders once again exceeded sales to Ingram and that bookstore sales were holding steady, with sales to the new generation of "pride" stores balancing any losses from the closing of independent bookstores. Naiad's financial position is strengthened, as always, by its very strong program of direct sales to individuals. Sales from Naiad's new Web site (launched in April 98) accounted for about two-thirds of this year's growth in direct sales and brought Naiad 360 new customers.

Two other feminist publishers also reported stronger sales (or steady sales in the year following a super-seller) and a better cash flow than in the recent past, though no publishers reported feeling either secure or confident of stability in the extremely volatile and changing book industry. ○

# News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

By Carol Seajay

## Thriving in New Zealand

Congratulations to the Women's Bookshop in New Zealand, which celebrates its tenth birthday in April. Owner Carole Beu writes, "We are still going strong and intend to be thriving in another ten years! One of the factors in helping [both] our survival and our growth is our expansion into the area of counseling and therapy books. We import specialist books on a regular basis and have become one of the main suppliers of such books in New Zealand. We also carry the largest range of lesbian books in the country (of course!)"

"We have developed a superb reputation over the years for our passionate knowledge of books and our excellent service. (Does this sound like every other feminist bookstore you know?) The Women's Bookshop is regarded by the public and by the trade



Two Sisters becomes Lavender Dragon

as one of the best small independent bookstores in New Zealand."

Carole is the Deputy Chair of the Board for Booksellers NZ. Booksellers NZ is "the professional association of booksellers and publishers — yes, NZ is so small we have a combined association," Carole writes. "There's no way the trade would have allowed a woman like me to be in that position when I started in bookselling ten years ago, so we have made some progress."

Carole and the Women's Bookshop are still actively involved in the biannual, nationwide Listener Women's Book Festival, which attracts very high-profile, international authors. The Women's Bookshop now regularly runs a Women's Book Weekend in the alternate years. In October the Women's Book Weekend hosted 40 of NZ's top women writers and thinkers (see article page 19). Carole writes, "It was an absolute buzz, attracting large audiences, and was financially very good for us. Creating events like that, as well as taking books out to conferences, workshops, etc., is one of our main survival strategies."

The Women's Bookshop will celebrate their tenth birthday with a concert in a theatre that holds 800 people. The program will include women singers and performers, including the Union Women's Choir — which is writing a song especially for the occasion — and some of NZ's best-known writers will read from their work. "Our plan," Carole writes, "is to pay all the performers a fee, pay for the theatre hire, sound system, etc., and still have some profit left over so we can start our second decade out of overdraft!"

She concludes, "I read of your Feminist Bookstore Network gathering before BEA and wish that I could join you. I remember my time with you all in Chicago with great affection. I will come again one year soon."

## Charing Cross Road Survives

Congratulations, too, to London's feminist bookshop, Silver Moon, and other booksellers along Charing Cross Road. Thanks to their tenacity and good media coverage, many of the bookshops in London's famed bookselling district have successfully negotiated new leases with the Soho Housing Association.

The problem started early in 1998, Silver Moon's Sue Butterworth wrote in the store's newsletter, when "the landlords started the five-yearly rent review by demanding a 65 percent increase for 64-66 Charing Cross Road — two-thirds of our site...an increase which would have put us out of business, bringing to a close our 14 years here. Also under threat were our neighbours: specialist art shops and secondhand bookshops.

"Via agents, we attempted reason. Bookselling works on a lower margin than many other consumer goods and the shops involved have a bookseller-only clause in their leases. [Our] leases were sold to SHA when they bought the residential block above [the bookshops] from the London Residuary Body (set up to dispose of the Greater London Council's property after that body was abolished by the Conservative Government). SHA was threatening arbitration when the press got hold of the story and they really went to town with it...spreading our story all over the newspapers, radio and television.

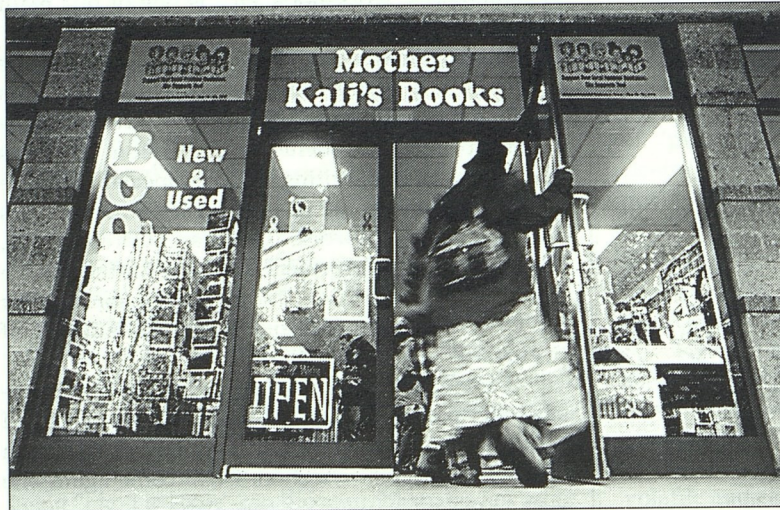
"Although this is about our leases and livelihoods, it is also about something bigger. The Charing Cross Road is the premier bookselling road in the

world, booklovers from the four corners of the earth come here to browse and to buy. It is a part of London's cultural life that would be permanently damaged if the independent bookshops were driven off it to make way for yet more tourist shops. It matters that this is a tradition that goes back years, too many of our high streets now all look the same. What a tragedy if that happened here."

Silver Moon and the other bookshops, after much bad blood, finally settled. Silver Moon is facing a 23.5 percent increase in their rent on two-thirds of the store, with the lease on the remaining third due for renegotiation later this year.

Sweet Violets somehow, magically, pulled a coup: An article in the Northwest Airline's on-flight magazine about Michigan's Upper Peninsula describes Marquette as being "an enlightened city [where] deer hunters rub shoulders with New York restaurateurs; storefronts house everything from feminist bookstores to dogsledding gear." Now if only they'd included the name of the store...but I'll bet that, if asked, many of the residents could point out the feminist bookstore. And now more travelers will know to ask. Marquette is driving distance from Northwest's hub city, Minneapolis.

Mother Kali's (Eugene) is finding a new balance in the weeks and months following Izzie Harbaugh's death. Izzie had worked full-time for no take-home pay, choosing to live off her social security, after the store moved to its current, larger (and more expensive) location. The remaining staff and the Board of Directors are committed to keeping the store open and viable. Nancy Johnson, who had been working 15 hours a week while finishing her last term in computer graphics, increased her load to 30-35 hours as needed, and a core of six volunteers have come forward to help staff the store. The Board, including Izzie's life partner Lorraine Ironplow, are interviewing candidates for a new, full-time manager position. (See also Obituary in News.)



The Wild Dove Writers Center, located in Prairie Moon Bookstore, opened with a very successful launch. The launch, in turn, kicked off the First Friday Coffeehouse series, which has become a regular feature in the new, expanded space. Prairie Moon moved to larger quarters last June when the store's landlord jacked up the rent. The bad news is that Prairie Moon is for sale. If you're interested in buying a feminist book store in the outer Chicago suburbs, call Linda Mowry at 847-991-5615.

Jan and Owl Blossom have changed the name of Two Sisters (Menlo Park, CA) to The Lavender Dragon. Why? Because, for years Owl dreamed of owning a bookstore (before she bought Two Sisters) and naming it "The Lavender Dragon," because the store's founders were sisters — but Owl and Jan aren't, and Owl explains, "because the Two Sisters image was beginning to feel too pretty and contained. Dragons, on the other hand, are mysterious and full of fantasy. Because dragons were persecuted by Christians at the same time as women and witches, because they can be fierce or soft and loving as the need arises, and because their name conjures up a tangle of exotic jungle plants, purple and orange trumpet flowers, orchids, flashes of brightly plumed birds flying by... and infinite, wild possibilities."



The Book Garden (Denver) has joined Brigit Books (St. Petersburg) in publishing an online newsletter. The first issue is more like a magazine than a newsletter. It includes articles educating readers about the dangers inherent in B&N's proposed purchase of Ingram and a great new collection of "new books to light your baby's fire," just in time for Valentine's Day. It also announces a Valentine's Day mixer for single lesbians, introduces the Book Garden's new store manager, Leigh Waters, reviews new videos and CDs, and announces February book groups. The groups range from the very social, which reads no

books, to genre groups. The science fiction group is currently reading *Brown Girl in the Ring* by Nalo Hopkinson and *Hand of Prophecy* by Severna Park. The Garden Book group, which reads books by lesbian writers and/or with lesbian protagonists, is reading *Stealing Fire* by Claudia Mauro, *Rita Will* by Rita Mae Brown, and *The Dyke and the Dybbuk* by Ellen Galford. The Mysterious Women's Book Group is reading *The Woman Who Knew Too Much* by Reece

Johnson, *Unnatural Exposure* by Patricia Cornwell, and *The Killing at the Cat* by Carlene Miller.

The newsletter ends with Facts About the Book Garden in Today's Economy:

1. The Book Garden is almost 14 years old!

2. Wild Woman (the cat) adopted us six years ago. She is now the Boss of Bosses.

3. Our owner, Kasha Songer, sells real estate full time with Perry & Butler Realtors so that she can subsidize the store.

4. Chain stores (i.e. Borders and Barnes & Noble) continue to impact our sales negatively. Please support independent bookstores like The Book Garden.

5. The staff people who help you are not all paid for their work. Some volunteer their time because they believe in the importance of a bookstore for women.

6. The Book Garden is known throughout the country as a community resource.

7. We are committed to being a safe, friendly, comfortable place for women to shop and to visit.

8. We are happy to place special orders for books, music, and all other merchandise and ship to any location.

9. We love meeting women and talking! Let us know what types of merchandise you would like to see in the store. When you are traveling and see something you think we should carry, let us know where and what and, if possible, the vendor information.

Thank you for your support.

—The Book Gardeners

To subscribe to the Book Garden's email newsletter, send email to [thebookgarden@juno.com](mailto:thebookgarden@juno.com).

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**"If you believe  
in free speech,  
support independent  
bookstores and  
small presses."**

— Izzie Harbaugh  
(1927–1999)

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Brigit's online newsletter is much shorter and more concise — about a page — but is published more frequently. It covers all the bases: an event to come to, enticing changes in the store, a book recommendation, and something to look forward to — something that customers may want to integrate into their lives. It prints out to a single page, so people who want to print it out and carry it around or circulate it can do so easily. And, perhaps best of all, it's short enough that it could probably have been created in a single evening. It's rich and rewardingly informative — worth scanning even in the midst of a busy day (or whenever customers get their email) and avoids overload on either the readers' or the creator's part. And that's a textbook example of a successful email promotion.

Want specifics? It opens with that fine slogan, "Support Your Women's Bookstore: She Supports You" and reminds subscribers to check out Brigit's 500,000-title online database and catalogs of used and collectible books at ([www.brigitbooks.com](http://www.brigitbooks.com)). The newsletter announces an upcoming workshop on creating a personal altar, reviews a favorite book (*Milagros*), updates readers on changes in the store (which include the interfiling of some used books with new books to give customers a choice on price and the store's recent redesign project — knocking out a few walls and moving the check-out desk), and promises that Brigit's will soon install a computer system customers can use to check their email — and special order books via Brigit's Web site.

To subscribe, send email to ([brigit@earthlink.net](mailto:brigit@earthlink.net)) or visit Brigit's Web site at ([www.brigitbooks.com](http://www.brigitbooks.com)).



Another way to create store promo: Mary Ellen Kavanaugh (*My Sisters' Words*, Syracuse) does book reviews on the local women's radio show. She says that creating a 30-second sound-byte that represents a book and intrigues a potential reader is a great exercise in critical thinking and writing.

Laura Smith is Crazy Ladies' (Cincinnati) "new" manager. She has worked at Crazy Ladies for years and served as interim manager for six months. A community center that owns its own building as well as a bookstore, things are always on the move at CL. The

next major physical change will be tearing down a wall to spiff up the store for the upcoming 20th anniversary festivities. New sections include a new Decorating/Design section (inspired by CL's remodeling, perhaps?). Like an increasing number of stores, CL runs a "First Fridays" series that includes musicians — from solo singer-songwriters to the entire Cincinnati Women's Choir — as well as a spiritual buffet event offering customers a chance to sample various spiritual practices, have a palm read, get a 1999 numerology reading, or have runes read. The evening includes an art exhibit reflecting meditative themes and "refreshments for the spirit and body."

# Amazon

## BOOKSTORE

Amazon (Minneapolis) did two holiday book drives this year: one for the Eagle's Nest Shelter and one for the Sister Namibia Collective. Eagle's Nest Shelter is a battered women's shelter run by Women of Nations, a non-profit organization of American Indian Women concerned with the issues of violence against women. The Sister Namibia Collective is an African women's group that publishes a magazine which is distributed in Namibian school libraries to give young women there strong role models, sponsors a lesbian activist group, and runs a lending library. Customers received a ten percent discount on all books contributed to the book drives.

Amazon is now offering a new service: It is taking its popular Sex Toy Workshop on the road. "Get a group of friends together and, in the privacy of your own home, have your own sex toy workshop conducted by one of our knowledgeable staff." Who could resist?

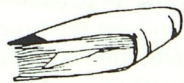
Book Groups at Amazon include Contemporary Women's Fiction (reading Carol Shields, Abigail Padgett, and Edwidge Danticat), Eclectic Dykes (fiction and nonfiction, currently reading Blanch Wiesen Cook's biography of Eleanor Roosevelt), African American Women Authors (reading contemporary African American women's works), and Spots and Stripes (exploring bisexual themes in fiction and nonfiction works). ○

# COMMENTARY & TRIVIA

By Carol Seajay

This has been another hard season of bookstore closings — and now we've got the silver-screen version saying how sad it is when *nice-little-independents* are forced out of business with an overlay of *but-they're-so-much-happier-after-their-life's-work-has-been-obliterated-that-it's-really-for-the-best-after-all*. Fits right into the classic woman-falls-in-love-with-her-rapist genre, and it's not even subtle. Musical and lighting manipulation aside, it would take a Mother Teresa of a bookseller to love a guy who has dedicated his professional life to killing quality independents and replacing them with book barns. And Mother Teresa would be busy praying for the bastard's soul, not falling in love with him.

(And yes, when B&N opened on NYC's Upper West Side, it portrayed itself as a "kinder gentler conglomerate," insisting that it had no intention of putting other bookstores out of business *and* that it would continue its discounting policy, whether or not there were any other bookstores nearby. You may believe, if you wish, that it was only coincidence that, after the independent bookstore a block away folded, B&N stopped discounting most paperbacks.)



On the real-world plane, where owners and employees of defunct independents don't get to live off of their rapists' stock options, we're seeing another huge wave of general store closings.

In the Northwest, Red and Black, after 25 years of defending the lives and literatures of all of the American underclasses, is scheduled to close at the end of

February if a buyer is not found. Now there's a collection of books you're not going to find at BarnAzon. It's perfectly clear whose interests it serves to have this collection of books disappear. Red and Black is the fourth Seattle independent to close under the enormous, unfair, and probably illegal competition from the superchains and online supersites.

Longtime FBN-friend Catherine Harris is closing Eugene's Peralandra Books after an unsuccessful attempt to find a buyer.

Salt Lake City has lost three independents in six months: Waking Owl, Sam Weller's Books, and, last summer, the last of Utah's A Woman's Place bookstores (which had stopped being primarily women-oriented stores some years ago).

And Tucson, as we go to press, is losing its last general independent bookstore, the 40-year-old Book Mark, (see letter, page 48) where sales had dropped by \$500,000 over the last three years. Tucson has lost its two other independents in the last two years: Coyote's Voice and the Haunted Bookshop.

Panacea Books, a Port Chester/semi-suburban New York City store that specializes in bilingual, multicultural, and women's titles was set to close the storefront and shift to Web sales after English-language book sales fell off sharply and the landlord raised the rent. But when word of this decision spread through the community, another landlord came forward offering a 2500-square-foot space a block away at the store's current rent. Owner Ann Spaeth will accept the offer and move only if she can find a new bilingual business partner. Panacea helped to fill the void when Judith's Room's closed several years ago.

In Berkeley, GAIA Bookstore is fighting for its life. After learning that the store was scheduled to

close due to a nearly 25 percent drop for December sales and a \$175,000 decline in sales in 1998, a customer/author/"angel" came forward and offered the store a \$200,000 grant — if the community would match the donation. Fundraising has begun in earnest. GAIA is hoping to survive until next year, when a 10,000-square-foot space (being built especially for GAIA in a new Berkeley city center development) is ready. In its new incarnation GAIA will be more of a cultural and spirituality center — with workshops, seminars, concerts, author events, a restaurant/café, a major Web site with Internet events broadcasting, and a somewhat downsized book store. Thanks to publicity and enormous customer support, GAIA's January sales rose 40 percent.

GAIA conducted focus groups last fall to investigate the decline in sales and found interesting results: In addition to the usual suspects (chains, Internet sales in its hard-wired University of California-Berkeley neighborhood, and the development of a major new independent bookstore closer to the free-

way), they found that changing social and economic patterns were affecting their sales. Factors such as having less time to read, a reduced income, choosing a simpler life, and valuing reduced consumerism have all contributed to reduced book buying. In this reuse-and-recycle era, people aren't as interested in buying new books when there are so many second-hand books available — and/or if they have a stack of unread books at home. Customers also said that too many of the new books in GAIA's new-age/spirituality niche didn't have much substance. "There was no meat on the bone. In the early 90s, it was fresh material. Now it's being regurgitated," GAIA's co-owner Patrice Wynn told *PW Daily*, adding, "[those books] sell through the chains, but leave our sophisticated market, which already practices many of the principles, unserved."



## Conclusions

Store closings in university communities and Microsoft-dominated Seattle underscore another societal change that is having ramifications for bookstores in academic communities: While university-based communities used to be primo locations for independent bookstores, the people who live in these communities are now on the top of the curve for Internet access and for ordering books from Internet supersites. And students in these communities will be among the first to experiment with ordering from the new textbook-oriented sites.

## Kinks in the Internet Romance

Web shoppers, on the other hand, are discovering that Web shopping isn't always all that it's promised to be. Only 46 percent of holiday Internet shoppers who didn't get the products they ordered or didn't get them in time for holiday gift giving are willing to make another purchase online. A number of popular sites continued to take orders for products long after inventory had been depleted. Local communities are beginning to notice that sales tax-free purchases result in zero income for local community services — and that loss must be made up elsewhere.

Meanwhile, 24 multinationals whose primary

### GAIA vs. Amazon.com

*In an effort to educate customers, planning commissioners, and city members about the reasons to support independent bookstores, Patrice Wynn of the GAIA Bookstore in Berkeley compiled this list, comparing Amazon.com's community involvement to GAIA's.*

Number of author readings and community and cultural events held by:

GAIA: 1,863                      Amazon.com: 0

Number of people who have participated in educational programs at:

GAIA: 853,462                      Amazon.com: 0

Number of community organizations given free publicity and advertising for their events via store displays, newsletters, and postings at:

GAIA: 12,240                      Amazon.com: 0

Value of books donated to local schools, social services, and public agencies by:

GAIA: \$1,543,018                      Amazon.com: \$0



concern is *not* the quality of life in your neighborhood have formed a group called the Global Business Dialogue on E-Commerce. It's a nice name for a group whose primary function is to "discourage governments from imposing Internet taxes and other measures that could hurt business over the Internet" — taxes that might, for instance, return income to local communities and/or level the playing field for locally based retailers that must collect and pay sales taxes. The group is also organizing against a new European Community privacy measure that would make it tougher for companies to transmit personal data about their customers over the Internet, bar companies from using customers' confidential information for everything from financial transactions to junk mail, and otherwise regulate Internet commerce. The group was formed following American firms' success in winning a temporary ban on Internet taxes.

"We have to take action now," said Thomas Middelhoff, chair and CEO of Bertelsmann, the German-based owner of Random House and Bantam Doubleday Dell. Bertelsmann, which controls an estimated 30 percent of American trade publishing, a 50 percent interest in B&N.com, and a large chunk of the European division of AOL, is now the world's third-largest media company (after Time Warner and Walt Disney). It has operations in 53 countries, employs 60,000 people, and has annual revenues of \$16 billion. It is the world's largest publisher of English-language books.

Other GBDE members include Time Warner, Netscape, Japan's Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Fujitsu and NEC, France Telecom, and British retailer Marks & Spencer.



### Knowing Who You're in Bed With...

Bertelsmann, after a flurry of press accusing the publishing company of covering up its Nazi ties, has yet to release the results of the "full investigation" into its own past promised after an article titled "Bright Future, Dark Past" by Hersch Fischler was published in a Swiss newspaper last October. *PW Daily* reported last fall that, in a corporate history prepared for its 150th anniversary in 1985,

Bertelsmann maintained that it was closed down by the Nazis in 1943 because of the devout Christianity of its then-boss Henrich Mohn. Fischler, however, reported Mohn was a "passive" member of the S.S. who successfully avoided arrest when the Nazis investigated Bertelsmann for illegally procuring paper and profiteering. Bertelsmann also published pro-Hitler books used by the Nazi propaganda machine in the 1930s and 1940s, millions of paperback action novels glorifying battles, and anti-Semitic works. Bertelsmann resumed operations in 1947.

In addition to Bertelsmann's many assets (see above), the company has recently purchased a minority stake in Muenchhoff & Janz, the German technology company that created Accee — a shopping service that searches the Internet to find the lowest book prices offered on the Web. In this world where Amazon.com has just admitted receiving up to \$10,000 per title for prominent placement for books on its "bestseller" page, "Destined for Greatness" and "New and Notable" sections, and "What We're Reading" listings, one has to wonder whether owning the evaluation tool impacts the results of the queries.



### A Better Approach

Internet and mail-order selling *can* be done responsibly, but don't look to the multinationals for modeling. Turn instead to independents like Cape & Dagger, the Provincetown mystery bookstore. The "Dear Friends" letter in their recent catalog starts, "We would like to lay our cards on the table. We think that it's vitally important now for everyone to support independent bookstores, not the big corporate chains (including the big corporate Web sites!). If you have a good local independent bookstore, especially a feminist or gay store, we hope that you will shop there! If you don't, please shop by mail with us."

Imagine clicking on Amazon.com and B&N.com's sites and finding messages like that. We'll believe that the Global Business Dialogue on E-Commerce members are good neighbors when we find similar banners on their sites.

## Borders Plans Capitola Store

*In response to the proposed opening of a Borders Bookstore in Capitola, California, Adrienne Rich wrote the following letter to the Capitola Sentinel January 7, 1999:*

To the *Sentinel*:

I am a writer and an avid reader. Since moving here in 1984 I have been grateful for the diversity of independent and second-hand book dealers here in Santa Cruz County. I live in Live Oak and do many of my errands in King's Plaza. About four days a week I go to the Capitola Book Café to buy the papers, look over the new books, check the bargain counters, talk with the owners and staff. At least once a week, I visit the Bookshop Santa Cruz downtown for its unparalleled resources in politics, criticism, lesbian and gay literature. I value both these stores, along with The Literary Guillotine downtown, Mockingbird Books in Aptos, and the finds in used poetry and cookbooks at Top of the Heap in Arana Center.

These bookstores are owned and shaped by a variety of diverse individuals who know and love books. Their appeal is precisely that they are individualistic, scattered around our county, and found in a mix of other small local businesses. When I visit Capitola Book Café I can also drop into Palace Art & Office; Top of the Heap is near a well-used laundromat, a small deli, and Lucy's seamstressing and alterations. Bookshop Santa Cruz is on a block of small boutiques, all ungeneric and locally-owned.

The proposed introduction of a huge, publicly-traded corporate chain bookstore in Capitola is utterly wrong for this area. The attempted malling of our coastal towns, the destruction of their livability and character, the wipe-out, by hugely capitalized chains, of small local enterprises, many of which had to survive the 89 quake and did, with community support — this isn't "competition." This is unbridled, unrestricted financial power against every other human consideration.

As a reader and a book-buyer, I want the varied book culture that our local bookstores provide. As a writer, I'm revolted by the policies of the chains (selling prime space to publishers who are willing or able to pay for it; dictating to publishers what titles will or won't be "marketable" even before publication). I want to see in my local bookstore a range of choices, not dictated by corporate deals.

In chain-marketing, a store can open in a community that has been studied and targeted, thanks to the success of local business owners, and can mirror the attractions of local efforts. But once having destroyed its competition, secured its captive purchasers, the chain store is simply part of a huge mass-market enterprise, which can merge at any time with other unrelated enterprises, and which need not be responsive to local values, concerns, or employment, ever again.

— Adrienne Rich, Santa Cruz CA  
cc: Capitola Mayor, Tony Gaultieri  
Members of the Planning Commission



## The Passing of a Landmark

*Barbara Kingsolver wrote the following article when she learned of the closure of Tucson's last general independent bookstore, The Book Mark.*

Special to the *Arizona Daily Star*, January 7, 1999:

In 1958, when I was hardly yet a dot on any map, a new bookstore opened its doors on East Speedway. It would have narrow aisles crammed with every kind of wisdom, and helpful staff to track it down. One worker there, a tiny woman named Anne whose memory presaged computers, could identify just about anything ever published, declare it in stock, and scramble up a ladder for it.

Thirty years later, when I was still on nobody's map but my own, I'd claimed The Book Mark as my territory: I met friends there, debated art and politics, once even began a star-crossed love affair behind the discreetly turned spines of Virginia Woolf and Leo Tolstoy.

It was now 1988, the year I first produced a book of my own. My New York publisher had turned out a few thousand copies, and hoped maybe some of them would sell before it faded out of print. This is the way of first novels: they aren't generally greeted with trumpets. Mostly they're ignored. That's why most writers starve, or else have day jobs. I was lucky, though. I had a guardian angel, a tiny one named Anne, who loved my book and made it her mission to shove it into the hands of everyone she thought would like it. This included nearly everyone who entered The Book Mark, and some who were

merely hanging around in the parking lot. I had other guardian angels, too, it turns out, booksellers all over the country who discovered my novel and sold it "by hand," as they say in the business. It went back to print again and again, and I earned enough royalties to quit my day job and write another book, then another. Now the copies of my books out in the world number in the millions, many in languages I can't read.

When I gave the debut reading from my newest book in November, I stood on a platform in The Book Mark's parking lot surrounded by hundreds of cheering Tucsonans, and felt a little like Evita Peron. I don't take any of this for granted.

I owe my career to people such as those at The Book Mark who first guided readers to my words. I think of them as family. When my daughter was born I sent them a birth announcement, which they proudly displayed.

Yesterday, they sent me a much less joyful announcement: after 40 years, The Book Mark is passing away. Tucsonans' buying habits are changing: We now purchase through the Internet, we hunt for bargains, we're drawn by the lure of chain stores.

Over the next weeks I'll go in often to say goodbye to my favorite aisles and buy more books from their emptying shelves. The store must sell its stock, but I'll feel as if I'm sifting through the goods of a dying relative. I cannot bear this passing.

I suppose I'm grateful that books are still sold elsewhere, but I have a bone to pick with the way the behemoth chains organize their bookselling: They don't play fair. They purposefully out-compete the neighborhood shop, dazzling customers with glitzy displays and — above all — discounts.

They can afford to cut the price of the latest blockbuster, because chains order these books by the thousands, at a reduced price that the publishers don't offer to the independents. (Independent booksellers are presently challenging this practice in court, claiming unfair competition.)

Publishers also subsidize certain books with "co-op money," a payola scheme that determines which books move forward into the chain store's large displays. So you can hardly walk in the door without tripping over a stack of the new Stephen King or — yes — Barbara Kingsolver.

But it wasn't always this way. Once I was the

name no one could spell, on the spine of a first novel — the kind you'll now find way in the back that big store, a needle in a brightly lit haystack, quietly going out of print while its author goes back to waitressing. There, but for the grace of my guardian angels, go I.

It's not just starving artists who should care about this; it's a First Amendment issue. To put it bluntly, chain stores and publishers are in league to manipulate what Americans will see, purchase, and read.

"Independent" means what it says: bookstores that are locally owned, by people who know books, and need not tailor their orders to the appetites of a distant city, but would rather honor their customers' interest in regional issues, local authors, small press books, poetry, first novels, things that matter to us, right here, right now. Is this something you can live without?

Apparently, you'll have to. Miraculously, Tucson still has one glorious feminist independent [Antigone Books] and a raft of specialty and used-book stores. But the generalists, the all-purpose locally owned bookstores, have gone the way of Arizona's native fish. One by one, their streams dried up and they went extinct: Haunted Bookshop, Coyote's Voice, Marco Polo, Whiz Kids. And now, that bookish trout that swam upstream for so long, The Book Mark.

I'm still in the earliest stage of grief: denial. I'm banking on a miracle on the order of Jimmy Stewart's in "It's a Wonderful Life." People will show up there in droves, cash in hand, to prove their hearts were not sold for a \$3 markdown. The prodigal readers will return, and those who never left will also return to scour the aisles, looking for the enlightenment and passions and how-to manuals that filled our lives before TV stultified us with 100 channels of conformity.

The tides of fortune will reverse themselves. It will happen, I'm thinking, because this is America. We love independence and freedom of thought. We believe in our own story: that any one of us could write the Great American Novel, and the rest of us could read it, without waiting for Big Brother to buy it a place at the table.

We do, don't we?

— Barbara Kingsolver, Tucson AZ

*Reprinted by permission of the author.*

○

Rita Arditti

### Searching for Life

*The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo and the Disappeared Children of Argentina*

Arditti traces the courageous plight of the group of women who challenged the ruthless dictatorship that ruled Argentina from 1976 to 1983.

April, \$17.95 paper 21570-2

Norma Basch

### Framing American Divorce

*From the Revolutionary Generation to the Victorians*

"Guides us through the social landscape of 19th-century America, a tour of shifting hierarchies in which anxieties about increasing personal freedom were as powerful as desires for it."

—Nancy Cott, author of

*The Grounding of Modern Feminism*

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"The overall view of 'Old Europe' Marija Gimbutas presents is not only readable but spellbinding."

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# California

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Mary Kelly

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*Foreword by Lucy R. Lippard*

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*With a New Afterword*

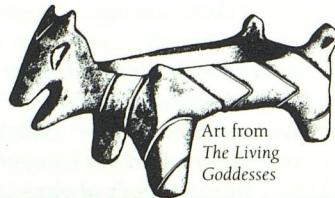
"An illuminating tour of the profound social and moral changes that have occurred over the past generation."—*Boston Globe*

March, \$16.95 paper 21830-2

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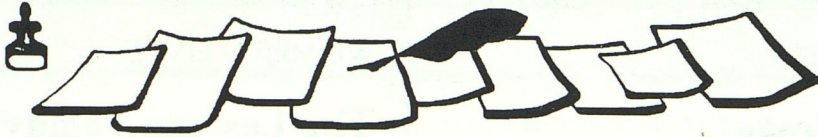
[www.ucpress.edu](http://www.ucpress.edu)

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Art from  
*The Living Goddesses*

# WRITING WANTED



By Teri Mae Rutledge

The Flight of the Mind: Writing Workshops for Women announces two week-long workshops in June. The first will take place June 18–25. Workshop leaders are Ursula K. Le Guin, Lucille Clifton, Kathleen Alcalá, Molly Gloss, and Judith Barrington. The second session runs June 27–July 4, and the workshop leaders are Olga Broumas, Mimi Khalvati, Barbara Drake, Janice Gould, and Judith Barrington. Flight of the Mind takes place between Eugene and Bend, Oregon, on the McKenzie River in the Cascade mountain range. For a brochure and application, send a first class stamp (no envelope) to Flight of the Mind, 622 SE 29th Ave., Portland OR 97214. Deadline for applications: April 17.

The fifth annual Border Book Festival will take place March 7–14 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The trade show, *Libros y Más*, will be held March 13–14. This year's theme is Our Bodies/Our Earth. The Festival has booked a long list of environmental writers, including Terry Tempest Williams, Leslie Silko, Linda Hogan, Daisy Zamora, and Elivra and Hortensia Colorado, who will present a theater piece, *Open Wounds*. The festival program includes writing workshops. For more information, contact The Border Book Festival, 422 N. Alameda, Las Cruces NM 88005; 505-524-1499, fax 505-524-0389, email (BBF@Zianet.com).

The Pioneer Valley Breast Cancer Network is putting together an anthology called *Breast Cancer: Fear of Recurrence*. They are seeking artwork, short fiction, creative nonfiction, essays, journal entries, poetry, drawings, and photos dealing with the fear of recurrence of metastases from people who have had breast cancer. For complete guidelines, send SASE to

Anthology, Pioneer Valley Breast Cancer Network, 30 South Main St., Haydenville MA 01039. Deadline: April 30.

*This Bridge Called My Back*, the groundbreaking anthology of writing by radical women of color, will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2001. Gloria Anzaldúa and AnaLouise Keating are seeking essays, poems, personal narratives, and other writing that explore issues related to *This Bridge Called My Back*. Abstracts are due March 31, and full papers are due May 31. For more information, contact AnaLouise Keating, Language and Literature, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales NM 88130; 505-359-1622, email (analouise.keating@enmu.edu).



Karen Connell is seeking nonfiction stories for *There is Life After Domestic Violence*, the working title for her proposed anthology. She is committed to creating a book for women who are feeling stuck as victims that presents other women survivors who have gotten on with their lives after living in a violent relationship. She's seeking stories of less than ten pages, from women who have left abusive relationships, either straight or lesbian. For more information or to send work, send a SASE to Karen Connell, PO Box 3336, Van Nuys CA 91407, or email (kconn@adlbooks.com). Deadline: May 1.

James C. Johnstone is seeking stories for two gay anthologies:

*Donors & Dads: True Stories of Gay Men and Fatherhood* will publish true stories and essays by gay  
See **Writing Wanted**, page 54.

# Contemporary Classics

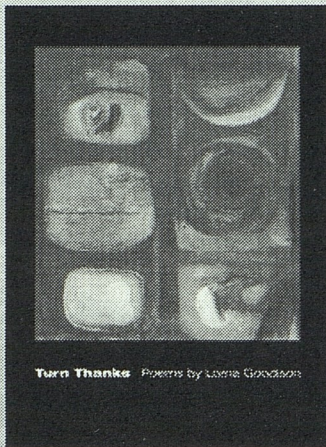
## NEW POETRY

### Turn Thanks

POEMS BY LORNA GOODISON

The preeminent woman poet of Jamaica returns with an intoxicating look at the culture and people of her homeland.

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### Collected Poems, 1930-83

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## WOMEN'S LIVES

### The Lesbian Family Life Cycle

SUZANNE SLATER

The first book to examine the special bonds and stresses common to lesbian families and to provide a five-stage working model for the development of lesbian couple relationships.

"Important reading for friends and families of lesbians and gays as well as mental health professionals." — Stanley Siegel, author of *Uncharted Lives: Understanding the Life Passages of Gay Men*

Paper, \$14.95

### The Power and Passion of M. Carey Thomas

HELEN LEFKOWITZ HOROWITZ

The second president and primary architect of Bryn Mawr College, Thomas was also a founder of the Johns Hopkins medical school and the preeminent spokeswoman for education around the turn of the century.

"A major book." — Catharine R. Stimpson, *Women's Review of Books*

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# BACK TO PRESS

## AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Teri Mae Rutledge

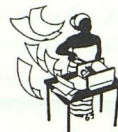
### Good News

The winners of the American Library Association Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Book Awards have been announced. *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux) was named the winner of the award for literature. *Stagestruck: Theatre, AIDS, and the Marketing of Gay America* by Sarah Schulman (Duke University Press) was named the winner of the nonfiction award. Other finalists for the literature award included *Switch* by Carol Guess (CALYX Books), *Bending the Landscape: Original Gay and Lesbian Writing, Vol. 1: Science Fiction* edited by Nicola Griffith and Stephen Pagel (Overlook Press), *Imagine Being More Afraid of Freedom Than of Slavery* by Pamela Sneed (Henry Holt), and *An Arrow's Flight* by Mark Merlis (St. Martin's). The other nonfiction award finalists were *A Fragile Union* by Joan Nestle (Cleis Press), *The Truth That Never Hurts: Writings on Race, Gender, and Freedom* by Barbara Smith (Rutgers University Press), *Strong Women, Deep Closets: Lesbians and Homophobia in Sport* by Pat Griffin (Human Kinetics), and *The Other Side of Silence: Men's Lives and Gay Identities: A Twentieth Century History* by John Loughery (Henry Holt).



The American Booksellers Association announced the nominees for the 1999 American Booksellers Book of the Year (ABBY). The ABBY is awarded to the book that booksellers most enjoyed recommending over the course of a year. Booksellers vote through mail-in ballots during March, and the winners will be announced in April. The author receiving the prize is awarded \$5000 and an engraved Tiffany glass prism. The adult trade finalists are *The*

*Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells, *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver, *Memoirs of a Geisha: A Novel* by Arthur Golden, *The Professor & the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary* by Simon Winchester, and *Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson* by Mitch Albom.



*ForeWord* magazine has announced its 1998 Book of the Year award winners. Among the winners: Seal Press took a bronze finalist prize for the audio version of Barbara Kingsolver's *Another America: Otra America*; The University of Chicago Press won overall in the young adult category for Anna Michener's *Becoming Anna*; In the fiction category, Soho Press won overall for Edwidge Danticat's *The Farming of Bones* and Coffee House was a bronze finalist for Melissa Kantor Stark's *Bring Us the Old People*; In the gay/lesbian category, Alyson won overall for *Gay Old Girls* by Zsa Zsa Gershick, Firebrand was a silver finalist for Allison Bechdel's *The Indelible Allison Bechdel*, and Press Gang took the bronze finalist prize for Taste This' *Boys Like Her*; In the health category, Hunter House took the bronze finalist prize for *Women's Cancers* by Kerry A. McGinn. Two cash "editor's choice" awards were also named: for fiction, Grove/Atlantic's *The Road Home* by Jim Harrison, and for nonfiction, Walking Tree Press' *The Mercator's Atlas of Europe* edited by Marcel Watelet.

The American Library Association has announced its major children's awards. Included are the winners of the Coretta Scott King awards, which honor African American authors and illustrators of children's and young adult books that "demonstrate sensitivity to the true worth and value of all people."

Angela Johnson won the Coretta Scott King award for *Heaven* (Simon & Schuster). Michele Wood won the Coretta Scott King Illustrator award for *I See the Rhythm* (Children's Book Press). The following were named King Author Honor Books: *Jazmin's Notebook* by Nikki Grimes (Dial Press), *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence: The Story of New York's African Burial Ground* by Joyce Hansen (Henry Holt), and *The Other Side: Shorter Poems* by Gary McGowan and Angela Johnson (Orchard Books). The King Illustrator Honor Books were *I Have Heard of a Land* illustrated by Floyd Cooper (Joanna Cotler Books), *The Bat Boy & His Violin* illustrated by E.B. Lewis (Simon & Schuster), and *Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra* illustrated by Brian Pinkney and written by Andrea Davis Pinkney (Hyperion Books for Children). The ALA also announced that Anne McCaffrey won the Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime achievement. ○

**Writing Wanted**, *continued from page 51.*

men and will reflect the diverse and positive relationships gay men have with children. For complete guidelines, send a SASE (with Canadian postage/international reply coupon) to Donors & Dads, 1036 Odlum Dr., Vancouver BC V5L 3L6, Canada, or email <jcj@canada.com>. Deadline: March 31.



*Boners & Blunders: Humorous Gay Sex Stories* is looking for humorous fiction stories about gay sex. For complete guidelines, send a SASE (with Canadian postage/international reply coupon) to Boners & Blunders, 599 B Yonge St. Ste. 198, Toronto ON M4Y 1Z4, Canada, or email <impress@globalserve.com>. ○

## THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY

By Teri Mae Rutledge

### Books

*Emma Lazarus Rediscovered* by Eve Merriam, last scheduled to release in November, released in February. \$10.95 pb, 0-930395-28-X; \$14.95 cl, -29-8. Biblio Press, PO Box 20195, London Terrace Station, NY NY 10011; 212-989-2755. Distributed by H&M Distribution, Trumbull CT; 1-800-698-7781, fax 203-459-5095. Available from BP.



*The Damron Company's Address Book*, the 35th anniversary edition originally set to release last Fall, has had a name change and a release date change. *The 1999 Damron Men's Travel Guide* released in January 1999. \$17.95 pb, 0-929435-29-X. Damron Company, PO Box 422458, San Francisco CA 94142. Distributed by Ingram, B&T, and Publishers Distribution Company.

New Victoria originally set the publication date for *Just a Little Lie*, the fourth Alison Kaine mystery

by Kate Allen, for last Fall, but it is now scheduled for May. \$12.95 pb, 0-934678-94-4. New Victoria, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055; 802-649-5297. Distributed by LPC. Available through most wholesalers including Ingram, B&T, and BP.

Press Gang Publishers announce that the much-anticipated multigenerational saga, *Maria's Revenge* by Makeda Silvera (previously announced last Fall) will be released in May. Press Gang Publishers, 1723 Grant St., Vancouver BC, Canada V5L 2Y6; 604-251-3315. Distributed in the U.S. by LPC, in Canada by General, and in the U.K. by Turnaround.

