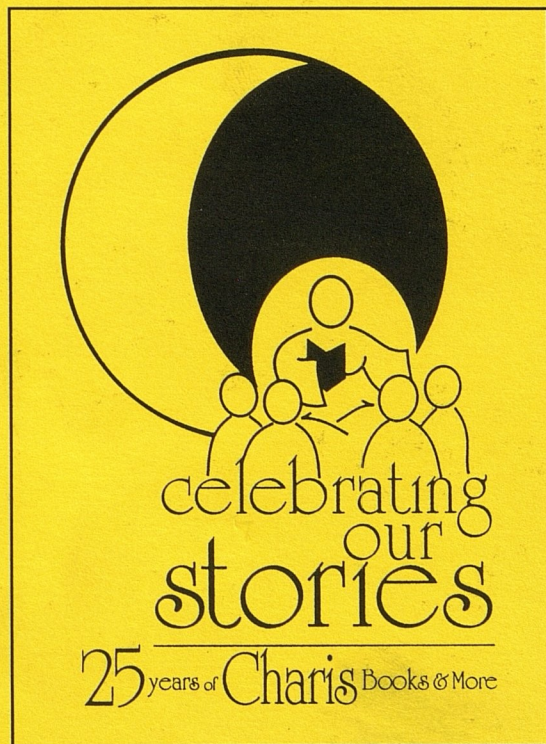


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# Feminist Bookstore News

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 **Spring Announcements 2000**

Volume 22 Number 6

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# As we go to press . . .

Three themes run throughout this issue: lawsuits — who can afford them and the intrinsic failure of justice when individuals or independent businesses come up against deep-pocketed corporations, and the question of who owns the American courts. Even when the independent “wins” in court, it can still end up with huge legal bills and a settlement too small to prevent bankruptcy. That, in and of itself, is chilling. Even more frightening is the increasing tendency of settlement agreements to demand silence regarding its terms. (See “News” for coverage of the settlement of Amazon vs. Amazon.com and Seal’s decision to “settle” after being sued by Mattel for using the Barbie trademark in a book critiquing the anti-woman messages being shoved down young women’s throats by corporations and commercial interests such as, well, Mattel.)

On a more encouraging note, P-FLAG has dumped its affiliation with B&N.com and the P-FLAG site no longer sports that community-destroying link.

And it’s been a while since FB-Network has created any community education materials, so when we saw Anna Newkirk Niven’s piece on the seductive dangers of Amazon.com, we thought it would make a great community education tool. So we ran it in this issue as a centerfold that stores can pull out, copy, and distribute to customers, give away at conferences, use as bag-stuffers, etc. Stores can run their own info on page four or just run the ad that’s there.

It’s been a rather awesome six months since I last sat down to write an intro to *FBN*...

The exciting news here on the home front is that the electronic issues are up and running. I think they are (pardon the expression) a godsend in this day and age. I’m convinced that having this form of near-instant communication will make all the difference — in some way we haven’t yet imagined — very soon. Even if nothing dramatic happens, the world has changed so much in the last couple of years, with

the industry’s increasing reliance on email and the Internet, that having to wait two or three (and sometimes four or five) months to read the news in a bimonthly is a disadvantage we cannot afford.

If you haven’t received any posts for Volume 22 Number 5, that means you didn’t return your postcard with the email address we should use for your subscription. If you don’t have an email address, we strongly encourage you to get ask a friend, lover, partner, staff member, neighbor, colleague, or favorite customer to let you use her address to receive the posts. All she’d have to do is send us her email address (to <eFBN@FemBookNews.com>) and tell us the name your subscription is in, and that she’ll be receiving your e-issue posts. Then, as the posts arrive in her mailbox, she can print them out and deliver them to you. Even if you only get the posts every week or two, it’s still much faster than waiting for a printed issue to arrive. And most of the information in the e-issues won’t be repeated in the print issues.