### Electronic News

"Yo Paisans! Check it out! It's a new Web site, and haha, yes, there's a little Chicken animation right up front, if you can stand it!! Go to <www.hotheadpaisan.com> *pleaassee*. We'd love your feedback. Compare it to the old one, let us know! Be mean, be a critic, we're only here to please you! Love and furballs and wet kisses!" — Giant Ass Publishers, creators of HotHead Paisan. You can also reach Giant Ass at PO Box 1242, Northampton MA 01061; email <HeyHothead@aol.com>. ○



# BESTSELLERS

## Silver Moon London

### 1998 BESTSELLERS

1. **Diana, Princess of Wales** by Beatrix Campbell
2. **Dancing in the Dark** edited by Barbara Grier and Christine Cassidy
3. **Falling Leaves** by Adeline Yen Mah
4. **Paradise** by Toni Morrison
5. **Before I Say Goodbye** by Ruth Picardie
6. **The God of Small Things** by Arundhati Roy
7. **Larry's Party** by Carol Shields
8. **Every Secret Thing** by Gillian Slovo
9. **The Trials of Radclyffe Hall** by Diana Souhami
10. **The World and Other Places** by Jeanette Winterson

### 1998 LESBIAN BESTSELLERS

1. **The Indelible Alison Bechdel: Confessions, Comix, and Miscellaneous Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel
2. **Killer Instinct** by Martina Navratilova with Liz Nickles
3. **Wicked Games** by Ellen Hart
4. **Swimming Cat Cove** by Lauren Wright Douglas
5. **The Well of Loneliness** by Radclyffe Hall with an introduction by Diana Souhami
6. **Fallen from Grace** by Pat Welch
7. **Piece of My Heart** by Julia Watts
8. **Over the Line** by Tracey Richardson
9. **The Naked Eye** by Catherine Ennis
10. **City Lights, Country Candles** by Penny Hayes
11. **Window Garden** by Janet McClellan

### 1998 FICTION BESTSELLERS

1. **Star Struck** by Val McDermid
2. **The Giant O'Brien** by Hilary Mantel
3. **The Breaker** by Minette Walters



4. **Ark Baby** by Liz Jensen
5. **N is for Noose** by Sue Grafton
6. **Elementals** by A.S. Byatt
7. **Crocodile Soup** by Julia Darling
8. **Deja Dead** by Kathy Reichs
9. **Other Names** by Zoe Fairbanks
10. **Nightmares** by Manda Scott
11. **The Sparrow** by Mary Doria Russell
12. **The Birds of America** by Lorrie Moore
13. **It Could Happen to You** by Isla Dewar
14. **Thrones, Dominations** by Dorothy Sayers and Jill Paton Walsh
15. **In Search of an Impotent Man** by Gaby Hauptmann

## New Words Cambridge MA January 1999 Bestsellers

### PAPERBACKS

1. **Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel, \$10.95, Firebrand Books
2. **The God of Small Things** by Arundhati Roy, \$13, HarperCollins
3. **Dawn of the Dance** by Marianne Martin, \$11.95, Naiad Press
4. **Apparition Alley** by Katherine Forrest, \$5.99, Berkley
5. **A Fragile Union: New and Selected Writings** by Joan Nestle, \$14.95, Cleis Press
6. **Aimee and Jaguar: A Love Story, Berlin, 1943** by Erica Fischer, \$12.95, Alyson

7. **Say Uncle** by Randye Lordon, \$5.99, Avon
8. **A/K/A** by Ruthann Robson, \$12.95, St. Martin's
9. **Are You Somebody?** by Nuala O'Faolain, \$11.95, Henry Holt
10. **Affirmative Acts: Political Essays** by June Jordan, \$12.95, Doubleday

HARDCOVER

1. **Midnight Salvage: Poems 1995-1998** by Adrienne Rich, \$22, Norton
2. **The Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver, \$26, HarperCollins
3. **Technology of Orgasm** by Rachel Maines, \$22, Johns Hopkins
4. **Circle Round: Raising Children in the Goddess Tradition** by Starhawk, \$25.95, Bantam
5. **The Truth That Never Hurts** by Barbara Smith, \$23, Rutgers
6. **Remedios** by Aurora Morales, \$24, Beacon Press
7. **Gonna Take a Homicidal Journey** by Sandra Scoppettone, \$22.95, Little, Brown
8. **Cavedweller** by Dorothy Allison, \$24.95, Dutton
9. **Holy Hunger: A Memoir of Desire** by Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, \$23, Vintage
10. **Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together** by Beverly Tatum, \$25, Basic Books

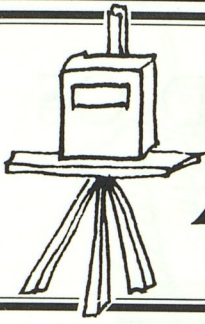
**Book Garden  
Denver CO**

JANUARY 1-FEBRUARY 10, 1999 BESTSELLERS

1. **Shaman's Moon** by Sarah Dreher, \$12.95 pb, New Victoria
2. **Dawn of the Dance** by Marianne Martin, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
3. **Love Shook My Heart** edited by Irene Zahava, \$10.95 pb, Alyson (Book Garden loves the gorgeous cover of Zahava's latest anthology.)
4. **Wedding Bell Blues** by Julia Watts, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
5. **Lame Deer, Seeker of Visions** by John Lame Deer, Richard Erdoes, et al., \$5.99 pb, Washington Square
6. **Memoirs of a Geisha** by Arthur Golden, \$14 pb, Vintage
7. **The Woman Who Knew Too Much** by Reese Johnson, \$12.95 pb, Cleis
8. **Sixth Sense** by Kate Calloway, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
9. **Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel, \$10.95 pb, Firebrand
10. **Radio Quiet (CD)**/Chris Williamson & Tret Fure, Wolf Moon
11. **UP UP UP UP UP UP (CD)**/Ani DiFranco, Righteous Babe
12. **Past Due** by Claire McNab, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
13. **Apparition Alley** by Kathrine Forrest, \$5.99 pb, Berkley
14. **Brown Girl in the Ring** by Nalo Hopkinson, \$12.95 pb, Warner
15. **Vicki's Hot Tickets** edited by New Victoria Publishers, \$5.95 pb, New Victoria
16. **Queer Astrology for Women** by Jill Deerman, \$13.95 pb, St. Martin's
17. **Fire (video)**, \$94.98 SRP, available from Naiad Video or Wolfe Video



From *Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For* by Alison Bechdel (Firebrand Books)



# ART BOOKS

By Tee Corinne

The preface to **Home Movies and Other Necessary Fictions** by Michelle Citron tells the story of the author taking the manuscript to show to each of her divorced parents. "Before they made their journey from the private space of the family into the public world at large, I thought it only right to ask my parents' permission." Her father was relieved that no new secrets were revealed; a rift between them was healed. The mother's response is more complex and very dear. It ends with the words "I love you." And I love this book with its mixture of autobiography and fiction by an award-winning filmmaker and academic. Creativity, suicidal fantasies, film scripts, raw and digested material — it's all here and more. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3262-6, University of Minnesota Press.

Perhaps spurred on by the ease of computers in grabbing, merging, and morphing images, there is a resurgence of interest in Surrealism, an art practice which originated in France with roots in Freud's work with the unconscious. **Surrealist Women: An International Anthology** edited by Penelope Rosemont is more about literature than visual art, but there are wonderful passages by collage artist Meret

Oppenheim; painters Leonora Carington, Frida Kahlo, Kay Sage, Remedios Varo, Dorothea Tanning, and others; and lesbian artists Claude Cahun and Sonia Sekula. \$24.95 pb, 0-292-77088-X; \$50 cl, 0-292-77087-1, University of Texas Press.

**Women Artists and Modernism** edited by Katy Deepwell is a collection of brilliant essays which, taken together, create an alternative, feminist-infused history of the 20th century. Race, class, sexual preference, and ethnic/religious differences are examined in essays like Pauline de Souza's "Black Awakening: Gender and Representation in the Harlem Renaissance" and Bridget Elliott's "Performing the Picture or Painting the Other: Romaine Brooks, Gluck and the Question of Decadence in 1923." \$27.95 pb, 0-7190-5082-0; \$79.95 cl, 0-7190-5081-2, Manchester University Press. Distributed by St. Martin's.

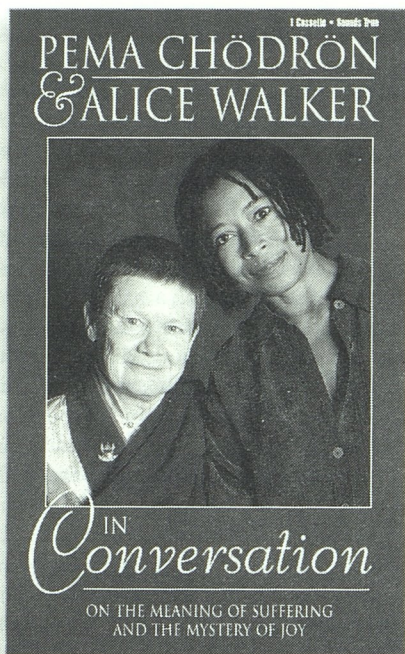
**Talking Visions: Multicultural Feminism in a Transnational Age** edited by Ella Shohat explores the interconnections of politics and art in video, photos, posters, and collaged works. It is made up of a series of essays with minimal illustrations. \$30 pb, 0-262-69205-8, MIT Press.

**The Art of Betty Goodwin** edited by Jessica Bradley and Matthew Teitelbaum presents the art of a  
*See Art Books, page 144.*



Stills from *Home Movies and Other Necessary Fictions* (University of Minnesota Press)

# NEW SPOKEN-WORD AUDIOS FROM SOUNDS TRUE

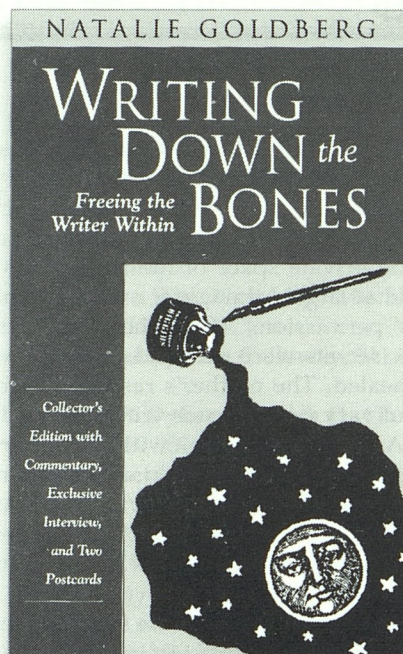


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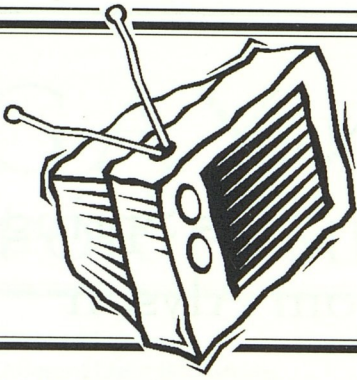
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# VIDEO

By Liz Wermcraz  
A Room of One's Own/Madison WI

It's movie time again. A very big thanks to Linda and the folks at Wolfe Video for their continued assistance and support of this column and of our stores. If not for them, I'd hardly have a column to write! Let them know you appreciate them by ordering a bunch of these new videos from them. You can call them at 1-800-GET-WOLFE and ask to be transferred to their wholesale department.

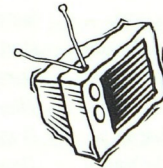
**Such a Crime: A Lesbian Erotic Mystery.** While the women are all very attractive, the result is an embarrassingly hokey ripoff of *Bound*. A group of quasi-eco-terrorist lesbians get shot, have sex, and have their money wired to a bunch of dummy accounts. Trouble arises when Skip's wildchild libido gets in the way of the group's mission and threatens to break up this ring of gun-toting women. I don't suppose Cheryl Newbrough, the creator of this video and of *Goodbye Emma Jo*, was too concerned with plot — the gist of this film is the sex, and, as far as that goes, it'll do. \$29.95, Wolfe Video.

**It's in the Water.** Something in the water is turning this small southern town's residents queer, or so the story goes. The town is in an overacted uproar for most of the film, but a few of its less conspicuous residents are testing the theory in their own behind-the-scenes action. A pretty cheesy movie, but not a bad one. I thought I'd have to turn it off after about 20 minutes, but I held on and actually ended up enjoying it quite a bit. \$29.95, Wolfe Video.

**I Think I Do.** Billed as a gay *Big Chill*, this movie follows a bunch of college friends as they reunite for a wedding five years after graduation.

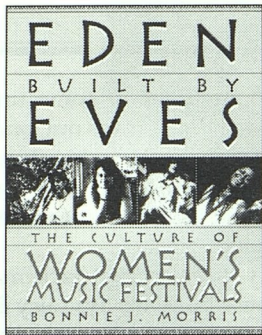
Two of them are old roommates with some unrequited attraction to deal with. As it turns out, one of them is already in a long term relationship, but he still can't help his old feelings from creeping up. The ensemble cast is hilarious and a pleasure to watch. \$59.95, Wolfe Video.

**High Art.** Ally Sheedy sheds her brat pack image in this stunning reentry into film. She plays Lucy Berliner, a coke-addicted photographer who has given up at the tender age of 30. Her attention is divided between Syd, her new editor at a high-glam photo mag, and her longtime girlfriend who, for all intents and purposes, represents the darker side of Lucy's existence. Yes, **High Art** is in some respects a dark and dreary film, but it is marked with some amazing subplots and really speaks to the struggles we all have with our inner demons and how they affect the choices we make. Wolfe Video. Also available from Naiad Video.



**The Real Ellen Story.** What could have been an interesting look at Ellen Degeneres' side of the whole ABC-homophobia deal surrounding her sitcom instead comes off as a bitter, jaded, and half-hearted swipe at the network. It's not a very interesting documentary and has no new information to share other than the fact that Anne Heche and Ellen "made love for, like, 17 hours" on the night they first met. Diehard fans may enjoy it, but even a couple of those will most likely be disappointed. Personally, I thought it was a  
*See Video, page 77.*

# New This Spring From Alyson



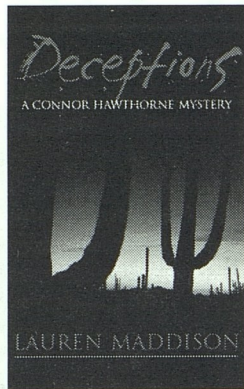
## EDEN BUILT BY EVES

### The Culture of Women's Music Festivals

By Bonnie J. Morris

A remarkable backstage tour of the rollicking, legendary world of women's music festivals. Candid backstage interviews with performers, producers, and "festigoers" and numerous photographs, articles, and excerpts from festival literature provide a thorough explanation of both the festival joys and controversies that shaped an entire generation of lesbian memories in America.

1-55583-477-9 • \$15.95



## DECEPTIONS

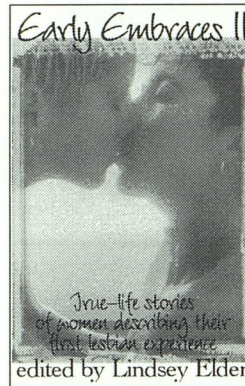
### A Connor Hawthorne Mystery

By Lauren Maddison

"A lesbian mystery novelist caught up in a whirlwind of lethal political intrigue, ancient secrets, cryptic doings at Los Alamos, mystic Navajo tribal lore, a life-and-death headlong flight across the high desert of the Southwest with an enigmatic Navajo female guide—all this for starters," says Katherine V. Forrest, author of *Apparition Alley* and *Liberty Square*.

"Fasten your seat belt readers: *Deceptions* is a rocket ride of suspenseful entertainment."

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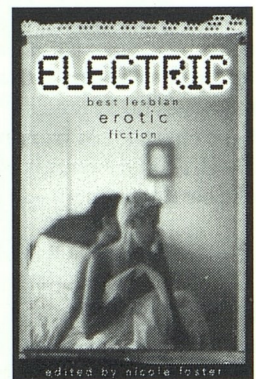
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# GAY MEN'S LIT

## FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonté  
A Different Light Bookstores

Happy spring, buyers. Here are a few dozen of my favorites coming this spring and summer, with special faves asterisked. Again this year, there's a glut of June titles....

### Fiction

\***Now It's Time to Say Goodbye** by Dale Peck — Paper edition of a true literary thriller, a combination gothic romance and sexual horror story, challenging and brilliant. \$15.95 pb, 0-688-16841-8, June, Rob Weisbach/William Morrow.

**Last Days of Summer** by Steve Kluger — No gay content here, but the gay author's passion for baseball rings true in a story about the rocky epistolary relationship between an infield star of the 1940s and the twelve-year-old who worships him. \$12 pb, 0-380-79763-1, April, Avon.

**Misadventures in the (213)** by Dennis Hensley — Paper edition of a multi-charactered confection concerning what the underemployed of Tinseltown do with their lives; a comic treat, too. \$14 pb, 0-688-17128-1, July, William Morrow.

\***Cinnamon Gardens** by Shyam Selvadurai — Second novel from the author of *Funny Boy*; set in the upper classes of 1920s Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), its rich cast of characters includes an uncle trying to suppress his secret desires and his niece, who tries to avoid an arranged marriage. \$23.95 cl, 0-7868-6473-7, July, Hyperion.

\***In September, the Light Changes** by Andrew Holleran — First short story collection (most previously unpublished) from the author of the perennial bestseller *Dancer from the Dance*. \$23.95 cl, 0-7868-6461-3, June, Hyperion.

**The Life I Lead** by Keith Banner — Debut novel

by a much-anthologized writer who redeems the promise of his short fiction with this story about an upstanding family man and father suddenly in love with a younger man. \$23 cl, 0-375-40376-0, June, Knopf.

**Burning Girl** by Ben Neihart — The author of *Hey Joe* produces a second novel far surpassing his first: a tangled, taut triangle of love and betrayal involving a young straight woman, her beautiful brother, and her gay best friend, who's not sure which of the two he dares to love. \$24 cl, 0-688-15691-6, April, William Morrow/Rob Weisbach.

**The Gold Diggers** by Paul Monette — Reissue (in the Alyson Classics Library series) of an early quasi romance, quasi spooky thriller by the author of *Borrowed Time* and *Becoming a Man*. \$10 pb, 1-55583-458-2, Alyson.



**Justice at Risk** by John Morgan Wilson — Third in a popular and award-winning series (Edgar, Lambda Literary) featuring a now-40 former journalist coming to terms with his gayness, his addictions, and his AIDS-related loss; darker than most mysteries in tone, but increasingly compelling. \$22.95 pb, 0-385-49116-6, July, Doubleday.

**The Blue Lawn** by William Taylor — From an acclaimed New Zealand author of young adult work, the story of an unlikely friendship between a 15-year-old star rugby player and a 16-year-old outsider, an uneasy relationship grounded in an attraction neither lad quite understands. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-493-0, May, Alyson.

**Looking for Trouble: The Erotic Fiction of R.J. March** by R.J. March — Regular readers of the gay glossies will have encountered many of the 25 tales

collected here: fans who find his porn worth returning to will be glad to have his stories collected. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-455-8, May, Alyson.

**Perfect Freedom** by Gordon Merrick — Number eight in a series resurrecting the work of the late greatest-of-all-time-trashy-gay-romance-writers. I've long believed his books are dangerous to the development of a well-rounded gay personality, but of course I read them all when I was young, and thanks to Alyson Publications new generations can discover how chewy Merrick's cheesy books can be. \$14.95 pb, 1-55583-297-0, July, Alyson.

**Fool's Errand** by Louis Bayard — Nice title for a classic of the gay fiction genre.... Lusty young lad searches for the man of his dreams; much hilarity ensues, laced with light wisdom. A pleasant book. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-494-9, June, Alyson.

**Infidelity** by William Rooney — The first in the Harrington Press Pleasure series of gay-guy fiction, this one set in 1960s New York, chronicling the stormy love of two wanna-be actors new to the big city and even newer to gay life. \$24.95 cl, 0-7890-0621-9, Haworth Press.



*\*Harrington Gay Men's Fiction Quarterly* edited by Brian Bouldrey — The first issue of this ambitious collection from a publisher previously best known for its academic/sociological work contains stories by Michael Nava, Robert Gluck, Keith Banner, and Kelly McQuain, and an essay by Michael Lowenthal. It's a journal, so there's no ISBN; call 800-HAWORTH for ordering info and cost.

**Hot off the Net: Erotica and Other Sex Writings from the Internet** edited by Russ Kick — The first in-print appearance of a dazzling array of fiction, not all of it accomplished but almost all of it enticing; descriptions include: "James Joyce finds out what it's like to be James and what it's like to be Joyce," "The terror of a small town gets what he deserves at the hands of a woman named Grizzly," and "A lesbian sex worker offers a previously unknown service that no one can resist." \$14 pb, 1-892723-00-X, Black Books. Distributed by Alamo Square and Bookazine.

**Like Breathing** by Ricc Rollins — In the tradition of E. Lynn Harris and Terry McMillan, a novel of love

and friendship.... For Zander, his love for Gage, his mom, his frat brother Desmond, and his woman boss are all as basic as breathing in. \$14 pb, 1-892096-33-1. Ishari Books, 709 E. Caracas St., Tampa FL 33603; 813-234-6410, (www.likebreathing.com).

## Nonfiction

**\*Out for Good: The Struggle to Build a Gay Rights Movement in America** by Dudley Clendinen and Adam Nagourney — The gaps in our history continue to be filled in, never better than with this panoramic 656-page account of the three decades after Stonewall, told in the voices of a panoply of gay activists who were there. \$30 cl, 0-684-81091-3, June, Simon & Schuster.

**\*Finding the Boyfriend Within: A Practical Guide for Tapping into the Source of Love, Happiness and Respect** by Brad Gooch — A kind of *I'm OK, You're OK* for fags from an accomplished novelist and biographer who makes the link between the sexual and the spiritual with wisdom and wit. \$21 cl, 0-684-85040-0, June, Simon & Schuster.

**Mr. Unpopular: A Gay Man Crashes the Political Parties** by Rich Tafel — The executive director of the Republican Log Cabin Club, the gay club many Republicans won't allow at their state conventions, darn them, presents, says the publisher, "an original and appealing case for a gay politics based on self-respect." \$25 cl, 0-684-83764-1, June, Simon & Schuster.

**Edward Albee: A Singular Journey** by Mel Gussow — The cultural writer for the *New York Times* offers the first full-length assessment of the life and work of an eminent American gay playwright. \$30 cl, 0-684-80278-3, August, Simon & Schuster.

**\*Disco Bloodbath: A Fabulous but True Tale of Murder in Clubland** by James St. James — A caustic, unflinching, tell-all account of the Michael Alig/Angel Melendez clubland murder of 1996, going behind the scenes with an insider's fascinating and chilling perceptions. \$23 cl, 0-684-85764-2, August, Simon & Schuster.

**The Complete Bedside Companion: Nonsense Advice on Caring for the Seriously Ill** by Rodger McFarlane — Paper edition of an invaluable how-to for the terminally ill, based on AIDS work but universal in its advice. \$16 pb, 0-684-84319-6, August, Simon & Schuster.



**\*Dangerous Liaisons: Blacks, Gays, and the Struggle for Equality** edited by Eric Brandt — Fifteen contributors (Cheryl Clarke, George Chauncey, Samuel Delany, Jewelle Gomez, Darieck Scott, Alisa Solomon, and more) discuss the intersection of and the friction between Black and gay America. \$22.95 cl, 1-56584-455-6, June, Free Press.

**Pastoral Care of Gays, Lesbians, and Their Families** by David Switzer — From this press' Pastoral Care and Counseling series, an excellent text for general church congregations open to advice on welcoming lesbians and gays. \$17 pb, 0-8006-2954-X, Fortress.

**Eminent Maricones: Arenas, Lorca, Puig, and Me** by Jaime Manrique — A new Living Out series debuts from the University of Wisconsin (which has done so well with Will Fellows' *Farm Boys*), edited by Raphael Kadushin with Joan Larkin and David Bergman as advisers; this "charmingly indiscreet memoir" weaves novelist/poet Manrique's own life story, from young gay man in Colombia to prominent Latino author in New York, with those of Manuel Puig of Argentina, Reinaldo Arenas of Cuba and Federico Garica Lorca of Spain. \$19.95 cl, 0-229-16180-3, July, University of Wisconsin.

**Widescreen Dreams: Growing up Gay at the Movies** by Patrick E. Horrigan — The second in the new Living Out series offering of autobiography and memoir is campy with a serious side: it tells how a young gay lad, isolated by his family's Irish Catholicism, finds the mirror to his soul in such films as *Hello Dolly*, *The Poseidon Adventure*, and *Dog Day Afternoon*. \$24.95 cl, 0-229-16160-9, May, University of Wisconsin.

**Something Inside: Conversations with Gay Fiction Writers** by Philp Gambone, photos by Robert Giard — Substantial chats with 21 writers (Allen Barnett, Christopher Brams, Peter Cameron, Bernard Cooper, Joseph Hansen, Paul Monette, Michal Nava, and Edmund White among them) make this much more than a fan's must-read: it's also rich with insight on and commentary about the state of gay fiction in the past 40 years. \$24.95 pb, 0-229-16134-X, June, University of Wisconsin.

**Taboo** by Boyer Rickel — "Direct, graceful, beautiful, deeply felt writing," says Felice Picano of this memoir about growing up and becoming sexually active among young Hispanic gays in and around

Tempe, Arizona. \$14.95 pb, 0-229-16260-5, April, University of Wisconsin.

**Together Forever** by Eric Marcus — Paper edition of a case-study collection of gay and lesbian couples sharing their secrets for lasting happiness. \$14.95 pb, 0-385-48876-9, May, Doubleday.

**Stephen Sondheim: A Life** by Meryle Secrest — Paper edition of a showbiz bestseller. \$14.95 pb, 0-385-33412-5, June, Doubleday.

**The Ins and Outs of Gay Sex: A Medical Handbook for Men** by Stephen E. Goldstone, M.D. — Here's a how-to guide along the lines of *New Joy of Gay Sex* cross-bred with the sort of medical info in *Living Well: The Gay Man's Essential Health Guide* (and with a titter of a title), intended to give sexually active men a basis for being careful about all aspects of their health. \$12.95 pb, 0-440-50846-0, June, Dell.



**Continuous Replay: The Photographs of Arnie Zane** edited by Jonathan Green-Zane's partner in life and in dance, Bill T. Jones, provides an introduction to this collection of photos exploring the power and the decay of the body; included are essays by fellow dancers and close friends. \$35 pb, 0-262-57127-7, April, MIT Press.

**The Homosexuality of Men and Women** by Magnus Hirschfeld — It's not likely many stores will want this \$199.95, 1200-page book actually on the shelf; but this is the first complete English translation (by Michael A. Lombardi-Nash) of the pioneering German sexologist's (1868-1935) objective and supportive study of the lives of gay women and men, and it's worth noting — and perhaps even posting the catalog copy in your gay studies section to coax out those special orders. 1-57392-705-8, Prometheus.

**Generation Queer: A Gay Man's Odyssey for Hope, Love, and Justice** by Bob Paris — Paper edition of a part-memoir, part-affirmation work about surmounting personal and cultural barriers to a good gay life. \$13.99 pb, 0-446-67535-0, June, Warner.

**Sex Adviser: The 100 Most Asked Questions About Sex Between Men** by Tony Palermo — A monthly advice column answers inquiring bodies and minds: "What is the best method for performing

oral sex?" and "I'm attracted to my best friend. Help!" \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-485-X, Alyson.

**Speaking Out: 102 Stories That Made Gay and Lesbian History** edited by Chris Bull — Longtime *Advocate* reporter Bull mines the archives of the magazine that has covered the homosexual, gay, and queer decades; it's a good supplement to more memoiristic histories such as *Gay New York* or *Gay Metropolis*. \$14.95 pb, 1-55583-465-5, July, Alyson.

**That's Mr. Faggot to You: Further Trials from My Queer Life** by Michael Thomas Ford — A followup to the screwy-life essays collected in last year's *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me*; Ford's adept at milking the wry out of life. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-496-5, June, Alyson.

**Prayer Warrior: The True Story of a Gay Son, His Fundamentalist Christian Family, and Their Battle for His Soul** by Stuart Howell Miller — When Miller came out to his family in 1992, he knew their reaction would be extreme: how violent and excessive it really was is chronicled in this harrowing personal account of a hellish holy war. \$13.95 pb, 1-55583-445-0, May, Alyson.

**Are You Ready? The Gay Man's Guide to Thriving at Mid-Life** by Rik Isensee — The author of *Love Between Men* and *Reclaiming Your Life* here shows that the middle years for gay men can be as (or even more) fulfilling and exciting as more youthful days. \$13.95 pb, 1-55583-459-0, Alyson.

**Zarafa: A Giraffe's True Story from Deep Africa to the Heart of Paris** by Michael Allin — Paper edition of one of my favorite books of last year, the magical mystical tale of a twelve-foot giraffe shipped down the Nile and then ferried across the Mediterranean. Why? It was a gift from Mohammed Ali, then the most powerful (and male-sexual) ruler in Africa, to the French court, and Zarafa charmed a nation as she walked through France. It's an entrancing book. \$9.95 pb, 0-385-33411-7, Dell.

**Navigating Differences: Friendships Between Gay and Straight Men** by Jammie Price — Forty-four pairs of men discuss the intricacies of friendship and affection between a gay man and a straight man. \$19.95 pb, 1-56023-952-2, Harrington Park.

**The Velveteen Father: A Gay Man's Unexpected Journey to Parenthood** by Jesse Green — Novelist and journalist Green was 37 when he fell in love with a man who had already adopted one child

and was in the process of adopting another; this is his sweet account of the surprise formation and flourishing of a family. \$23.95 cl, 0-375-50164-9, June, Villard.

**Victory Deferred: How AIDS Changed Gay Life in America** by John-Manuel Andriote — Based on hundreds of interviews, this artful blend of personal narrative and institutional history tells how AIDS transformed disjointed local activists into a sometimes-fractious but increasingly effective national force. \$30 cl, 0-226-02049-5, June, University of Chicago.

**Gay Lives: Homosexual Autobiography from John Addington Symonds to Paul Monette** by Paul Robinson — The first-person life stories of more than a dozen queers from past and present are assessed and excerpted in this civilized, sympathetic, and unique look at the sexual self. \$30 cl, 0-226-72180-9, University of Chicago.



What follows are the now-traditional combined-sales lists for the top 30 men's titles, the top 30 women's titles, and the top 30 "goes-both-ways" titles, based on sales at A Different Light in San Francisco, West Hollywood, and New York. While the bestsellers in each of the stores overlapped mightily, there were a few instances where one store's sales alone got a title near the top — for instance, 70 percent of the *Tales of the City* sold in SF, half the *Open Secret* in WH, and two-thirds of *Après Noir* in NY. Check our Web site ([www.adlbooks.com](http://www.adlbooks.com)) for numbers 31 through 100.

#### BOOKS BOUGHT MAINLY BY MEN

1. **Adam Gay Video Directory 1998**, \$10.95 pb, Adam Film World: 1312 sold
2. **Husband Hunting Made Easy** by Patrick Price, \$12.95 pb, St Martin's: 1157 sold
3. **California Screaming** by Doug Guinan, \$24 cl, Simon & Schuster: 1005 sold
4. **Jocks** by Dan Woog, \$12.95 pb, Alyson: 986 sold
5. **Straight?** edited by Jack Hart, \$11.95 pb, Alyson: 847 sold
6. **The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up**

- by Andrew Tobias, \$23.95 cl, Random House: 779 sold
7. **Life Outside** by Michelangelo Signorile, \$25 pb, HarperCollins: 712 sold
  8. **In the Flesh** by Gavin Geoffrey Dillard, \$23.95 cl, Barricade: 702 sold
  9. **Apres Noir: Fine Lingerie for Men**, \$2.95 pb, Body Aware: 682 sold
  10. **The ABC Book: A Homoerotic Primer** by Maurice Vellekoop, \$12.95 cl, Gates of Heck: 632 sold
  11. **Buddy Babylon** by Scott Thompson, \$12.95 pb, Dell: 637 sold
  12. **But Darling, I'm Your Auntie Mame!** by Richard Tyler Jordan, \$18 pb, Capra: 633 sold
  13. **The Male Nude** by David Leddick, \$29.99 pb, Taschen: 629 sold
  14. **Love Undetectable** by Andrew Sullivan, \$23 cl, Knopf: 569 sold
  15. **The Page Turner** by David Leavitt, \$24 cl, Houghton Mifflin: 561 sold
  16. **Arkansas** by David Leavitt, \$12 pb, Houghton Mifflin: 556 sold
  17. **Little Joe Superstar: The Films of Joe Dallesandro** by Michael Ferguson, \$18.95 pb, Companion: 524 sold
  18. **Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me** by Michael Ford, \$10.95 pb, Alyson: 500 sold
  19. **Boy in the Sand** by Roger Edmonson, \$12.95 pb, Alyson: 494 sold
  20. **The Burning Plain** by Michael Nava, \$23.95 cl, Putnam: 490 sold
  21. **The Death of Friends** by Michael Nava, \$5.99 pb, Bantam: 486 sold
  22. **Wisecracker: The Life and Times of William Haines** by William J. Mann, \$29.95 cl, Viking: 457 sold
  23. **Friction** edited by Gerry Kroll, \$14.95 pb, Alyson: 457 sold
  24. **The Gay Man's Guide to Heterosexuality** by C.E. Crimmins and Tom O'Leary, \$10.95 pb, Griffin: 423 sold
  25. **The Men from the Boys** by William Mann, \$12.95 pb, Plume: 422 sold
  26. **The Mammoth Book of Gay Erotica** edited by Lawrence Schimel, \$10.95 pb, Carroll & Graf: 414 sold
  27. **The President's Son** by Krاندall Kraus, \$6.95 pb, Alyson: 413 sold
  28. **Gay Metropolis** by Charles Kaiser, \$14 pb, Harcourt Brace: 394 sold
  29. **Misadventures in the 213** by Dennis Hensley, \$24 cl, Weisbach: 389 sold
  30. **Best Gay Erotica 1998** edited by Richard Labonté, \$14.95 pb, Cleis: 384 sold



## BOOKS BOUGHT MAINLY BY WOMEN

(sales figures included for the top 10 sellers)

1. **The Indelible Alison Bechdel** by Alison Bechdel, \$16.95 pb, Firebrand: 487 sold
2. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1998** edited by Tristan Taormino, \$14.95 pb, Cleis: 487 sold
3. **Cavedweller** by Dorothy Allison, \$24.95 cl, Dutton: 387 sold
4. **Don't Get Me Started** by Kate Clinton, \$22 cl, Ballantine: 368 sold
5. **She Came to the Castro** by Mary Wings, \$5.99 pb, Berkley: 349 sold
6. **Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel, \$10.95 pb, Firebrand: 314 sold
7. **Awakening the Virgin** edited by Nicole Foster, \$12.95 pb, Alyson: 307 sold
8. **Pillow Talk** edited by Leslea Newman, \$12.95 pb, Alyson: 296 sold
9. **Hot & Bothered** edited by Karen Tulchinsky, \$14.95 pb, Arsenal Pulp: 296 sold
10. **Hot Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel, \$10.95 pb, Firebrand: 193 sold
11. **The Art of Meeting Women** by Rhona Sacks, \$14.95 pb, Slope
12. **Love Shook My Heart** edited by Irene Zahava, \$10.95 pb, Alyson
13. **Stone Butch Blues** by Leslie Feinberg, \$13.95 pb, Firebrand
14. **Past Due** by Claire McNab, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
15. **The Ultimate Guide to Anal Sex for Women** by Tristan Taormino, \$14.95 pb, Cleis
16. **Apparition Alley** by Katherine Forrest, \$5.99 pb, Berkley

17. **The Lesbian Love Companion** by Marny Hall, \$15 pb, HarperCollins
18. **Making Up for Lost Time** by Karin Kallmaker, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
19. **Rubyfruit Jungle** by Rita Mae Brown, \$6.50 pb, Bantam
20. **Love in the Balance** by Marianne K. Martin, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
21. **Lesbianism Made Easy** by Helen Eisenbach, \$12 pb, Three Rivers
22. **Liberty Square** by Katherine Forrest, \$5.99 pb, Berkley
23. **Early Embraces** edited by Lindsey Elder, \$12.95 pb, Alyson
24. **Bastard out of Carolina** by Dorothy Allison, \$12.95 pb, Plume
25. **Married Women Who Love Women** by Carren Strock, \$23.95 cl, Doubleday
26. **Old Black Magic** by Jaye Maiman, \$11.95 pb, Naiad
27. **Beginnings** edited by Lindsey Elder, \$11.95 pb, Alyson
28. **Hood** by Emma Donoghue, \$11.95 pb, Alyson.
29. **Leatherwomen 3** edited by Laura Antoniou, \$6.95 pb, Masquerade
30. **The Truth That Never Hurts** by Barbara Smith, \$23 cl, Rutgers



BOOKS THAT GO BOTH WAYS  
(sales figures included for the top 10 sellers)

1. **Naked** by David Sedaris, \$12.95 pb, Little Brown: 1138 sold
2. **All About Me** by Phillip Keel, \$12 cl, Broadway: 828 sold
3. **What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality** by Daniel Helminiak, \$9.95 pb, Alamo Square: 528 sold
4. **Tales of the City** by Armistead Maupin, \$13 pb, HarperCollins: 433 sold
5. **Family Outing** by Chastity Bono, \$24 cl, Little Brown: 432 sold
6. **Barrel Fever** by David Sedaris, \$11 pb, Little Brown: 432 sold

7. **Open Secret: Gay Hollywood 1928–1998** by David Ehrenstein, \$25 cl, Morrow: 402 sold
8. **Pandora** by Anne Rice, \$19.95 cl, Knopf: 378 sold
9. **Holidays on Ice** by David Sedaris, \$8 pb, Little Brown: 332 sold
10. **Mommie Dearest** by Christina Crawford, \$19.95 pb, Seven Springs: 378 sold
11. **Me & My Shadows** by Lorna Luft, \$25 cl, Pocket
12. **My Gender Workbook** by Kate Bornstein, \$17.99 pb, Routledge
13. **Cybersocket**, \$12.95 pb, Gaynet
14. **Savage Love** by Dan Savage, \$12.95 pb, Plume
15. **More Tales of the City** by Armistead Maupin, \$13 pb, HarperCollins
16. **The Wilde Album** by Merlin Holland, \$19.95 cl, Holt
17. **Now That You Know** by Betty Fairchild, \$13 pb, Harcourt Brace
18. **Gay by the Bay** by Susan Stryker and Jim Van Buskirk, \$8.99 pb, Chronicle
19. **The Vampire Armand** by Anne Rice, \$26.95 cl, Knopf
20. **Stealing Jesus** by Bruce Bawer, \$26 cl, Crown
21. **Putting Out** by Edisol Dotson, \$14.95 pb, Cleis
22. **Further Tales of the City** by Armistead Maupin, \$13 pb, HarperCollins
23. **501 Great Things about Being Gay** by Edward Taussig, \$7.95 pb, Andrews & McMeel
24. **Gross Indecency** by Moises Kaufman, \$10 pb, Vintage
25. **Permanent Partners** by Betty Berzon, \$14.95 pb, Plume
26. **Prayers for Bobby** by Leroy Aarons, \$13 pb, HarperCollins
27. **The Hours** by Michael Cunningham, \$22 cl, Farrar Straus Giroux
28. **Legal Affairs** by Frederick Hertz, \$17.95 pb, Holt
29. **Babycakes** by Armistead Maupin, \$13 pb, HarperCollins
30. **The Magician's Tale** by David Hunt, \$7.50 pb, Berkley





# MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater  
Cape & Dagger/Provincetown MA

A lot of the Spring staples in our store are from Putnam, and the Putnam catalog arrived just in time for this column (hand-delivered by my rep, who was then able to write off a winter weekend in Provincetown — now that's devotion!). So here's a quick rundown of the usual suspects.

**Southern Cross** by Patricia Cornwell, the sequel to *Hornet's Nest*, is already available. In case you're losing track, this is the second in Cornwell's new and less-popular series about Virginia police chief Judy Hammer and her deputy, Virginia West. Cornwell rules in our store, so for us it's a must-carry. \$25.95 cl, 0-399-14465-X.

Nevada Barr has a new hardcover, **Liberty Falling**, in which park ranger Anna Pigeon visits the Statue of Liberty and explores the ghostlier parts of Ellis Island (both of them are, after all, national parks). (\$23.95 cl, 0-399-14459-5.) In **Hunter's Moon** by Dana Stabenow, private eye Kate Shugak is again moonlighting, this time helping to guide a group of German corporate executives on a big-game hunting trip in the Alaskan bush. The trip turns deadly, and not just for the moose. (\$23.95 cl, 0-399-14468-4, May.) **The Breaker** is the new novel of creepy psychological suspense by multiple award winner Minette Walters. British police find the body of a drowned woman, then find her abandoned, traumatized three-year-old some twenty miles away. (\$23.95 cl, 0-399-14492-7, June.)

Later in the summer, we get a new Mallory novel, **Shell Game**, by Carol O'Connell. Mallory is the NYC policewoman who grew up wild on the streets of New York and retains her amoral survival instincts. Here a legendary magic trick goes wrong, apparently a tragic accident, but Mallory knows it's murder.

(\$24.95 cl, 0-399-14495-1, July.) Also in July we get the new Kay Scarpetta novel from Cornwell, **Black Notice**. (\$25.95 cl, 0-399-14508-7.)

An early summer treat from Bantam is **O Jerusalem** by Laurie R. King, another Mary Russell/Sherlock Holmes adventure. Happily for those of us who are uncomfortable with Russell and Holmes as a married couple, this one takes place in the same time span as *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*, when Russell is still Holmes' brilliant, bad-tempered young protegee. And, yes, it's an espionage adventure in the Middle East, with Russell passing as an Arab boy throughout. \$23.95 cl, 0-553-11093-4, June.



At our store, we sell a lot of the police procedural/thrillers by Leslie Glass featuring Chinese American NYPD Detective April Woo. These tend to be too violent for me to read, so I can't really say how well non-Asian Glass handles the cultural/racial content, but they do keep thriller fans turning the pages. Glass has a recent paperback, **Judging Time**, about an O.J.-like case (\$6.99 pb, 0-451-19550-7, Signet), and a recent hardcover, **Stealing Time**, in which April suspects wealthy parents in the disappearance of their child (\$24.95 cl, 0-525-94460-5, Dutton). Her previous paperbacks were *Hanging Time* and *Burning Time*.