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**P-FLAG has dumped  
its affiliation with B&N.com  
and their site  
no longer sports that  
community-destroying link.**

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That said, we’ve had some great response to the e-issue posts so far. It’s exciting to know, for example, that Little Sister’s is in Supreme Court *right now* arguing that Canada Customs’ seizure of books at the border is unconstitutional and that Customs is blatantly and illegally discriminating against gay and lesbian citizens by targeting gay and lesbian literature and bookstores. And, unlikely as many booksellers may find it right now, I think that stores

will like getting the topical book columns by email. You can print them out and use them just like you'd use the magazine (mark them up, circle and highlight titles, write notes in the margins for co-workers...), and you can also archive them to reference for that odd clue to a misremembered title. (For example, if you only remember that the mystery you want to recommend to the customer standing in front of you is one that Nan compared to Rita Mae Brown's cat series, you can search the post for "Rita" and you'll find the book without having to remember the name of the book, the author, or the publisher.) And there are many times when your computer is easier to find than the last issue of *FBN*, which your co-worker took home "overnight" a week ago....

The current plan is to alternate e-issues and electronic issues. The last print issue was Volume 22 Number 3/4 (Fall 1999). The posts between that issue and this (print) issue (Volume 22 Number 6) will comprise the first electronic issue, which is Volume 22 Number 5. Once the print issue hits the mail, we'll begin the next electronic issue, Volume 23 Number 1. Some e-issues will be "thicker" (have more posts) than others, just as some print issues are thicker than others.

The joy (and point) of doing a combined issue last Fall was to finally be able to catch up on some overdue vacation time. I got to take the Green River (Utah) canoe trip I'd wanted to take for years that always conflicted with *FBN*'s or the catalog's production schedules. And I also took a wonderfully relaxing and rejuvenating three-week trip to Hawaii, snorkeling, kayaking, visiting friends, and working on a farm. And, yes, thanks to all of you who asked, I did finally get a mortgage on the house. While I've made some wonderful friends in the legal, mortgage, and banking industries over the last year, I'd be just as happy to never have to talk to any of them in a professional capacity again! The whole process certainly used up much of the resilience that I'd accumulated on my vacations — though now I've learned that the solution is more vacationing, and I'm more than ready to go again!

But at the moment I'm in computer school. I was lucky enough to get into a special 16-week, seven-hour-a-day computer training and Web site design school that's funded, in part, by the mayor's office. It's designed to train low-income women and minority workers for jobs in San Francisco's burgeon-

ing Internet industry. I'm confident that we, as a community, need access to these skills to survive what many are calling the biggest social and economic transformation since the industrial revolution — although my crystal ball is still a bit hazy about how we are going to apply them.

One thing that *is* crystal clear is that I can't be in school full-time until June and put out a full-scale, printed, sidelines/summer issue. So the annual sidelines issue will go biannual, at least for the moment, to reappear in 2001 if there's clear demand for it. So what would normally be the summer print issue will be another e-issue (Volume 23 Number 2).

My thanks to everyone who made this marvelous print issue possible: Kathryn who came back to *FBN* to produce it and Teri Mae who has covered my responsibilities in every possible way while I've been in school as well as doing the editorial work she always does and helping to fill in the absence of the office manager *FBN* no longer affords — and to all of the columnists and proofreaders for their contributions and patience in the light of *FBN*'s constantly (or so it seems) shifting deadlines. Thanks, too, to our advertisers who have been beyond flexible with our emerging e- and print-issue schedules and changes.

And I also extend my profound thanks to Carolyn Gabel, Gilda Bruckman, Joni Seager, Cynthia Enlow, Lisa McGowan, Joan Pinkvoss and the entire crew at Aunt Lute Books, Louise Knapp and Spider/Sally Kornblith, Joan Drury, Gail Leondar-Wright, and the Tides Foundation for their support over the last six months.

Yours in spreading the words,  
Carol Seajay

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 letters are the responsibility of the authors. FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS (ISSN: 0741-6555) is published quarterly by FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS at 2180 Bryant Street #207, San Francisco CA 94110. Periodicals Postage paid at San Francisco CA. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188-2554.

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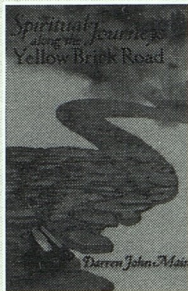
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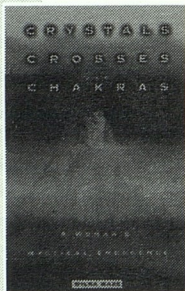


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Advertising Sales: [Lisa@FemBkNews.com](mailto:Lisa@FemBkNews.com)

Printed in the USA

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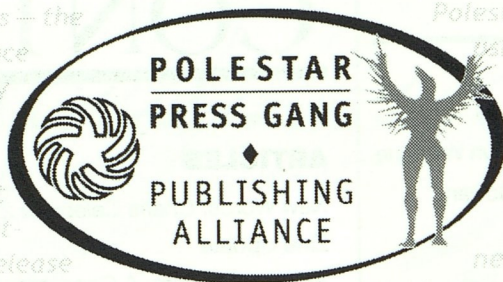
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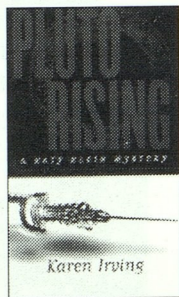
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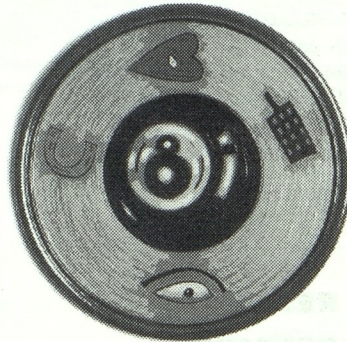
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# News News News

## Women's Studies and Antigone Books Threatened by Conservatives

Antigone Books (Tucson, AZ) recently found itself in the middle of a row between the Arizona state legislature and Arizona's three universities.

Last year, an Arizona constituent made vociferous complaints after her daughter was asked to read a novel with a lesbian character (Jeanette Winterson's *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*) for a University of Arizona (Tucson) women's studies class. In response, Republican Representative Linda Gray proposed eliminating of \$1.6 million in state funding that is set aside for women's studies programming.

Some of Gray's ire was directed at the class's requirement that its students go off campus to buy their course books at Antigone Books, a store that she characterizes as "cater[ing] to lesbians."

Gray also protested the women's studies-sponsored presentation of Eve Ensler's off-Broadway hit, *The Vagina Monologues*, at Arizona State University (Tempe).

Gray did eventually withdraw her proposal, just before a committee hearing on university budgets, saying that she just wanted to "get someone's attention." She succeeded in getting the attention of UA president Peter Likins, who, in an effort to diffuse the situation, decreed that all professors must order their course books through the UA bookstore.

Trudy Mills of Antigone says that during the semester following that decision, textbook orders at Antigone fell 50 percent. Last semester, however, sales were back up to about 75 percent of what they were before the new policy was instituted. A determined core of faculty members committed to supporting Antigone, and academic freedom, has kept the store's textbook sales alive. There is awareness of this dissent at UA, and there have been

rumblings from the administration that instructors still ordering books off campus will have to issue warning statements of sorts to their students, but no action has been taken on this threat.

Mills says that a majority of professors who are ordering books from Antigone are from outside the women's studies program. "The spotlight is on [the women's studies faculty], so it's more risky for them," she said. She says that the group ordering books is made up of tenured professors, who refused to back down after the policy was instilled, and new professors and graduate students, who are taking a determined stand despite their less stable positions.