Also popular in our store is Lynda LaPlante, the creator of the PBS miniseries "Prime Suspect" and author of **Cold Heart**, third in a series about Los Angeles private eye Lorraine Page. (\$24.95 cl, 0-375-50004-9, Random House.) Down and out and flirting with alcoholism, ex-cop Page had a smashing

debut in the very dark **Cold Shoulder** (\$6.99 pb, 0-515-12128-2, Berkley), followed by *Cold Blood*, still in hardcover. The jury is still out on how well this will age as a series.



Two old masters have non-series mysteries this Spring. Ruth Rendell's **A Sight for Sore Eyes** concerns a little girl who's a key eyewitness to events around her mother's murder. (\$24 cl, 0-609-60417-1, Crown.) The increasingly gothic Joyce Carol Oates also writes psychological suspense under the name Rosamund Smith. **Double Delight**, her new Rosamund Smith thriller, is about a male juror who becomes obsessed with the female plaintiff in an assault case. (\$12.95 tp, 0-452-28041-9, Penguin.)

Ever since Cornwell's success, publishers have thought the word "forensic" combined with "female" was a ticket to bestsellerdom. Perhaps the top

contender is Kathy Reichs, whose *Deja Dead*, now in paper, was a *New York Times* bestseller. The sequel is **Death Du Jour**, about a female forensic anthropologist based in Montreal who makes a connection among seemingly unrelated deaths, beginning with a fire in Quebec. Reichs is herself Director of Forensic Anthropology for the province of Quebec, and all agree that her expertise shines. \$25 cl, 0-684-84118-5, June, Scribner.

Barbara D'Amato has a new entry in her long-running series, which tends to be feminist and issue-oriented, about Chicago reporter Cat Marsala. In **Hard Evidence**, Cat discovers that a bone she bought for her Dalmation is a human leg. \$22 cl, 0-684-83354-9, May, Scribner.

**The Electrical Field** by Kerri Sakamoto is a first novel of psychological suspense that looks interesting, with a murder and an unusual friendship between an aging Japanese Canadian woman and a young girl. \$23.95 cl, 0-393-04692-3, Norton.

As for recent paperbacks, there is now a paper edition of Mardi Oakley Medawar's **Witch of the Palo Duro** (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-16735-6, Berkley), sequel to **Death at Rainy Mountain** (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-16141-2),

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which I loved and reviewed in the summer 98 *FBN*. Medawar writes about the Kiowa nation in the mid-19th century with an impressive knowledge and respect for its history and culture. And the writing itself is beautiful.

Although she won the Lambda Literary Award in 98 for the now out-of-print *Father Forgive Me*, Randye Lordon is still unknown to many of the lesbian mystery readers at our store. We handsell her recent titles, **Mother May I** (\$5.99 pb, 0-380-79166-8, Avon) and **Say Uncle** (\$5.99 pb, 0-380-79167-6, Avon), as substitutes for the award winner, and we especially recommend her to Scoppettone fans (New York setting, wisecracking private eye). Let's hope Avon reissues *Father Forgive Me* and picks up Lordon's hard-to-find titles from St. Martin's, *Sister's Keeper* and *Brotherly Love*, as well.

A new Amanda Cross mystery is always an event for feminist book lovers, and Cross's latest, **The Puzzled Heart**, is available in mass market. (\$5.99 pb, 0-345-41884-0, Ballantine.) Of course you already picked up the mass market of P.D. James' **A Certain Justice** (\$7.99 pb, 0-345-43057-3, Ballantine). Critics agree that James' latest novel is as good as anything she's ever written, which is very, very good indeed.

Karen Rose Cercone is a working on a very interesting series of historical mysteries set in early 20th-century Pittsburgh, featuring a male police detective and a female reporter. She debuted in 1997 with the well-received **Steel Ashes**, which made some "best of the year" mystery lists (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-15856-X, Berkley), followed by **Blood Tracks** (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-16241-9). Now we have **Coal Bones**, described as "a case that pits big business, organized labor, and poor immigrant workers against each other in a deadly web of conflict." (\$5.99 pb, 0-425-16698-8, all from Berkley.) These would appear to be a leftist mystery lover's dream, but they are hard to sell. They are paperback originals (so no prestigious reviews to quote) and the cover art, although appropriately industrial, doesn't really sell them. Carry them only if you're committed to handselling or to an extremely strong mystery section or both.

Up till now, the only deaf or hearing-impaired woman detective I knew of was Connor Westphal, the small-town newspaperwoman featured in Penny Warner's recent **Right to Remain Silent**, in which she clears the name of a deaf man accused of murder.

(\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57962-2, Bantam). Her debut, **Dead Body Language** (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57586-4), was followed by **Sign of Foul Play** (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57587-2). I was underwhelmed by **Dead Body Language**, which didn't have nearly enough deaf culture or context to make up for the contrived cuteness. In **The Alligator's Farewell** by Hialeah Jackson we have a new hearing-impaired heroine, an ex-Yale professor turned Miami private eye. The plot involves a radioactive corpse which disappears from an Everglades nuclear power plant. This may be just as contrived, but at least it's exotic — and it has great cover art and a dynamite blurb from Janet Evanovich. (\$5.99 pb, 0-440-22660-0, Dell.)

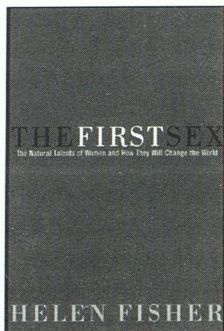
There's a new woman archaeologist on the mystery scene, one Nicolette Scott, who's leading a dig in Arizona when she finds a wrecked plane and the body of a reporter in **Flight of the Serpent** by Val Davis. (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57803-0, Bantam.) This is the sequel to **Track of the Scorpion**, which made some mystery bestseller lists and got some nice reviews. (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57728-X, Bantam.)

First ladies (that is, the wives of U.S. presidents) turn detectives in **The First Lady Murders**, an anthology edited by Nancy Pickard, featuring stories by Anne Perry, Gillian Roberts, and Sarah Shankman. More than a list of the authors, I wanted a list of the first ladies that are featured. I can't wait to see what Hillary uncovers! (\$6.50 pb, 0-671-01444-7, Pocket.)



I can hardly keep up with the new editions of **Detecting Women**, the essential reference for mystery series written by women. As of November 98, there was a third edition available, which looks like an excellent library reference. (\$44.95 cl, 0-9644593-5-3; \$34.95 tp, 0-9644593-6-1, Purple Moon Press, 3319 Greenfield Rd., Suite 317, Dearborn MI 48120; also available from Partners Books, Ingram, and B&T.) For retail customers, there's the more affordable **Detecting Women Third Edition Pocket Guide**, described as a checklist, which apparently doesn't include all the fascinating indexes by character, setting, mystery type, and date of publication. (\$16.95 cl, 0-9644593-7-X.) ○

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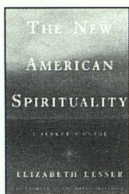
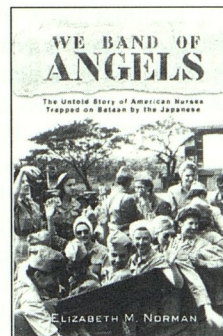
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# MUSIC NEWS

By Susan Frazier, with Chris Heeter  
and Melinda Pierce, Goldenrod Music

Folk music is the clear winner in this month's new release selections — both traditional and contemporary artists are well-represented! Of course, there's also a bit of blues, a bit of comedy, and some great new compilations benefiting worthy causes. Many of the new releases are perfect for in-store play, which is the best (and easiest) way to increase music sales in your store — stores who upgraded to a five-disc CD changer have reported doubling and even tripling their sales.

## New Releases

**Drive All Night**/Jamie Anderson. Eleven songs sure to make Jamie's fans wild with glee! Especially because she finally recorded her most recent "hit" tune, "I Wanna Be a Straight Guy," which is her tongue-planted-firmly-in-cheek answer to Loudon Wainwright's "I Wish I Was a Lesbian." Highlights include the upbeat title track, a sultry rhythmic tune called "Feel," and "Mama Come Quick" about children and guns. Guests include The Burns Sisters, bassist Richard Gates, and guitarist Kevin Barry (from Paula Cole's touring band). Tsunami 1006.

**I'm Still Here Damn It!**/Sandra Bernhard. She's finally on Broadway! This is the 20-track CD version of Sandra's mix of music and kvetching. By the end of the album, no subject is sacred. TVT 3290.

**Confessions of a Blues Singer**/Rory Block. This is Rory's 13th recording, and her wisdom and experience shine through. She decided to go for "feel" over "perfection" on this release: "It's not about a cleanly edited, crisp song; it's about joy and dedication to the beauty of music that was the original basis for everything." The result is a deeply personal recording that

is still polished, yet somehow also raw. She's as energetic as always — with a little help from her friends, including Bonnie Raitt. Rounder 3154.

**Heart of a Singer**/Dickens, Jones, and Hawker. Three daughters of Appalachia, three generations of country/bluegrass/old time mountain singers — each with her own distinct and highly developed singing style. This is a hard-core, mountain-vocal album by Hazel Dickens, Carol Elizabeth Jones, and Ginny Hawker that doesn't apologize for the gritty nature of the material or the women-centered perspective that inspired it. Rounder 0443.

## *Songs For Earthlings*

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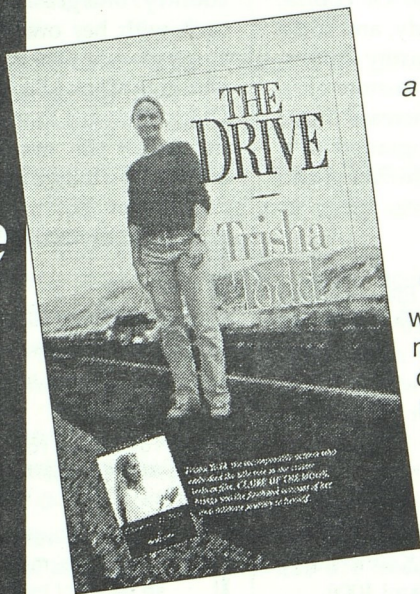
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**Trisha Todd** is the cover feature of the  
May *Girlfriends* magazine.

An excerpt of **"The Drive"** appears in  
*Curve* magazine.



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**UP UP UP UP UP UP**/Ani DiFranco. Joining Ani are the members of her 1997 touring band: Jason Mercer, Andy Stochansky, and — making her first appearance on one of Ani's albums — Julie Wolf on a small arsenal of keyboards. From snapshots of hometown poverty to love poems, Ani offers up more of her distinctively percussive acoustic guitar and soaring vocals. Righteous Babe 13.

**Songs from the Ninline**/ Laurie Freelo. Laurie was one of the founders of the much-loved group, Two Nice Girls. On this, her second solo recording, Laurie has put together a collection of solo and ensemble live performances. Her originality both in songwriting and performance is refreshing and wonderful. Nine 1.

**Transformation: The Best of Nona Hendrix**/ Nona Hendrix. Nona has had a long and successful career in the music business. This collection brings together 16 of Nona's radio hits and club smashes. Her blend of dance, R&B, pop, and rock is unique and has attracted the attention of a younger generation of

musicians, including Toshi Reagon, who performs one of Nona's classics, "Skin Diver" (also featured on this recording). Razor and Tie 82182.

**Evolution**/Magdalen Hsu-Li. Critics have raved, "Her music exists somewhere in the rarefied air between Ani DiFranco and Dar Williams," and called her "politically, spiritually and poetically against the grain" and "an intriguing and emotional performer." Expect the unexpected — from the tenderest of piano ballads to raging political piano punk. Definitely a contender for the "biggest new artist since Ani" tag line. Be the first in your town to extol her virtues! Chick Pop 3.

**Sound Circle**/Sound Circle. "This circle of 23 women brings to singing, performance, musical innovation, and simply 'being' together an experience that is unique. And the sound? Exquisite, crystalline." —*Circles Magazine*. Sound Circle 1598.

**Sylvia Hotel**/Cheryl Wheeler. This recording is a winner! Cheryl's humor and deeply touching insights make for a powerful CD. Sure to be a favorite is her live recording of "Unworthy," which covers (humorously) feeling guilty about everything from not exercising to spending too much money to darning socks. Here's a sample: "I should be corresponding to everyone who's written, phoned, or faxed since junior high." Philo 1212.



### Benefit Compilations

**Respond**. This recording is a compilation of Boston-based women singer-songwriters to raise funds for Respond, Inc., a local domestic violence organization. Includes Patty Larkin, Catie Curtis, Mary Lou Lord, Melissa Ferrick, Jennifer Kimball, and others. Two-CD set. Significant 1247.

**Manuel's Women's Festival Volume 1 and Healing Hearts**. These two CDs are a stunning collection of Austin performers, some of whom we have come to know and love — Sara Hickman, Diana Jones, Anna Egge, Laurie Freelo, Nancy Scott, Betty Elders, and Patti Keating — as well as some unknown "hidden treasures." Most of the music is excellent and eclectic. Proceeds go to the Center for Battered Women and Safe Place in Texas. Manuel 1 and 2. ○



# KIDS' LIT

By Linda Bubon  
Women and Children First/Chicago

Spring greetings from Chicago on a day when spring feels a million months away. A cold rain is falling steadily and wearing away at the 20 plus inches of snow we've gotten in the past two weeks. All we keep saying at Women and Children First is that it was a darned good thing that sales were so strong in December. Only the desperate — and those who live within walking distance — visited the store that first week of The Blizzard of 99. And we are all tired of shoveling. But I trust that as you read this, spring is here, and you're ready for some bunny books.

## READ

There are some *very* cute bunny books for the youngest listeners this Spring. Just out from Crown is **Good Job, Oliver** (\$14 cl, 0-517-70975-9) by Laura Molk, who also painted the exuberant pictures. Text and illustrations work beautifully together in this picture book for 2-to-4-year-olds. Oliver, a little bunny, wants to enter the strawberry-growing contest even though the bigger bunnies tease him about being the littlest. Oliver has to protect his growing seeds and, later, berries from a flock of birds, a troop of gophers, and even hungry bears. Children will love the repetition of "Think, Oliver, think!" and the resounding "Good job, Oliver!" as he solves each problem. This is a great book for pre-school storytime. More pre-school reassurance can be found in Cynthia Rylant's **Bunny Bungalow** (\$13 cl, 0-15-201092-0) from Harcourt Brace, charmingly illustrated by Nancy Hayashi. This is a very traditional story, as

sweet as they come, and with absolutely winning, rhyming text. Perfect for Easter. But my very favorite is from North-South, **Little Bunny's Sleepless Night** (\$15.95 cl, 0-7358-1069-9) by Carol Roth, illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev. Little Bunny can't sleep (a theme that resonates with 2-to-4-year-olds, as well as menopausal women), so he decides to try sleeping at friends' dens. But Squirrel's a cruncher, Skunk's a stinker, and Porcupine has those pesky quills in his bed. Wise old owl knows that sometimes home is the best place, and Bunny hops off to a happy ending in his own bed. Gentle humor and just enough repetition make this a good choice for storytime as well as bedtime.

Sweet and funny and for the same age group is **Stella, Star of the Sea** by Marie-Louise Gay (\$15.95 cl, 0-88899-337-4) from Groundwood Books. The delightful text and whimsical watercolors bring to life a day at the beach for an all-knowing little girl and her toddler brother, Sam. Sam has a lot of questions: Does a moonsnail come from the moon? What can you buy with a sand dollar? Luckily Stella has all the answers. The only thing she's not sure about is when Sam will go in the water. The question-and-answer format will hold the attention of young listeners, and many of them will identify with little Sam's unspoken but palpable fear of the water.

Although I've only seen about half of the publishers' Spring juvenile lists, there are at least four new, longer picture books for the 5-9 crowd that I'd like to recommend, and three of them feature girls. From North-South, an original and enchanting story by German author Sabine Jörg, **Mina and the Bear** (\$16.95 cl, 0-7358-1036-2), illustrated by Alexander Reichstein, uses a story within a story told by a kindly old doctor to create a picture book about teddy bears

and magic. Candlewick's biggest and best book this season, **Weslandia** (\$15.99 cl, 0-7636-0006-7), is by veteran writer Paul Fleishman and brilliantly illustrated in glowing colors by Kevin Hawkes. **Weslandia** is oddball Wesley's elaborate and delightful summer project. Having learned that all civilizations depend on a staple food crop, Wesley plans a garden and grows a curious-looking plant that he soon discovers will provide food, clothing, shelter, and even recreation. **Weslandia** combines the exuberance of a tall tale with the theme of the outsider creating a world so unique and wonderful that it draws others inside. This is the kind of story that might attract an NPR reviewer, but children who know the loneliness of being an outsider might find the ending a little too fantastic.

# KIDS

I'm delighted to find two new picture books for school-age children this season that I can use in my "Clever Girls and Strong Women" show that I take

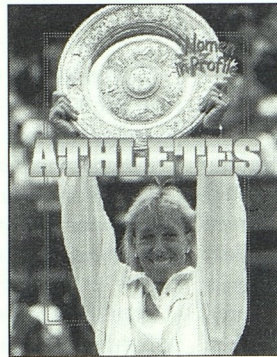
around to the schools and libraries. One is **O'Sullivan Stew** (\$15.99 cl, 0-399-23162-5) by Hudson Talbott from Putnam. It has all the elements of a great adventure story — a witch, a king, ravenous giants, wise-cracking sea serpents, and lovesick leprechauns — plus a valiant heroine, Kate O'Sullivan, who uses her wits, strength, and magic to appease the witch and save her family. Wonderful language and glorious paintings. Another is Judy Sierra's rollicking retelling of *The Peach Boy*, a traditional Japanese tale, called **Tasty Baby Belly Buttons** (\$17 cl, 0-679-89369-5), illustrated in fresh watercolors by Meilo So, published by Knopf. In the traditional story, a boy is born from a peach. The heroine of Sierra's story is a melon princess, born from a watermelon (and therefore lacking a belly button). The fearsome *oni*, Japanese ogres, are stealing babies for their belly buttons, and when our heroine is spared, she is determined to find the *oni*'s fortress and rescue the babies. I can already hear children in the audience gleefully joining in the chants for "tasty baby belly buttons! tasty baby belly buttons!" while cheering for little Uriko in her melon-printed kimono as she triumphs.

## Women in Profile

**Women in Profile** celebrates remarkable twentieth-century women who have made significant achievements in their fields.

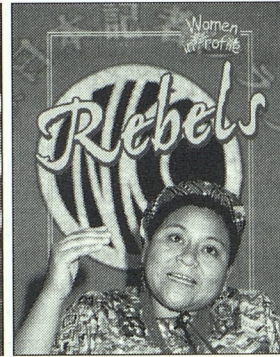
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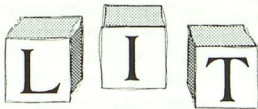


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For this same age group, **Smoky Night** by Eve Bunting with powerful pictures by David Diaz (\$6 pb, 0-15-201884-0), is also available in a Spanish edition (\$6 pb, 0-15-201946-4) translated by Gloria de Aragón Andjar. Set during the L.A. riots, this is the nevertheless sweet story of a boy who loses his cat in the confusion and pulls together with his neighbors — who have avoided each other in the past — to help each other find their lost pets. This picture book won the Caldecott in 1994 and is published by Harcourt Brace. I was also glad to see that Harcourt is adding the Edward Eager “Magic” books to its Young Classics series. Available this Spring with fresh new jackets by Quentin Blake are **Half Magic** (0-15-202068-3), **Knight’s Castle** (0-15-202073-X), **Magic by the Lake** (0-15-202076-4), and **The Time Garden** (0-15-202070-5), all \$6 paperbacks. Eager’s stories, written in the 1950s for his own son and featuring vacationing cousins who stumble into magic and whimsical adventures, are for those good early readers who love Dahl and C.S. Lewis. Charming and timeless.



For girls (and boys) in the 8–12 range looking for adventure and inspiration between the covers of a book, there are three new biographical stories, all from different presses distributed by PGW. From Groundwood Books, **My Name Is Seepetza** (\$4.95 pb, 0-88899-165-7) by Shirley Serling is the story of a young Native girl forced to change her name, her language, and her values at an Indian residential school. Based on the author’s own experiences and told in the honest voice of a sixth grader, this novel exposes racist school policy while demonstrating one young girl’s indomitable spirit. Conari is continuing its YA biography series with **Lorraine Hansberry: Award-Winning Playwright and Civil Rights Activist** (\$6.95 pb, 1-57324-093-1), by Susan Sinott with a foreword by Thulani Davis. And yes, she does mention Hansberry’s contribution to the early lesbian magazine *The Ladder* and the possibility that her marriage was one of convenience. And from National Geographic Society, Dr. Sylvia A. Earle, marine biologist, author, lecturer, and ocean explorer, brings us **Dive! My Adventures in the Deep Frontier** (\$18.95 cl, 0-7922-7144-0). Although I will never go deep sea

diving out of some irrational fear of breathing underwater, this book makes me want to. Dr. Earle shows us a beautiful world through gorgeous color photography as she walks along the ocean floor and cruises in her submersible. You go, girl!

I would love to hear from you about your best-selling children’s books during this past holiday season. I’m pleased to report that our bestseller was *My Name is Georgia* by Jeanette Winter, featured in the FB-Net catalog. Two other very good sellers were also catalog books: *América Is My Name* and *No Mirrors in My Nana’s House*. Thanks to all the publishers who advertised kids’ books in the catalog! ○

### Video, continued from page 59.

defensive and harsh retort to an upsetting and unfortunate situation. There were a lot of unfollowed story leads, most notably when Ellen said that going on the Oprah Winfrey show was a mistake. Dropped like a bomb, the comment wasn’t followed up or explained in the least, which was typical of the problems in the whole documentary. \$29.95, Wolfe Video, Ladyslipper, and Naiad Video.

**Trevor.** This amazing short film by Peggy Rajski won the 1994 Academy Award for Best Live Action Short. It is the bittersweet story of Trevor, an earnest, honest, and enjoyable kid who favors Diana Ross and the school stud Pinky. With the innocence only childhood lends, Trevor shows his affections wholeheartedly, only to be teased and ostracized. After a darkly comic suicide attempt, Trevor regains some of his lost innocence and looks forward to the next day when he gets to accompany his cute gayboy candy striper to a Diana Ross concert. As Ellen Degeneres says in her introduction to the film, it’s really the story of anyone and everyone who has ever felt different from those around them. \$14.95, Wolfe Video.

Also available:

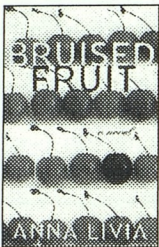
**More Tales of the City.** The second installment of the campy and endearing story penned by Armistead Maupin. This time around, we start off where we left off and find out more hidden mysteries of the residents of 28 Barbary Lane. Wolfe Video.

**Serving in Silence.** Margarethe Cammermeyer’s personal story of oppression in the military portrayed wonderfully by Glenn Close. \$99.95, Wolfe Video. ○

# Firebrand Books

## BRUISED FRUIT

A Novel by Anna Livia



Anna Livia's astrigently humorous, no-holds-barred novel, *Bruised Fruit*, is the story of British Caroline, lesbian escapee from an abusive relationship; Sydney, dainty hermaphrodite with a Southern drawl; and Patti, bisexual with a trust fund who inexorably, it seems, kills every man she sleeps with.

These three, along with a tantalizing array of minor characters, are thrown together in San Francisco, each in search of someone to tell his or her—or in the case of Sydney, his *and* her—secrets to. When fate gathers them at the home of Ella Weissman, a feminist therapist whose house is her significant other, the intertwined tale of their loves, fears, and confusions sinuously unfolds.

Caroline is continually shocked by exposure to her own "tales of the city." Sydney feels compelled, once and for all, to pick a gender. Patti wants to be sexually attractive without giving in to everyone else's desire...and its negative effects.

Written as a mixture of chilling comedy and neogothic, *Bruised Fruit* is Anna Livia's fifth novel. Her two short story collections, *Incidents Involving Mirth* and *Incidents Involving Warmth*, have been Lammy finalists. The author lives in Berkeley, California with her lover and their recently born twins.

1-56341-106-7 \$13.95 paper  
1-56341-107-5 \$26.95 cloth  
240 pages

## MOVEMENT IN BLACK

by Pat Parker

Introduction by Cheryl Clarke

Celebrations/Remembrances/Tributes by



Donna Allegra, Angela Y. Davis, Toi Derricotte, Jewelle Gomez, Audre Lorde, Michelle Parkerson, Ann Allen Shockley, Barbara Smith, Pamela Sneed, and Evelyn C. White

Pat Parker—that revolutionary, raw, and as they used to say, "right-on sister"—would be celebrating her fifty-fifth birthday in 1999 had she not died of breast cancer ten years ago. To honor her work and call attention to the significance of her contributions, Firebrand Books is publishing a new, expanded edition of her classic, *Movement In Black*.

Whether she was presenting her poetry on street corners, performing with other women—writers, musicians, activists—in bars and auditoriums, rallying the crowd at political events, preaching to the converted, or converting the ill-informed, Pat Parker was a presence.

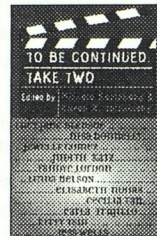
She wrote about gut issues: the lives of ordinary Black people, violence, loving women, the legacy of her African American heritage, being queer. She was a woman who engaged life fully, both personally and as a political activist, linking the struggles for racial, gender, sexual, and class equality long before it was PC to do so. She died as she lived—fighting forces larger than herself.

The publication of *Movement In Black* is an opportunity, both for those who were around the first time and those who are new to her work, to experience and enjoy Pat Parker's power.

1-56341-108-3 \$16.95 paper  
1-56341-109-1 \$26.95 cloth  
216 pages

## TO BE CONTINUED: TAKE TWO

Edited by Michele Karlsberg and Karen X. Tulchinsky



What do Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Nisa Donnelly, Jewelle Gomez, Judith Katz, Randye Lordon, Linda Nelson, Elisabeth Nonas, Cecilia Tan, Carla Trujillo, Kitty Tsui, and Jess Wells have in common?

These eleven dynamic storytellers were first brought together in *To Be Continued...* (published last Fall) when their stories—fantasy and reality, the near past and far future, contemporary lesbian life and escapist encounters—left readers hanging at the proverbial cliff's edge clamoring for more. Now here they are once again in *To Be Continued: Take Two*, picking up where they stopped six months ago without missing a beat, spinning tales to their often unpredictable conclusions.

MICHELE KARLSBERG has been a publicist for the lesbian, gay, and feminist literary communities for the past ten years. She divides her time between New York and San Francisco.

KAREN X. TULCHINSKY's latest book is the novel *Love Ruins Everything*. She lives and works in Vancouver, B.C.

1-56341-110-5 \$12.95 paper  
1-56341-111-3 \$26.95 cloth  
176 pages

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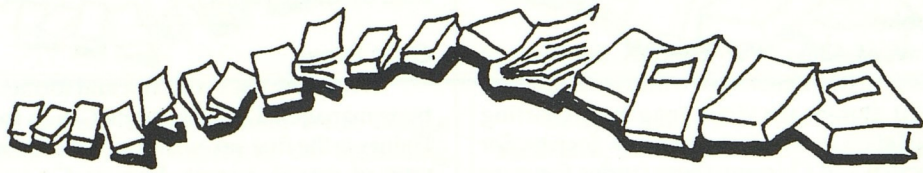
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Spring  
1999



# FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

## New Magazine

*n.paradoxa*, an international feminist art journal covering contemporary women artists' work, the visual arts, and feminist theory is newly in print. The journal originally appeared exclusively at the *n.paradoxa* Web site. The theme of the January 99 issue is Body, Space, and Memory; the July issue will focus on Sculpture/Installation. The January issue has 96 pages, which includes 50 pages of black and white illustrations. \$12 retail, ISSN: 1461-0434. *n.paradoxa*, KT Press, 38 Bellot St., East Greenwich, London SE10 OAQ, UK; Web site (<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/n.paradoxa/index.htm>). Distributed by de Boer, 113 East Centre St., Nutley NJ 07110; 973-667-9300, fax 973-667-0086. —TMR

## Aunt Lute Books

**Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza, Second Edition** by Gloria Anzaldúa has become a classic of Chicana literature, feminist theory, gay and lesbian studies, and cultural studies. This updated edition includes an assessment of Anzaldúa's contribution to discussions of race, gender, class, and sexuality by noted Chicana scholar Sonia Saldivar-Hull and an interview with the author. Anzaldúa interweaves prose and poetry, history and myth, English and Spanish and Nahuatl to reflect on her experience growing up on the Texas-Mexico border. Out of this blending comes a vision of a future based in ethnic diversity and cultural hybridity. \$13.95 pb, 1-879960-56-7; \$39.50 cl, -57-5, May.

**White Snake and Other Stories**, a collection of a novella and several stories, marks the English-language debut of the prolific and much-awarded Chinese author Geling Yan. Born and raised in

mainland China, Yan writes heart-wrenching stories about life during the Cultural Revolution and about coping with exile. Her story "Celestial Bath" is the basis for Joan Chen's acclaimed film, *Xiu Xiu*, to be released this summer as *The Sent Down Girl*. Sophisticated fiction that makes the Chinese experience accessible and affecting. \$10.95 pb, 1-879960-55-9, May.



Photo by Tee A. Corinne in *Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex* (New Victoria)

Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141; 415-826-1300; fax 415-826-8300. Distributed by Consoritum. —*Aunt Lute Books*

**CALYX Books**

*The End of Class War* explores the lives of working-class Irish American women. Catherine Brady's short stories are vivid snapshots charting the terrain of class in contemporary U.S. society. Set in San Francisco and Chicago, these stories focus on women who contend with the holy trinity of the Irish: melancholy, melodrama, and guilt. Their working-class heritage lends them a sharp tongue with which they forge their own vocabulary, rebelling against narrow circumstances and inner doubt.

\$13.95 pb, 0-934971-66-8, June. CALYX Books, PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97339; 541-753-9384, fax 541-753-0515, email <calyx@proaxis.com>. Distributed by Consoritum. —*CALYX Books*

**Cleis Press**

Written by a sex educator and former Good Vibrations manager, *The Survivor's Guide to Sex* by Staci Haines is the first sex-positive guide for women survivors of sexual assault. Haines discusses problems common to women survivors of all sexual orientations: overcoming shame, working through triggers and dissociation, learning the difference between sex and abuse, understanding depression and its effect on the libido, and more. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-079-5, April.

**PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS**  
www.pressgang.bc.ca

*Spring '99*

**MARIA'S REVENGE**  
a novel by  
**Makeda Silvera**



Set in North America and Jamaica, *MARIA'S REVENGE* is a multi-layered story about the death of a matriarch and the generations of women who must release themselves from her spirit. A breathtaking journey into family loyalties, betrayal and the power of memory.

May 1999 • 0-88974-084-4  
\$12.95 US • \$16.95 CDN • Paper

*Fall '99*

**SOJOURNER'S TRUTH and SUNDOGS**  
First Nations Fiction by Lee Maracle



Press Gang Publishers is proud to present a new edition of two of Lee Maracle's best loved works: *SOJOURNER'S TRUTH* and *SUNDOGS*, together in one volume. True to the principles of First Nations oratory, each of the stories is layered with unresolved human dilemmas — daring, and imaginative, crossing cultures and generations.

August 1999 • 0-88974-061-5  
\$18.95 US • \$21.95 CDN • Paper

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**LOVE RUINS EVERYTHING**  
by *Karen Tulchinsky*  
a Bay Area Reporter  
**1998 top ten book**



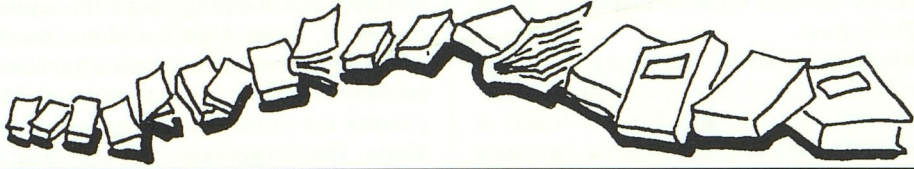
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\$14.95 US • 18.95 CDN • Paper



**BOYS LIKE HER** by *Taste This*  
*ForeWord Magazine*  
1998 Book of the Year  
**Bronze Finalist**  
Gay/Lesbian category

0-88974-086-0  
\$15.95 US • \$19.95 CDN • Paper

To Order: LPC / Inbook in the US 1-800-243-0138 & General in Canada 1-800-387-0172



**The Oy of Sex: Jewish Women Write Erotica** edited by Marcy Sheiner, editor of the bestselling *Herotica* series, is the first collection of erotic fiction by Jewish women. Features popular authors Erica Jong, Lesléa Newman, Marge Piercy, Joan Nestle, and Robin Bernstein among others. For all readers who enjoy women's erotica — heterosexual, bisexual, and lesbian. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-083-3, May.

**The Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians: Tips and Techniques from Conception to Birth — How to Stay Sane and Care for Yourself** by Rachel Pepper offers a holistic, lesbian-specific approach to pregnancy. Topics include fertility cycles, the process of selecting a sperm bank or donor, insemination and fertility tests, a straightforward account of experiences typical to each trimester, understanding the body's emotional responses during pregnancy, locating lesbian-friendly support systems, and tips in selecting a queer-sensitive pediatrician. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-080-9, April.

**The Complete Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist** by Diane DiMassa combines both *Hothead Paisan* and *Revenge of Hothead Paisan* with never before collected strips available in a single volume for the first time. The over-caffeinated, media-crazed psychotic lesbian "with scary hair and a fetish for guns, grenades, mallets, and sharp objects..." returns for more search-and-destroy missions and preventative homicides! \$24.95 pb, 1-57344-084-1, June.

**Gore Vidal Sexually Speaking: Collected Sex Writings** by Gore Vidal collects essays and interviews produced between 1961 and 1999. Topics include: George Washington's homosexuality, Norman Mailer's feminism, bedding Jack Kerouac, the "sapphic tendencies" of Eleanor Roosevelt, turning tricks for Dr. Kinsey, Christopher Isherwood on the "heterosexual dictatorship," cruising postwar Italy with Tennessee Williams, Oscar Wilde's mother, Henry Miller's sex drive, AIDS, monogamy, birth control, plus many more. \$23 cl, 1-57344-082-5, June.

**Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review of San Francisco, Sixth Edition** by Betty Pearl and Pansy guides gay and lesbian travelers to hundreds of absolutely fabulous sites offered in no other single volume. Expanded lesbian section includes San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, and Bay Area resources. \$10.95 pb, 1-57344-081-7.

Cleis Press, PO Box 14684, San Francisco CA 94114; 415-575-4700, fax 415-575-4705. Distributed by PGW. —*Cleis Press*

### Down There Press

**Herotica 6: A New Collection of Women's Erotica** edited by Marcy Sheiner. Many media outlets trumpet catchy headlines about sultry sex in committed relationships. What would the innovative *Herotica* series do with the same topic? Bring in everything from hot monogamy to multi-partner romances, gender bending and fantasy play to sensuous lovemaking on an anniversary — and more! Each tantalizing story in **Herotica 6** delivers delicious erotic variations on the theme of binding love. \$12.50 pb, 0-940208-25-3, April. Down There Press, 938 Howard St. #101, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-974-8985, fax 415-974-8989, email (goodvibe@well.com). Distributed by LPC. Available from BP, Alamo, Bookazine, Last Gasp, AK, Koen, Ingram, B&T, and in Canada from Marginal.

—*Down There Press*



### The Feminist Press

**A Matter of Time** by Shashi Deshpande, afterward by Ritu Menon, is the U.S. fiction debut of one of India's most published women writers. Shashi Deshpande's exceptional popularity in India is based on her ability to portray the rich details of daily life while exploring the complexities of human relationships. Hence, three generations of women, each goaded into action by the desertion of a husband, are

impelled to establish their separate identities. \$21.95 cl, 1-55861-214-9, June.

**The Chinese Garden** by Rosemary Manning, afterward by Toni A. H. McNaron, is a novel of adolescent rebellion and sexual awakening that recalls *A Separate Peace*. Sixteen-year-old Rachel becomes embroiled in a drama of political ambition and sexual desire played out at Bampfield, an all-girls British boarding school. Manning's memoirs and novels have made her a major early figure in the British gay and lesbian community. \$12.95 pb, 1-55861-216-5, June.

**Lucretia Mott** by Dorothy Sterling, published for the 150th anniversary of the Women's Rights Convention, is the first paperback edition of this biography. Mott and her contemporaries come to life as we follow her career from a Quaker upbringing through the antislavery cause to historic encounters with the pioneers of the Women's Rights Movement. The author is known for her thorough research and historical accuracy. Ages 9-12. \$12.95 pb, 1-55861-217-3, July.

**Josephina Hates Her Name** by Diana Engel. Josephina finds her name too unfashionable to be

endured. But learning about the adventures of her namesake, Great Aunt Josephina, teaches Josephina to love her name and to treasure her family's roots in a faraway land. Brings together for children and their parents the current concerns with family relationships, the importance of self-respect, and the importance of one's heritage. Four-color throughout. Ages 2-6. \$8.95 pb, 1-55861-218-1, May.



**And They Didn't Die** by Loretta Ngcobo, afterward by Margaret J. Daymond, is the only novel in English to give voice to the struggle of rural Black women under Apartheid. Set in modern South Africa, **And They Didn't Die** follows three generations of the Majola family as they struggle to keep family and community together against the pressures of intense poverty, ruthless violence, and discrimination. Women Writing Africa Series. \$13.95 pb, 1-55861-213-0, July.

**Mary Ritter Beard: A Sourcebook** edited and with an introduction by Ann J Lane. Mary Beard (1876-1958) is considered the founding architect of women's history. This is the only collection of Beard's pioneering work documenting women's history and preparing the way for women's studies. \$18.95 pb, 1-55861-219-X, July.

**Teaching About Violence Against Women: International Perspectives, Women's Studies Quarterly 27**, Nos. 1 and 2, edited by Mona Ellasson is an empowering treatment of violence against women throughout the world, with contributions from an international collection of distinguished scholars. The authors also explore women's resistance to violence, from the power found in a self-defense class to the successful organizing of migrant workers. Provides teachers as well as students and activists with a framework in which to confront a difficult subject. \$18 pb, 1-55861-211-4, June.

The Feminist Press, Convent Ave. and 138th St., NY NY 10031; 212-650-8890, fax 212-650-8893. Distributed by Consortium.

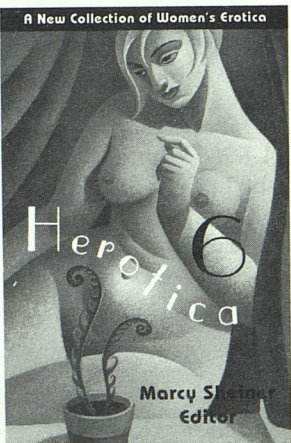
—Margaret Ann Roth, *The Feminist Press*

## Firebrand

**Bruised Fruit**, a novel by Anna Livia. A macabre sense of humor is usually not my cup of tea, but Anna

**Committed Relationships?**

A New Collection of Women's Erotica



Hot Sex?

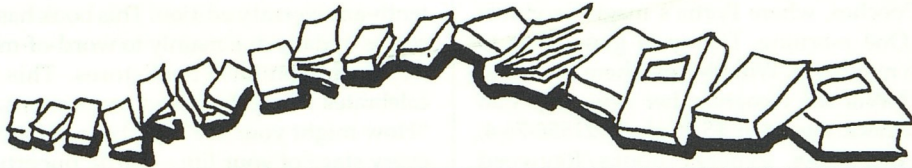
Diminished desire doesn't have to be the inevitable price we pay for long-term comfort and companionship. *Herotica 6* delivers surprising couplings and passionate new twists on binding love, continuing ten years of arousal.

\$12.50, paper, 256 pp.  
ISBN 0-940208-25-3

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415-974-8985 x 205 FAX 415-974-8989

*Available from Bookpeople, LPC/Womensource, Alamo Square, Bookazine, Last Gasp, Koen, Marginal (Canada)*



Livia's intriguing characters really made the difference for me. From British Caroline, lesbian escapee from an abusive relationship, to Sydney, a dainty hermaphrodite with a Southern drawl, to trust-fund bisexual babe Patti, who has a penchant for killing her male lovers, **Bruised Fruit** kept me sipping. \$13.95 pb, 1-56341-106-7.

**Movement in Black** (an expanded edition) by Pat Parker. Poet Pat Parker died of breast cancer ten years ago. She would have celebrated her 55th birthday in January. This new, expanded edition of her signature volume contains previously unpublished work, an introduction by Cheryl Clarke, and "Celebrations/Remembrances/Tributes" from Donna Allegra, Angela Y. Davis, Toi Derricotte, Jewelle Gomez, Audre Lorde, Michelle Parkerson, Ann Allen Schockley, Barbara Smith, Pamela Sneed and Evelyn C. White. This book belongs in everyone's collection. \$16.95 pb, 1-56341-108-3.

**To Be Continued: Take Two**, edited by Michele Karlsberg and Karen X. Tulchinsky. Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Nisa Donnelly, Jewelle Gomez, Judith Katz, Randye Lordon, Linda Nelson, Elisabeth Nonas, Cecilia Tan, Carla Trujillo, Kitty Tsui, and Jess Wells pick up where they left off six months ago; these accomplished storytellers spin their tales — original material written for *To Be Continued...* and **To Be Continued: Take Two** — to their conclusions. \$12.95 pb, 1-56341-110-5.

Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850; 607-272-0000. Distributed by LPC. Available from all leading wholesalers. —*Firebrand Books*

## Girl Press

**Girl Boss: Running the Show Like the Big Chicks** has just been named by the Ms. Foundation as the official book for Take Our Daughters to Work Day. This comprehensive instruction guide for the girl empirebuilder provides cool ideas for starting businesses out of the garage, easy how-to guides to take the mystery out of start-up, and success stories

from other girls and lady mavericks. **Girl Boss** will also help girls cozy up to the concept of \$\$money\$\$ — pointing out that nice girls are nice but they also get paid. Overall, **Girl Boss** unabashedly pushes entrepreneurial thinking, promoting the idea that it's more fun to build a career than to settle for one. \$19.95 spiral-bound cl, 0-9659754-2-8. Girl Press, 8273 Clinton, Los Angeles CA 90048; 213-651-0880. Distributed by LPC.  
—*Pam Nelson, Girl Press*



## gynergy Books/Ragweed Press

**Consciousness Rising: Women's Stories of Connection and Transformation** edited by Cheryl Malmo and Toni Suzuki Laidlaw. Reaching middle age is often a time of reflection and re-evaluation. In this powerful collection, 20 women write evocative and deeply personal narratives that show the path they have taken to heal, grow, create, act authentically, take action, and be at peace. Contributors include: Di Brandt, Julie Brickman, Soledad Gonzalez, and many more. \$19.95 pb, 0-921881-52-5, May, gynergy Books.