The funding for the women's studies program at UA has, thus far, remained intact in the wake of Gray's bid to take state dollars from women's studies in Arizona. The attention of the school has been successfully deflected to off-campus book buying, in effect letting Antigone take the fall. "We had to be sacrificed for [the program] to survive," says Mills.

## Little Sister's Tackles the Supreme Court

Since 1986, Little Sister's Book & Art Emporium has been waging legal battle against Canada Customs over Customs' right to censor books and materials entering Canada. (For a short history of the legal battle, see "News" in the May/June 1999 *FBN*.) This fight culminated when Little Sister's appeared before the Canadian Supreme Court on March 16.

In 1998, the British Columbia Court of Appeals upheld, by a two-to-one vote, the lower court's ruling that condoned Customs' censorship practices. The dissenting judge, Justice Lance Finch, found that the language in the legislation of those practices is unconstitutionally vague.

Little Sister's applied for leave to the Supreme Court of Canada following that decision, and in 1999 the Court agreed to hear the store's case.

The British Columbia Civil Liberties Association again joined Little Sister's for this major court battle. Other groups that participated on the store's behalf are PEN Canada, LEAF, EGALE, the Canadian Conference on the Arts, the Canadian AIDS Society, and the Canadian Civil Liberties Union. "It was a great cross-section of people," said Little Sister's manager Janine Fuller. She said that each of the interviewing groups was "eloquent," even despite 15-minute time limits on their testimonies.

Fuller is confident that this 14-year struggle will finally bear fruit. "We believe that Canadians can be trusted to make up their own minds about what they choose to read. We are confident that finally Canada will join the rest of the free world by getting rid of this antiquated censorship law." She is hopeful that the Supreme Court, which has some new members, understood the complexities of the case.

Little Sister's is still trying to raise about \$50,000 against substantial court costs. Canadian donations

are tax-deductible. U.S. donations, though not tax-deductible, are also sorely needed.

I think we will get some kind of relief," she said. "And I don't think I'm being naïve." A decision is expected in three to twelve months.

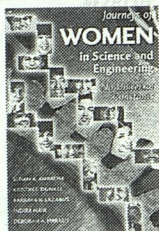
Little Sister's, 1238 Davie St., Vancouver BC V6E 1N4; 604-669-1753.

### Seal Says Adiós to Barbie — Press Settles with Mattel

Last winter, Mattel, a company that's become known for its aggressive protection of its Barbie doll, filed a suit against Seal Press claiming that the Seattle publisher infringed on the Barbie trademark. Mattel claimed that Seal's use of the Barbie hairbrush, the Barbie high heel, the Barbie scallop-shell brush, the Barbie heart-shaped pendant, the Barbie foot, and even the shade of pink and font used on the word "Barbie" on the cover illustration of *Adiós Barbie* (edited by Ophira Edut) used the Barbie image to sell the book, even though (and this seemed to be the

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sticking point) there is only one piece in the book of 26 essays that overtly deals with Barbie. Mattel sought a preliminary and permanent injunction as well as damages equaling three times Seal's profits on the book plus the cost of the suit.

In January, the women at Seal decided to settle with Mattel. On January 25, they signed a stipulated final judgment ordering Seal to pay Mattel \$10,000 immediately, to sell no more than 4,000 more copies of *Adiós Barbie* in its current printing, and to never ever again manufacture a product imitating the Barbie trademark or elements of the Barbie trade dress.

Publisher Faith Conlon said, "The suit was, of course, absurd and without merit. It made us all angry, and when we initially got the news, we were all ready to battle it out."