**Fragment by Fragment: Feminist Perspectives on Memory and Child Sexual Abuse** edited by Margo Rivera. In the 1990s, the connections between child sexual abuse and memory have taken centre stage. Recovery of memory has been attacked by those who wish to discredit women's efforts to hold accountable those who abused them in childhood. **Fragment by Fragment** is a solid resource for survivors and professionals alike, as well as anyone interested in clear analysis of the complexities of memory and abuse. \$24.95 pb, 0-921881-50-9, June, gynergy Books.

**The Dog Wizard** by Anne Louise MacDonald, illustrated by Brenda Jones. Meg and her scruffy sheepdog Denny roam the neighbourhood together, creating worlds full of monsters and vanishing kingdoms. Meg and Denny keep running into other dogs. Their owners all seem happy to visit Portia's

Pampered Pooches, where Portia's magic produces new dogs. One morning, Denny is gone, sent to Portia's for a makeover. Will Meg get there in time to save Denny? Will she recognize her new dog? Full colour throughout. Ages 4-8. \$5.95 pb, 0-921556-76-4, May, Ragweed Press. gynergy Books/Ragweed Press, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PE, Canada C1A 7N7; 902-566-5750, fax 902-566-4473, email (books@gynergy.com). Distributed by UTP, 800-565-9523. Please order directly from our distributor.

—gynergy books/Ragweed Press

### Innisfree Press

**Circle of Stones: Woman's Journey to Herself** by Judith Duerk is being released in a special

tenth-anniversary edition. This book has sold 170,000 copies to date, due mainly to word-of-mouth promotion from feminist bookstores. This gift edition celebrates women's sacred connections. Duerk asks, "How might your life have been different if, though every stage of your life — birth, puberty, adulthood, old age — you had been received, affirmed, and sustained by a circle of older, wiser women?" \$13.95 pb, 1-880913-36-4.

**I Sit Listening to the Wind** by Judith Duerk is the second volume of the Circle of Stones series, and explores how women today, if they succumb to the dominance of their inner masculine/yang energy, are in danger of losing the ancient values of the feminine/yin. This call for balancing is for women who seek to reconcile the feminine desire to be with the masculine desire to do. \$13.95 pb, 1-880913-37-2.

**MotherLove: Reinventing a Good and Blessed Future for Our Children** by Esther Davis-Thompson is a powerful collection of mediations, quotations, prayers, and affirmations for African American mothers. Davis-Thompson's message is personal, inspiring, empowering, and timely. Building on the commitment of African American women to institute positive change, **MotherLove** feeds the spirit of the African American community's march forward into a new millennium. \$13.95 pb, 1-880913-38-0.

**The Call of the Soul: Six Stages of Spiritual Development** by Marjory Zoet Bankson is a road map to discovering deeper meaning in life and finding spiritual wholeness. Each spiritual stage in the "soulwork cycle" is portrayed in mythical, biblical, and personal stories, and features journal questions that can be used by individuals or groups. \$13.95 pb, 1-880913-34-8.

**Everyday Edens: Experiences of Personal Sacred Space** by Phyllis Cole-Dai, photographs by James Murray, narrates and illuminates everyday places that have sacred meaning for ordinary people. Folklorist and theologian Cole-Dai captures the intimate and sacred spaces of thirty ordinary people. Representing a broad range of spiritual orientations, ages, genders, and walks of life, **Everyday Edens** demonstrates the mystery and power of personal sacred spaces. \$19.95 pb, 1-880913-39-9.

Innisfree Press, 136 Roumfort Rd., Philadelphia PA 19119; 215-247-4085, fax 215-247-2343, email (innisfree@aol.com). Distributed by Consortium.

—Innisfree Press

## Circlet Press

Distributed to the trade by InBook/LPC Group  
Order toll-free (800) 626-4330

### Through a Brazen Mirror

By Delia Sherman

Introduction by Ellen Kushner

\$14.95 Trade Paper ISBN 1-885865-24-4

Set in the 1400's, *Through a Brazen Mirror* presents the good and evil, romance, and magic of the middle ages. Follow the tale of Elinor, disguised as a man, as she saves the kingdom from peril and challenges the strictures of gender in a bygone age.



Shipping In June

Back in Print

### Best Bisexual Erotica

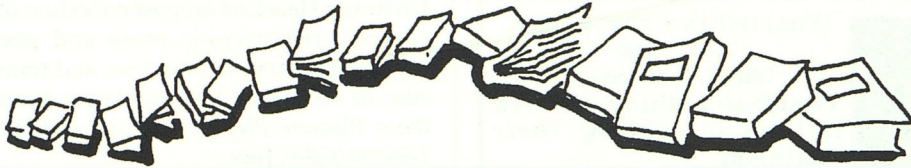
edited by Carol Queen, Tristan Taormino & Bill Brent  
\$16.00 Trade Paper ISBN 1-892723-01-8

Some of the most talented erotic writers are bisexual. We bring you the best of the best, with both all new stories and the cream of the previously published crop.

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### Kelsey St. Press

**Black Box Cutaway** by Susan Gevirtz is an important new work by a writer who looks at traditional categories in new ways. The poems depart from historical poetic structures to draw on the methods of filmmaking and media broadcasts. To this resonant collection she adds bits of personal feeling, observation, and memory. Read from any point of view, Gevirtz's multifaceted poems are in focus and elegantly composed. \$10 pb, 0-932716-47-4.

Kelsey St. Press is delighted to announce the republication of Myung Mi Kim's first book of poems, **Under Flag**. In 1991 the book won the Multicultural Publisher's Award of Merit. Closely juxtaposing fragments of personal narrative, memory, and journalistic prose, Kim locates separate, often competing influences that shape experience. Myung Mi Kim emigrated from Korea when she was nine years old. **Under Flag** is the account of her struggle to enter an alien culture. \$9 pb, 0-932716-49-0.

Kelsey St. Press, 50 Northgate Avenue, Berkeley CA 94708; 510-845-2260. Distributed by Small Press Distribution. —Rena Rosenwasser, *Kelsey St. Press*

### Mother Tongue Ink

**We'Moon '00: Gaia Rhythms for Womyn and We'Moon Unbound '00.** **We'Moon** is a bestselling appointment book, astrological moon calendar, earth-centered spiritual guide, and multicultural handbook in natural rhythm. It is created for, by, and about women; it contains inspirational art and writing by women on the growing edge of international women's culture and offers a kaleidoscopic view of ageless women's wisdom and contemporary feminist perspectives. Includes: a week-at-a-glance format, daily astrological aspects, daily moon phases and signs, complete ephemerides, herbal lore, and astrological predictions for each sign. **We'Moon Unbound '00**, loose-leaf and shrink-wrapped, is identical in every way except for the binding and packaging. **We'Moon Unbound '00** is for those who

want to use the pages to supplement a day planner or personal journal or to add a spiral binding. \$14.95 pb, 1-890931-03-9; \$14.95 unbound, -04-7. Mother Tongue Ink, 37010 SE Snuffing Rd., Estacada OR 97023; 503-630-7848, fax same, email (wemoon@teleport.com). Available from B&T, BP, Ingram, Koen, Ladyslipper, New Leaf, Samuel Weiser, and Small Changes. —*Mother Tongue Ink*



### The Naiad Press

Fired up from the success of her smoldering lesbian romances *Letting Go* and *Julia's Song*, Ann O'Leary asks the burning question, "What does it take to bridge the gap between lust and love?" In **The Other Woman**, tall, athletic Joanna Kingston has a roguish way about her that draws women like a magnet, but beautiful Fiona Maddison is determined to keep their friendship platonic. (Can you guess how many chapters she can hold out?) \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-234-8, April.

Guaranteed to fly off the shelves, Karin Kallmaker's **Watermark** is the much-anticipated sequel to her heartfelt erotic classic, *Touchwood*. Kallmaker's chart-topping novels — *Making Up for Lost Time* and *Paperback Romance* among others — have made her the undisputed mistress of lesbian romance, and **Watermark** promises to be her biggest seller ever. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-235-6, April.

Filled with flame-throwing Dyke Defenders, realistic rivalries, and lots of sapphic sex, Saxon Bennett's **Both Sides** takes a hot humorous look at lesbian politics, family ties, and a community of women falling in and out of love. Bennett is the author of the romantic hits *A Question of Love*, *Old Ties*, and *The Wish List*. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-236-4, May.

The moment your *Claire of the Moon* fans have waited for is finally here! In the photo-filled autobiographical novel **The Drive**, Trisha Todd (the hitherto elusive actress who played Claire Jabrowski



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in the bestselling lesbian film of all time) takes the reader with her on a highly personal journey. We are planning an intensive marketing campaign and media blitz for this release. (Here's just a sample — Trisha will be signing copies of *The Drive* at BEA, an excerpt of the book will appear in *Curve* magazine, and Trisha will be the cover story in the May issue of *Girlfriends*.) Make sure that you're prepared for the skyrocketing demand for *Claire of the Moon* ancillary materials by stocking up on the "COTM" video, novelization, soundtrack, and documetary. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-237-2, May.

Linda Hill's engaging *Change of Heart* begins when a deeply closeted British supermodel picks up a woman in a Boston bar, who — after a passion-soaked weekend — is devastated to wake up to an empty bed. Thus begins an engaging game of hide-and-seek between two very different — and very determined — lesbians. Hill is the author of the high-grossing romances *Never Say Never*, *Class Reunion*, and *Just Yesterday*. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-238-0, June.

One of Naiad's most popular writers, Robbi Sommers, draws on her own life experiences for

*Unstrung Heart*, an all-new collection of emotionally charged, richly erotic prose and poetry. Robbi's revealing portrait of love, loss, and transformation is sure to outsell its formidable predecessors, among them *Pleasure Players* and *Kiss and Tell*. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-239-9, June.

Jackie Calhoun adds a feather to her literary cap with *Birds of a Feather*, another deeply emotional tale of lesbians making their way through the world of love and loss. Just when Joan McKenzie is beginning to question her life's choices, two exciting new women walk into her life. Now's the time to introduce your customers to Jackie Calhoun's other must-read novels; among them are *By Reservation Only*, *Seasons of the Heart*, and *Sticks and Stones* (which is also available on audiocassette). \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-240-2, June.

Naiad books are available from the publisher and distributed by BP, LPC, Ingram, et al. The Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1793.

—Naiad Press

## Naiad Video

**High Art.** Ally Sheedy stars as Lucy Berliner, a once-famous photographer, whose career is revitalized when she meets Syd (gorgeous newcomer Radha Mitchell), a beautiful young assistant editor for a prestigious photography magazine. Lucy's affair with Syd gives her hope that she can escape her drug-filled world. Excellent acting — a good film — but hopelessly depressing. This will rent very well because of high-profile publicity. \$99.95 SRP, 102 minutes. Order direct from Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973.

—Naiad Press



## New Victoria

**Stalking the Goddess Ship** by Marsha Mildon. Here is a complex mystery that's interesting on many levels, mixing underwater archeology and the study of Minoan goddess worship with the current-day issues of child pornography and sexual exploitation. This is the second Cal Meredith mystery — the first, *Fighting for Air*, was called a "top-notch whodunit" by *Mama Bears News*. \$10.95 pb, 1-892281-02-3, May.

**Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex** is an





erotic collection of writings and photographs by Tee A. Corinne. Before Susie Bright and Pat Califia, there was Tee A. Corinne. This book was originally published in 1987, but Tee has added two new stories and twelve explicitly sensual photographs. Her vibrant, imaginative stories, poems, and graphic images of women's sexuality continue to have the power to shock and excite. \$13.95 pb, 1-892281-01-5.

**Brown Like Me** by Noelle Lamperti and friends. We first published this book back in the 70s when Claudia's daughter was five years old. Adopted into a white family in rural Vermont, Noelle started identifying things that were brown like her. Now that intercultural adoptions have become even more common, we think there are a lot of children out there who will benefit from this affirmation of a strong, positive self-image. Four-color. Ages 2-6. \$12.95 cl, 1-892281-03-1, May.

New Victoria Publishers, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055; 802-649-5297. Distributed by LPC. Available through most wholesalers including Ingram, B&T, and BP.

—Beth Dingman and Claudia Lamperti,  
New Victoria



### Onlywomen Press

**Leaving the Life: Lesbians, Ex-Lesbians, and the Heterosexual Imperative** by Ann E. Menasche. How *do* lesbians cope — or not — within mainstream culture? We've all known someone who either came out or went straight. Ms Menasche, a socialist feminist activist (and lawyer in California), presents and analyzes interviews with lifelong never-hets as well as married lesbians, ex-lesbians, and self-defined bisexuals. The interviews document the flexibility of female sexuality and reveal the cruel underside of the institution of heterosexuality. \$17.99 pb, 0-906500-53-2, April.

**Not for the Academy: Lesbian Poets** edited by Lilian Mohin. More lesbian than the vagaries of

fashion, as literary as the canon. This anthology of contemporary verse by lesbian poets is international in scope. Work from U.A. Fanthorpe (mooted for England's Poet Laureate) as well as poems by artists living and working outside the U.K., including Marilyn Hacker, Aleida Rodriguez, Olga Broumas, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Jewelle Gomez, Elana Dykewomon, Maureen Seaton, Naomi Replanski, and Judith Barrington. This precious selection exemplifies the cross-fertilisation of language between the poetry cultures and lesbian communities of the U.K. and America. \$14.99 pb, 0-906500-60-5, May.

**All in the Game** by Eleanor Hill. A "womanising" football coach and her team's brilliant new member play out their charged relationship within a generous and knowing lesbian community. British women's football, from amateur games to the professional league, is the background of, suprisingly, a good old-fashioned vanilla love story that takes pains to reveal the long-term effects of "outing." A realistic, warm first novel. \$10.99 pb, 0-906500-62-1, June.

**Lost and Found** by Lis Whitelaw. Set in the early years of this century, at the height of the campaign for women's right to vote, this lesbian romance is also a thriller. Antisuffragists not only seethe against votes for women but also worry about "unnatural practices." The Actresses' Franchise League provides a heady London setting for performers who fall in and out of love...until one of the prettiest young touring actresses is kidnapped. Ms. Whitelaw is well known for her biography of actress, Cicely Hamilton, which provides insight into early feminist campaigns. \$11.99 pb, 0-906500-61-3, June.

Onlywomen Press, 40 St. Lawrence Terrace, London W10 5ST; tel +181-960-7122, fax +181-960-2817, email (onlywomen\_press@compuserve.com). Distributed by Alamo. Note: Because of the time it will take for our books to get from England to our distributor, release dates are approximate.

—Lilian Mohin, *Onlywomen Press*

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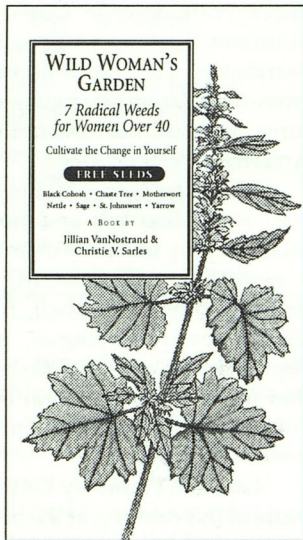
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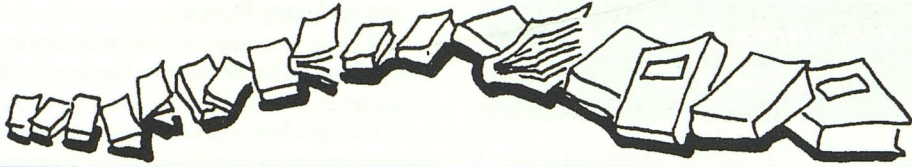
## Plain View Press

**Next to the Last Word** by Susan Bright is poetry about the passion, mechanics, and aesthetics of the word — includes more than a hundred new poems and selected early work. "A dazzling reach.... [A] shrewd observer of late twentieth-century urban life." —Betty Sue Flowers, poet and professor, UT Austin. Bright's slant on art and the world is uniquely shaped by the fact that she is both a performing poet and the editor and publisher of more than a hundred books by other poets. Her poems about the history of book making, ancient illuminators, libraries, scribes, advertisements, and commerce explore the process so that "print" becomes itself the subject of art. \$14.95 pb, 156 pages, 1-891386-04-2.

A collection of stories and poems from nine passionate women writers, **Up from the Soles of Our Feet: A Women's Reader** edited by Margo LaGattuta is laced with earthiness and honesty. There is magic in these pages, as the women transform suffering and loss into a triumph of the spirit. There is surrealism, humor, and the probing of inner landscapes. Each voice is unique, yet together they raise a collective voice of intensity, grace, and burning curiosity that is Woman at her creative best. Work by Stephanie Matthews, Nancy J. Henderson, Susan Paurazas, Donna Stubak, Colleen Reader, Denise Thomas, Suzanne Dolan Manji, Kristin Palm, and Barbara Kendzierski. \$17.95 pb, 200 pages, 0-911051-98-8.

**Evidence to the Contrary** by Mitzi Alvin. Where is the evidence? And how does it mount up? These beautifully crafted poems by Mitzi Alvin are jewels of loss and renewal that stir the heart and mind with their quiet ardor, their unwavering honesty. These are songs of mending the past with recovered strength in all the broken places: "Yes, the foundation remains, /but the structure/ is irrevocably altered. / This time precautions are built in. /There's less to lose here. /You know where to stand." Alvin's voice is redeeming but edged with the sorrow of discovery, with the lost innocence that must be named. \$12.95 pb, 80 pages, 0-911051-97-X.

An international group of women who gather for the Association of Women of the Mediterranean Region annual conference address education for peace in **In Search of Peace** edited by Yana Mintoff Bland. "For the world rulers, the policy of globalism means that they can determine who will and will not



eat, who will and will not be clothed, who will and will not be safe. For us, women of the Mediterranean, globalism means something else: to implement our feminist policy of food and peace for all.”—Roni Ben Efrat, Israel, 1997. “Education for peace and human rights must begin at every home and school.... [U]nless...our children [learn] the duty of respect for each other and allow no discrimination on the basis of color, race, sex, language or religion, we shall no doubt fail.”—Androulla Vassiliou, Attorney and M.P., Cyprus. \$12.95 pb, 148 pages, 1-891386-01-8.

Gay Rubin weaves her stories with an eye for the complications, joys, and ironies of everyday life. In **On a Good Day**, she explores the intricacies of close relationships between characters who come to life as believably as rain. What would one say to Paul Newman in the dry cleaners? How can a father’s hearing loss shield him from his wife’s infidelities? Rubin’s humor is compelling as it raises deep and fundamental questions (like, what is the meaning of family, after all?) that linger long after the last page. “These stories are finely and unobtrusively crafted — keenly observant, precisely articulated — and seen from a unique angle that makes possible a simultaneity of the comic and sad.”—Stuart Dybek. \$14.95 pb, 0-911051-96-1.

Plain View Press, 2009 Arthur Ln., Austin TX 78704; 512-441-2452. Order directly from the press: 40% discount (or 50% RPS collect) for multiple copy orders (5+), 800-868-3605. Also available from B&T and the Ingram Special Orders Division.

—Susan Bright, Plain View Press



### Press Gang Publishers

**Monkeypuzzle** is a stunning first collection of poetry by Rita Wong, winner of the 1998 ACWW Emerging Writer’s Award. From the intimacy of a family-owned grocery store to the bicycle-laden streets of modern-day China, from the histories of

early Chinese immigrants in North America to a rainy Tiananmen vigil, Wong excavates the minefields of childhood, history, and desire with heady, sensual language. Press Gang Publishers, 1723 Grant St., Vancouver BC, Canada V5L 2Y6; 604-251-3315. Distributed in the U.S. by LPC, in Canada by General, and in the U.K. by Turnaround.

—Press Gang Publishers

### Seal Press

Seal is thrilled to publish a woman’s account of the Everest tragedy made famous by Jon Krakauer’s book *Into Thin Air*. In May 1996, Lene Gammelgaard became the first Scandinavian woman to summit Mount Everest. Already a bestseller in Denmark, her **Climbing High: A Woman’s Account of Surviving the Everest Tragedy** is a spellbinding account of the fateful expedition. This is an inspiring tale of one woman’s enduring spirit of adventure and insightful reflection on what it means to climb a mountain as dangerous and humbling as Everest. \$25 cl, 1-58005-023-9, July.

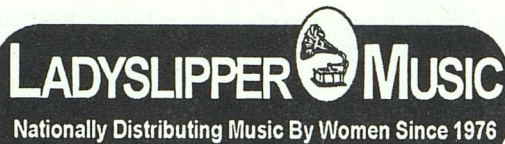
For those readers who are intrigued by things that go bump in the night, Seal offers **Night Shade: Gothic Tales by Women**. This chilling collection of fiction, written in the tradition of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, depicts a world in which the abnormal is normal and shape shifting is an everyday phenomenon. Seventeen talented women offer up extraordinary tales on common themes. \$14.95 pb, 1-58005-024-7, May.

Seal is extremely proud to publish **Blessed by Thunder: Memoir of a Cuban Girlhood**, an unforgettable portrait of a society wrenched by political upheaval and a young woman’s journey into exile and spiritual healing. Flor Fernandez Barrios tells the story of her Cuban childhood under Fidel Castro: the possession and ruin of her grandparents’ farm, the rural work camp where she was sent with thousands of other schoolchildren, and her new life in the U.S. \$22.95 cl, 1-58005-021-2, June.

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Just in time for Gay Pride Month, Seal is pleased to offer a Djuna Books reissue of Sara Schulman's tale of lesbian life on the Lower East Side of New York City. **Girls, Visions, and Everything** is a fast-paced, spirited romp through politics and sexuality. Schulman, a master of dialogue, pulls the reader into the lives of a group of struggling young artists trying to find meaning in their changing world. \$12.95 pb, 1-58005-022-0, June.

Since the discussion of death in our society remains a taboo, books that support those facing the impending death of a loved one have become even more necessary. In **Parting Company: Understanding the Loss of a Loved One**, special emphasis is placed on the role of the woman as caregiver; 77 percent of adult children caring for aging parents are female. The firsthand accounts of the female caregivers offer seldom-discussed information about the process of dying. \$18.95 pb, 1-58005-019-0, July.

Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. #410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844, orders only 800-754-0271. Distributed by PGW. Available from BP. —Seal Press

**Second Story Press**

It's an exciting and eclectic Spring for Second Story Press. The **Women's Daybook 2000** appropriately leads us into the millennium with photographs and text celebrating the passages in women's lives. Different in design from any women's organizer available, it combines the usefulness of a business planner with the elegance of an art calendar at a very reasonable price. Includes 13 photographs. \$12.95 spiral binding, 1-896764-16-9, July.

Written by a family of highly experienced women hikers and canoeists, **The Wilderness Cookbook: A Guide to Good Food on the Trail** demonstrates how to eat well in the wilderness without cumbersome gear. In addition to recipes, this cooking and guide book discusses preparation and planning, tips for drying vegetables, fruits, and meat, and how to travel with fresh produce and preserved meat products. It also talks about setting up a cook station, emergency food supplies, safety, and packing efficiency. \$12.95 pb, 1-896764-18-5, April.

In **A Gift for Gita**, the final full-color picture book of the acclaimed series featuring Gita, a young immigrant and our protagonist, who has made friends in her adopted home, is now faced with the possibility of returning to India. A warm and touching story about the importance of stability and the meaning of "home," **A Gift for Gita** has now been translated into eight languages. Ideal for readers under nine. \$5.95 pb, 1-896764-10-X; \$12.95 cl, -12-6.

In **The Shacklands**, a historical novel for young adult readers, a teenager and her family leave the slums of London for a better life in North America. Although she continues to live in poverty, Jessie dreams of being a teacher. When her mother dies, she finds herself confined to the drudgery of housework and then factory work until the workers decide to strike and Jessie finds both a voice and a vision of a stronger, more confident self. \$7.95 pb, 1-896764-13-4.

Second Story Press, 720 Bathurst St. Ste. 301, Toronto, Canada M5S 2R4; 416-537-7850, fax 416-537-0588. Distributed by LPC.

—Second Story Press

**Sibyl Publications**

**Food No Matter What! Stories and Recipes for Perfect Dining in an Imperfect World** by Laura Szabo-Cohen and Karin Kasdin solves the daily

dilemma of what to serve with more than 200 delectable dishes and clever tips. Whether your nails are wet or your arm is broken or you have to feed a crowd after a funeral or your kitchen is being remodeled, you'll discover insightful solutions and brilliant recipes. But even if you never cook a thing, **Food No Matter What!** is a hilarious read! \$14.95 pb, 1-889531-02-2. Sibyl Publications, 1007 Westwood Dr., Portland OR 97201; 503-293-8391. Available from B&T, Bookazine, BP, and Cogan Books.

—Miriam Selby, *Sibyl Publications*



### Sister Vision Press

**Mercury Retrograde: Stories by Women** edited by Camille Hernandez-Ramdwar, Sharon Lewis, Ruba Nadda, and Jay Pitter. On the edge, contemporary, humorous — these stories take the reader inside the minds of a diverse and complex cast of characters: a sensitive Palestinian woman caught in a conflict between the old and the new while searching for her own sexual identity, a mixed-race girl searching for herself through her fearless alter-ego, the friendship between two young Black women, a mixed-race South Asian woman who pushes the limits of convention with humour and wit. The collection reveals much about the diversity of cultures, the complexity of national pride, alienation, and sexuality. **Mercury Retrograde** throws into sharp relief the talent and scope of new Canadian writing. \$11.95 pb (C\$15.95), 1-896705-18-9, April.

In a collection that celebrates the richness and diversity of dub women poets, editor Afua Cooper offers a selection of the best work being produced in English. **Incantations and Utterances: Women, Poetry, and Dub** showcases internationally established and emerging poets. Rooted in oral tradition, these women offer their poetry and put their issues on the dub agenda: to chant love, survival, equality, and sexuality. Their words pulsate with the rhythm of passion. These word mistresses use language and performance to search for and celebrate the power of the word — reminding us that dub poetry is local, national, and international — and, ultimately, nectar for the soul. \$11.95 pb (C\$15.95), 1-896705-28-6, May.

Sister Vision Press, PO Box 217, Station E, Toronto ON, Canada M6H 4E2; 416-533-9353, fax

416-533-9676, email <sisvis@web.net>. Distributed in the U.S. and Canada by the University of Toronto Press, 800-565-9523, fax: 800-221-9985, email <utpbooks@utpress.utoronto.ca>. U.S. orders can be sent to UTP, 2250 Military Road, Tonawanda NY 14150; 800-565-9523. —*Sister Vision Press*

### Spinifex Press

**Talking Up: Young Women's Take on Feminism** edited by Rosamund Else-Mitchell and Naomi Flutter is a book only Spinifex would publish. It takes up issues of concern for young women and challenges the stereotype of individualism rampant in the media notion of young women. The 90s have been a time of rapid change, and this is reflected in these pieces by 21 writers ages 17 to 33. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-66-3.

By contrast, Diane Bell's beautifully wrought and controversial book about Aboriginal women's struggles for land rights takes up issues about the meaning of the past. **Ngarrindjeri Wurruwarrin: A World That Is, Was, and Will Be** is a book that will change your life and change the way you see the world. A mix of anthropology, storytelling, law, myth, history, and auto/biography, it documents one group of women, the Ngarrindjeri, who are struggling to have their sacred sites recognised. \$27.95 cl, 1-875559-71-X.

Merlinda Bobis, poetic performance artist and academic, also traces mythical origins. She writes of the people of the Philippines in **Summer Was a Fast Train Without Terminals**. She writes of war and peace, life and death, love and passion. Her work brings us, as she says, "words freshly pried loose from my wishbone." An award-winning poet sings herself into being in her beautifully titled book. \$13.95 pb, 1-875559-76-0.


**St. Suniti and the Dragon** by the best fabulist writing today, Suniti Namjoshi, explores similar themes, such as how to live decently and honorably in a cruel and irrational world. Her characters spring from the traditions of both East and West with talking flowers and instructive angels, from literary monsters to St. Sebastian, from the sentient creatures of Indian fable to the Western life-destroying dragon. \$12.95 pb, 1-875559-18-3.

Spinifex Press, PO Box 212, North Melbourne, Vic 5051, Australia; +61-3-9329-6088, fax +61-3-9329-9238, email <world@spinifexpress.com.au>. Spinifex

NY Office: 718-351-9599, fax 718-980-4262, email <KarlsbergM@aol.com>. Distributed in North America by LPC.  
—Spinifex Press

**Spinsters Ink**

**Conferences Are Murder** by Val McDermid is the fourth Lindsay Gordon mystery. While attending a British journalists' union conference, Lindsay becomes the prime suspect in the mysterious death of the union's leader. In an effort to clear her name, Lindsay and her new love Sophie search among hundreds of conventioners for a murderer who may have struck before. Originally published in England as *Union Jack*. \$12 pb, 1-883523-30-3, April.



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In her debut novel, **Ordinary Justice**, author Trudy Labovitz introduces us to private investigator Zoe Kergulin. As Zoe investigates a stormy relationship that has ended in the brutal murder of one spouse and the mysterious disappearance of the other, she discovers a close-knit community of mountain folk hiding secrets ranging from the illicit production of moonshine to hunting out of season to domestic violence. \$12 pb, 1-883523-21-1, May.

**Sugar Land** is the story of two sisters, who as children, performed throughout Texas as "The Sugar Babes." But those glory days are long gone, and all that remains are the blues the two women sing as they come to terms with life, death, and everything in between. By Joni Rodgers, the author of the critically acclaimed *Crazy for Trying* (MacMurray & Beck). \$12 pb, 1-883523-32-X, May.

Spinsters Ink, 32 East First St. #330, Duluth, MN 55802; 800-301-6860, email <spinster@spinsters-ink.com>, Web site <<http://www.spinsters-ink.com>>. Distributed by WORDS Distributing Co., 800-593-9673. Available from Ingram, B&T, BP, and all other wholesalers.  
—Spinsters Ink

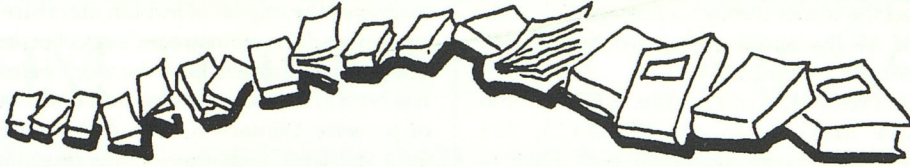


**Wolfe Video**

Bring your store into the new millennium with DVD. Wolfe Video offers a wide selection of this profitable and popular new video format. Titles include new movies and classics such as *Claire of the Moon*, *More Tales of the City*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*, *The Opposite of Sex*, *Entre Nous*, *Wild Reeds*, and *Man of the Year*. SRPs range from \$29.95 to \$49.95.

New Releases from the Wolfe Pack:

**Some Prefer Cake.** Set in San Francisco, this fast-paced comedy follows best friends Sydney and Kira along intertwining paths of sex, food, and relationships. Kira, an aspiring not-so-funny lesbian comic, spends most of her energy on dating. Her straight pal Sydney, a restaurant critic, asserts that the average woman, given the choice between a nice piece of chocolate cake and sex, will always go for the cake. Add a dash of romance, a pinch of drama, and a heaping of intrigue and you've got a recipe for an irresistibly scrumptious comedy. \$59.95, 95 minutes.



**The Real Ellen Story** follows the inner workings of the sitcom industry as it produces Ellen's controversial coming out "Puppy Episode." TV comedy life becomes national headline reality for the series star as innuendoes change to rumors then turn to fact. Both Ellens eventually come out to a mixture of cheers and jeers. Historic and entertaining reel/real moments are captured in this fast-paced, informative documentary. Footage of Ellen, Anne Heche, and various prominent figures (Oprah, Bill Clinton, Laura Dern, and Melissa Etheridge to name a few) complete a fascinating picture of coming out big-time 90s style. \$29.95, 42 minutes.

**Serving in Silence.** Glenn Close stars as Margarethe Cammermeyer in the powerful and inspirational true story of a decorated Army Colonel who dared to challenge the U.S. military's antigay policy and take a stand for human rights. Featuring Emmy award-winning performances by both Glenn Close and Judy Davis (as her soulmate, Diane Divelbess), **Serving in Silence** is a superlative, groundbreaking drama from executive producers Barbara Streisand and Glenn Close. \$99.95.

**I Think I Do.** Reunite six college friends at a weekend wedding, toss in lost loves and past hurts, add a touch of doubt, and create a serious and sassy romantic comedy. \$59.95.

**Watermelon Woman** reducing to \$29.95. Cheryl, a young Black woman, is making a documentary about an obscure Black actress from the 1930s. Just as she discovers that the actress had a white lesbian lover, Cheryl meets the girl of her own dreams. Directed by Cheryl Dunye; also features Guinevere Turner. 85 minutes.

Wolfe Video, PO Box 64, New Almaden CA 95042; 408-268-6782, fax 408-268-9449. —*Wolfe Video*

### Women in Translation

**Nothing Happened** by Ebba Haslund, translated from the Norwegian by Barbara Wilson, is an early lesbian novel from Norway originally published by

Seal Press. Condemned for its "perversity" and virtually ignored when first published in 1948, this novel by well-known author Ebba Haslund is one of a handful of novels with a lesbian theme ever written in Norwegian. An important rediscovery, **Nothing Happened** is a moving story of female friendship and the courage to love. "This novel is a little miracle of transformation."—Jane Rule. \$12.95 pb, 1-879679-13-2, April. Women in Translation, 523 North 84th St., Seattle WA 98103; 206-781-9612, fax same, email (wit@scn.org). Available from Consortium.  
—*Women in Translation*



### Women's Press — Canada

**Scratching the Surface: Canadian Anti-Racist Feminist Thought** edited by Enakshi Dua and Angela Robertson brings together 14 antiracist feminists who examine ways in which race and gender interact to shape the lives of women of colour in Canada. This collection of articles covers a broad range of topics such as the impact of colonialism on First Nations and other groups of colonised women, the impact of globalization on women of colour, sexism in communities of colour, and the response of the Canadian women's movement to creating an antiracist praxis. The book provides exciting new insights into how women of colour experience Canadian society. Enakshi Dua has been active in the anti-racist feminist movement in Toronto for more than ten years and worked as co-managing editor of Women's Press. \$22.95 pb, 0-88961-230-7, May.

**Of All the Summers** by Helen McLean is a lyrical and poignant novel filling the void in stories focusing on older women and their experiences. A journey through self-discovery that combines art history, romance, mystery, and small-town life, the novel is complemented by beautiful drawings and landscapes painted with elegance and a rare precision. Compelling

characters lead the reader through a suspenseful, satisfying trek; **Of All the Summers** is a wonderful treat. \$14.95 pb (C\$16.95), 0-88961-235-8.

Women's Press, 517 College Ave. #302, Toronto ON, Canada M6G 4A2; 416-921-2425, fax 416-921-4428, email <wompress@web.net>. Distributed by LPC. —Women's Press



### Women's Press — U.K.

Jenny Morris, editor of *Able Lives*, confronts the nature and the prejudice against disabled people in **Pride Against Prejudice**. Morris "cover[s] current and historical debates on the quality of disabled people's lives, the way disability is represented within Western culture, institutionalization and independence, feminist research and 'community care,' and the politics of the disability movement." Morris asserts that disabled people should define the disability experience and have control over their own lives. \$15.95 pb, 0-7043-4286-3.

**Between the Worlds** by Caeia March is a novel about Lerryn, who goes to Penzance to end her life. But she is discovered, at the eleventh hour, by Cherry and Beech, two women keeping the women-only community alive. Lerryn recovers and is soon enmeshed in the doings at Penzance: from meeting an old friend (and you know what *that* means) to researching women-only communities to the struggle to reconcile her hurtful past. Lerryn soon realizes that she's never felt more alive. \$13.95 pb, 0-7043-4471-8.

Caeia March has also edited **Knowing ME: Women Speak about Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome**, in which women with ME write about the illness' effect on them. They describe when they realized that they had ME, how it affects their day-to-day life, and their frustration with doctors, social services, employers, and friends. They theorize about the nature of the disease and discuss why so many more women than men contract it. They talk about money, the benefits systems, and changed working and living patterns. They explore how the illness changes relationships with lovers, family, friends, and colleagues. Finally, these women offer advice for living with ME. \$17.95 pb, 0-7043-4539-0.

**Beyond Sex and Romance: The Politics of Contemporary Lesbian Fiction** edited by Elaine Hutton

examines the impact of lesbian literature on the mainstream, and the mainstream's effect on lesbian fiction. The contributors ask how the work of lesbian authors has been affected by success and discusses the careers of Jeanette Winterson, Lisa Alther, Val McDermid, Sara Maitland, and others. Other questions addressed in **Beyond Sex and Romance**: Has the success of lesbian crime fiction brought about political change? Do lesbian thrillers still have a radical vision? How are romance and relationships handled in the modern lesbian novel? How are Black characters represented? Has lesbian science fiction, utopian, and dystopian fiction continued to expose women's oppression and investigate alternatives? How much have changing values and ideologies within lesbian culture been reflected in these novels? \$17.95 pb, 0-7043-4537-4.

**Something to Savour: Food for Thought from Women Writers** edited by Laurie Critchley and Helen Windrath is a collection of recipes from 50 women writers from around the world. Includes recipes from Mary Daly, Margaret Atwood, Robin Morgan, Alice Munro, Joyce Carol Oates, and many more. Also includes anecdotes, private memories, and personal histories. \$13.95 pb, 0-7043-4507-2.

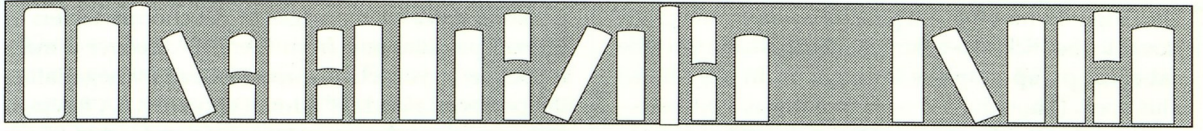
**Heaven and Hearth: A Seasonal Compendium of Women's Spiritual and Domestic Lore** by Beverly Pagram is a collection of women's home magic, myth, and medicine. Pagram explores the heritage of food gathering and preparing, the significance of herbs, health remedies, recipes, spells, potions, charms, the communal nature of tending to house and garden, and more. She draws links between domestic work and the seasons and women's cycles and the natural world. \$15.95 pb, 0-7043-4540-4.

**Chicken Feed** by Alma Fritcheley is a lesbian mystery set, like Fritcheley's *Chicken Run* and *Chicken Out*, on the farm. Letty prepares for a long dull time alone when her lover sets off to the U.S. for a lecture tour. But a strange woman and her five-year-old child arrive unexpectedly and turn Letty's life upside down. Somehow, they are caught up in the disappearance of a lesbian politician, the imprisonment of Letty's ex-girlfriend, and the appearance of a videotape that almost costs Letty her life. \$13.95 pb, 0-7043-4570-6.

The Women's Press, 34 Great Sutton St., London EC1V 0DX. Distributed by Trafalgar Square, North Pomfret VT 05053; 800-423-4525. —TMR ○



# FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Teri Mae Rutledge

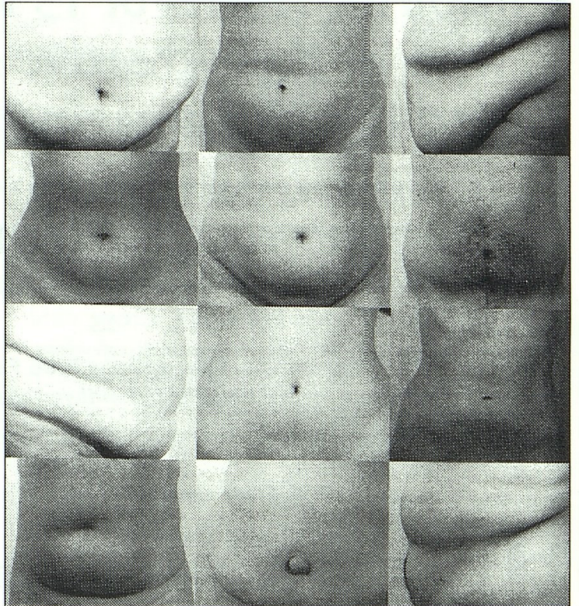
## Magazines

*Tameme* is a new annual bilingual literary journal of new writing from North America (Canada, the U.S., and Mexico). "Tameme" is a Náhuatl word for porter or messenger. In this Spanish/English publication, many huge literary names (like Margaret Atwood and Edwidge Danticat) and lesser-known folks enjoy the very fine English/Spanish or Spanish/English translation on which *Tameme* prides itself. \$14.95, ISSN: 1089-7208. Tameme Inc., 199 First St., Los Altos CA 94022; fax 415-941-5338, Web site (<[www.tameme.org](http://www.tameme.org)>).

*World War 3* has produced a special issue, "Female Complaints: Gutsy Comics About Women's Health and Occupational Hazards." This issue is Sabrina Jones' turn at editor-in-chief on the rotating editorial board. With comic strips covering everything from a prostitute's happiness when she blindfolds her john and is able to finally take her heels off to a docu-strip about medical "experiments" on pregnant women, this gathering of mostly female up-and-coming comic-strippers is, in general, pretty cool. I cringed in all the right places (especially when poor Darlene got her period in the pool) and chuckled when I was supposed to (like at Sarah's "all-day muffin" — I *wish* someone would make an all-day bagel for me!!). \$3.50 retail. WW 3, PO Box 20777, Tomkins Square Station, NY NY 10019. Distributed by Mordham Records, 415-642-6800. Available from Last Gasp, Armadillo, Desert Moon, Ubiquity, and in Canada from Marginal.

Are you a fatso? In *Fat!So? Because You Don't Have to Apologize for Your Size*, Marilyn Wann, the

flabulous creator of the zine by the same name, encourages us to find out. A sample question from the fatso quiz: If a clothing store has nothing that fits me, I: a) Leave feeling worthless and depressed, b) Try on the one garment they have that barely fits me and buy it even if it's ugly, c) Tell the clerk that I prefer muumuus anyway, d) Come back with a flame-thrower. The correct answer to this question, in case you're wondering, is "d." If that was your answer, then this book is for you. There are Fat!So? trading cards (of the heroes and villains in fat history), a Venus of Willendorf paper doll (dress her up for the Luau! at the beach! and in the boudoir!), 20 really good reasons to dye your hair hot pink (like: Hot pink



Belly photos by Debora Iyall, Anatomy Lesson #2, in *Fat!So?* (Ten Speed Press)

is the new fashion neutral), anatomy lessons (pictures of arms, butts, bellies, and chins of all shapes and sizes), an adorable fat-girl-in-a-swimsuit flipbook, rants, timelines, stories, and big good fun. Ten Speed did a really great job of designing this book, from the don't-ignore-me blue, hot pink (of course!), and green cover to the slick two-color ink interior to the fab little fat-chick pinup graphics throughout. In all, I loved this book. (Though I did wish that it was a bit less — well, white.) It does my jaded heart a world of good to know that Marilyn Wann (with her fat pride and her thong bikini) exists. Get **Fat!So?** and feel flabulous. \$12.95 pb, 0-89815-995-4. Ten Speed Press, PO Box 7123, Berkeley CA 94707; 510-559-1600, fax 510-524-4588. Available from Ingram, B&T, and all major distributors.

In **An Uncommon Correspondence: An East-West Conversation on Friendship, Intimacy, and Love** by Ivy George and Margaret Masson, readers are treated to the correspondence between George, who was born in Britain, and Masson, who

was raised in India. The women converse about courtship, friendship, love, and marriage and how their cultures have shaped their understanding of each. In the introduction, Masson writes, "This is a book about love.... It is grounded in an attempt to find a resting place on the edges of the choppy waters of human passion, and from there to discover a more reflective, constructive, directed means of negotiating the powerful rapids of human sexuality." A fascinating correspondence between friends. \$14.95 cl, 0-8091-0500-4. The Paulist Press, 997 Macarthur Blvd., Mahwah NJ 07430; 201-825-7300, fax 201-825-6921, email <paulistp@pipeline.com>. Available from most major wholesalers, including Ingram, B&T, and Bookazine.

Another book of letters, **I'll Stand by You: The Letters of Sylvia Townsend Warner and Valentine Ackland** edited by Susanna Pinney, chronicles a love affair of almost 40 years. Sylvia Townsend (1893-1978) was a short story writer, novelist, and poet. Valentine Ackland (1906-1969) was a poet.

## Inspiring stories of 13 women who let their creative spirits lead them to amazing places

\*\*\*\*\*

### CLAIMING YOUR CREATIVE SELF

*True Stories from the Everyday Lives of Women*

Eileen M. Clegg

\* By the author of *Becoming a Wise Parent for Your Grown Child* and *Goodbye Good Girl*

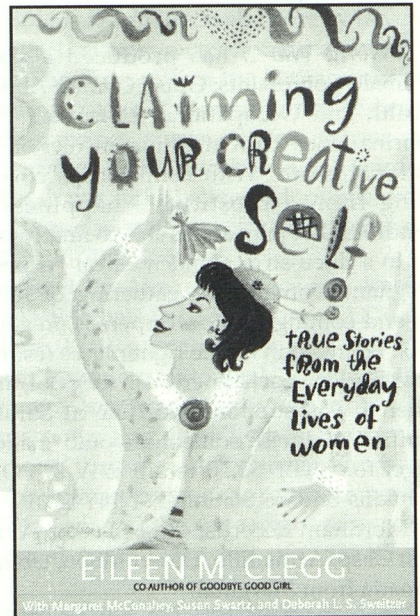
\* Author tour: San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle

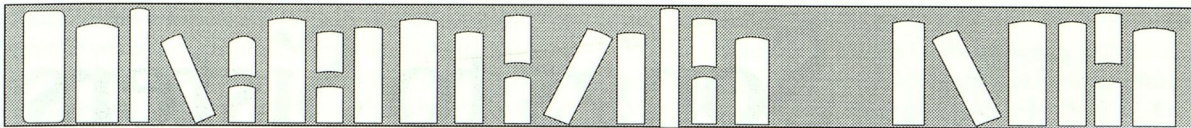
\$15.95, Trade paper, 1-57224-117-9



**New Harbinger**

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Whether they were apart or together, the women wrote regularly to each other. The resulting correspondence is a narrative of their relationship, from their "wedding night" through the years when Valentine was having an affair with another woman to Valentine's return to Catholicism. The letters also explore literary friendships, daily life, gardening, music, art, books, and politics and touch upon the Spanish Civil War, communism, and World War II. This is worth the effort to order! \$24.95 pb, Pimlico, an imprint of Random House, London. Distributed by Trafalgar Square, PO Box 257, Howe Hill Road, North Pomfret VT 05053; 802-457-1911, fax 802-457-1913, email <tsquare@sover.net>.

**The Healing Blanket: Stories, Values, and Poetry from Ojibwe Elders and Teachers** by Gina Jones, Maryellen Baker, and Mildred "Tinker" Schuman offers medicine for the mind, body, and soul from three Ojibwe (Chippewa) Medicine Women. The Ojibwe Tribal Elders have endorsed **The Healing Blanket** as a book of truth to be shared with the world. The first section of the book (by Gina Jones) is a love story with an urgent environmental message. The second section reveals how a traditional way of life and values helps Maryellen Baker to be a strong Anishinaabe-Ikwe. The third section (by Mildred Schuman) looks at the heart of the Ojibwe people through art and poetry. \$14.95 pb, 1-881394-24-7. Commune-a-Key Publishing, PO Box 58637, Salt Lake City UT 84158; 801-581-9191, fax 801-581-9196. Available from Access Publishers Network, BP, New Leaf, Ingram, and B&T.

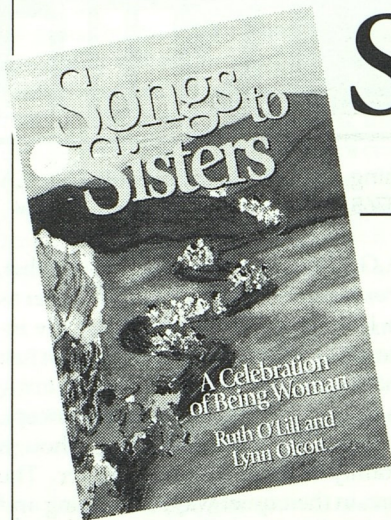
**You're Not Old Until You're Ninety...Best to Be Prepared, However** by Rebecca Latimer is extraordinary for the simple fact that the author *is* actually, herself, over 90 years old (since most books about old women are by younger women who have not actually experienced being old firsthand). Latimer's ability to live fully and to enjoy her life at every age is inspiring for readers of all ages. \$12.95 pb, 1-57733-009-9. Blue

Dolphin Publishing, Inc., PO Box 8, Nevada City CA 95959; 800-643-0765. Available from BP and Ingram.

In **Soon**, A.G. Mojtabai, a respected novelist, writes about her experiences as a hospice volunteer as she explores the last days of patients in a single inpatient ward. She looks at the lives of families, not just patients, and she locates moments of people *living* while dying. It's a book that reminds me, in concept, of Rebecca Brown's *The Gifts of the Body*, though Mojtabai is certainly a very different writer. The stories in **Soon** are, in their quiet way, wrenching and poignant. From Mojtabai's introduction: "Entering a patient's room, I'm always aware of how little I, or anyone, can do. Happening to be there at a graced moment, I am sometimes startled to find — *this* side of death — the old barriers rolled away, stranger turning towards stranger with no other strangeness but the ease of that turning. Those moments have given me the courage to presume." \$22 cl, 0-944072-91-7. Zoland Books, 384 Huron Ave., Cambridge MA 02138. Distributed by Consortium.



**Millennium Girls: Today's Girls Around the World** edited by Sherrie Inness hopes to set the stage for the study of girl culture worldwide. In this collection of essays, Inness seeks to disrupt the white, middle/upper-class focus of most books on the topic of girls. **Millennium Girls** will be a strong companion to books like *The Body Project* by Joan Brumberg. Inness says in her introduction: "A mere 68 percent of the world's girls have made it to fifth grade; girl prostitutes are common in Thailand, Brazil, and the Philippines as well as other countries.... These grim facts could be joined by countless others. Around the globe, girls often face bleak realities about their lives, careers, and families. They are still second-class citizens, doubly marginalized by their age and gender, and their lives are rarely taken seriously or



# Songs to Sisters

*A Celebration of Being Woman*

Ruth O'Lill and Lynn Olcott

You'll smile...

### *Being Single*

*It's funny about being single.  
You walk around with  
a machete in one hand  
and a lasso in the other.*

you'll cry...

### *If*

*If there's a place  
that doesn't hurt,  
I'll go there*

*...and you'll find some part of yourself in these pages  
with two blood sisters who share their loves, their children,  
their divorces, and their healings in this collection  
of intimate and poetic correspondence.*



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are disregarded entirely; this is particularly the case for girls who are also marginalized by race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic background. For these reasons, girls become voiceless ghosts in many cultures. This book seeks to address this problem and to create a space for some of the girls who have not been allowed or given an opportunity to speak." \$17.95 pb, 0-8476-9137-3. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706; 301-459-3366, fax 301-459-2118. Distributed by National Book Network, 800-462-6420.



The latest Uppity Women book from Conari, **Uppity Women of the Renaissance** by Vicki León, profiles 200 women in renaissance times who were brazen enough to become sheriffs, spies, science fiction writers, army commanders, international traders, and mine owners. There are women profiled who wrote peace treaties or founded cosmetics empires. Among them are Catalina de Erauso, who

"dueled, drank, and cross-dressed her way through Spain and North America," Christina of Denmark, "a dimpled 16-year-old widow who rejected Henry VII (and lived to tell about it)," and Veronica Franco, "an Italian poet and courtesan turned politician who lobbied on behalf of Venice's painted ladies." As always, León's writing is buttressed by solid research, artwork, and her outrageous wit. \$14.95 pb, 1-57324-127-X.

The latest in the Barnard Biography Series for Young Adults, **Lorraine Hansberry: Award-Winning Playwright and Civil Rights Activist** by Susan Sinnott chronicles the life of the young woman who wrote *A Raisin in the Sun* and became an activist in the civil rights movement in the 60s. Ages 12 and up. \$6.95 pb, 1-57324-093-1.

Conari Press, 2550 Ninth St. Ste. 101, Berkeley CA 94710. Distributed by PGW.

**Eden Built by Eves: The Culture of Women's Music Festivals** by Dr. Bonnie Morris takes readers on a behind-the-scenes tour of festivals from Michigan to Yosemite, examining why women's music

festivals have become a lesbian rite of passage. For over 25 years groups of women as large as 10,000 have gathered for music, crafts, political workshops, and the freedom to love women openly. Alyson says that **Eden Built by Eves** explores "the changing definitions of women's music, sexual styles, and political correctness debated at each festival...from the early years of lesbian separatism to the new Michigan mosh pit." Since 1981, Dr. Morris has been a festival herstory and archivist. Among the artists, producers, and festival staff profiled are Tracy Chapman, Kate Clinton, Melissa Etheridge, Lea Delaria, k.d. lang, Holly Near, Sweet Honey in the Rock, and more, more, more!! \$15.95 pb, 1-55583-477-9, April.

**Deceptions** by Lauren Maddison is a new lesbian mystery novel. When her former lover is murdered in Washington, DC, Connor Hawthorne, former D.A. and bestselling mystery novelist, is determined to solve the case. She does so (she thinks) — easily. But the death of her lover shatters her. When Connor travels to New Mexico to pick up the pieces, the real killer follows her. Aided by a Navajo guide, Connor flees for her life across the high desert. As the murderer draws closer, she must unravel the "web of treachery" — some of it in her own history — to save her life and keep the secret that someone is willing to kill for. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-490-6, May.

**Prayer Warriors: The True Story of a Gay Son, His Fundamentalist Christian Family, and the Battle for His Soul** by Stuart Howell Miller is the story of Miller's coming out to his family and the resulting barrage of "prayers" (in the form of letters and phone calls) from everyone from his twelve-year-old sister (who wrote "God can change you or kill you") to complete strangers. This is a frightening portrait of what fundamentalist Christianity can do to loving families, but it is also a hopeful book, as Miller comes to terms with his life, his family, and his God. \$13.95 pb, 1-55583-445-0, May.

Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. Ste. 1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 800-464-4574, fax 213-467-0173, email (mail@alyson.com). Distributed by Consortium.

Edith Anderson left the East Bronx in 1947 to journey with her husband to his homeland. Max Schroeder had been in exile from Nazi Germany, and he returned to rebuild his country. Edith chronicles her travels and

her life in Germany in **Love in Exile: An American Writer's Memoir of Life in Divided Berlin**. Edith was a struggling young writer at the time of her departure; Max had just been appointed editor-in-chief of the prestigious Aufbau Press in Berlin. She followed him to live "their shared dream of a nontraditional marriage that would nurture both his work and her writing." But Edith found herself in the lonely and frustrating role of the traditional hausfrau. In the meantime, Max tried to protect Edith from the frightening political reality of living in cold-war Germany. A fascinating and personal account of post-World War II Germany. \$29.50 cl, 1-883642-67-1. Steerforth Press, PO Box 70, South Royalton VT 05068; 802-763-2808. Distributed by PGW.



**The International Sweethearts of Rhythm: The Ladies Jazz Band from Piney Woods Country Life School, Revised Edition** by D. Antoinette Handy chronicles the history of a swing band that was known as "the best all-women swing band ever to perform." Complete with black and white photos, The book chronicles the controversial formation (in the 30s) and early years of the band under Piney Woods' ownership. Between 1939 and 1949 were big years for the band. A Texarkana journalist wrote of a performance in 1939: "The 'glorified girls of the brown races' played at the beautiful Ambassador nite club, where they were wildly applauded.... A local newspaper man came out with 26 other white men and women from a dinner party. The group stayed two hours to listen to the swing orchestra that created a new, distinctive style in music, a product of a mixture of several nationalities — Mexican, Negro, Chinese, and Indian — as represented by members of the band." A fascinating history. Hats off to Handy for re-discovering the Sweethearts and for keeping their story alive and current in this new edition. Hopefully the re-birth of swing's popularity in the 90s will ensure a lot of sales of this book. \$27.50 pb, 0-8108-3160-0. Scarecrow Press, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706. Distributed by the National Book Network, 800-462-6420.

Soaring Eagle Press has produced a new expanded edition of the Mother Courage Press

classic, **And Then I Met This Woman: Previously Married Women's Journeys into Lesbian Relationships** edited by Barbee J. Cassingham, M.A., and Sally O'Neil, Ph.D. The new edition includes new interviews, photos, and a new cover. The women included range in age from 28 to 66. It's a welcome update to an important book. And with the resurgence of interest in this topic after Bantam's *Married Women Who Love Women* last year, this should sell itself. \$14.95 pb, 0-9658844-1-4.

**Spirit Called My Name: A Journey of Deepening into Soul** by Sally O'Neil reassures those embarking upon spiritual discoveries that the difficulties experienced along the way should not be viewed as deterrents, but as "signals of affirmation." O'Neil tells the story of her own spiritual transformation to help others on their journeys. \$11.95 pb, 0-9658844-0-6.

Soaring Eagle, formed by Sally O'Neil and Barbee Cassingham, was established to publish O'Neil's *Spirit Called My Name* in 1997 and to republish *And Then I Met This Woman*. Soaring Eagle Publishing, PO Box 578, Freeland WA 98249; 360-331-4412, fax

360-331-4523, email (oneilcas@whidbey.com). Available from BP and New Leaf.

**Daring to Find Our Names: The Search for Lesbian Library History** edited by James V. Carmichael is a bit thick, a bit dull-looking (at first glance), and unreasonably priced, but this collection of essays exploring the past, present, and future of a gay/lesbian/bisexual presence in libraries is fascinating. It covers queer history in libraries, methodological research considerations for locating gays in the library, the history of the ALA's Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the collection and preservation of gay/lesbian archives, and the challenges facing gay/lesbian librarianship. A book to stock for stores with strong queer studies clientele. \$59.95 cl, 0-313-29963-3. Greenwood Publishing Group, PO Box 5007, Westport CT 06881; 800-225-5800, email (bookinfo@greenwood.com). Available from most major wholesalers.



**A Ritual of Drowning: Poems of Love and Mourning** by Teya Schaffer is a collection of poetry inspired by her lover's death from cancer. These powerful, grieving poems from a "lesbian widow" are beautiful testaments to her love. These poems treat mourning not as a time period to enter and leave, but as a companion with whom one must form a relationship. Schaffer's relationship to her grief is full and mature. Judith Barrington said of Schaffer: "[Her] poems tell a story of loss and grief which is both heart-breaking and ultimately uplifting." \$8.95 pb, 0-935079-18-1. Tabor Sarah Books, 367 50th St., Oakland CA 94609; 510-653-8588.

**Enter Me: A Lesbian Memoir** by Jill Legare chronicles Legare's coming out in Waco, Texas, while a student at Baylor University, a Baptist school. Legare writes about a string of relationships with women in various stages of closetedness. She searches for the woman with whom she'll spend the rest of her life. Along the way, she learns about herself. This memoir isn't the most compelling thing I've ever come across, but there are plenty of sexually tense Is-she-or-isn't-she and Will-she-or-won't-she passages, sure to titillate the casual reader. \$9.95 pb,

### Reprinting the 1982 edition

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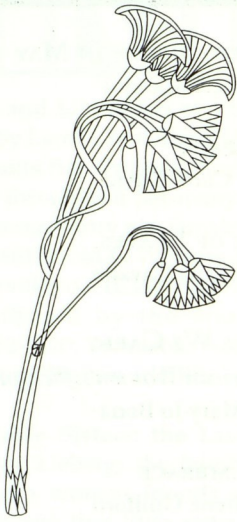
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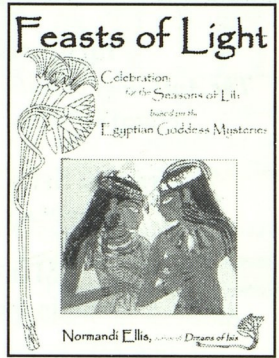
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0-87810-042-3. Times Change Press, 8453 Blackney Rd., Sebastopol CA 95472; 707-824-9456, email (mjsbooks@neteze.com). Distributed by Publisher's Services, PO Box 2510, Novato, CA 94948; 415-883-3530. 1-4: 20%, 5-24: 42%, 25+: 44%. Available from BP, B&T, Alamo Square, and New Leaf.

In **Bittersweet Berries: Growing Up Jewish in World War II**, Ruth F. Brin, a feminist thinker, poet, and well-respected Jewish writer, gives us her memoirs. She says, "Not many girls grew up in the 1920s with a college-educated mother who worked for suffrage and birth control and believed in women's rights. That alone made my girlhood experiences different." Brin outlines the history of her paternal

grandparents' journey from Austria-Hungary in the 1880s to settle in St. Paul. Her portrait of her mother, father, and older brothers is close, loving, and compassionate. Brin writes about how her religious faith became integrated into her life, and how her family combated instances of anti-Semitism. **Bittersweet Berries** is visually beautiful, as well. \$14.95 pb, 0-930100-83-2. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803. Distributed by Consortium.

**The Best of Radio Free Bubba** by Meg Barnhouse, Pat Jobe, Kim Taylor, and Gary Phillips is a compilation of radio commentary from the "Radio Free Bubba" program, a popular progressive radio

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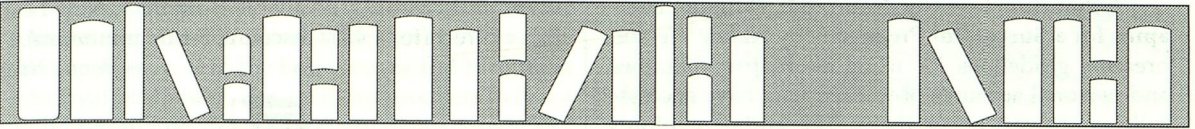
**Sandakan Brothel No. 8: An Episode in the History of Lower-Class Japanese Women** by Yamazaki Tomoko, translated by Karen Colligan-Taylor, explores the lives of the *karayuki-san*, poor rural Japanese women sold into prostitution overseas between the 1860s and the 1930s. Tomoko presents the life of Osaki, a former *karayuki-san*. When she was ten, Osaki accepted cleaning work in Sandakan, North Borneo. Soon, she was forced into prostitution. Osaki hated what she did, but she continued in order to send money home to help her brother. Upon her return to Japan many years later,

he and the rest of her family rejected her. Her son, too, will have nothing to do with her; the social stigma of his prostitute mother would prevent him from marrying well and finding work. Tomoko feels that Osaki embodies the suffering of Japanese women who are oppressed by both class and gender. Throughout Asia, other women and girls worked in brothels established "in conjunction with the expansion of Japanese business interests." Tomoko's book also gives historical context for understanding the exploitation of women in Southeast Asia and Japan today. \$19.95 pb, 0-7656-0354-3. M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 80 Business Park Dr., Armonk NY 10504; 914-273-1800, fax 914-273-2106. Available from most U.S. wholesalers, including Ingram and B&T.



The story of the principal consort of Padmasambhava (who introduced tantric Buddhism to Tibet), Princess Mandarava, is available for the first time in the lucid translation of a rare Tibetan text, **The**





**Lives and Liberation of Princess Mandarava** translated by Lama Chonam and Sangy Khandro. The book "recounts her struggles and triumphs as a Buddhist adept throughout her many lives and is an authentic deliverance story of a female Buddhist master." \$16.95 pb, 0-86171-144-0. Wisdom Publications, 199 Elm St., Somerville MA 02144; 617-776-7416, fax 617-776-7841. Distributed by the National Book Network, 800-462-6420. Available from all major wholesalers, including Ingram and BP.

**Little Sisters: the Last but Not the Least** by Carolyn Lieberg, the latest in the Wildcat Canyon series on women friends and sisters, explores the family role that little sisters play and presents the "warm, amusing, and sometimes irksome stories" of being a little sister. There's a story of a hand-me-down prom dress, for example. Lieberg goes on to talk about the adulthood of little sisters. She talks about specific ways in which being the "lastborn" influences personality and behavior. **Little Sisters** is an attractive book, certainly a nice fluffy "lite" read, unfettered by discussions of incest or any other "heavy" topics that might flatten the froth. \$13.95 pb, 1-885171-24-2. Wildcat Canyon Press, 2716 Ninth St., Berkeley, CA 94710; 510-848-3600, fax 510-848-1326. Distributed by PGW.

In conducting research for **Incest, Work, and Women**, LeslieBeth Berger, Ed.D., interviewed a hundred incest survivors and a hundred nonsexually abused women. This book is not a quantitative, statistical study; rather, it analyzes the stories incest survivors gave about career, dreams, and fears — both on the job and off. It explores the aftermath of incest as it affects job performance as well as difficulties with long-term career planning. Topics include the formation of a victimized and traumatized self, the influence of the family, six major work trends, and survivors' myths and fears about work, careers, and success. \$35.95 pb, 0-398-06883-6; \$59.95 cl, -06882-8. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Ltd., 2600 South First St.,

Springfield IL 62704; 800-258-8980, fax 217-789-9130, email (books@cctthomas.com). Available at short discount from publisher; also available from B&T.

**Gender & Technology** by Saskia Everts is "firmly focused on the economic empowerment of women via technology." It outlines why considerations of gender are necessary in technology and development around the world and serves as a guide for integrating gender into technology. The first part of the book looks at women's technology needs "in theory and in practice." Everts details the ways in which technology can be both an ally and a threat to women in various roles. She then investigates how to implement technology into women's projects, looking at problems like financing, training, technology's appropriateness for specific projects, and its sustainability. The second part of the book looks at the integration of gender into development projects. Another great book with important, international focus from Zed. \$17.50 pb, 1-85649-658-9. Zed Books, Room 400, 175 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10010. Distributed by St. Martin's.



**Amongst Ourselves: A Self-Help Guide to Living with Dissociative Identity Disorder** by Tracy Alderman, Ph.D., and Karen Marshall, L.C.S.W., is pitched expressly for people with DID (formerly known as Multiple Personality Disorder). The authors explain the nature of the disorder, outlining causes and symptoms. They help people with DID to come to terms with the disorder, manage self-destructive or confusing behaviors that accompany it, and "come out" to others. Karen offers, as well as her credentials as a social worker, her perspective as an individual with DID. She is able to address those with DID directly, and offers vital, first-hand advice. \$14.95 pb, 1-57224-122-5. New Harbinger Publications, 5674 Shattuck Ave., Oakland CA 94609; 510-652-0215, fax 510-652-5472. Distributed by PGW.

**Enhancing Fertility Naturally: Holistic Therapies for a Successful Pregnancy** by Nancy Wesson presents guidelines for using alternative therapies and personal accounts of women who have successfully conceived using them. The author explores acupuncture, reflexology, homeopathy, cranial osteopathy, aromatherapy, and herbalism. \$14.95 pb, 0-89281-832-8.

**Multiple Sclerosis and Having a Baby** by Judy Graham. The author, having lived with M.S. for 25 years, has a twelve-year-old son. By following a variety of self-help therapies, she has succeeded in stabilizing her condition. Here, she passes along everything she has learned about conception, fertility, sexuality, postnatal care, and breast-feeding as they relate to women with M.S. \$12.95 pb, 0-89281-788-7.

**African Spirits Speak: A Woman's Journey into the Healing Tradition of the Sangoma** by Nicky Arden is "The moving story of an expatriate coming to terms with her country's history, and her joyous spiritual and emotional rebirth as an African healer." \$14.95 pb, 0-89281-752-6.

Inner Traditions, PO Box 388, Rochester VT

05767; 802-767-3174. Available from B&T, New Leaf, BP or direct (for a 40% discount, 5-title minimum).

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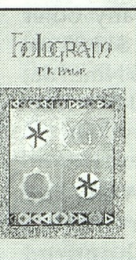
The national edition of the **Gayellow Pages** is out and as comprehensive as ever. This year features a separate women's section. From gay bars to gay dentists, you'll find all your lavender needs met in the yellow pages. \$15.95 pb, 1-885404-13-1. Renaissance House, PO Box 533, Village Station, NY NY 10014; 212-674-0120, fax 212-420-1126, Web site (<http://gayellowpages.com>). Available from Koen, BP, Bookazine, Alamo, Ryan East, and B&T.

**Starting and Running a Successful Newsletter or Magazine, Second Edition** by Cheryl Woodard, the co-founder of *PC Magazine* (currently boasting a circulation of 1.2 million), advises prospective magazine publishers how best to launch their publications. Nolo Press reports that in 1997, 1000 new magazines

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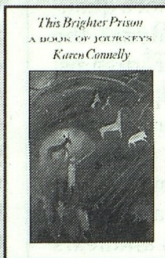


### **Hologram: A Book of Glosas** by P.K. Page

Celebrated poet P.K. Page pays homage to poets as diverse as D.H. Lawrence, Sappho, Pablo Neruda, Dylan Thomas, Mark Strand, in 14 elegant, intricate poems. First published in 1994, fourth printing. \$12.95 ISBN 0-919626-72-6

### **A Really Good Brown Girl** by Marilyn Dumont

A moving and powerful book on the emotional reality of growing up and surviving within a native culture in a white dominated society. First published in 1996, third printing. \$12.95 ISBN 0-919626-76-9



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hit the newsstands, and over half of them didn't make it to the second issue. Woodard covers how to raise start-up money, find the best readers and turn them into loyal customers, use ancillary products to boost your bottom line, develop a circulation strategy and use the most effective marketing channels, attract top-notch talent, find a publishing home on the Internet, and more. It's always important to do your homework before doing something insane like starting a magazine (or a publishing house or a bookstore, for that matter). Woodard offers us one reference. Her Web site knowledge will perhaps be the most useful information here. \$24.95 pb, 0-87337-461-4. Nolo Press, 950 Parker St., Berkeley CA 94710; 510-549-1976, fax 510-548-5902. Available from most major distributors, including Ingram, B&T, and BP.

The author of *Small Time Operator*, Bernard B. Kamoroff, C.P.A., will help you find all those legal tax deductions for your small business that you've missed in **422 Tax Deductions for Businesses and Self-Employed Individuals**. (And you know the IRS isn't going to leap to point them out to you, so....) \$16.95 pb, 0-917510-11-9. Bell Springs Publishing, Box 1240, Willits CA 95490; 707-459-6372, fax 707-459-8614, email (bellsprings@saber.net). Distributed by PGW.

**Hummingbird House** by Patricia Henley is a novel about Kate Banner, a U.S. midwife in Nicaragua. When one of Kate's patients dies, she decides to return to the states. However, en route, Kate stops and stays in Guatemala, where children are known to simply "disappear." Kate is a woman caught, at mid-life, in the realities of war. She struggles to work, to make a difference, to make headway in a war zone, where there is painful need but also an inevitable indifference to her efforts. This is a hard book, and an important one. Kate is a woman who cannot stop her caring, in spite of everything. And Henley's writing is stunning. The way she lands this book will take your breath away. \$22 cl, 1-878448-87-0. MacMurray & Beck, 1649 Downing St., Denver CO 80218; 303-832-2152, fax 303-832-2158. Available from B&T, Bookazine, BP, Books West, Ingram, and Koen.

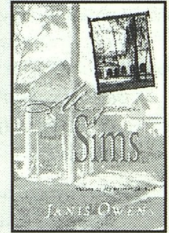
**Love Lesson: A Novel** by Edith Chevat is the story of Millie, who, as she says, hopes to "set the

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record straight" after her mother dies. She wonders, "Did she love me? Was she glad I was born?" Chevat's writing is simple, clear, and poignant as she chronicles the shared lives of Millie and her Jewish immigrant family. Grace Paley said of the book, "A solid, consistently interesting non-sentimental novel...has the tension of a story that first the writer and then the narrator had to tell." \$12 pb, 0-930395-27-1. Valon Books, PO Box 209, Bowling Green Station, New York, NY 10274; 212-432-0387. Available from B&T and BP.

**Bring Us the Old People**, the debut novel of 25-year-old Marissa Kantor Stark, tells the story of Maime Schartz, a 92-year-old widow living in a New Jersey nursing home. Stark based the novel loosely on

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the story told to her by a woman in a Jewish nursing home when Stark was an undergraduate at Princeton. Stark's evocation of Maime is extraordinary. You don't doubt for a moment the voice of Maime as she talks about her childhood in turn-of-the-century Poland, persevering in her troubled marriage, and surviving the Holocaust. Her feelings of abandonment in the present mingle with a pervasive guilt about a painful choice she made over 50 years ago. As Coffee House's copy says, "**Bring Us the Old People** is a powerful meditation of the weight of the past, the force of circumstance, the limits of choice, and the cost of survival." \$22.95 cl, 1-56689-074-8.

**Namako: Sea Cucumber** by Linda Watanabe McFerrin is another debut novel from Coffee House. **Namako** chronicles three years in the life of Ellen, a multi-racial girl. She and her family leave the United States to care for Ellen's ailing grandmother in Japan. Ellen learns how to integrate the family's history with her life. Like Stark, McFerrin is a *very* impressive writer. **Namako** begins: "The childhood I remember was full of secrets. Really, they were lies. For example, it was a lie that we went to Japan because my grand-

mother was ill. The real reason was that my father, Gene, was having an affair and my mother, Sara, had threatened to leave him. Sara's laughing red mouth and her courage were also a lie. She was always afraid that someone would die — something that happened to her again and again. For a while, almost every word that came out of my mouth was a lie. Perhaps this was because that is what I saw all around me. But I lied so well that nobody knew. So my lies became secrets, too." **Namako** is lovely to look at, as well. The design, inside and out, is simple and beautiful. \$14.95 pb, 1-56689-075-6.

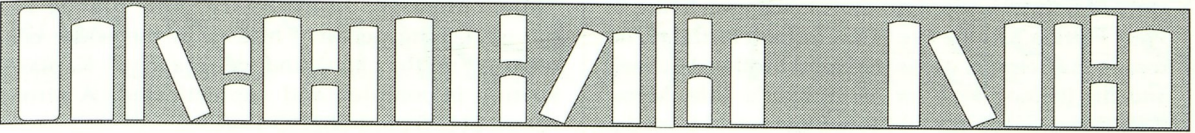
Elaine Equi, author of the poetry collections *Surface Tension* and *Decoy*, now offers **Voice-Over**. Coffee House says of the collection: "Synthesizing 20 years of influences, from pop culture to gender to literary heroes, Elaine Equi constructs a collage of voice — undoubtedly American, exquisitely her own." Her writing is spare, clean, and musical. Her economy throws the subtle twist of her perception in stark contrast with her subjects, from Karaoke to the rising of the moon to fennel. \$13.95 pb, 1-56689-078-0.

Coffee House says of **Prayers of an Accidental Nature** by Debra Di Blasi: "Intellectual and funny, erotic and contemplative, [these] stories scrutinize the tensions and divisions that arise in human relations — divisions of culture, class, age, and sex." Her writing explores need and desire and loneliness. She is, as Coffee House asserts, quite a versatile writer. Her stories move between the fantastic to the everyday effortlessly, beautifully. Another very strong collection from Coffee House. \$13.95 pb, 1-56689-083-7, April.

Coffee House Press, 27 N. Fourth St. Ste. 400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125, fax 612-338-4004. Distributed by Consortium.



Curbstone has published the winner of the 1995 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize: **Assault on Paradise** by Costa Rican novelist Tatiana Lobo. Set in Central America in the early 1700s, Lobo explores how the Conquistadores and the Church invaded Central America. Through the story of Pedro Albarán, Lobo writes of the Inquisition and the battles between native peoples and the invaders. She re-creates



Mayan mythology, which the Mayans try to use in driving intruders out of their world. This story of colonization frames a love story and a vivid cast of characters. *Kirkus Reviews* said of Lobo's writing: "Lobo...delineates Pedro's 'education' with scorching irony and brings her crowded story to a stunning, chilling conclusion." \$15.95 pb, 1-880684-46-2. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson St., Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110, fax 860-423-9242. Distributed by Consortium.

**Bombay Talkie** by Ameena Meer is the story of Sabah, an American woman who travels to India to learn of her heritage and cultural identity. Serpent's Tail says of the novel, "Across three continents, arranged marriages bursting at the seams, and all the glitz of Bollywood, **Bombay Talkie** is the story of people whose lives span several cultures, but who

don't quite belong in any of them." Meer is an astute and ironic observer of culture, east and west. And her Sabah is smart, sexy, and wry. \$11.99 pb, 1-85242-707-8. Serpent's Tail, 4 Blackstock Mews, London N4. Distributed by Consortium.

Janis Owens has embarked upon an ambitious exercise. And, from all reports, it seems to have worked. Some writers revisit events from the points of view of different characters (à la Quentin Tarantino), completely redefining the event as they do so (my completely unbiased favorite is Carol Guess, author of *Cleis' Seeing Dell* and *CALYX's Switch*). Owens has written *two full novels* exploring events in the same time frame. The first, **My Brother Michael**, has garnered some fine reviews including one from *Library Journal*, who called the novel, "nothing short of stunning." **My Brother Michael** tells the

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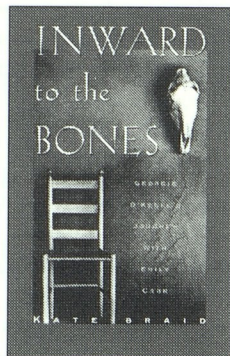
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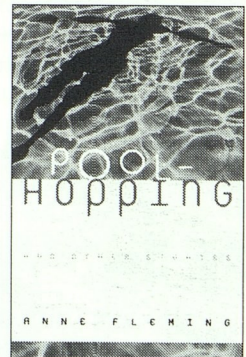
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story of Gabriel Catts, a revisionist historian living in West Florida. On the eve of his fortieth birthday, he recalls the betrayal of his deceased brother Michael, and his lifelong love for his brother's wife, Myra. (\$18.95 cl, 1-56164-124-3.) **Myra Sims** is told from the point of view of the beloved wife of Michael, coveted by Gabriel. Again, the story works back from Michael's funeral, back through their childhood years in small-town west Florida. This time, we witness Myra's violent childhood, her bouts with insanity, and her rise from poverty to become a wealthy Baptist widow. (\$21.95 cl, 1-56164-177-4.) Pineapple Press, PO Box 3899, Sarasota FL 34230; 941-359-0886, fax 941-351-9988. Available from B&T, Ingram.

Alice James Books has released two lush poetry books by women. **Fire and Flower** is Laura Kasischke's third volume of poetry. Alice James says that the book is "about the images that hold the world together in the mind of a child, a woman, and the mother she becomes." Kasischke's craft is very finely honed; her use of metaphor is brave and striking, but nicely restrained. As Alice James says, the collection is "a full expression of the awe that makes us all alive." \$11.95 pb, 1-882295-21-8.

**The Ground Note** by Janet Kaplan explores violence, both in the microcosm of the family and in the world. Kaplan writes about the Jewish Holocaust, the urban blight in New York City, and her own history in the Bronx. Molly Peacock said of her work:

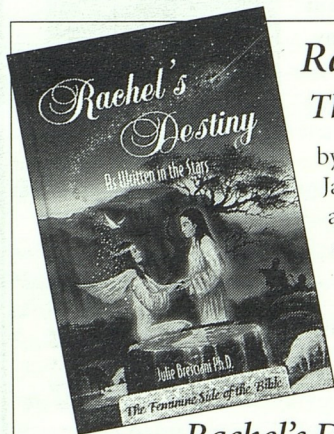
"Miraculously, luminously, she places her gut-wrenching personal history in the wider contexts of myth, class, and geography." Kaplan's writing is complex and sophisticated. A strong debut. \$11.95 pb, 1-882295-19-6.

Alice James Books, 98 Main St., Farmington ME 04938; 207-778-7071. Available from B&T, Ingram, and SPD.



**A Gram of Mars** is Becky Hagenston's fiction debut. Winner of the 1997 Mary McCarthy Prize for short fiction, this short story collection "portray[s] the modern family as one that refuses to be fashionably dysfunctional." Hagenston's characters long for connection. Hagenston explores their failures, small triumphs, and the places they carve for themselves in a "hyphenated, divorced, and step-parented context." This is fine, poignant, mature writing. And a beautiful book, inside and out. Hagenston's debut is worth stocking, and she's a writer to watch. \$13.95 pb, 1-889330-22-1. Serabande Books, 2234 Dundee Rd. Ste. 200, Louisville KY 40205; 502-458-4028, fax 502-458-4065. Distributed by Consortium.

**Hollywood and Hardwood** is "the bittersweet tale of an ambitious husband and wife who struggle  
See **Small Presses**, page 142.



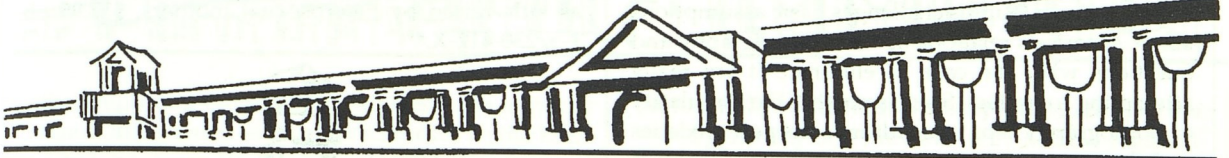
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## Augsburg Fortress Publishers

**Mystics, Visionaries, and Prophets: A Historical Anthology of Women's Spiritual Writings** edited by Shawn Madigan, C.S.J., offers a broad scope of Christian spiritual writings, in both historical perspective (starting with Perpetua in B.C. 203) and international recognition (including women from Korea, Ghana, and elsewhere). Part biography, part inspirational biography, part critique, this collection will be interesting to Christian women searching for inspiration and insight into women's passion for God. \$39 cl, 0-8006-3145-5.\*

## Cambridge University Press

**Beyond Anorexia: Narrative, Spirituality, and Recovery** by Catherine Garrett begins with her own autobiography and story of recovery, then draws on conversations with 30 other former sufferers of anorexia. She demonstrates that narrative is fundamental to social theory and to healing. Her central claim is that recovery is a "spiritual" experience reconnecting the self with the body, nature, and society. \$19.95 pb, 0-521-62983-7.\*\*

## Columbia University Press

A point of clarification: I reviewed **Body Talk: Philosophical Reflections on Sex and Gender** by Jacquelyn N. Zita in *FBN*, November/December 98. After a friend questioned me about my conversation

*Ratings: One and two asterisks are more suited for general stores while three and four would do better in stores with a more academic audience. If a title is unrated, it means that I haven't seen the book in order to make an evaluation.*

with Jacquelyn about her book, I realized my review was misleading. Zita's book is well written and thought-provoking — the discussion of whether I would like it was based on our differing political viewpoints. Isn't one of the goals of academic writing to challenge and explore our differing viewpoints? **Body Talk** does just that. \$16.50 pb, 0-231-10543-6.

Now available in paperback: **Lesbian Desire in the Lyrics of Sappho** by Jane McIntosh Snyder — reviewed *FBN*, November/December 98. \$17.50, 0-231-09995-9.