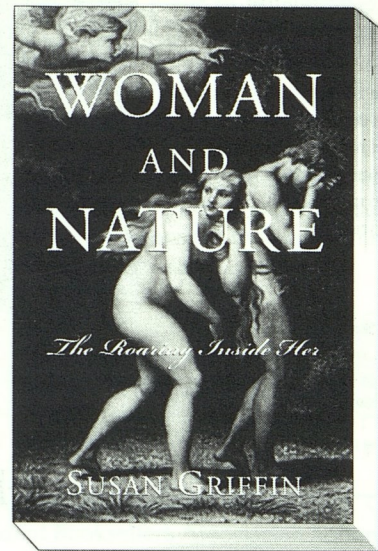
*Publishers Weekly*, in its coverage of the suit, noted that a Simon & Schuster anthology released at the same time had far more Barbie accessories on the cover and wondered whether it might be the tone of the book — a positive, sentimental one — that helped the Mattel legal eagles to ignore it. Seal's publicity director, Leslie Miller, thinks that might be the case. "Using the name is protected under parody or critique, and certainly we feel this is a critique. I think that they [Mattel] want to promote Barbie as a wholesome toy, and our book implies that the concept she represents is not benign. I think they find that troubling." Regardless of Mattel's impetus to sue, a lengthy and intimidating summons, filled with excessive explanation of how Seal "commercially exploited" the "distinctive and non-functional BARBIE trade dress," landed on Seal's doorstep on November 29.

The Southern California ACLU offered its services to Seal, as did the prestigious Howard Rice law firm, who offered to argue the case pro bono. When Conlon conducted more research into Seal's defense, she found that many large firms cited a conflict of interest and could not defend Seal. "It made me wonder if [Mattel is] slowly taking over every major law firm in the country," she said.

After careful consideration of all the costs that Seal would still have to assume even if the case were argued pro bono (hiring expert witnesses, etc.), Seal made the difficult decision to settle. "It would be different if this were our one successful title," says Conlon. "Then we'd definitely fight that fight.

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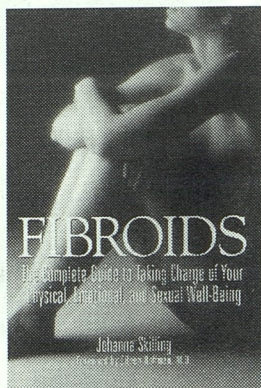
SIERRA CLUB  
BOOKS

Certainly *Adiós Barbie* is an important book for us, but we had to weigh the long-term needs of the press against what it would take to fight this." Another consideration was that *all* of the distributors who carried *Adiós Barbie* — PGW, Airlift, and Banyan Tree — were also named in the suit.

The penalty, while steep, will not put Seal out of business.

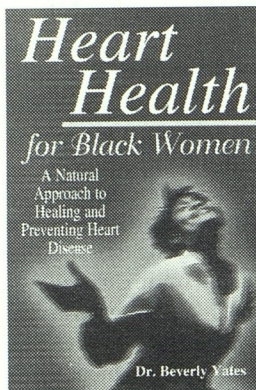
Seal will sell out the current printing of *Adiós Barbie*, reprinting a new edition of the book with a different title and a different cover in late summer. In December, in the wake of the suit, Seal sold 1,100 copies of the book. Editor Ophira Edut is writing a new introduction for the non-Barbie edition, which will expound on the (extremely clever, in my opinion) new title, *Body Outlaws*. If the old edition sells out

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sooner, Seal will move up production on the new edition; currently, it is slated for August.

Reading through the original summons, I had to laugh at the aggressive and paranoid legal defense of Barbie, even as I bit my nails. Barbie's huge and unlikely power over women manifests itself here in an unsettling fashion. I'm outraged that Mattel would claim rights to the image of a pointed toe, to a scallop-shell hairbrush, to a shade of pink.

But the main thrust of their argument is even more infuriating. They claim that because Barbie is only named in one essay, that the book falsely advertises Barbie content it doesn't deliver. The possibility of such a strictly literal and unsophisticated reading of *Adiós, Barbie* alarms me. In a certain light, with blinders in the right places, this reading seems to make sense. Sure, it's a reading that ignores Barbie's transcendence of the category "product" into the realm of "icon" — and all the significance that comes along with such an overwhelming presence in our cultural consciousness. But if one were to decide that Barbie wasn't a cultural icon, I suppose that all the essays on women's bodies, the racist cultural beauty

standard, and self-esteem might seem unrelated to Barbie. It is the simultaneous denial of all that Barbie means while using the amassed capital of the Barbie empire to enforce that denial that so rankles me.