## Cornell University Press

**Diagnosis: Difference: The Moral Authority of Medicine** by Abby Wilkerson assesses the role of medicine and bioethics in the sexual oppression of women and of gay and bisexual men. She goes on to define the forces that undermine the role of bioethics in monitoring the moral status of health care. Wilkerson explores continuing patterns of injustice in medicine, the function of health care as social control, and the unequal risk of illness and injury among different social groups. \$15.95 pb, 0-8014-8459-6.\*\*

Worth mentioning: **Social Justice Feminists in the United States and Germany: A Dialogue in Documents, 1885-1933** edited by Kathryn Kish Sklar, Anja Schüler, and Susan Strasser. \$19.95 pb, 0-8014-8469-3.\*

Now available in paperback with a new preface: **Legally Wed: Same-Sex Marriage and the Constitution** by Mark Strasser. \$16.95, 0-8014-8429-4.

## Duke University Press

As far as I can tell, **Bound and Gagged: Pornography and the Politics of Fantasy in America** by

Laura Kipnis does not claim to come from a feminist perspective. I suspect, though, that feminists might want to be aware of this title since the catalog copy implies those who are anti-pornography are also social hysterics. Kipnis challenges basic assumptions about America's relationship with pornography and questions what she calls to eliminate it are really attempting to protect. She asserts that the popularity of pornography taps into culture's deepest anxieties and desires, and that criminalizing pornography is equivalent to criminalizing all fantasy. \$14.95 pb, 0-8223-2343-5.

**Guilford Publications**

[Note: All titles are short discount but agency plan is available.]

Now available in paperback: **Sex and Gender Differences in Personal Relationships** by Daniel Canary and Tara Emmers-Sommer — reviewed in *FBN*, March/April 98. \$18.95 pb, 1-57230-322-0.

**Growing Up in a Lesbian Family: Effects on Child Development** by Fiona Tasker and Susan

Golombok is a pioneering volume providing an objective and long-overdue look at the experiences of the children themselves. The conclusion seems to be that kids raised by lesbian mothers are about as stable as kids raised by heterosexual mothers. \$17.95 pb, 1-57230-412-X.\*\*



**Indiana University Press**

**Becoming Divine: Towards a Feminist Philosophy of Religion** by Grace Jantzen builds on the work of French feminist philosophers to propose a new imagery of religion based on feminist perspectives of birth and flourishing. \$24.95 pb short discount, 0-253-21297-9; \$49.95 cl, -33526-4.

Trying to figure out what's happening in contemporary Women's Studies? What are the debates about identity politics, and what about feminism anyway? What major organizational changes in universities are affecting women's studies? These and

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other important issues will be addressed in a special issue of **differences** — **Women's Studies on the Edge** edited by Joan Wallach Scott. \$16.95 pb short discount, 0-253-30022-3.

Now available in paperback: **FTM: Female-to-Male Transsexuals in Society** by Holly Devor (reviewed *FBN*, January/February 98). This title has been selling consistently at Amazon in hardcover, so it might be worth it to get it in paperback if you have a strong transgender clientele. Too bad Indiana insists on keeping this at short discount (hint, hint)!! \$27.50 pb short discount, 0-253-21259-6.

Also of interest: **Mary Ann Shadd Cary: The Black Press and Protest in the 19th Century** by Jane Rhodes portrays the courageous and outspoken life of Shadd Cary, a 19th-century African American who used the press and public speaking to fight slavery and oppression in the U.S. and Canada. This compelling biography not only makes known the life of Shadd Cary but also provides a glimpse at the history of Black public life and the importance of independent press. \$39.95 cl, 0-253-33446-2.\*

Of related interest: **Gender, Race, and Politics in the Midwest: Black Club Women in Illinois** by Wanda Henricks tells the compelling history (1890-1920) of African American club women in the Midwest who created hundreds of female associations and became social and political agents of reform and community spirit. \$27.95 cl, 0-253-33447-0.\*\*

**Nation, Empire, Colony: Historicizing Gender and Race** edited by Ruth Roach Pierson and Nupur Chaudhuri reveals the power relations of gender, class, race, and sexuality, relations at the heart of the imperialisms, colonialisms, and nationalisms that shape the modern world. \$14.95 pb, 0-253-21191-3; \$29.95 cl, -33398-9.\*\*\*

### Johns Hopkins University Press

Of interest: **Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley: An Introduction** by Betty T. Bennett. \$13.95 pb, 0-8018-5976-X; \$38 cl, -5975-1.\*

### Minnesota Historical Society Press, St. Paul MN

I generally don't review more narrow regional-interest titles, but this particular one has some broad appeal for those with developed sections in memoirs of feminist life. **Shaping My Feminist Life: A Memoir** by Kathleen Ridder explores the passions that have motivated her in constructing and pursuing a life of community service and personal accomplishment. Her involvement in Minnesotan Republican politics, alternative education, feminist organizations, women's athletic programming at the University of Minnesota, and social privilege combine for an interesting memoir. \$15.95 pb, 0-87351-365-7; \$24.95 cl, -364-9.\*



### MIT Press

Now available in paperback: **Why So Slow? The Advancement of Women** by Virginia Valian — reviewed in *FBN*, March/April 98. \$17.50, 0-262-72031-0. —*Mev*

**From Barbie to Mortal Kombat: Gender and Computer Games** edited by Justine Cassell and Henry Jenkins explores the girls' games movement in video games. Originally fueled by feminist activists who wanted to fight the "gendering" of technology and by industry higher-ups who wished to create a new video game market, girls' games now, by and large, conform to a feminine stereotype. The contributors to this collection examine how the girls' video game aesthetic formed and offer suggestions for avoiding stereotypical games. Includes essays from educators to technology scholars to psychologists, from creators of games to the girls who play them. \$35 cl, 0-262-03258-9. —*TMR*

### NYU Press

At Amazon Bookstore, we often get requests for information about amazon women. Here's a new

book to add to the small collection of titles on warrior women: **Amazons of Black Sparta: The Women Warriors of Dahomey** by Stanley Alpern. Beyond the myths of amazons, the only thoroughly documented amazons in world history are the 18th- and 19th-century women warriors of Dahomey in Western Africa. This book is the first to chronicle their remarkable story in depth. The amazons were intensely militaristic and collective, sworn to celibacy, sworn battlers of men, and enjoyed semi-sacred status. Their kingdom was defeated by France in 1892. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-0678-9.\*\*

**Berg Publications, Distributed by NYU**

Western perceptions reinforce the view that Islamic women are victims of a sexist and reactionary rule. **Women and Islamization: Contemporary Dimensions of Discourse on Gender Relations** edited by Karin Ask and Marit Tjosland cautions against this simplistic generalization. The editors argue that Islam is a religion undergoing reinterpretation and change rather than a monolithic movement reacting against westernization and modernization. Through their political, educational, and recreational activities, more and more Muslim women are setting agendas of their own and are actively redefining the role of women in Muslim society. \$19.50 pb, 1-85973-255-0.

**Rivers Oram Press, Distributed by NYU**

This is a little gem that might be easy to overlook, but don't: **Female Fortune: Land, Gender and Authority** by Jill Liddington explores the diaries of Anne Lister (1791-1840) and analyzes the role of gender in her invasion of what were, at the time, almost exclusively male domains. Lister — heiress, scholar, traveler, and estate owner — inherited Shibden Hall, Yorkshire, seduced a neighboring heiress, consolidated their estates (in effect a dynastic lesbian marriage), and developed coal deposits on them. \$18.50 pb, 1-85489-088-3; \$50 cl, -089-1.\*\*

[Note: NYU's distribution center has moved. The Maple Press Distribution Center/Lebanon, Legionare Drive, Lebanon PA 17042.]

**Northeastern University Press**

This title will appeal to those who love biography or are fans of opera. **Diva: The New Generation, The**

**Sopranos and Mezzos of the Decade Discuss Their Roles** by Helena Matheopoulos presents 20 interviews with prominent women who are capable of drawing mass audiences as well as delivering performances to rival stars from the past. Narrative interwoven with critical commentary and reflection on the vocal and dramatic capability of these divas offers a rich glimpse into contemporary opera. \$29.95 cl, 1-55553-358-2.\*\*

**Ohio State University Press**

**Women Drinking Benedictine** by Sharon Dilworth contains ten well-crafted stories which form a balanced whole. \$22 cl, 0-8142-0812-6.\*

**Princeton University**

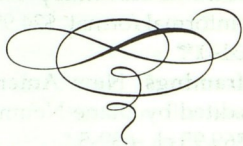
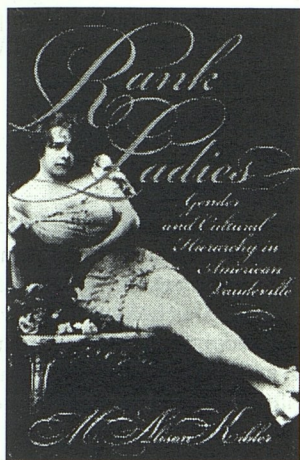
**Mappings: Feminism and the Cultural Geographies of Encounter** by Susan Stanford Friedman draws on a wide variety of 20th-century cultural expressions to address theoretical issues of post-modern feminism. Friedman adapts current cultural theory from global and transnational studies, anthropology, and geography to challenge modes of thought which exaggerate the boundaries of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, and national origin. \$18.95 pb, 0-691-05804-0; \$65 cl, -05803-2.\*\*\*



**Sage Publications**

[Note: The unfortunate thing about Sage's books is that they're all short discount. They do have an agency plan — providing some incentive, but not enough for many stores. Sage does publish some titles of which we should be aware — especially if you have academic or professional customers.]

**Dangerous Relationships: Pornography, Misogyny, and Rape** by Diana E. H. Russell is a revised, expanded version of Russell's 1994 self-published book, *Against Pornography: The Evidence of Harm*. This new edition does not include the pornographic pictures included in the first edition, though it does describe them. This volume also expands several sections. Russell offers a clear and detailed definition of pornography, describes pornographic pictures as woman-hatred, makes connections between pornography and rape, and draws



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conclusions. This is an important book for anyone trying to understand the role of pornography as it harms women and children. \$22.95 pb, 0-7619-0525-1.\*\*

**Women and Work: Exploring Race, Ethnicity, and Class** edited by Elizabeth Higginbotham and Mary Romero includes original research articles which explore women's working conditions, their wages and salaries, their abilities to control their work environments, and how they see themselves and their options in the workplace. \$25.95 pb, 0-8039-5059-4.\*\*\*

**Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youths and Adults: Knowledge for Human Services Practice** by Ski Hunter, Coleen Shannon, Jo Knox, and James Martin is a practical guide for developing a deeper understanding of g/l/b persons and for helping human service professionals to work more effectively and comfortably with these communities. \$24.95 pb, 0-8039-5887-0.\*\*\*

**Subtle Sexism: Current Practice and Prospects for Change** edited by Nijole V. Benokraitis explores an acknowledged but little-researched area. This anthology documents the range of "just below the surface" discriminatory behavior

encountered by many women (and some men) on a daily basis. The chapters demonstrate how subtle sexism devalues women, dismisses many of their accomplishments, and limits their effectiveness in a variety of social and professional settings. \$29.95 pb, 0-7619-0386-0.\*\*

Also of interest: **Understanding Gender and Organizations** by Mats Alvesson and Yvonne Due Billing (\$26.50 pb, 0-7619-5361-2\*\*\*); **Feminist Foundations: Toward Transforming Sociology** edited by Kristen A. Myers, Cynthia Anderson, and Barbara Risman (\$27.50 pb, 0-7619-0786-6\*\*\*); **Counseling Women in Prison** by Joycelyn Pollock (\$21 pb, 0-8039-7331-4\*\*\*); and **Feminism and Psychotherapy: Reflections on Contemporary Theories and Practices** edited by I. Bruna Seu and M. Colleen Heenan (\$24.95 pb, 0-7619-5191-1\*\*\*).

## State University of New York (SUNY)

Of interest to Canadian stores and those with strong education sections: **Taking Back Control: African Canadian Women Teachers' Lives and Practice** by Annette Henry investigates the world and

consciousness of five African Canadian teachers. These narratives explore the contradictions in North American and "Western" education and the need for alternative standpoints and transformative strategies. \$19.95 pb, 0-7914-3838-4.\*\*

Here's another interesting title to add to the growing section of literature about goddesses and their history, text, and followers. **The Devi Gita: The Song of the Goddess** with translation and commentary by C. Mackenzie Brown provides a translation of the medieval Hindu Sanskrit text from the rich Sakta (goddess) tradition of India. \$24.95 pb, 0-7619-3940-2.\*\* —*Mev*

**Cultural Activisms: Poetic Voices, Political Voices** edited by Gertrude M. James Gonzalez and Anne JM Mamary is a collection of poets, installation artists, essayists, sculptors, sketch artists, fiction writers, performance artists, muralists, and experimental writers who draw upon their unique cultural identities and creative skills to offer their understanding of culture, activism, poetry, voice, and politics. Includes writing by Pat Parker, Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde, Jo Whitehorse Cochran, Joanna Kadi, James Baldwin,

Ellen Frye, Lucy Lippard, Essex Hemphill, Becky Birtha, Jeffner Allen, and Carolyn Forché. \$21.95 pb, 0-7914-3966-6. —TMR



**Temple University Press**

**Q&A Queer in Asian America** edited by David L. Eng and Alice Horn is a spirited collection of essays, personal testimonies, fiction, and art on what it means to be queer in Asian America. This hefty volume with pieces by writers, artists, and activists represents the broad diversity of Asian experience and demonstrates that Asian American history cannot assume heterosexuality and "queer" culture does not equal "white." This collection leans more towards academic presentation than towards a social, informal format. \$24.95 pb, 1-56639-332-9; \$59.95 cl, -331-0.\*\*

Also of interest: **Reframings: New American Feminist Photographies** edited by Diane Neumaier. \$27.95 pb, 1-56639-640-9; \$69.95 cl, -639-5.\*

**Women's Lives**

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MAY 1999



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MANHOOD, POLITICS, AND THE CULTURE OF SPORT

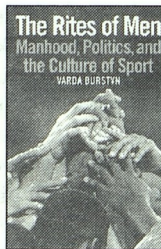
More than just a game, sport has profound political and social consequences, promoting masculine dominance and a super-aggressive ideal of manhood.

Varda Burstyn

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JUNE 1999



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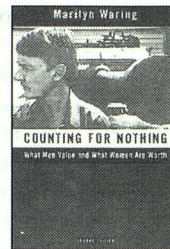
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### University of California Press

Now available for the first time in a U.S. edition, **America Day by Day** by Simone de Beauvoir, translated by Carol Cosman, is the ultimate American road book for those who love travel diaries. Traveling in 1947, de Beauvoir chronicles the culture, customs, people, and landscape she encountered on her trip from New York City around the U.S. to Niagara Falls, Chicago, New Orleans, Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon, Hollywood, and many other places. Recommended. \$27.50 cl, 0-520-20979-6.\*

Fans of Nawal El Saadawi will be interested in her new novel, **The Innocence of the Devil**. Set in a mental institution, the novel combines a realistic portrait of women in patriarchal society with an allegory that amounts to a heretical argument with God. \$15.95 pb, 0-520-21652-0.\*

Now available in paperback: **Jane Austen: A Life** by David Nokes (\$19.95, 0-520-21606-7\*\*) and **Spider Eaters: A Memoir** by Rae Yang — reviewed in *FBN*, March/April 97 (\$16.95, 0-520-21598-2\*).

New edition available: **Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community, Updated Edition with New Introduction** by Faye Ginsburg. \$16.95 pb, 0-520-21735-7.\*\*

### University of Chicago Press

Is there such a thing as truth? Is honest inquiry possible or desirable? Is there a real difference between knowledge and propaganda, and how do you tell the difference? Susan Haack addresses these and other questions in the eleven essays included in **Manifesto of a Passionate Moderate: Unfashionable Essays**. Relativism, multiculturalism, feminism, affirmative action, pragmatism old and new, and philosophy itself all come under her keen scrutiny. \$22.50 cl, 0-226-31136-8.\*\*\*

Of historical interest: **Whether a Christian Woman Should Be Educated and Other Writings from Her Intellectual Circle** by Anna Maria van Schurman (1607–1678), edited and translated by

Joyce Irwin (\$16 pb, 0-226-84999-6; \$35 cl, -84998-8)\*\* and **Royal Representations: Queen Victoria and British Culture, 1837–1876** by Margaret Homans (\$18 pb, 0-226-35114-9; \$44 cl, -35113-0).\*\*\*

### University of Georgia Press

**Letters from New York: Lydia Maria Child** edited by Bruce Mills has long been considered one of abolitionist Lydia Maria Child's (1802–1880) best writings. These literary essays offer a glimpse of New York City as an emerging urban center while discussing topics such as women's rights, the Amistad captives, and the preaching of African American minister Julia Pell, as well as some unsettling observations. \$19.95 pb, 0-8203-2007-3.\*



### University of Illinois Press

Well, it's early in the year, but this title might already have the "my favorite university press cover" prize for 1999! **Pistol Packin' Mama: Aunt Molly Jackson and the Politics of Folksong** by Shelly Romalis draws a multidimensional portrait of Aunt Molly, an Appalachian coal miner's daughter, labor activist, and folksinger. Her music fused hard experience with rich Appalachian musical traditions. She served as a "cultural broker," linking rural working poor to big-city, left-wing activism after teaming up with musicians such as Charles and Pete Seeger, Woodie Guthrie, and others. This portrait illuminates Southern Appalachia and New York during the Depression, folk music revival, and women's resistance movements. \$18.95 pb, 0-252-06728-2.\*\*

Every now and then, a book arrives that is so different and so interesting that I get lost reading it and stop writing my column. **Red Diapers: Growing Up in the Communist Left** edited by Judy Kaplan and Linn Shapiro reveals memoirs and witnesses a powerful tradition of radical family values from which

emerged a generation of leftist organizers. I hope this book gains visibility and doesn't disappear as so many "lefty" things do; these are heretofore untold stories, and they provide a serious, thought-provoking contribution to U.S. social history in the 20th century. \$19.95 pb, 0-252-06725-8.\*

**University of Massachusetts Press**

**Betty Friedan and the Making of *The Feminine Mystique*: American Left, the Cold War, and Modern Feminism** by Daniel Horowitz offers a fresh biography of Betty Friedan, one that takes her feminism deeper than perhaps Friedan did herself. By taking a deeper look through her own writings and papers, Horowitz resituates Friedan in a broader social context than just a "frustrated housewife." His reading of *The Feminine Mystique* overturns conventional ideas about second-wave feminism and reveals long-submerged links to its history. \$29.95 cl, 1-55849-168-6.\*\*



**University of Michigan Press**

**Passing Performances: Queer Reading of Leading Players in American Theater History** edited by Robert A. Schanke and Kim Marra is a collection of critical and biographical essays on pre-Stonewall stage personalities, whose "passings" determined the course of their personal and professional lives and the course of U.S. theater history. \$19.95 pb, 0-472-06681-1. —TMR

**University of Minnesota Press**

**Home Movies and Other Necessary Fictions** by Michelle Citron, an award-winning independent filmmaker, combines narrative and artistry, autobiography and self-revelation to explore the psyche of filmmaking. This book will be important for "anyone interested in the psychological, social, and cultural development of an artist." — Kim Chernin. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3262-6.\*\*

**University of Nebraska**

Of interest: **When I Was a German, 1934–1945: An Englishwoman in Nazi Germany** by Christabel Bielenberg. \$15 pb, 0-8032-6151-9.\*

**University of New Mexico Press**

Victoria Ocampo (1891–1979) was a key figure in 20th-century Latin American letters and a major literary figure in her native country of Argentina. Until now, most of her work has been unavailable in English. **Victoria Ocampo: Writer, Feminist, Woman of the World** translated and annotated by Patricia Owen Steiner offers translations of Ocampo's memoirs, letters, and essays, which reveal the development of her feminist thought, autobiographical sketches, and her lively sense of humor. \$19.95 pb, 0-8263-2004-X.

Now being offered at reduced prices: **Tapestries of Hope, Threads of Love: The Arpillera Movement in Chile, 1974–1994** by Majorie Agosin (was \$39.95 pb; now \$14.95 pb, 0-8263-1692-1) and **Nampeyo and Her Pottery** by Barbara Kramer (was \$39.95 cl; now \$24.95 cl, 0-8263-1718-9).

**West End Press, Distributed by UNM**

Reissued: **Hard Country**, poetry by Sharon Doubiago first published in 1982, is a book-length poem about a journey across America. It continues to be an important underground classic, responding to the male epic consciousness of 20th-century American poetry. \$19.95 pb, 0-931122-94-5, April.

**University of North Carolina**

**Sex and Citizenship in Antebellum America** by Nancy Isenberg views early feminism through the lens of citizenship. Isenberg illuminates the origins of the women's rights movement via the confluence of events and ideas, before and after 1848, that marked, in her view, the real birth of feminism. Drawing from a wide range of sources, she demonstrates that women's rights activists of the antebellum era crafted a coherent feminist critique of church, state, and family. \$16.95 pb, 0-8078-4746-1.\*\*\*

**University of Pennsylvania Press**

**Tough Girls: Women Warriors and Wonder Women** by Sherrie Inness argues that despite the increased perception that women are becoming "tougher" in popular media, their power and toughness continue to be undermined by props used to perpetuate gender stereotypes, such as children, make-up, and revealing clothing. \$19.95 pb, 0-8122-1673-3, \$47.50 cl, -3466-9.\*\*

## University Press of New England

From Laurie Alberts, author of *The Price of Land in Shelby* (1996), comes **Lost Daughters**, a novel that turns the traditional adoption narrative on its head as it explores how lies move through generations. This search of a mother seeking her daughter, whom she placed for adoption 21 years earlier, reaches a shocking and disturbing conclusion. \$24.95 cl, 0-87451-898-9.

Back in print: **Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life** by Roxana Robinson is a highly acclaimed biography that emphasizes O'Keeffe's ongoing struggle for autonomy. \$19.95 pb, 0-87451-906-3.

Now available in paperback: **Emily Dickinson and Her Contemporaries: Women's Verse in America, 1820-1885** by Elizabeth Petrino — reviewed in *FBN*, March/April 98. \$19.95 short discount, 0-87451-907-1.

## National Poetry Foundation

Distributed by University Press of New England

I've always liked the comprehensiveness of the literary criticism published by the National Poetry

Foundation. **Mina Loy: Woman and Poet** edited by Maeera Shreiber and Keith Tuma represents the first substantial collection of criticism devoted to this major, modernist poet whose work is now undergoing significant reassessment and revival. There is discussion of Loy's perceptions of feminism in this volume. I'm not positive, but I think she may also have been a lesbian — though I can find no mention of it in my cursory glance of this collection. \$24.95 pb, 0-943373-43-3; \$49.95 cl, -42-5.\*\*\*



## University Press of Florida

**"The Gift" by H.D.: The Complete Text** edited and annotated by Jane Augustine conveys H.D.'s ideals that world peace and salvation will come through the spiritual power of women — a power that also endowed H.D. with "the gift" of her own art. \$49.95 cl, 0-8130-1644-4.

Also of interest: **"A River in Flood" and Other Florida Stories** by Marjory Stoneman Douglas,

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Claire E. Sterk  
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### Love, Sorrow, and Rage

DESTITUTE WOMEN IN A MANHATTAN RESIDENCE  
Alisse Waterston  
\$19.95 AUGUST



### Doing What Had to Be Done

THE LIFE NARRATIVE OF DORA YUM KIM  
Soo-Young Chin  
The history of Koreans in America as told through the remarkable life story of one Korean American woman  
Illustrated \$21.95 JULY

### Neither Separate Nor Equal

WOMEN, RACE, AND CLASS IN THE SOUTH  
Edited by Barbara Ellen Smith  
\$19.95

NEW IN PAPERBACK

### Midwifery and Childbirth in America

Judith Pence Rooks  
\$34.95 MAY

## Temple University Press

800-447-1656 [www.temple.edu/tempress](http://www.temple.edu/tempress)



## Memoirs from Away

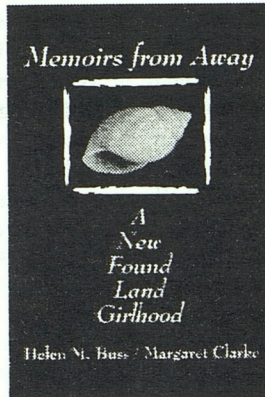
A New Found Land Girlhood

Helen M. Buss / Margaret Clarke

Paper \$29.95 • ISBN 0-88920-314-8  
Life Writing, Volume 6

Helen M. Buss is an English professor whose book *Mapping Our Selves* won the 1993 Gabrielle Roy Prize. As Margaret Clarke, she has published novels, short stories and poetry. In this memoir she brings together both of her writing identities.

"Helen Buss's memoirs...is as much an exploration of the process of memoir as it is an unflinching recollection of the past." — Elspeth Cameron



## Obedience, Suspicion and the Gospel of Mark

A Mennonite-Feminist Exploration of Biblical Authority

Lydia Neufeld Harder

Paper \$26.95 • ISBN 0-88920-305-9  
Studies in Women and Religion, Volume 5

Are obedience and suspicion necessarily opposite ways to respond to the authority of the Bible? Harder invites readers to reflect on some significant questions regarding theological assumptions and implications.



# Wilfrid Laurier University Press

Phone: 519-884-0710 ext 6124 • Fax: 519-725-1399 • E-mail: [press@mach1.wlu.ca](mailto:press@mach1.wlu.ca)

edited by Kevin McCarthy. \$17.95 pb, 0-8130-1623-1; \$39.95 cl, -1622-3.\*

### Wayne State University

Now in paperback: **Feminist Perspectives on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz** edited by Stephanie Merrim examines the feminist issues in the poetry of this 17th-century poet. \$19.95 short discount, 0-8143-2216-6.



### Westminster John Knox Press

In **Coming Out as Sacrament**, Chris Glaser argues that the act of coming out has biblical precedent and "sacramental dimensions." He demonstrates the similarity of coming out (and its vulnerability) to sacrificial offerings in ancient times. Both instances "invoke God's presence and effect atonement, or reconciliation." He also shows how coming out, like the other sacraments, may serve as a

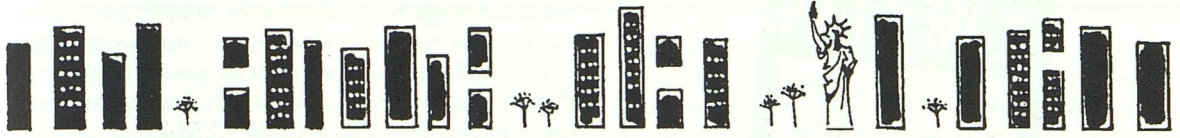
means of *grace*. Finally, he proposes seven new "rites of the soul," which I can only assume are designed to replace the sacraments, including a ritual for coming out. Wow. As an ex-Catholic stalled on my fourth sacrament, I find this all wonderfully blasphemous. I love it when smart people synthesize/syncretize and get religion to work for them. Go, Glaser, go. \$14 pb, 0-664-25748-8. —TMR

### Yale University Press

Wow! That's what I have to say about **Julia Margaret Cameron's Women** by Sylvia Rose with contributions by Stephanie Lipscomb, Debra Mancoff, and Phyllis Rose. Cameron was a pioneer of photography and a great portrait photographer who photographed many of the major figures of the 19th century. The bulk of her work consists of portraits of women, and this stunning collection is the first book to concentrate on this central aspect of Cameron's work. Beautiful reproduction, meticulous cataloguing, and interesting discussion of her work makes this **See University Presses, page 143.**



# AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

## Algonquin

In a society that plans for the future by building prisons instead of schools, **Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher's First Year** by Esmé Raji Codell offers hope for our struggling public school system. Codell is the type of imaginative teacher that should be found in every classroom. In **Educating Esmé**, she describes her experiences as an elementary school teacher and her techniques, including renaming math "Puzzling," to bolster her students' confidence. "I figured kids at this age come to me with preconceived notions of what they're good at. This way a kid who thinks she's no good in math might turn out to be good at Puzzling." A must for those involved in the lives of children, **Educating Esmé** is a story about "frustrations in any workplace, about refusing to conform, about taking a stand against mediocrity." \$17.95 cl, 1-56512-225-9.

Anna Esaki-Smith's first novel, **Meeting Luciano**, is the story of an Asian-American mother and daughter searching for something to be passionate about. Hanako Shimoda thinks of opera star Luciano Pavarotti as a god. Hanako's daughter Emily, home after graduating from college, has her own opinions of her mother's fixation: she thinks her mother's fantasies of Luciano are a by-product of loneliness. But soon Hanako hires Alex to renovate the kitchen in preparation for a visit from Luciano, and Emily finds herself in a too-common quandry: how to deal with a parent who is losing it. Dani Shapiro, author of *Slow Motion*, writes that **Meeting Luciano** is a "richly textured tale of love, disappointment, family ties, and the ways in which our fantasies can sustain us." \$18.95 cl, 1-56512-215-1.

—Jessie Mabry

Lioness Books/Sacramento

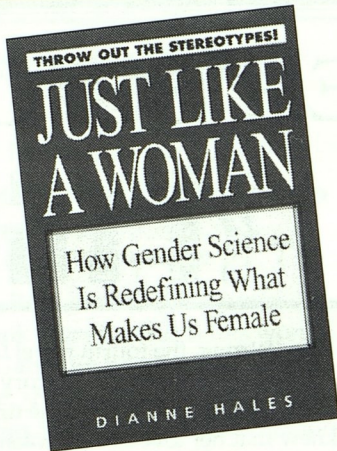
**Right from Wrong**, the fourth novel from Cindy Bonner, is a painful lifelong love story of Sunny DeLony and her first cousin, Gil. By the time she was 15, Sunny knew that her love for her cousin was "the grown-up kind." Soon her mother and her aunt knew it too, and tried to steer the couple away from an incestuous relationship. Though they stayed apart long enough to suffer through some broken relationships, the two do get together, fleeing from family, ex-lovers, etc. From Texas to post-World War I Paris, this is, Algonquin says, "a classic tale of love, war, and passion." \$21.95 cl, 1-56512-104-X. —TMR



## Avon

**Coping with Your Difficult Older Parent** by Barbara Kane and Grace Lebow is billed as "A Guide for Stressed-Out Children." (Even though there is no medical definition for "difficult" parents, you *know* if you have one.) The authors are co-founders of Aging Network Services of Bethesda, Maryland. This book specifically addresses those of us who have had strained relationships with parents who are becoming more dependent on us as they age. The authors address geographically distant, as well as close, "difficult" parents. Here is practical advice for handling contentious behaviors and troubling situations. I can't wait to get my copy! \$12 pb, 0-380-79750-X.

Adopted 43 years ago on the black market, Yvette Melanson set off in search of her true identity, discovering that she had been stolen from her home on a reservation as an infant. Her memoir, **Looking for Lost Bird: A Jewish Woman Discovers Her Navajo Roots** by Yvette Melanson with Claire Safran,



**Just Like a Woman**  
**How Gender Science is Redefining**  
**What Makes Us Female**

by Dianne Hales

“This lively account of the newest developments in gender-specific medicine should be obligatory reading for every woman who has felt confused, patronized, and/or misunderstood in her doctor’s office.... A resource for patient and physician alike.” \*

**Just like a woman!** The very phrase is a put-down, echoing the long-entrenched stereotypes of what it means to be female. From earliest recorded history, women have been cast in terms of males: lesser versions that are frailer, smaller, dimmer, less competent, defective. Never again. This lively, meticulously documented book turns the old dismissive catchphrase inside out.

**Just Like a Woman** presents the cutting-edge findings in anthropology, physiology, psychology, neuroscience, endocrinology, and medicine that are redefining what a woman is. Refreshingly free of ideology, *Just Like a Woman* offers a stunningly liberating message that expands our concept of human potential.

\* Marianne Legato, M.D.

**Bantam** \$24.95 cl; 0-553-10228-1

explores the integration of her identity as the affluent Jewish woman she was raised to become with her experience meeting her true relatives and their culture. \$22 cl, 0-380-97601-3.

**The Passionate Eye: The Collected Writing of Suzanne Vega** is a collection of poetry, song lyrics, stories, and memories from singer/songwriter Vega. If you sold the recent memoir or poetry books from Patti Smith and Jewel, you’ll likely have an audience for this collection. \$23 cl, 0-380-97353-7.

Now in paper: **Embracing Victory: How Women Can Compete Joyously, Compassionately, and Successfully in the Workplace and on the Playing Field** by Mariah Burton Nelson. \$12.50, 0-380-72720-X, April.

**Women and Love** by Mira Kirshenbaum is “a revolutionary handbook for the heart that will become every thinking woman’s how-to manual for love.” \$23 cl, 0-380-97694-3, June.

**Body** edited by Sharon Sloan Fiffer and Steve Fiffer, an anthology of literary prose pieces on the human body, offers an eclectic lineup of mostly women writers, including Rosario Ferre, Lynda Barry, Esmeralda Santiago, Mona Simpson, Jane Smiley, and Kyoko Mari. Nice cover, will likely sell — even in hardcover. \$23 cl, 0-380-97713-3, June.

Now in paper: **Hope Mills** by Constance Pierce (\$12.50, 0-380-73219-X, June) and **The Mermaids Singing** by Lisa Carey (\$6.99, 0-380-79960-X, June).

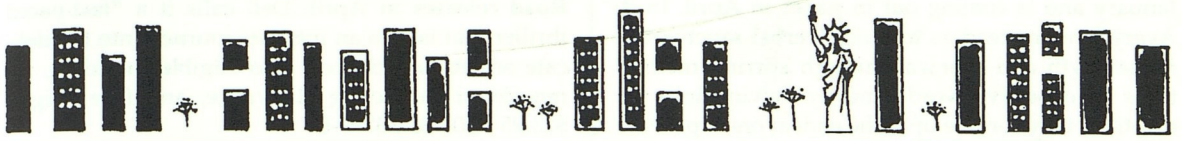
—Donna Niles

**Ballantine Books**

Lucinda Vardey, who collaborated with Mother Theresa to write *A Simple Path*, has collected 1000 prayers for **The Flowering of the Soul: A Book of Prayers by Women**. There are prayers from St. Teresa of Ávila, Simone Weil, Emily Dickinson, Annie Dillard, and other “saints, spiritual teachers, poets, healers, and anonymous spiritual women.” \$24.95 cl, 0-345-42230-9, April, Ballantine Wellspring. —TMR

**BDD-Anchor**

Now in paperback: Jane Hamilton’s very popular **The Short History of a Prince**, which includes a Reader’s Companion for Discussion Groups (\$12.95, 0-385-47948-4) and **Unafraid of the Dark** by Rosemary L. Bray (\$14, 0-385-49475-0). —*Sylvia Crannell*  
*Amazon Books/Minneapolis*



### BDD-Bantam

Bantam is releasing three books of interest in March and one in April. **Just Like a Woman: How Gender Science is Revealing the Strengths and Skills That are Truly Female** by Dianne Hales "demonstrates that women are not the second sex but a separate sex, unique in body, mind, and spirit," and uses research from biology, anthropology, physiology, and medicine to prove it. This book will receive marketing help in the form of print advertising in *Health*, the *New York Times*, *Psychology Today*, and *Self*. It will also be promoted to gender studies and women's studies educators via academic marketing efforts. \$24.95 cl, 0-553-10228-1.

**Vegetables Rock! A Complete Guide for Teen-age Vegetarians** by Stephanie Pierson is written for teenagers and their parents and has recipes, nutritional information, and answers to even the weirdest questions. It will be advertised in the *New York Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Illustrated. \$12.95 pb, 0-553-37924-0.



**Thousand Pieces of Gold** by Nancy Young Mosny (not to be confused with Beacon Press' re-release of the classic book of the same title) is recommended for readers who loved *The Joy Luck Club*. It's the story of a Chinese American woman, Jenny, whose courageous and independent mother has a stroke, leaving her dependent on Jenny, who is also busy caring for her own small children. Informed by an immigrant experience, this story explores the mother-daughter bond, family secrets, and cultural lore. \$9.95 pb, 0-553-38020-6.

The April release is **American Indian Healing Arts: Herbs, Rituals and Remedies for Every Season of Life** by E. Barrie Kavasch and Karen Baar. "[T]he most complete and authentic book available for the general reader on the extraordinary plant medicine and herbal healing traditions of Native Americans,

with dozens of natural remedies for everyday use." It will be advertised in *Body, Mind, Spirit*; *Common Boundary*; *Native Peoples*; *New Age Journal*; and *Yoga Journal*. \$17.95 pb, 0-553-37881-3. —*Sylvia Crannell*

### BDD-Broadway

In March, Broadway will release two popular hardcover books in paper. **Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table** by Ruth Reichl is a "candid and comical bestselling memoir by the renowned *New York Times* restaurant critic whose high-spirited life has always been defined and enriched by food." \$13, 0-7679-0338-2.

The other paperback release, **Reach for the Summit: The Definite Dozen System for Succeeding at Whatever You Do** by Pat Summit with Sally Jenkins is the "bestselling motivational book by the unstoppable woman" who has "created the greatest college basketball dynasty since John Wooden" according to *USA Today*. Whoever *he* was. It's being cross-promoted with Summit's new book, *Raise the Roof* (released last November). \$13, 0-7679-0229-7.

For all your customers who are would-be writers: **Sin and Syntax: How to Craft Wickedly Effective Prose** by Constance Hale, a former editor at *Wired* and creator of *Wired Style*. She is on a mission to "make creative communication, both the lyrical and the unlawful, an option for everyone." \$18 cl, 0-7679-0308-0, April.

Watch for **Bella Tuscany: The Sweet Life in Italy** by Frances Mayes, a sequel to her bestselling *Under the Tuscan Sun*. It touches on gardening and wine-making and has a section of recipes. \$25 cl, 0-7679-0283-1, April.

More recipes are to be found in **LaBelle Cuisine: Recipes to Sing About** by Patti LaBelle. This superstar singer, bestselling author, and great cook shares her recipes while chatting about cooking for family, friends, and celebrities. \$25.99 cl, 0-7679-0314-5, April.

**An Altar of Words: Wisdom, Comfort, and Inspiration** by Byllye Avery was released in cloth in

January and is coming out in paper in April. In it, Avery "invites readers to build 'verbal sanctuaries' for strength and renewal through stirring meditations on evocative words and by delving into the emotions they conjure up." She endeavors to provide a "sacred space for strengthening the inner spirit, making changes, and finding peace." \$9, 0-7679-0080-4. —*Sylvia Crannell*

Now available in paperback: **My Sister Life: The Story of My Sister's Disappearance** by Maria Flook is the author's memoir about the disappearance of her sister, her childhood without her, and their reunion in adulthood. \$13 pb, 0-7679-0315-3. —TMR



### BDD-Dell

Maeve Binchy's **Tara Road** is a "tale of two women, one from Ireland, one from America, who switch lives, and in doing so learn much about each other, as well as much about themselves." \$24.95 cl, 0-385-33395-1.

Highly acclaimed investigative journalist Maureen Orth's much-publicized book, **Vulgar Favors: Andrew Cunanan, Gianni Versace, and the Largest Manhunt in F.B.I. History** releases in March. It's going to receive lots more publicity: advertising, an eight-city author tour, and online promotion. Free freight, eligible for co-op. \$24.95 cl, 0-385-33286-6.

From Nancy Peske and Beverly West, the women who brought you *Frankly Scarlett, I Do Give a Damn* and *Meditations for Men Who Do Next to Nothing*, comes **Cinematherapy: The Girl's Guide to Movies for Every Mood**. It's movie-as-therapy, and the authors suggest movies to address issues ranging from dysfunctional romances to dealing with oppression. Includes an index of actors and actresses. Eligible for co-op, free freight. \$12.95 pb, 0-440-50850-9.

**Do They Hear You When You Cry** by Fauziya Kassindja and Layli Miller Bashir is now out in paperback. It's the story of a young woman "who fled her African homeland to escape female genital mutilation only to be locked up in American prisons for 16 months." \$14.95, 0-385-31994-9.

Ann Benson's (*The Plague Tales*) **The Burning**

**Road** releases in April. Dell calls it a "fast-paced thriller that is also an intricate journey into the delicate secrets of science." It is eligible for co-op, for newsletter marketing allowance, and free freight. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-33289-0.

Hope Edelman (*Motherless Daughters, Letters from Motherless Daughters*) has another book, **Mother of My Mother**. This one explores the relationships between grandmothers, mothers, and daughters, the "basic three-generational relationship from which women develop their female identities." Dell is putting big marketing bucks into this. The book is eligible for online promotion, co-op, and newsletter marketing allowance. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-30796-4, April.

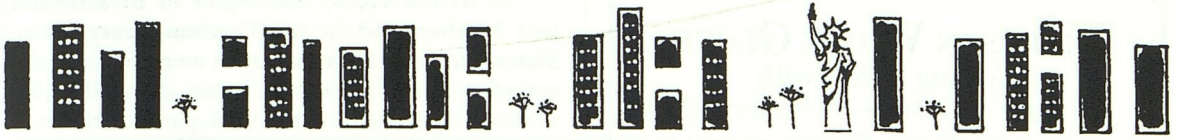
Barbara Sher's **It's Only Too Late If You Don't Start Now: How to Create Your Second Life at Any Age** is being released in paper in April. Author of the *New York Times* bestseller, *I Could Do Anything If I Only Knew What It Was*, the inspirational, motivational Sher also has a PBS special airing soon. This book shatters "the myth that turns midlife into a crisis," and helps the reader define long-abandoned and brand-new dreams, providing "step-by-step strategies and enlightening exercises to guide [her] toward the richly textured, more meaningful life [she] deserve[s]." \$12.95, 0-440-50718-9.

**Mercy Road** by Dalia Pagani will be released in paper in April. Set in rural Vermont, Pagani "exposes the soul of a wounded family and chronicles their struggle to find love and hope in a cursed place." \$11.95, 0-385-32356-5. —*Sylvia Crannell*



### BDD-Doubleday

Journalist Solange De Santis was raised in a white-collar world. But, "fascinated with the world of truly hard work, with people who sweat and lift and labor to make the things those in the white-collar world take for granted," she left her journalism career to work on the assembly line at General Motors. **Life on the Line: One Woman's Tale of Work, Sweat, and Survival** is the story of how and why she took this journey. It's a candid, funny, and poignant story that will "change the way we view the man-made products on which we all depend." \$24.95 cl, 0-385-48977-3.



Lisa Kennedy Montgomery is well known to MTV fans as Kennedy. A self-proclaimed former "nerdette," Kennedy's book, **Hey Ladies! Tales and Tips from a Dork Who Made It**, written for teenagers, is a compilation of hilarious "essays and advice for the young and young at heart." This former dork, "having herself been through any number of major adolescent catastrophes," hopes to "save others some legwork by telling her own story and passing on the lessons she learned along the way." Topics include boys, sports, substance abuse, and parental communication. \$12.95 pb, 0-385-49094-1.

Set in New York's fashion world, **Read Between the Lines** by Lori Bryant Woolridge is a story of three ambitious women struggling for personal and professional success. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-49214-6, April.

**A Year by the Sea: Thoughts of an Unfinished Woman** is the memoir of journalist Joan Anderson. Middle-aged, the mother of grown sons, and stagnating in her marriage, Anderson stunned both herself and her husband when she decided not to follow him to an out-of-state job. Instead, she spent a year in a cottage on Cape Cod, living simply, re-establishing her connection to nature, and rediscovering herself. Illustrated. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-49139-5, April.

K. C. McKinnon, author of *Harvest Moon*, has a new novel: **Candles on Bay Street**. Capturing "the poignancy of growing older, the comforting joys of friendship, and the glories of love in its many guises, this is the story of a hometown girl who returns after years of absence to begin a new life with old friends." \$17.95 cl, 0-385-49128-X, April.

Biographer Diana Souhami (*Gertrude and Alice* and others) has written a book about the life of Radclyffe Hall, the famous and controversial author of *The Well of Loneliness*. **The Trials of Radclyffe Hall**, Doubleday promises, will "stand for decades to come as the definitive look at one of the twentieth century's most intriguing characters." \$27.95 cl, 0-385-48941-2, April.

The *New York Times* bestseller, **Mothers and Daughters** by Carol Saline and Sharon J. Wohlmuth,

is now out in paperback. It's getting national media attention, print advertising, and online promotion and is available in a ten-copy counter-and-floor display package. \$17.50, 0-385-49467-X, April.

Dr. Andrea D. Sullivan, according to Doubleday, is one of the premiere naturopathic physicians in the nation. Her book, **A Path to Healing: A Guide to Wellness for Body, Mind, and Soul**, promises to help the reader "create dramatic and lasting lifestyle

**"The extraordinary achievements of black women...did not grow out of degradation but out of a legacy of courage, resourcefulness, initiative, and dignity."**

—From *A Shining Thread of Hope*

The History of Black Women in America


**A SHINING THREAD OF HOPE**

DARLENE CLARK HINE  
KATHLEEN THOMPSON

**"Inspire[s] not just African-American women but all people struggling to overcome injustice."**

—*New York Times Book Review*

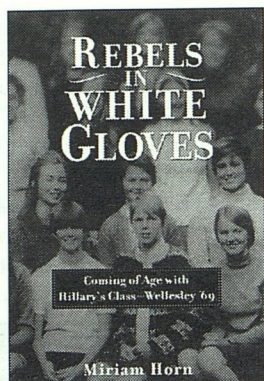
**NOW IN PAPERBACK**

 Broadway Books

## REBELS IN WHITE GLOVES

Coming of Age with  
Hillary's Class — Wellesley '69

Miriam Horn



When the Wellesley Class of '69 were freshmen, they wore white gloves to tea. Four years later, they were pulled into a world turned upside down by the Pill, ERA, NOW, and The Feminine Mystique. In this fascinating portrait

study, Miriam Horn shows how the Class of '69, both before and after graduation, grappled with the "issues" that most drive and intrigue us: feminism, motherhood, sexuality, life/work balance, class, illness, spirituality. The result is a group portrait of uncommon subtlety and vibrancy that reflects a generation's fateful choices.

Times Books / Random House  
\$24.00 cl, 0-8129-2501-7

changes by treating the whole person, not just the disease, and by relying on primary prevention aided by diet, herbs, and other natural remedies." \$12.95 pb, 0-385-48577-8, April.

—*Sylvia Crannell*

### Beacon

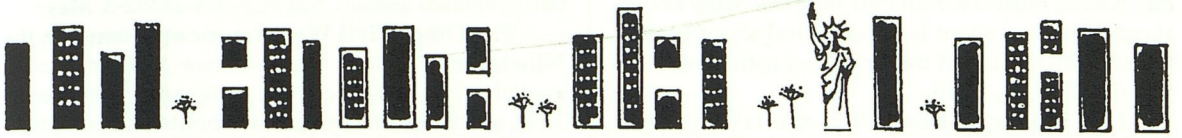
**I Begin My Life All Over: The Hmong and the American Immigrant Experience** by Lillian Faderman (*Surpassing the Love of Men*) with Ghia Xiong is a collection of oral histories chronicling the difficulties the Hmong experience as immigrants in this country. *Newsday* said, "A revelatory piece of research. Faderman offers us a rare opportunity to listen to Hmong voices tell riveting, excruciatingly true stories." \$16 pb, 0-8070-7235-4, April.

In **At the Breast: Ideologies of Breastfeeding and Motherhood in the Contemporary United States**, Linda M. Blum surveyed women from different ethnic and economic classes about the 1990s version of idealized motherhood, particularly breastfeeding. Since the 1980s, breastfeeding has been back in favor in medical settings and in the popular media. But Blum shows that the discussion about the individual practice of breastfeeding is "really a larger conversation about motherhood, sexuality, class, and race." She finds that breastfeeding is still a practice saturated with cultural connotations, both gratifying and painful. \$27.50 cl, 0-8070-2140-7, April.

**Thousand Pieces of Gold** by RuthAnne Lum McCunn (Note: Bantam has recently used the same title for their book by Nancy Young Mosny) is another book in Beacon's wonderful Bluestreak series, publishing innovative literature by women of all colors. McCunn's work is a biographical novel originally published in 1981, based on the life of Lalu Nathoy, who was sold into slavery in famine-stricken, 19th-century northern China. Lalu is sold to a brothel, then to a slave merchant headed to America, then auctioned to an American saloonkeeper, then offered as a prize in a poker game. Lalu would not be the mistress, pawn, or chattel to any of the men who "owned" her. She eventually found her way out of slavery and made her way as a pioneer woman. A fascinating and important history. \$13 pb, 0-8070-8317-8.

**Between Vengeance and Forgiveness: Facing History After Genocide and Mass Violence** by Martha Minnow considers social responses to "massive, societal-level oppression." She explores whether the Nuernberg trials and other war-crime prosecutions, reparations (like the money given to Japanese Americans for internment during World War II), and art (like Holocaust memorials) can begin to address the cultural and personal losses suffered. She begins to find a path somewhere between "too much remembering and too much forgetting." A deeply important book. \$23 cl, 0-8070-4506-3.

**Here Lies My Heart: Essays on Why We Marry, Why We Don't, and What We Find There** edited by Deborah Chasman and Catherine Jhee includes writing by Barbara Ehrenreich, Vivian Gornick, Louise DeSalvo, and Amy Hempel. In her foreword, Amy Bloom says, "This book is for the once, never, and much married. For believers and skeptics, love's fools



and love's thieves.... [It] is for everyone whose heart lies where it should, where it shouldn't, and, in the end, where it must." This is a provocative book on marriage, divorce, adultery, and solitude. \$15 pb, 0-8070-6217-0, April. —TMR

### Berkley Publishing Group

**What Every Woman Should Know About Divorce and Custody: Judges, Lawyers, and Therapists Share Winning Strategies on How to Keep the Kids, the Cash, and Your Sanity** by Gayle Rosenwald Smith, J.D., and Sally Abrahms is designed for women at every stage of divorce and includes advice from judges, lawyers, therapists, and mothers. \$14.95 pb, 0-399-52447-9. —TMR



### Brilliance Audio

Now available on audio: A complete and unabridged version of Barbara Kingsolver's **The Poisonwood Bible**, read by Dean Anderson. \$44.95, 10 cassettes, approximately 16 hours, 1-56740-408-1. Brilliance Corporation, PO Box 887, Grand Haven MI 49417; 800-222-3225. —TMR

### Chronicle Books

**The Bad Girls' Guide to Open Road** by Cameron Tuttle, illustrated by Susannah Bettag, appears to be about women and automobile touring. Think, *Thelma and Louise*. \$14.95 pb, 0-8118-2170-6, April.

New in paper and apparently less tawdry than the title suggests, **Sleeping with Random Beasts** by Karin Goodwin is a debut novel about a woman, unhappy with her life, who goes back to visit places and people from her past. \$12.95 pb, 0-8118-2423-3.

In time for Mother's Day: **With Child: Wisdom and Traditions for Pregnancy, Birth, and Mothering** by Deborah Jackson. \$19.95 cl, 0-8118-2400-4.

—Suzanne Corson

*Boadecia's Books/North Berkeley CA*

### Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

Poor Germaine Greer. She called Christine Wallace "a dung beetle" and "flesh-eating bacteria" for writing the new (obviously) unauthorized biography of her life, **Germaine Greer: Untamed Shrew**. Greer (the author of *The Female Eunuch*, which highlighted the extent to which women were, in effect, handmaidens to men) continues to challenge feminist and sexual orthodoxys today. FSG claims that this biography is, essentially, nothing for Greer to be upset about; rather, it is "a thoughtful attempt to make sense of the life and work of one of the most influential feminists of our time." In any case, it's certainly a book that will pique the interest of your customers. \$26 cl, 0-571-19934-8, Faber/FSG.

Leila Ahmed's **A Border Passage** tracks the author's life from her Muslim girlhood in Cairo to her adulthood as a professor of women's studies in the U.S. Ahmed's family, childhood friends, and schoolteachers were from a variety of cultures and religions. When British colonialism ended and Nasser's Arab nationalist policies were put into place, the outspoken dissent of Ahmed's political family led to persecution and eventually caused her parents to send Ahmed overseas to finish her education. In the U.S., Ahmed "found the expectations of her ethnicity and sex equally as stultifying as those in Egypt — and discovered in her all-women's college at Cambridge a more sophisticated version of the harem." Ahmed here defines herself: as a woman, a Muslim, an Egyptian, and an Arab. \$23 cl, 0-374-11518-4, April.

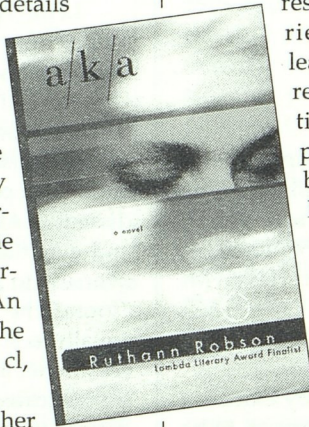
Naomi Roth, protagonist of **The Sabbathday River**, finds a drowned baby girl in the Sabbathday river in New Hampshire. The community immediately suspects single mother Heather Pratt — who is having an affair with a married man — of committing the murder. Heather is able to reveal, however, the body of a second baby, born the same day as the first, on her own property. Instead of clearing Heather of the first murder, the town charges her with both. Naomi and a woman lawyer defend Heather and investigate the murders. When the truth finally comes

out, Naomi must confront how little she really knows about her town, about her friend, and about herself. Rosellen Brown called this "rich and satisfying." \$25 cl, 0-374-25323-4, April.

**Lost Things** by Jenny Offill also takes place in New England, this time in a small lakeside town in Vermont. Eight-year-old Grace's mother Anna, an ornithologist, looks for the "monster" she saw one morning in the lake. Anna believes that it is a dinosaur that escaped extinction. Grace knows that "the monster is more evidence that the world is full of mysterious things most people will never see." Anna pulls Grace into her world of obsession and myth, away from her father's rationalism. This is a lyrical and complex novel that explores "extinction, madness, the breakdown of the family, and...the way science can encourage contradictory readings of the world." \$23 cl, 0-374-18405-4, April.

Beloved British feminist and pacifist, Pat Barker (author of the *Regeneration* trilogy) has written **Another World**. As Nick's grandfather Geordie is dying, he reveals to Nick the horrible details surrounding his brother's death. Meanwhile, Nick and his wife Fran are having problems. In an effort to unite the family, Fran decides that they will all redecorate the living room. While they're tearing down wallpaper, they find an obscene drawing of an Edwardian family. It is a portrait that reveals the history of their home, and it "cast[s] a terrifying shadow over the family." An incredible book exploring memory and the ways the past can affect the present. \$25 cl, 0-374-10525-1, May.

Alta Corral is utterly confident in her conquests of women. She is a body piercer in San Francisco, and she will sleep with any woman "so inclined." But no one can replace her first girl, Shy, who fled to Seattle and the arms of a man. **Shy Girl** by Elizabeth Stark is the story of Shy's return to San Francisco to care for her dying mother. Shy is pregnant, secure in her straight identity. But she and Alta are moving toward intimacy "in a way that shakes up their notions of who they are, as well as opening up the secrets of their mothers' lives." **Shy Girl** explores the undefined corners of interpersonal relationships, and Stark's Alta is the quintessential contemporary



San Francisco lesbian. \$22 cl, 0-374-26352-3, May.

**The Other Civil War: American Women in the Nineteenth Century** by Catherine Clinton is now available in a revised edition. Originally published in 1984, this book offers vignettes about the accomplishments of women pre-Women's Movement. An important book for anyone interested in women's history in the U.S. This new edition has a completely updated bibliography. \$14 pb, 0-8090-1622-2, April, Hill and Wang.

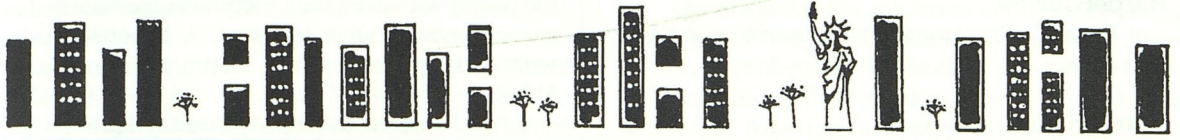
Now available in paperback: **Walking Out on the Boys** by Frances K. Conley, M.D., is the memoir of the doctor who resigned from Stanford University to protest the medical school's gender discrimination. \$13, 0-374-52595-1, May. —TMR

### W.H. Freeman

**In Session: The Bond Between Women and Their Therapists** by Deborah Lott explores why women develop profound feelings — even sometimes romantic love — for their therapists. In her research, Lott examined women's own stories about their therapy, interviewed leading psychotherapists and thinkers, and reviewed literature on therapist-client relationships. She found that therapists often publicly misrepresent their personal boundaries. In the privacy of the office, the lines of proper behavior blur. Lott asks, "Can the imbalance of power in the relationship be equalized? How does a therapist's power contribute to a client's exploitation? What should a woman in love with her therapist do?" This fascinating book becomes a contemplation on the role of love and respect in all human relationships. \$23.95 cl, 0-7167-3562-8, April.

**In Speaking Our Minds: Personal Reflections from Individuals with Alzheimer's** by Lisa Snyder, seven people diagnosed with Alzheimer's talk about what it's like to cope with the disease. They address both the day-to-day realities of having the disease and its overall impact on their lives. Snyder transcribed interviews with them and interspersed her own commentary about the lives revealed to her and about the common themes that bind each of them. As the catalog copy says, "What emerges is a powerful and compassionate portrait of people forced to define





themselves in new ways, not just by what has been lost, but also by what endures." An important book for anyone whose life has been touched by Alzheimer's. \$23.95 cl, 0-7167-3224-6, April.

We debated whether to cover this book, but in the end I decided to do it, just because it perplexes me so much. I don't know if any of your customers are looking for weight control books, but Shawna Vogel's **The Skinny on Fat: Our Obsession with Weight Control** purports to use all the latest scientific research to demonstrate what medically happens in the body when one diets and whether weight loss actually makes one more healthy. As she resoundingly shatters myths about dieting, the definition of obesity, and genetic likelihood of being overweight, she never once questions the idea that one should want to have control over one's body. She looks to science to provide the means for successful weight control in the future. There's a ton of great information here that should support the idea of not going on a diet again ever, but somehow that conclusion escapes Vogel. As she moves the holy grail of thinness further and further away, she states with absolute certainty that science's understanding (or did she mean manipulation?) of the human body will bring it back within our grasp. \$22.95 cl, 0-7167-3091-X, April. —TMR

### Harcourt Brace

**Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith** by Gina B. Nahai sounds like a little magical realism interwoven with Persian and Jewish culture — old world and new world — with women at the center. \$24 cl, 0-15-100388-2.

**Finding Their Stride: A Team of Young Runners Races to the Finish** by Sally Pont, a high school coach and dean of students, is about her team of "outsider" kids who run for the love of it. Though this cross-country team is coed, it sounds like the girls really take off! \$23 cl, 0-15-100347-5, April.

**Snow Man** by Carolyn Chute sounds a little off-beat to me: the wife and daughter of an out-of-town senator are harboring the man who shot another

senator — or are they being held hostage? Can't tell about the ending — the copy says it's "unpredictable and inevitable." \$23 cl, 0-15-100390-4, May.

**People Who Sweat: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Pursuits** by Robin Chotzinoff. Again, not an exclusively women's book — she looks at men and women who find ways to some kind of transformation through athletics. \$22 cl, 0-15-100286-X, May.

**The Flower in the Skull** by Kathleen Alcalá. Compared to Allende and Esquivel, this story is one of displacement — and of spirit and identity and faith. \$12 pb, 0-15-600634-0, June.

**Impossible Saints** by Michele Roberts is a fictional tale of the canonization of one very human woman, which incorporates stories of actual female saints. \$13 pb, 0-15-600659-6, July.

**An American Daughter** by Wendy Wasserman sounds like a fictional tale of women nominated for high office who were investigated or rejected for minor things. It illustrates the cost of public scrutiny. \$10 pb, 0-15-600645-6, August.



### Children's Books from Harcourt Brace

**True Heart** by Marissa Moss. We sold the heck out of the Amelia's Notebook series, also by Moss, so I will order this even though we do not usually do well with cloth books for juveniles in this age group. It mixes history and fiction as it tells of women's role in making the railroad a reality. \$16 cl, 0-15-201344-X.

**Girls Together** by Sherley Anne Williams, illustrated by Synthia St. James, is another great women's history book! Celebrating friendship, this book is for very young readers. \$16 cl, 0-15-230982-9.

Great books now in paper: **Smoky Night** by Eve Bunting (\$6, 0-15-201884-0, April), **Pip's Magic** by Ellen Stoll Walsh (\$6, 0-15-201962-6), and **The Armadillo from Amarillo** by Lynne Cherry (\$6 pb, 0-15-201955-3).

—Linda Bryant  
Charis Books/Atlanta

**HarperCollins**

*HarperCollins coverage will resume in the May/June issue.*

**Henry Holt**

Francine Prose's latest book, **The Peacable Kingdom**, is a collection of short stories about people who become unhappy in spite of having the things they thought they wanted. The blurb says, "Nothing is dependable in this world where weddings and birthday parties go unpredictably awry, strangers blurt out disturbing confessions, and even family pets reveal themselves to be agents of discord and disruption." A wonderfully well-written book about the papery-thin illusion of happiness. \$12 pb, 0-8050-5939-3, Owl Books. —TMR

**Houghton Mifflin**

**Woman: An Intimate Geography** by Natalie Angier. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Natalie Angier tells us in the foreword, "This book is a celebration of the female body — its anatomy, its chemistry, its evolution, and its laughter.... It is a book about things that we traditionally associate with the image of woman — the womb, the egg, the breast, the blood, the almighty clitoris — and things that we don't — movement, strength, aggression, and fury.... I believe that we can learn from other species, and from our pasts, and from our parts, which is why I wrote this book as a kind of scientific fantasia of womanhood." (\$25 cl, 0-395-69130-3, April.) Also available in April: an updated paperback edition of Angier's **Natural Obsessions**. (\$15, 0-395-92472-3.)

**Winter Hours** by Mary Oliver. This new volume contains nine essays and a brief selection of new prose poems and poems. With grace and precision, Oliver talks of many things: the "thousand unbreakable links between each of us and everything else," her favorite poets, and her own poems. She offers us a glimpse of her "private and natural self." \$22 cl, 0-395-85084-3, April.

**All She Was Worth** by Miyuki Miyabe, translated by Alfred Birnbaum. This thriller takes the reader on a journey through the dark side of Japan's consumer-crazed society. When ordinary people go

too deeply into debt, they become vulnerable to dangerous underground creditors. A beautiful young woman disappears; is she a victim, a killer, or both? \$12 pb, 0-395-96658-2, April. —Harriet Clare

**Apples and Oranges: My Journey Through Sexual Identity** is lesbian/feminist poet and writer Jan Clausen's account of falling in love with a man. Clausen attempts to mend her "broken identity" in a "society obsessed with sexual sorting, with the conviction that the bodies and minds of men and women are not merely different but diametrically opposed." Clausen rejects all labels, including bisexual, in her search for her own identity. This looks *fascinating* to me, and it's sure to disturb some folks. I'd stock it just to overhear the discussions it will cause. \$24 cl, 0-395-82752-3.

In **Waiting for Aphrodite: Journeys into the Time Before Bones**, Sue Hubbell considers "the remarkable lives of the little-known creatures that really run the world: earthworms, corals, lightning bugs, pill bugs, millipedes, crickets, spiders, sea urchins, horseshoe crabs, and most enigmatic of all, Aphrodite, the sea mouse." Hubbell explores the evolution of life on this planet and of her own life. The catalog description brings to mind Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker's Creek*. (\$24 cl, 0-395-83703-0, April.) Houghton Mifflin is also publishing Hubbell's **A Country Year: Living the Questions** in paperback. A Random House hardcover over a decade ago, **A Country Year** is about the first year after Hubbell's divorce. Alone and broke on an Ozarks farm, Hubbell found peace in beekeeping. Hubbell's writing is rigorously truthful about her life and the things she cares about. Another great book about one's relationship to the land and its creatures, and about one woman's journey to middle age. (\$12, 0-395-96701-5, April, Mariner Books.)

Mariner Books is reissuing **The Complete Poems** by Anne Sexton. This 624-page volume includes all ten of Sexton's collections, plus seven poems from her last years. Foreword by Maxine Kumin. \$18 pb, 0-395-95776-1, April. —TMR

**Hyperion**

April Sinclair, author of the wonderful *Coffee Will Make You Black*, has a new novel, **I Left My Back Door Open**, which introduces Daphne Dupree, a witty, dynamic Black radio DJ. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6229-7.

Jane Campion (*The Piano*) and her sister, Ann Campion, have co-authored **Holy Smoke**, the basis for the upcoming feature film from Miramax. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6349-8.

In **September, the Light Changes** is a collection of short stories by Andrew Holleran. Holleran's first novel, *Dancer from the Dance*, remains a bestselling gay novel. \$23.95 cl, 0-7868-6461-3, June.

Shyam Selvadurai, Lambda Literary Award winner, has a new novel, **Cinnamon Gardens**. It is set among the upper classes in the gracious, repressive, and complex world of 1920s Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). \$23 cl, 0-7868-6473-7, June.

**The Honey Thief** by Elizabeth Graver focuses on Miriam, a young widow, and her troubled daughter as they struggle to forgive the past and look forward to the future. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6282-3, August.

Gloria Naylor's **Men of Brewster Place** is due in paper in April. \$11.95, 0-7868-8405-3.

**The Go on Girl! Book Club Guide for Reading Groups** offers a road map for people who want to start their own book club. It is written by Monique Greenwood, Lynda Johnson, and Tracy Mitchell-Brown, who started the country's largest reading group for African American women. \$14.95 pb, 0-7868-8350-2.

**Make the Connection: Ten Steps to a Better Body — and a Better Life** by Bob Greene and Oprah Winfrey is revised and updated with a new introduction. \$9.95 pb, 0-7868-8298-0.

**The Baby Boat** by Patty Dann explores the joys and sorrows that adoptive parents face. Told in the form of an episodic journal, it has dry humor and a quietly beautiful literary style. \$11.95 pb, 0-7868-8411-8.

**The Sacrificial Mother** by Carin Rubenstein is a parenting book to help mothers escape the trap of self-denial, showing that there is a difference between taking care of oneself and "being selfish." \$12.95 pb, 0-7868-8410-X.

Louise Erdrich has written her first novel for young adults, **The Birchbark House**, a historical novel about an Ojibwa girl and her family. (\$14.99 cl, 0-7868-3000-2.) Also, her acclaimed picture book, **Grandmother Pigeon**, is coming out in paper in May. (\$5.99, 0-7868-1204-4.)

**Quiet Storms** is a collection of poetry by young Black poets "celebrating the many shades of Black culture." (\$15.99 cl, 0-7868-0461-0.) Another rich multicultural collection of poetry is presented in **Celebrate America in Poetry and Art**, edited by Nora Panzer. (\$9.99 pb, 0-7868-1360-1, July.)

**T-Backs, T-Shirts, Coat, and Suit** by E.L. Konisburg is coming out in paper in April. *PW* gave this a starred review: "Newbery Medal winner Konisburg introduces another of her saturnine heroines in this tart, smart novel." \$4.99 pb, 0-7868-1359-8.

—Trudy Mills

Antigone Books/Tucson AZ

Hyperion's pitch for **Letters to Our Daughters: Mother's Words of Love** by Kristie Van Raden and Molly Davis is, "This Mother's Day, give a gift to your daughter." This collection of letters from mothers to their daughters tells stories of adoption, immigration, single parenting, recovery, and overcoming economic hardship. Each letter is accompanied by a family photograph.

Hyperion is offering an order-five-and-get-one-free deal on a six-copy counter display. Each book in the display comes with special stationary and an envelope (\$90 six-pack, 0-7868-7903-3). Looks like a pretty apt gift book; this did really well as a self-published book. (\$18 cl, 0-7868-6528-8, April.)

Linda Greenlaw is the world's only female sea captian of a sword-fishing boat (and was a source for the book *The Perfect Storm*). In **The Hungry Ocean: A Swordboat Captain's Journey**, Greenlaw tells the story of a

30-day swordfishing voyage. Exciting from the moment Greenlaw and her five-man crew leave the dock, **The Hungry Ocean** is full of adventure, characters "so colorful they seem to have been ripped from the pages of *Moby Dick*," and a sea captian's penchant for reflection. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6451-6, May.

Laura Kasischke, author of *Suspicious River*, has a new novel out. **White Bird in a Blizzard** is lush, gorgeously written book. Based on a true story of the disappearance of a suburban housewife, **White Bird in a Blizzard** tells the story of Eve Connors' daughter, Katrina. Katrina is left completely numb when her



mother walks out of the house in the middle of winter, never to return. Though Katrina feels the hollowness created by absence, for years she cannot name it, cannot understand her nightmares, which always end with her mother crying for help. After Katrina leaves home, she gradually realizes the secrets that the dreams revealed, secrets that were "under her nose" all along. A suspenseful, erotic, poetic novel. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6366-8. —TMR

### Little, Brown

Louise Redd, author of the acclaimed *Playing the Bones*, has a new novel, **Hangover Soup**, which focuses on a woman's struggle to save her marriage, sober up her husband, and find her true self. It's described as "as fall-down funny as it is slyly wise." \$23 cl, 0-316-479004, August.

Martha Cooley's **The Archivist** is coming out in paper. The plot — a young woman's impassioned pursuit of a sealed cache of T.S. Elliot's letters — "is just as smart as Byatt's [*Possession*], though far less showy about it, and carries twice the emotional wallop." \$13 pb, 0-316-158720.

**The Hacienda**, Lisa St. Aubin de Teran's remarkable memoir about her life in the Venezuelan Andes, is coming out in paper. \$13, 0-316-816884, May.

Also now in paper is Anita Shreve's **The Pilot's Wife**. \$13, 0-316-789089.

Lillian Hellman's **An Unfinished Woman** is back in print with a new introduction by Wendy Wasserstein. \$13 pb, 0-316-352853, June.

**Your Blue-Eyed Boy** by Helen Dunmore is coming out in paper in June. Dunmore won Britain's Orange Prize for the wonderful *Talking to the Dead*. \$13, 0-316-197475.

**Wide Open** is a collection of Linda McCartney's photographs. \$22.50 cl, 0-8218-25960. —Trudy Mills

**White Oleander** is the sumptuously written debut novel of Janet Fitch. Little, Brown is comparing the novel to Mona Simpson's *Anywhere but Here*. Astrid is raised by her mother Ingrid, a poet who is beautiful, acerbic, and ethereal. Ingrid falls down to earth hard when she falls in love with Barry, who seems at first to be the antithesis of everything Ingrid regards. When Barry dumps her, Ingrid falls even

harder into hatred. She poisons him and is imprisoned for life, and Astrid is cast into the foster care system in L.A. As she struggles through a series of homes, each with its small comforts and/or horrors, Astrid comes of age and "finds strength in her unshakable certainty of her own worth and her unfettered sense of the absurd." A striking debut. \$24 cl, 0-316-285269, April.

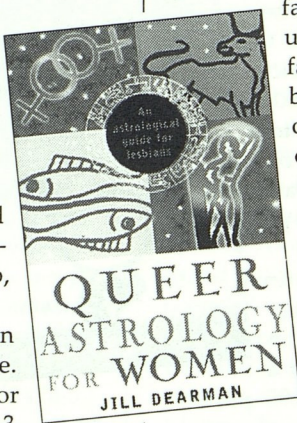
**Jacqueline du Pré** by Elizabeth Wilson is the biography of the genius cellist. Her career began at 16, and she was soon legendary. For a decade, she played to standing-room only houses around the world. At age 27, she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and had to stop playing. She died in 1987. This biography is informed by family papers and the collaboration of her husband. \$27.95 cl, 0-55970-490-X, April. —TMR

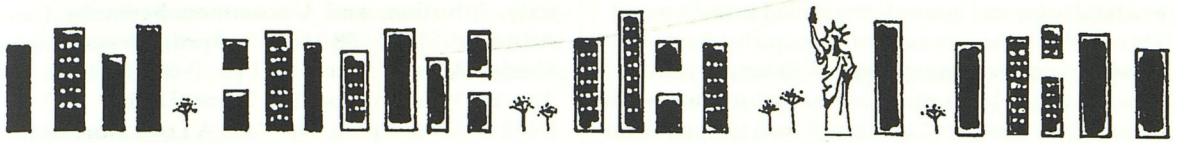
### William Morrow

**Ladies First** by Queen Latifah. Dana Owens, home girl extraordinaire (I was born in Newark, NJ, too) known as Queen Latifah to her millions of fans (*me!*), presents her first in what will undoubtedly be a series of memoirs. Her faith in God, the tragic loss of her dear brother Winki, and other major events of her life are chronicled here. The aim of the book is to encourage girls to develop self-respect, self-esteem, courage, and independence. No mention of her love life. Hmmmmmmm. \$22 cl, 0-688-15623-1.

Sobonfu Somé, author of **The Spirit of Intimacy: Ancient Teachings in the Ways of Relationships**, is "a teacher who can help us put together so many things that our modern western world has broken." —Alice Walker. Born in a remote West African village, Somé has preserved the old ways, including spiritual practices, family structures, and methods of living that have been in place for 10,000 years. \$19.95 cl, 0-688-16450-1.

**The Color of America** by Farai Chideya is an important book. Chideya is an ABC news correspondent and a contributing editor at *Vibe* and *Time* magazines (and the author of **Don't Believe the Hype**, \$11.95 pb, 0-452-27096-0). Last year, *Newsweek* named her to its Century Club: 100 people to watch as





we approach 2000. She guides us through the new, multiracial America that will emerge as the next generation grows up and begins to shape our society. Talking to urban and rural people from coast to coast, she paints a vivid portrait of a nation in transition. She says America is ceasing to be defined by the white/Black divide and is entering a more complex multiethnic era. \$23 cl, 0-688-16530-3.

**Toxic Friends/True Friends: How Your Friends Can Make or Break Your Health, Happiness, Family and Career** by Florence Issacs "explores the complex interplay of affection, obligation, and competition in women's friendships." A guide to understanding and improving our friendships. \$23 cl, 0-688-15442-5.



**Motherland: Writings by Irish American Women About Mothers and Mothering** by Caledonia Kearns features the work of Mary Gordon, Susan Minot, Maureen Howard, Anna Quindlen, Margaret Sanger, Mother Jones, and many others. Kearns collected 22 pieces of fiction, diverse in voice and focus, that show us the connections between Irish mothers and daughters in America. \$24.95 cl, 0-688-16565-6.

**White Coat: Becoming a Doctor at Harvard Medical School** by Ellen Lerner Rothman, M.D., is one woman's journey through the horrors experienced and lessons learned on her way to her "M.D." She ruminates on some of today's important medical issues, such as HMOs, assisted suicide, and AIDS, all the while documenting her emotional, thoughtful, and constantly challenging transformation into a "white coat." With the popularity of "ER" and other television shows and books of its ilk, this will likely sell to a wider audience than just those working in the medical profession or those linked to it by family and friends. \$25 cl, 0-688-15313-5, April.

**Quotable Women of the Twentieth Century** by Cathleen Black. I don't know that we need another of

these collections. But if you are inclined to provide your customers with another of these for reference, please know that it includes Marie Curie, Grandma Moses, Princess Diana, Lily Tomlin, Gloria Steinem, and *Nancy Reagan*. Enough said. \$20 cl, 0-688-15991-5, April.

**We Remember: Women Born at the Turn of the Century Tell the Stories of Their Lives in Words and Pictures**, introduction by Hillary Rodham Clinton. Black and white photos accompany the words of twenty-four women, from slave descendent Martha Jane Faulkner to New York socialite Brooke Astor. **We Remember** documents the memories of many women, like a Native American woman's telling of the coming of the white man. A beautiful book. \$25 cl, 0-688-15863-3, April.

**Blues: For All the Changes: New Poems** by Nikki Giovanni. "Return, remember, relive.... Her magic still refreshes and reminds your heart to feel again what it has always meant to be Black, to be a woman, to be vulnerable, to be empowered, to be human."—Marion Wright Edelman. \$15 cl, 0-688-15698-3, May.

From Joyce Milton, the biographer of the Rosenbergs and Charlie Chaplin, comes **The First Partner: Hillary Rodham Clinton**, a profile of Clinton as a formidable, fascinating, and enigmatic woman. Milton starts with Clinton's childhood in the Midwest, examining her life up to her ironic media portrayal as a sympathetic character in the current scandal and impeachment debacle. \$27 cl, 0-688-15501-4, May.

**Catnip for the Soul** by Woody and Friends, as told to Jane O'Boyle. Here are a few samples from this parody of the Chicken Soup for the Soul series: "Some might tease us about our proclivity for napping, but they are the ones who do not sleep enough." "Receiving one meal does not mean you will always get another. Keep track of your bowl." This book is hilarious. \$9.95 pb, 0-688-16982-1, May.

**Heaven's Harlots: My Fifteen Years in a Sex Cult** by Miriam Williams was previously announced

as a hardcover and is now being issued in trade paper. This is Williams' account of her spiritual odyssey gone haywire, beginning at age 17. Eventually she left the cult, which had instructed her that it is women's role to give "free love" to strange men to open them up to the Lord. By then, Miriam had five children by several fathers who had become other women's husbands in arranged marriages. Incidentally, River Phoenix and other celebrities were born into this cult. \$12 pb, 0-688-17012-9, June.

**Maiden** by Cynthia Buchanan. A quote from Lily Tomlin: "I love **Maiden** so much I can't even do it justice! Fortune Dundy is so comic and so tragic, she grabs our humanity. All generations, young and old, will find **Maiden** more universal today than ever. An American classic, it's wonderful." This novel, which first appeared in 1972, is a social satire charting the adventures of a thirty-year-old virgin in rhinestones as she battles the flesh markets of 1970s Southern California. A female Don Quixote, our heroine plunges into a mythic quest for her Dream Man of Chivalry. \$12 pb, 0-688-16789-6, June.

**Women Who Mean Business: Success Stories of Women over Forty** by A. Mikaelain, is, alas, probably something our stores can sell only in paperback, depending on your location. This is a collection of 75 successful businesswomen nationwide, all of whom began their careers in the 1970s. No mention of diversity; the emphasis here seems to be about key phrases like "climbing corporate ladders" and "glass ceilings." But it also covers dealing with pressure and stress, and women's mentors and influences. \$22 cl, 0-688-15677-0, July.

**How Alcoholics Anonymous Failed Me** by Marianne Gilliam was also previously announced, then moved to August. This memoir recounts how Gilliam rejected the idea that alcoholism is a disease and found her own path to sobriety in a love-based approach to life founded on self-worth. \$12 pb, 0-688-17013-7, August.

**The Life and Good Humor of Rosie O'Donnell** by Gloria Goodman was also reviewed for a previous season. You may want to reorder this in its new ISBN and time slot. \$12 pb, 0-688-16979-1, August.

**The Mourners Bench** by Susan Dodd. Ditto. \$13 pb, 0-688-16973-2.

Now in paper: **The Purpose of Your Life: Finding Your Place in the World Using Synchron-**

**icity, Intuition, and Uncommon Sense** by Carol Adrienne (\$13, 0-688-16625-3, April), **Dessa Rose** by Sherley Anne Williams (\$12 pb, 0-688-16643-1), **The Tao of Womanhood** by Diane Dreher (\$11 pb, 0-688-16629-6, April), **The Pact: A Love Story** by Jodi Picoult (\$13 pb, 0-688-17052-8, May), and **Florence Harding** by Carl Sferrazza Anthony (\$17 pb, 0-688-16975-9, June).

Reissued: **Those Who Ride the Night Wind** by Nikki Giovanni (\$9 pb, 0-688-02653-2, May).

—Donna Niles



## New Press

**Racism Explained to My Daughter** by French author Tahar Ben Jelloun was written in response to his ten-year-old daughter's questions about racism. **Racism Explained to My Daughter** includes responses from William Ayres, Lisa D. Delpit, David Mura, and Patricia Williams. \$16.95 cl, 1-56584-534-X, June.

From Selma and Stonewall to California's Proposition 209 and the Defense of Marriage Act, Blacks and gays continue to face resistance. While some activists have drawn parallels between the two movements, many others have balked at the comparison. **Dangerous Liaisons: Blacks, Gays and the Struggle for Equality** edited by Eric Brandt provides a platform for the leading minds of both communities, including those who straddle both worlds, to debate the volatile subject of the relationship between Blacks and gays. Includes work by Jewelle Gomez, Audre Lorde, Barbara Smith, and many others. \$22.95 cl, 1-56584-455-6, June.

Meera Syal's first novel, **Anita and Me**, follows nine-year-old Meena through a year spiced with pilfered sweets and money, bad words and compulsive — yet inventive — lies. *The Washington Post* calls Syal's protagonist "a female Huck Finn." \$13.95 pb, 1-56584-529-3, June.

Elisabeth Gille's new novel, **Shadows of a Childhood**, centers around two girls hidden together in a convent during WWII. Lea, five, and Benedicte, seven, share everything — except the secrets of their parents' disappearances. After the war Benedicte's life returns to normal, but Lea, marked by childhood

memories she cannot escape, undertakes a devastating search for the truth. \$12.95 pb, 1-56584-528-5, June. —*Jessie Mabry*

## Norton

Former Poet Laureate of the United States Rita Dove has a new collection of poetry, **On the Bus with Rosa Parks**. From the opening sequence, "Comeos," which probes the private griefs and dreams of a working-class family, to the emblematic grace of a living legend like Rosa Parks, these poems explore the intersection of individual fates with the grand arc of history. \$21 cl, 0-393-04722-9, April.

May Sarton's love for Juliette Huxley, ignited the first moment she saw her in 1936, transcended sixty years of friendship, passion, silence, and reconciliation. Susan Sherman, a close friend of May Sarton's during her later years, has collected the letters May Sarton wrote to the woman she considered her muse and the greatest love of her life in **Dear Juliette: Letters of May Sarton to Juliette Huxley**. \$29.95 cl, 0-393-04733-4, May.

In **All the Daring of a Soldier**, historian Elizabeth Leonard has combined archives, memoirs, and histories to unearth the stories of the hidden and forgotten women of the civil war. These women spied for their causes, remained on the front lines as daughters of the regiment, and dressed as men in order to enlist as soldiers. **All the Daring of a Soldier** gives the reader insight into the lives of American women in the 19th century and their ability to break through the barriers of Victorian womanhood. \$27.95 cl, 0-393-04712-1, June.

In **Lost Daughters**, Lambda Award-winning author J.M. Redman offers up a new novel featuring "one of the most...complex female detectives in print today" —*San Francisco Chronicle*. Micky Knight, a New Orleans private detective, has just taken on two cases: that of a widowed mother looking for her daughter and that of a gay man hunting for his biological mother. Suddenly, women start turning up murdered at Micky's lover's clinic. Micky discovers a gruesome tie the murdered women share: they are all lesbians. Redman keeps the reader at the edge of her seat as Micky searches to find the killer while trying to

reunite mothers and their lost children. \$24.95 cl, 0-393-04028-3, July.

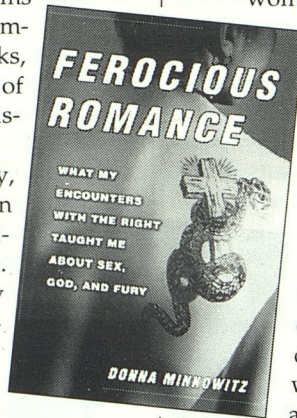
With **The Black Notebooks**, Toi Derricotte has written what Sapphire calls "not just one of the best books on race I have ever read but just simply one of the best books I have ever read." **The Black Notebooks** is a courageous account of race in America, seen through the eyes of a light-skinned Black woman. *The Women's Review of Books* writes:

"Would I recommend it? Absolutely. To Whom? Anyone interested in writing. In race. In human relationships." \$13 pb, 0-393-31901-6, June.

From 1996 to 1997, women's participation in on-road mountain biking rose 45.5 percent and off-road biking saw a 5.8 percent increase. But mountain biking is still a male-dominated sport, and women have many questions: which manufacturers make bikes and accessories especially designed for women's bodies? How can a woman ensure she'll get top-quality service at a male-oriented bike shop? **A Trailside Guide: Women's Mountain Biking** by

Jennifer Kulier answers these questions and many more while proving that mountain biking is a woman's sport. \$18.95 pb, 0-393-31919-9, July.