The language in the suit calls Seal a conspirator whose intent was to take advantage of Mattel and Barbie. "Defendants have used, or authorized or conspired with others to use, the BARBIE Trademarks and elements of the BARBIE Trade Dress with the intent to trade on the enormous goodwill Mattel has earned in its BARBIE products and to deceive and confuse the public into believing that 'Adiós, Barbie' is or was directly sponsored by, approved by, or otherwise associated with Mattel and its official licensees." Who in her right mind could believe the image of the little press from Seattle screwing over the gargantuan corporation? Who could believe that *Adiós Barbie* is somehow sponsored by Mattel? Who would use the word "goodwill" to refer to Mattel?

There are dozens of zany little passages that prattle on about the distinctive scallop-shell hairbrush, about the distinctive "BARBIE pink" used by Mattel in its promotion of the doll. There are people out there

making their livings by laying claim to a pointed toe. This is profoundly depressing to me.

Even months after the settlement, the absurdity and insidiousness of the whole thing still stings. The reality that Seal couldn't afford — time-wise, money-wise, risk-wise — to fight what would have been a very righteous battle is sobering. I think Seal's decision to settle was a smart one, \$10,000 notwithstanding. Mattel has the resources and time to spin such a case out into years. Mattel's legal team has fought and won many a trademark case. Even though Seal's freedom of speech is compromised by this decision, even though I'd like to think they would have ultimately won the case, I must admit I'm relieved that they settled.

I want Seal to be *publishing*, not spending years and thousands of dollars in court. I commend Seal on the wisdom of this decision, and offer my most aggravated empathy of the whole situation.

Finally, I look forward to hearing how well *Body Outlaws* is selling, in spite the fact that its cover does not bear Barbie parts or that trademark pink. —TMR

### PFLAG Sets Example for G&L Dot-Com Community

After a year and a half of soul-searching and an unending stream of letters, P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) decided, last fall, not to renew its contract with B&N.com and removed the Barnes & Noble link from its Web site, hopefully setting a trend for the rest of the gay and lesbian dot-com community.

"It was the consistent flow of letters from our members, from lesbian and gay bookstores, and from people who were genuinely concerned that made the difference," Eric Ferrero told *FBN*. "Some people wrote month after month. It was the sheer persistence and the thoughtfulness. The letters just never stopped."

And, in the end, P-FLAG came to the conclusion that their affiliation with B&N.com was diverting attention and support away from the gay and lesbian community stores that are a core part of the support system of, well, the "children" that P-FLAG was founded to support.

*FBN* commends P-FLAG staff and volunteers on their willingness to keep looking at what was

obviously a thorny and difficult issue for them, and for their courage in looking at the money they made from the program. Their decision that this was money P-FLAG couldn't afford to take, their conclusion that it compromised their goals in untenable ways, and their consistent, careful listening to their community all reflect the solid values that have made P-FLAG the revered institution that it is.

We hope that other gay and lesbian dot-coms will follow P-FLAG's example: in re-evaluating this particularly repugnant form of "funding," in re-examining how this program addresses — or interferes with — their goals, and in assessing the harm this practice inflicts on the gay and lesbian community. —CS

### Kudos for Seajay FIBS & Babcock Awards

*FBN* publisher and editor Carol Seajay received two awards last fall.

At its fall trade show, the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association honored Seajay by presenting her with a Friend of Independent Booksellers Award "In appreciation of her clear thinking on issues that affect independent bookselling and for her articulate advocacy on our behalf," and "for oftentimes being able to name and address our issues even before we can articulate them ourselves." Seajay returned early from her fall canoe trip to receive the award and said, "The respect of one's peers and coworkers is the greatest honor there is." She spoke of the importance of independent booksellers mirroring, for one other, the significance of their work, saying, "It is a respect and recognition that is essential to our survival and to the survival of independent and critical ideas in our culture."