—*Jessie Mabry*



## Penguin/Viking

**Secrets of the Ancient Goddess** by Brenda Gates Smith is a prehistoric novel set in what is now Turkey. This is "a triumphant story of two women, one who finds honor within another culture, and the other who endures to return home after a brutal separation." \$6.99 pb, 0-451-19547-7, NAL.

Now in paper: **Nothing but the Rent** by Sharon Mitchell. \$6.99, 0-451-19260-5, NAL. —*Donna Niles*

Penguin Classics is releasing Dorothy Parker's **Complete Poems**. The blurb says: "Confronting the hard facts of existence facing a woman of talent and boldness in the 1920s and 30s, Parker's poems depict a world haunted by unrequited love, alcohol, razor blades, and men of overbearing will." \$13.95 pb, 0-14-118022-6, April.

Element Books urges kids to "Make a cow your best friend!" with **How to Be Animal Friendly: Choose the Kindest Ways to Eat, Shop, and Have**

**Fun!** by Philippa Perry. This guide for kids covers everything from animal-friendly clothing to cosmetics to, of course, food. Ages 10 and up. \$4.95 pb, 1-90188-174-1, May.

When Colombian-born Silvana Paternostro was researching AIDS in Latin American women, she found that married, monogamous women were more likely to be infected with AIDS than female prostitutes. Latin American women are being infected with AIDS at twice the percentage of total cases as their white American counterparts. **In the Land of God and Man: Confronting Our Sexual Culture** is Paternostro's exploration of Latin American culture, of the silent "paradoxical reality where prostitution, male bisexuality, and transvestism are routine and accepted parts of life at every level of society." She encourages women, the victims of this silence, to educate themselves and to "rewrite the laws that control their lives." A fascinating cultural exposé. \$25.95 cl, 0-525-94422-2.

Barbara Trapido, an accomplished English writer, has a new novel, **The Travelling Horn Player**. When Ellen Dent's sister Lydia is killed in a car accident, her death has far-reaching consequences. Ellen notes that "The Lydia that once lived is dead in both of us." As Ellen learns to live without her sister, Trapido introduces us to Ellen's world with her signature quirky and clever social commentary. \$24.95 cl, 0-670-88357-3. —TMR



### Perseus Group

Based on the work in Mary Field Belinky's *Women's Ways of Knowing*, Mary Field Belinky, Lynne A. Bond, and Jacqueline S. Weinstock founded the Listening Partners Project, designed to help young women isolated in rural poverty to give voice to their personal and communal needs. **A Tradition That Has No Name: Women's Ways of Leading** describes the project and explores the lives of other women who created organizations to instigate social change and strengthen community. \$18 pb, 0-465-08681-0, May, Basic Books.

Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, author of *The Good High School*, *Balm in Gilead*, and *I've Known Rivers*, has written a nonfiction book considering the role of

respect in interpersonal relationships. **Respect: An Exploration** reveals respect to be the most powerful ingredient in any relationship, be it personal, professional, or public. She delves deeply into the human experience to find and name the essence of respect. This should prove to be a thoughtful, transformative book. \$23 cl, 0-7382-0093-X, April.

Sissela Bok's **Mayhem: Violence as Public Entertainment** explores the problem of prolonged exposure of media violence on the "national character." Bok is able to broach media violence from a place that transcends the debate between those fighting against censorship and those bemoaning the moral decline of society. Her analysis encourages people to act, and shows how "our ways of dealing with it not only express but also shape our characters and our lives." Bok has also written *Lying and Secrets*. \$13 pb, 0-7382-0145-6, April.

**The Custody Wars: Why Children Are Losing the Legal Battle and What We Can Do About It** by Mary Ann Mason, Ph.D., J.D., creates a framework for looking at custody hearings from the child's point of view. She offers proposals for changing the way disputes are settled. She bases her book on a "wealth" of legal cases, as well as psychological research. Mason's perspective is vital in a process structured

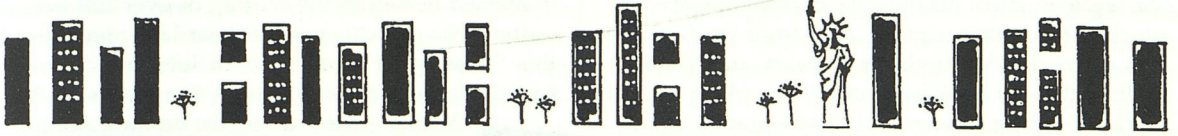
to ignore children when deciding their future. \$23 cl, 0-465-01532-8.

Westview Press has released the latest in their Feminist Theory and Politics series, **The Power of Feminist Theory: Domination, Resistance, Solidarity** by Amy Allen. Allen discusses the inadequacies of other feminist theories of power and draws upon Foucault, Butler, and Hannah Arendt to construct a new feminist conceptualization of power. She explores the relationship between domination, resistance, and solidarity, demonstrating how seeing these three qualities as "modalities" of power illuminates its nature. \$49 cl, 0-8133-9072-9. —TMR

### Plume

**Something Better for My Children: The History and People of Head Start** is Kay Mills' examination of Head Start. She visited programs throughout the U.S., from inner-city L.A. to an Indian reservation in





Montana. She assesses the programs' successes and failures. As the catalog copy says, this book is "for anyone with an interest in the betterment of our nation's future." \$14.95 pb, 0-452-27847-3, April.

**Shiva Dancing** by Bharti Kirchner is a novel about one woman's search for her cultural identity. Meena was abducted from her village when she was seven. She managed to escape slavery and was adopted by an American couple. At 35, her life is empty, and she is drawn to India to search for the man designated to be her husband, but the journey is disrupted by the appearance of an American novelist. *The San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Christian Science Monitor* have both praised this novel. \$12.95 pb, 0-452-27882-1, April.

**Great Books for African-American Children** by Pamela Toussaint provides short reviews for 250 children's books. There is an index, and you can look up books by title, by author, or by the "moral value each book teaches." (Isn't it fascinating that you can index moral values?) Here is a guide in a field that desperately needs such references. And its price may be a bit more palatable to your customers than *The New Press Guide to Multicultural Resources for Young People*. \$12.95 pb, 0-452-28044-3, April.

**Invisible Writer: A Biography of Joyce Carol Oates** by Greg Johnson seems like it's pretty thorough. Johnson was given access to Oates' letters, journals, family, friends, and colleagues, and he interviewed Oates herself in his extensive research. He writes of her impoverished childhood in upstate New York with an autistic sister and her studies at Syracuse before taking an in-depth look at her career as a writer. I must say, I'm not really understanding how Oates is "invisible" — I guess I have to read the book to find out. \$15.95 pb, 0-452-27971-2, April. —TMR

### Random House

Helen Fisher, author of **The First Sex: The Natural Talents of Women and How They Will Change the World**, says "Tomorrow belongs to women." This anthropologist studied women's evolutionary

history to determine that the natural abilities women have developed (among them: synthesis thinking, stronger senses, verbal ability, people savvy, healing techniques) are making women suited to lead and change the world. She says, "Like a glacier, contemporary women are slowly overturning worldwide business and social practices, and creating a new economic and social landscape." Sounds like a fun read. \$24.95 cl, 0-679-44909-4, May.



**We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese** by Elizabeth M. Norman is the story of a group of nurses looking for a challenge. In Japan at wartime, they found it, and then some. They set up makeshift hospitals in the jungle for the wounded and dying. They performed surgery with few supplies, and disease was rampant. They were finally able to retreat to Corregidor in Manila Bay, only to be captured. After enduring imprisonment, the nurses came home to America and had to fight the false belief that they were raped. A fascinating account of an extraordinary group of women. \$26.95 cl, 0-375-50245-9, May.

**Elementals: Fire and Ice**, stories by A.S. Byatt (*The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye, Possession*), is a neat exercise: Here is a collection of stories about polarities. Each story is imbued with (literally or figuratively) fire and ice. In one story, a woman watches her husband die from a heart attack and wishes to flee before she can confront her loss. In another, a princess whose health depends upon a cold climate marries a prince from a desert kingdom. A nicely themed book from an accomplished writer. \$21.95 cl, 0-375-50250-5, May.

**Véra (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov): The Story of a Marriage** by Stacy Sciff is the portrait of a woman instrumental in her husband's career. Véra typed everything for Vladimir including dozens of manuscripts, she negotiated contracts, she translated, and

she wrote much of his personal correspondence. She plucked the manuscript of *Lolita* from the fire. She was married to Vladimir for 60 years, and Vladimir dedicated every book he wrote to her. (After all that work she did, he'd better.) Schiff's biography is, in part, based on new materials such as Vladimir's letters, Vera's diaries, and family correspondence. \$27.95 cl, 0-679-44790-3, May.

**Women and Cancer: A Thorough and Compassionate Resource for Patients and Their Families** by Jean Petric, M.D., Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D., and Ted Gansler, M.D., addresses the latest options women have in treating cancers of the female reproductive system. Covers breast cancer, cancer of the cervix, ovarian cancer, and cancer of the uterus. I can't help but notice that the American Cancer Society had devoted a whole book to prostrate cancer (it's newly updated for 1999), whereas all the "girl-parts" cancers get stuffed into one book. But perhaps I'm just being over-sensitive.... \$14.95 pb, 0-679-77814-4. —TMR

### Random House Audiobooks

**Sylvia Plath: The Voice of the Poet** is the author reading her own poetry, some of it never before released on an audio recording. As the catalog copy says, "The voice in her mature poetry is inflected with an angered or astonished irony." Robert Lowell called the poetry she wrote in the year before her death — poems about her failed marriage, death, and the imagination — an "appalling and triumphant fulfillment." \$14.95, 1 cassette, approximately 1 hour, and a 48-page book, 0-375-40599-2, April.

Now available on audio: Eudora Welty's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, **The Optimist's Daughter** is read by the author. \$22, 3 cassettes, approximately 4 hours, 0-394-55587-2, May. —TMR

### RH-Crown

**The Words of a Woman: A Literary Mosaic** by Christine Mary McGinley was inspired by Virginia Woolf's "Shakespeare's sister," who "represents all the gifted women who never wrote a word because it was not a part of their prescribed social role." This book grew out of a theatrical presentation. McGinley

immersed herself in the writing of over 100 women writers who made themselves heard in order to create this "treasury of words" about life, love, learning, friendship, and more. Includes the words of Alice Walker, Jane Austen, the Brontës, Aung San Suu Kyi, and many others as well as an appendix that contextualizes the quotes and the author's story of how she came to create the work. A beautiful gift for women of letters. \$16 cl, 0-609-60411-2, May.

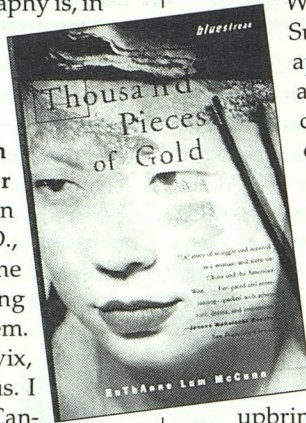
**See Jane Win: The Rimm Report on How 1000 Girls Became Successful Women** by Dr. Sylvia Rimm with Dr. Sara Rimm-Kaufman and Dr. Ilonna Rimm is aimed at parents. The authors conducted extensive surveys among women who are successful and satisfied to find common traits among their

upbringings. They present these traits to parents in order to battle the negative messages girls get and help to guide girls into becoming successful women. \$25 cl, 0-517-70666-0, May.

**Shadows, Fire, Snow: The Life of Tina Modotti** by Patricia Albers is a biography of the woman whom art historians have dubbed "the best-known unknown photographer of the 20th century." Modotti led an incredible life. She: was an impoverished Italian immigrant who became a Hollywood star; moved to Mexico with her lover and mentor Edward Weston; became active in Communist politics; became friends with Kahlo, Rivera, Neruda, Dos Passos, and Hemmingway; worked with Loyalists in the Spanish Civil War under an *nom de guerre*; and later returned to Mexico where she remained for the rest of her life. She died in 1942 officially of natural causes, but some say she was poisoned by one of Stalin's agents. Whew. Albers draws upon 300 new letters and photographs in this biography. This treatment of Modotti's astounding life should prove an absorbing read. \$30 cl, 0-609-60069-9, April, Clarkson Potter. —TMR

### RH-Knopf

**No Shame in My Game: Working Poor in the Inner City** by Katherine Newman is based on her two-year study in which she and her graduate assistants followed 300 job-seekers and workers at four fast-food restaurants in Harlem. What emerges is a complex picture of the inner city that is far from that



of a shiftless "welfare society." The study revealed a community of hardworking people struggling to support themselves and their families with minimum-wage, dead-end jobs. She offers suggestions on how we might, on both a federal and local level, help the working poor move into jobs that offer a real future. \$26.95 cl, 0-375-40254-3, April.

—Sandi Turkildson

*A Room of One's Own/Madison WI*

**The Seventh Child: A Lucky Life** by Freddie Mae

Baxter is an amazing autobiographical account. Freddie Mae was the seventh child of eight. When Freddie was ten, her father left her mother and Freddie went to work picking cotton and cooking for white families. In the 40s, she moved to New York City, in search of a better life. Through sheer determination, she brought each of her siblings north to be with her. An incredible woman who created for herself "a lucky life." \$21 cl, 0-375-40620-4, May.

Mary Jo Salter, an editor of the *Norton Anthology of Poetry*, has written her fourth collection of poetry, **A Kiss in Space**. Salter's work travels from France to Australia to the Mir space station. She's a beautiful writer and her scope is limitless. \$22 cl, 0-375-40531-3.

Now in paperback: **The Collected Poems of Amy Clampitt**. \$19.95 pb, 0-375-70064-1, April.

—TMR

**RH-Pantheon & Schocken**

**The Good Listener: Helen Bamber, A Life Against Cruelty** by Neil Belton is part biography and part meditation on systematic violence in our time. Helen Bamber is a British woman now in her seventies who has devoted her life to documenting, resisting, and, where possible, undoing the effects of politically sanctioned torture throughout the world. \$26 cl, 0-375-40100-8, April.

Alix Kates Shulman's (*Memoirs of an Ex-Prom Queen*) memoir, **A Good Enough Daughter**, is a moving account of her journey home at the end of her parents' lives. Shulman charts her journey from dependence to alienation to reconciliation with grace, clarity, and insight. She navigates the emotional and practical difficulties of rescuing the parents from whom she had once tried so hard to separate, weaving together parallel stories of their growing old and her growing up. \$23 cl, 0-8052-4161-2, April.

—Sandi Turkildson

**The Leper's Companions** by Julia Blackburn is the story of a woman suffering from a great loss who creates a past in a 15th-century village where she "might both lose and find herself." She joins a group of pilgrims on a journey to Jerusalem. Weaving past and present, the magical and the real, Blackburn's prose pushes boundaries. \$22 cl, 0-679-43984-6, April.

—TMR

**RH-Three Rivers**

Now in paper: **The Power of Perimenopause: A Woman's Guide to Physical and Emotional Health During the Transitional Decade** by Stephanie DeGraff Bender talks about the changes occurring in women's bodies in the years preceding menopause. \$12 pb, 0-609-80416-2, May.

—TMR



**RH-Times**

**Rebels in White Gloves: Coming of Age with the Wellesley Class of 69** by Miriam Horn chronicles the "cultural touchstones" of "Hillary's Class" and examines, through the lives of these women, what effects these enormous social changes have wrought on U.S. society. Horn shows how the struggles of the class of 69 mirror the struggles of women trying to define their lives. From their Wellesley past of donning white gloves for tea and thinking about marriage, these women eventually found different paths, such as lesbianism and political activism. This microcosm of women demonstrates the astonishing shift in cultural mores in four years. \$24 cl, 0-8129-2501-7, May.

—TMR

**RH-Villard**

**For Mothers of Difficult Daughters** by psychotherapist Charney Herst with Lynette Padwa is a book for mothers that helps them to understand and take steps to repair a relationship with a grown daughter. This book helps mothers untangle the web of personal history and intense emotion and take the lead in repairing this all-important bond. \$12.95 pb, 0-375-75318-4.

—Sandi Turkildson

**Mothers Who Think: Tales of Real-Life Parenthood** edited by Camille Peri and Kate Moses with a foreword by Anne Lamott is excerpted from essays

included in the daily "Mothers Who Think" department of the online magazine *Salon*. Created because "motherhood gives women more to think about, not less," *Salon's* site has attracted commentary from Susie Bright, Jayne Anne Phillips, Margarat Talbot, Stephanie Coontz, Ariel Gore, Susan Straight, Alex Witchel, and Anne Lamott on topics ranging from the impossibility of loving your children equally to raising a son without a father. These are welcome discussions, and I'm glad the editors have gathered them and republished them in the "in-print" world. \$22.95 cl, 0-375-50269-6, May. —TMR



### RH-Vintage

**Dear Exile: The True Story of Two Friends Separated (for a Year) by an Ocean** by Hilary Liftin and Kate Montgomery is the correspondence of two women in their twenties, who, though their lives' paths diverge, remain strong friends. Kate joined the Peace Corps and travelled to Kenya while Hilary moved to Manhattan. Kate shares the incredible hardships of teaching in Kenya while Hilary confronts the singles scene in New York City. \$11 pb, 0-375-70367-5, May.

Jane Austen's family destroyed most of Austen's diaries, letters, and notebooks after her death in 1817. With her biography, **Jane Austen: A Life**, Claire Tomalin endeavors to fill in the gaps. Her research challenges the belief that Jane was a spinster, limited in her knowledge of the world. Jane, in fact, travelled frequently, had a close relationship with a cosmopolitan cousin (whose French husband was executed), and discussed her brothers' navy service in distant countries. All of these experiences/relationships informed her own worldly sensibilities. \$14 pb, 0-679-76676-6, May.

In its cloth edition, **Havana Dreams: Four Generations of Cuban Women** by Wendy Gimbel was a bestselling book in independent bookstores. Telling the story of Cuba past and present through the wife of Fidel Castro, Naty Revuelta, and her daughters, granddaughters, and great-granddaughters, this book chronicles the

history of a remarkable family and demonstrates "the heady but doomed romanticism of revolution." *The New York Times* called it "Breathtaking." \$13 pb, 0-679-75070-3, May.

Now in paperback: Bailey White's debut novel, **Quite a Year for Plums** introduces readers to the quirky and lovable people living in a small Georgia town. (\$12 pb, 0-679-76492-5, May.) Also, **The Inn at Lake Devine** by Elinor Lipman (watch for her new novel, *The Ladies Man*, coming from Random House in June) will be available in May. (\$12 pb, 0-375-70485-X). —TMR

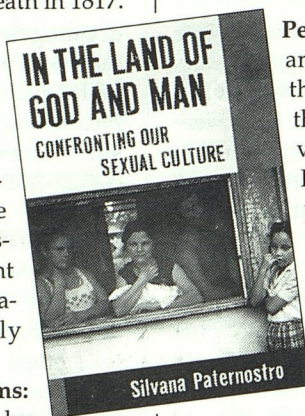
### Routledge

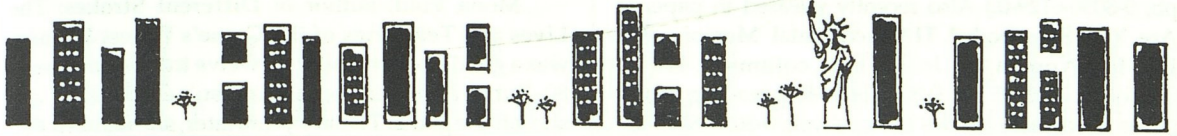
**Race in the Mind of America: Breaking the Vicious Circle Between Blacks and Whites** by Paul Wachtel. I haven't seen this yet, but I do think it's important to stock books on "unlearning" racism, and this looks to be a solid (if expensive) one. The catalog claims that the author probes the daily experiences of Blacks and whites, illustrating how we all get caught in vicious cycles that sustain the very behaviors we wish we could change. \$25 cl, 0-415-92000-0.

**Women Crossing Boundaries: A Psychology of Immigration and Transformations of Sexuality** by Olivia Espin focuses on the impact of immigration on the development of sexuality and gender roles for women. \$20.99 pb, 0-415-91700-X; \$75 cl, -91699-2.

**Psychotherapy with Women: Feminist Perspectives** edited by Marilyn Lawrence and Marie Maguire. Arising out of work at the Women's Therapy Centre in London, this collection offers a range of feminist viewpoints on practicing psychotherapy. If you have a strong clientele of therapists, you may want to order one. \$24.99 pb, 0-415-92265-8.

**Dr. Ruth's Pregnancy Guide for Couples: Sex, Love and Medical Facts** by Dr. Ruth Westheimer and Dr. Amos Grunebaum. I can't figure out where this fits in Routledge's list, but this looks like it could be useful. Despite the fact that there are four young, middle-class, nearly all-white couples on the cover, it's the first book I know of to address issues of intimacy and sex throughout pregnancy and after. \$15 pb, 0-415-91972-X, April.





**Resurgence of the Real: Body, Nature and Place in a Hypermodern World** by Charlene Spretnak did well for us in hardcover. It is Spretnak's latest thinking — reflecting on the roots of modernity and considering our modern mechanistic worldviews. From there, she moves to an exploration of movements resisting the corrosive effects of the industrialized modern world. A great sell for the last year of this century — especially if you have someone on staff who can talk comfortably about the book. \$16.99 pb, 0-415-92298-4, April.

**Differencing the Canon: Feminism and the Writing of Art's History** by Griselda Pollock. If you sell art books or books on art history, you need this. This renowned art historian goes right to the heart of the question: should the traditional canon of Old Masters be rejected, replaced, or reformed? And what difference can a feminist approach to art history make? \$22 pb, 0-415-06700-6; \$75 cl, -06699-9, April.

**Snakes and Ladders: Reviewing Feminisms at the Century's End: Feminist Review, Issue 61** edited by the Feminist Review Collective reflects the current state of feminist thinking — its priorities and concerns as the millennium approaches. In a challenging editorial, the collective draws critical attention to the losses as well as the gains of contemporary feminist work. [Note: My experience carrying this review is that most locals who are interested already have a subscription, so I only pick up one or two.] \$16.99 pb, 0-415-19799-6, April.

—Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

*My Sisters' Words/Syracuse NY*



## St. Martin's Press

Greet the spring with softball! **The Louisville Slugger Complete Book of Women's Fast-Pitch Softball** by Deborah Crisfield and John Monteleone is an instructional book which also includes interviews with professional, collegiate, and Olympic coaches and players. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8050-5809-5.) For a different

spring event, the planning of weddings, there's **Celebrating Interfaith Marriages: Creating Your Jewish/Christian Ceremony** by Rabbi Devon A. Lerner. It's unclear from the catalog copy whether or not this book includes discussion of commitment ceremonies, but this book is sure to be helpful to many of our customers planning their own ceremonies. (\$13.95 pb, 0-8050-6083-9).

There are some very strong fiction releases from the St. Martin's family this issue. Mystery writer Martha Grimes has a new novel, **Biting the Moon**, about a woman with amnesia who is, along with a 14-year-old girl she meets, searching for the man who has abducted her. (\$25 cl, 0-8050-5621-1, April.) Madelyn M. Arnold, who wrote *Bird-Eyes* and *On Ships at Sea*, also has a new novel, **Year of Full Moons**. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-19965-1, April.) Newly in paper are: **A/K/A** by Ruthann Robson, about two lesbians who have many different versions of themselves — depending on the circumstances — and how they find who they really are... (\$12.95 pb, 0-312-19825-6); **Boondocking** by Tricia Bauer, a compelling story about a working-class couple whose daughter is killed in an accident (\$11.95 pb, 0-312-19839-6, April); **Strong for Potatoes** by Cynthia A. Thayer, a first novel from an author who is being compared to Dorothy Allison and Barbara Kingsolver (\$12.95 pb, 0-312-20027-7); and another debut, from Holley Rubinsky, **At First I Hope for Rescue**, a collection of related short stories, set in Canada and the U.S. West (\$12 pb, 0-312-19967-8, April).

The latest by the always-wonderful Patricia Bell-Scott (*Life Notes, Double Stitch*) with Juanita Johnson-Bailey, **Flat-Footed Truths: Telling Black Women's Lives**, is now available in trade paper. Contributors include Sapphire, Audre Lorde, Alice Walker, bell hooks, and Marcia Ann Gillespie. (\$12.95 pb, 0-8050-4629-1; a reading group guide is available for this book, 0-8050-6201-7.) Those who like memoirs may look for the paperback release of **Never Let Me Down** by Susan J. Miller, who writes of her musician father's addiction to heroin and its impact on her family. (\$12.95

pb, 0-8050-6129-0.) Also recently released in paper is **Are You Somebody? The Accidental Memoir of a Dublin Woman** by *Irish Times* columnist Nuala O'Faolain. (\$11.95 pb, 0-8050-5664-5; a reading group guide is available for this book as well, 0-8050-6188-6).

New biographies include **Jean Rhys** by Sylvie Maurel, from the Women Writers series (\$35 cl short discount, 0-312-21687-4) and **Josephine: A Life of the Empress** by Carolly Erickson (\$27.50 cl, 0-312-20001-3, April).

**Queer Astrology: A Guide for Lesbians** by Jill Dearman is an informative and irreverent guide, with a very cheerful cover to boot. There is also a similar volume for gay men if you stock such titles. \$13.95 pb, 0-312-19953-8 (Lesbians); \$13.95 pb, 0-312-19952-X (Gay Men).

Yet another guide for alternatives to estrogen is provided in the mass market book **Natural Choices for Menopause: Safe, Effective Alternatives to Hormone Replacement Therapy** by Marilyn Glenville. \$5.99 pb, 0-312-97013-7, April.

Now in paperback: **Delta Style: Eve Wasn't a Size 6 and Neither Am I** by actress Delta Burke with Alexis Lipsitz. \$13.95 pb, 0-312-19855-8.

—Suzane Corson



## Simon & Schuster

In **Ferocious Romance: What My Encounters with the Right Taught Me About Sex, God, and Fury**, Donna Minkowitz, a feminist, lesbian, and sex radical, talks about her experiences within the Christian Right. Minkowitz' intentions were to observe the enemy close up. Several years ago, Minkowitz went undercover, disguised as a teenage boy, to a Promise Keepers meeting. (You may remember her article in *Ms.* — certainly a highlight in the magazine's recent history.) But Minkowitz was surprised to find common ground with the Christian Right. Her revelations — both about the Christians and about herself — are remarkably astute, remarkably personal. And there are some passages comparing the "victimhood" of S/M sex to the "victimhood" of evangelism that are amazing. In all, an extremely interesting book. Zealots of all types will be disturbed by what's here. \$24 cl, 0-684-83322-0, The Free Press.

Mona Vold, author of **Different Strokes: The Lives and Teachings of the Game's Wisest Women**, was a good enough golfer at twelve to break a score of 80. But as a woman, her skill wasn't encouraged and she left the game. Twenty years later, she realized that the lessons of golf's female masters were undervalued and unrecorded. So Vold found these female masters and recorded their invaluable advice. Included are Betty Jameson (one of the original members of the LPGA Hall of Fame), Shirley Spork (twice named LPGA Teacher of the Year), and Peggy Kirk Bell (of Pine Needles in North Carolina, one of the first golf schools for women). Mona Vold is working toward her own LPGA certification to teach, and she's written for *Ms.*, *Mother Jones*, and *Women's Sports and Fitness*. \$21 cl, 0-684-84863-5, May.

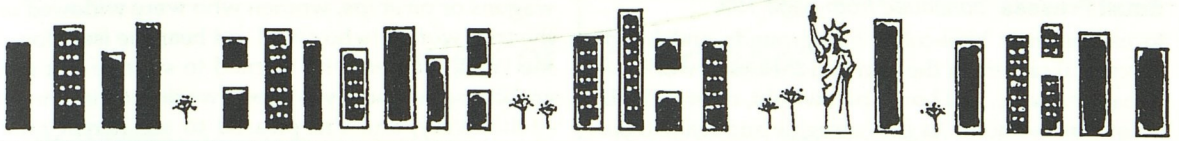
**Experiencing Infertility: Stories to Inform and Inspire** edited by Ellen Glazer is an updated and revised edition of *Without Child*. It includes essays, poems, and personal stories from couples who have experienced infertility. In addition, Glazer offers advice for dealing with the day-to-day challenges of infertility and demonstrates the effects of infertility on other aspects of life. New topics in this edition address cancer and infertility as well as gestational care. \$24.95 pb, 0-7879-4383-5, Jossey-Bass.

**My Years with Ayn Rand: The Truth Behind the Myth** by Nathaniel Branden documents the author's 18-year relationship with a woman 25 years his senior, a relationship that evolved from a student/teacher relationship to friendship to a relationship between colleagues to lovers to adversaries. Branden, a self-esteem movement guru, provides an intimate portrait of Rand and chronicles the creation of objectivism. Ayn Rand's books continue to sell an astonishing 300,000 copies a year. The U.S. Post Office is putting her on a stamp this year, and a Showtime documentary, *The Passion of Ayn Rand* releases in March. \$19 pb, 0-7879-4513-7. —TMR

## Sounds True

Sounds True has several dynamic new audio books available now or soon. To contact them, call 888-303-9185. Try these:

**Pema Chodron and Alice Walker in Conversation: On the Meaning of Suffering and the Mystery of Joy.** Recorded at their first encounter, this dialogue between Pema Chodron, the articulate



Buddhist nun, and Alice Walker, beloved bestselling author, touches on subjects dear to almost every spiritually alive activist. Questions discussed include: Are activism and enlightenment mutually exclusive? Can sexuality block the path to enlightenment? What is the purpose of suffering? An honest, humorous, insightful listen. \$11.95, one cassette, 90 minutes, 1-56455-670-0.

**You Already Know What to Do** by Sharon Franquemont. Author and lecturer Franquemont is a pioneer in the field of teaching the development of intuitive skills that lead to better communication and collaboration. She teaches listeners to how to use their intuitive skills to change their entire lives. (\$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-56455-669-7). Also by Franquemont is **Intuition: Your Electric Self**. She has been teaching this course for over 30 years all over the world. Included here in its entirety for the first time. (\$59.95, 6 cassettes, 9 hours, 1-56455-644-1.)

**The Voice of Hope: Conversations with Aung San Suu Kyi**. This remarkable Nobel Peace Prize recipient insists she is no different from the rest of us. After six years of enduring house arrest by the Burmese government, her fate is still far from certain. Here she reveals the underpinnings of her courage, humility, and compassion, her Buddhist beliefs, her upbringing, and love of her people. Truly inspiring to hear, you'll hand sell (or rent) this easily. \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 2 hours, 1-57062-410-0.

**Making the Gods Work for You: The Astrological Language of the Psyche** by Caroline Casey. I adore this woman. She is an extraordinary visionary and speaker who could make even the most skeptical science-head rethink the uses and scholarship of astrology. This is the audio version of her book of the same title (Harmony Books, \$23, 0-609-60058-3). \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 2 hours, 1-56455-638-7.

—Donna Niles

## Verso

Women were centrally involved in the cinema in the first half of the century. However, the significance of women's roles as viewers, actors, directors, and writers has largely been ignored. With the publication of **The Red Velvet Seat: Women's Writings on Cinema**, editors Antonia Lant and Ingrid Periz remedy this disparity. **The Red Velvet Seat** includes writings from Marie Stopes, Virginia Woolf, H.D., Jane Adams, Fredi Washington, Lillie Devereaux, and Barbara Demming. \$37 cl, 1-85984-722-6, June.

**Adding Insult to Injury** traces the debate sparked by author Nancy Fraser's controversial effort to combine the social politics of equality and the cultural politics of difference, while probing the tensions between them. Includes critical responses by Judith Butler and Iris Marion Young, among others. \$20 pb, 1-85984-223-2, August.

—Jessie Mabry

Lioness Books/Sacramento

## Warner Books

**Every Woman Has a Story: Many Voices, Many Lessons, Many Lives** compiled by Daryl Ott Underhill is a collection of heartfelt stories written by everyday women. It is targeted to readers of *Girlfriends* and *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. \$20 cl, 0-446-523593.

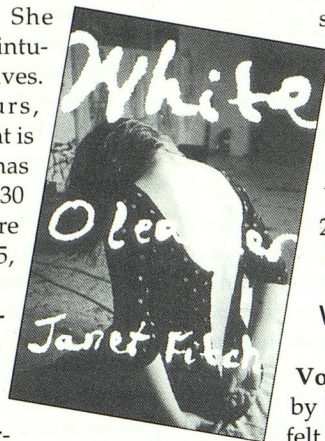
**Good Daughters: Loving Our Mothers as They Age** by Patricia Beard should help women in midlife find ways to be responsible, companionable, and loving daughters to their aging mothers. \$23 cl, 0-446-523593.

**In She Got Game: A Personal Odyssey**, Cynthia Cooper, the WNBA star and Olympic gold medalist, tells the fascinating and inspiring story of her life. \$20 cl, 1-446-525669.

—Trudy Mills

Now available in mass market: Susanne Pari's novel about an American woman's fight for freedom in Iran, **The Fortune Catcher**. \$6.99, 0-446-60631-6.

—TMR ○



**Small Presses, continued from page 108.**

to escape their blue-collar backgrounds and build successful careers in the film and theatrical worlds." Renata, an actor, and Lou, a playwright, meet and fall in love in Vermont. As they struggle and make their way into the world of Broadway and Hollywood, they grow further from their working-class families and friends. They draw strength from each other to survive the pitfalls and frustrations of working in the industry — until success finds them. As they negotiate the role of success in their lives — will it bring them closer together or drive them apart? — they explore "the nature of ambition, compromise, and committed love." \$22.95 cl, 1-882593-26-X. Bridge Works Publishing, Bridgehampton NY. Distributed by National Book Network, 800-462-6420.



**The Tree of Red Stars** by Tessa Bridal, first published in 1997, was "the book that made the trip to BEA worthwhile" for Carol Seajay. She says, "It is the lovely, complex, and haunting story of a girl's coming of age in the 50s — in the military dictatorship of Uruguay. A middle-class girl not predestined to become a revolutionary, it is her integrity and love that draw her into the movement to reclaim her country in a time with no simple answers, a time that offers only enormous risk for those who question. It is a compelling reminder of courage and should sell well in any women's bookshop." \$13.95 pb, 1-57131-023-1. Milkweed Editions, 430 First Ave. N. Ste. 400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-332-3192, fax 612-332-6248. Distributed by PGW.

**Women of the Gold Rush: "The New Penelope" and Other Stories** by Frances Fuller Victor (1826–1902), edited by Ida Rae Egli, is a re-discovery of a great woman writer of the early American West. The book jacket compares her writing to Mark Twain and Bret Harte; her stories are "full of suspense, drama, humor, vivid characters, and sudden plot." What differentiates her work from her male counterparts are her female characters. Far from romantic stereotypes, they are complex and real — strong, intelligent, angry, and capable. She writes of women who traveled West with their husbands in covered

wagons or on ships, women who were widowed on the trip, women who could not bear the isolation of the West, women who learned to survive in a new and changing society. Victor's work is an important re-discovery, and I'm pleased to see her in print. \$12.95 pb, 1-890771-03-1. Heyday Books, PO Box 9145, Berkeley CA 94709; 510-549-3564, fax 510-549-1889. Available from most major wholesalers.

Lee and Low Books has sent me a bunch of children's books that are *so darn cute* that I simply can't ignore them. As usual for Lee and Low, these books are multiethnic, multiracial books, exploring the diversity of children's experiences in the U.S. and around the world. **Baby Born** by Anastasia Suen, illustrations by Chih-Wei Chang, is a lift-the-flap book about a baby's first year. Chang's illustrations are wonderful, and it is, as *Kirkus* said, "an adorable lift-the-flap book that works." \$6.95 cl, 1-880000-68-7.

**Gettin' Through Thursday** by Melrose Cooper, illustrated by Nneka Bennett, is the story of André, whose report card is coming soon. He knows the report card will be good and cause for celebration. When he realizes that report card day falls on the same lean day before his mother's paycheck arrives, he is crestfallen. The family's solution is touching and heartwarming. A lovely and important book. \$15.95 cl, 1-880000-67-9.

**Elizabeth's Doll** by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen, illustrated by Christy Hale, is another gorgeous, gorgeous book. Set in contemporary Tanzania, Elizabeth's doll, Eva, is who Elizabeth cares for while her mother cares for her new baby brother. *Library Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Kirkus* all cheered for this book. \$15.95 cl, 1-880000-70-9.

The last sumptuous little picture book is **Under the Lemon Moon** by Edith Hope Fine, illustrated by René King Moreno. Set in the Mexican countryside, **Under the Lemon Moon** is the story of Rosilinda, who must save her sick lemon tree after a man comes in the nighttime and steals all its fruit. La Anciana, the Old One, finds a way to help both the tree *and* the man who stole its lemons. \$15.95 cl, 1-880000-69-5.

Lee & Low Books, 95 Madison Ave., NY NY 10016; 212-779-4400, fax 212-683-1894, email (info@leeandlow.com). Distributed by PGW. ○



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a powerful and authoritative presentation of Cameron's photography, well worth the price. This book is also the catalog of an exhibit of Cameron's work to be on traveling exhibition in Chicago, New York, and San Francisco. \$49.95 cl, 0-300-07781-5.\*

And while we're on artistic contributions: **Mary Cassatt: A Life**, a biography by Nancy Mowll Mathews is now available in paperback. \$18, 0-300-07754-8.\*

**Judith, Sexual Warrior: Women and Power in**

Western Culture by Margaret Stocker explores the Western fascination with the image of Judith and the abundance of interpretations that have surrounded her at different times between the early Middle Ages and the present day. \$30 cl, 0-300-07365-8.\*\*

Also now available in paperback: **The Cultural Contradictions of Motherhood** by Sharon Hays takes a nonjudgemental look at mothering today and presents surprising insights about why a mother's job in this society may be the most difficult one of all. \$15, 0-300-07652-5; \$25 cl, -06682-1.\*\*

○

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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 Bookstore Network Fall 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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**FBN Classified Ads — \$10 for first 50 words, 15 cents for each additional word. 25% discount for 3 or more insertions paid at one time. Payment must accompany ad. No charge for "Help Wanted" listings up to 100 words. Send to FBN, Attn: Assistant Editor, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188; phone 415-642-9993, fax 415-642-9995, or email <TeriMae@FemBkNews.com>.**

### **Art Books, continued from page 57.**

contemporary Montreal painter born in 1923 to Anglophone Jewish parents. Goodwin began with recognizable imagery, went through a period of intense abstraction, and returned to figurative paintings and evocative installations. The paintings are very haunting and poetic. C\$65 cl, 1-55054-650-3, Douglas & McIntyre and the Art Gallery of Ontario. Distributed in Canada by General Distribution Services, 1-800-663-1174.

**Master Breasts: Objectified, Aestheticized, Fantasized, Eroticized, Feminized by Photography's Most Titillating Masters** with text by Francine Prose, Karen Finley, Dario Fo, and Charles Simic includes images which are scary, funny, sometimes moving, and occasionally extraordinary by both male and female photographers. \$39.95 cl, 0-89381-803-8, Aperture. ○

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Alfred Kazin,  
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NEW IN PAPERBACK

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Athletes and Crimes Against Women  
Jeff Benedict

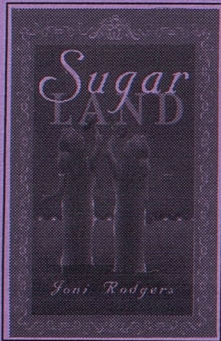
*"A troubling look at how societies create and then turn a blind eye to a class of citizens who, in the words of one retired player, can't 'tell the difference [between force and consent] anymore'"*  
—Kirkus Reviews

*"The depth of Benedict's research and the pattern of his details lead us to an unsettling revelation of its own. This kind of behavior is no aberration; to some coaches it seems to be almost an acceptable cost of doing business with troubled young men who have superior skills."*

—Robert Lipsyte, New York Times  
paper \$10.95



# Women Writing a Feminist Future!

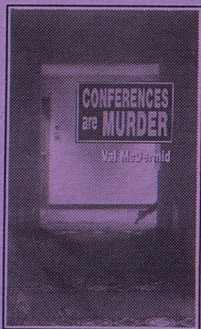


## Sugar Land

by Joni Rodgers

ISBN 1-883523-32-X \$12.00 (Pub. date: May 1999)

As children, Kit and Kiki Smithers performed throughout Texas as "The Sugar Babes." Now Kit and Kiki are all grown up. All that remains are the blues the sisters sing as they come to terms with life and death and everything in between. Simultaneously heartbreaking and hilarious, *Sugar Land* is about the healing power of forgiveness, the seemingly impossible task of loving, the resilience of family ties, and what happens when a tornado hits a double-wide trailer.



## Conferences are Murder

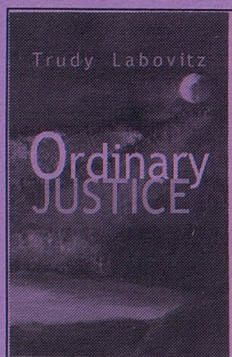
by Val McDermid

ISBN 1-883523-30-3 \$12.00 (Pub. date: April 1999)

From the critically-acclaimed author of the popular Kate Brannigan series. In this latest Lindsay Gordon feminist mystery, Lindsay and her new love, Sophie, search among hundreds of unruly convention delegates for a murderer who may have struck once before.

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—*London Daily Telegraph*

Originally published in England as *Union Jack* by The Women's Press, Ltd.



## Ordinary Justice

by Trudy Labovitz

ISBN 1-883523-31-1 \$12.00 (Pub. date: May 1999)

In her debut novel, Trudy Labovitz introduces us to ex-P.I. Zoe Kergulin, who, while investigating a stormy relationship that has ended in the brutal murder of one spouse and the mysterious disappearance of the other, encounters a community of mountain folk hiding secrets, ranging from hunting out of season, to the production of moonshine, to domestic violence.

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