The Babcock Award of Excellence in Fundraising, Graphic Design, and Publishing for Social Change is given annually by Mal Warwick & Associates, the F/M Group, Media/Design, and David Jernigan to recognize the contributions of those who most exemplify the standards set by Peter T. Babcock (1951–1991): brilliance, excellence, and vision in the causes of social change and social justice. This year the Babcock was awarded to Seajay "for her consistent excellence and commitment to lending her skills to the creation of a better world."

### Alyson Launches New Imprint Advocate Acquires *Out*

The *Advocate*, the gay and lesbian news magazine based in Los Angeles, has announced the creation of Advocate Books, which will be an imprint of the *Advocate's* sister company, Alyson Books.

The *Advocate* and Alyson are owned by Liberation Publications Inc. Julie Wieder, senior vice president and corporate editorial director of LPI, will oversee Advocate Books, working closely with Alyson publisher Greg Constant. The first title from the imprint, slotted for November, will be Betty DeGeneres' *Betty DeGeneres: Just a Mom*, a sequel to *Love, Ellen: A Mother/Daughter Journey*. The imprint has also signed a book by Chastity Bono, which is scheduled for release in Fall 2001. Wieder claims that the celebrity status of these first two authors is coincidental; she is also planning to gather articles from the *Advocate* into anthologies.

Advocate Books, like Alyson Books, will be distributed by Consortium.

The *Advocate* also announced its acquisition of *Out* magazine, making LPI a truly prolific queer media conglomerate. Many hope this new ownership of the slick NY gay mag will hike its IQ back up a few points.

### Naiad Pulls Back, Bella Bursts Forth

As reported in the e-issue, Naiad Press is cutting back to four books a year and has designated Kelly Smith's just-launched Bella Books as Naiad's heir apparent.

Barbara Grier rather took the world by surprise last fall when she announced the shift. Many suspected that Barbara (now in her mid-60s) intended to retire, but of course she isn't. She and business-and-life partner Donna McBride have spent the last several years quietly setting the stage for a major transition. They initially tried to sell Naiad, but didn't find the perfect (in their vision) buyer. Ever-creative, the two decided to keep the press intact but to cut back to publishing only four books a year and to shift the forthcoming titles — authors under contract, etc. — to another publisher.

They approached Kelly Smith in November. Kelly, a co-owner of A Woman's Prerogative Bookstore in Ferndale, Michigan, had recently returned from spending a year "interning" at Naiad and learning the ropes of publishing.

"My jaw dropped!" Kelly said of that phone call. "While I was as Naiad there was some talk of slowing down, but then they decided to go ahead with the full schedule. It was one of those times when your wildest fantasy — and then some — comes through. Not only were all those authors available, Barbara was encouraging me to go after them."

And so Bella Books, which was announced last summer, will pick up all of the remaining Naiad authors, add a few, and will publish six books this Fall. Naiad will cut back to four books for 2000 (two books by Claire McNab, and one book each from Karin Kallmaker and Naiad Webmistress and visionary Linda Hill).

No money will change hands in the deal, and Naiad will own no part of Bella. "It's a feminist thing from the 70s," Barbara told *FBN*. "All of the books and authors will have homes and will be well taken care of. The books will continue to be there for the readers and the bookstores."

Naiad will continue to stock and promote its backlist and some videos. Publishing four books a year will allow Barbara to "keep being myself, doing what I love to do" — including to massage the backlist, sell on the Internet, and run her own company — and to maintain control over Naiad's retirement plan. It also allows both Barbara and Donna to reduce their hours ("Our goal is to cut back to only 45 hours a week by September or October"), to leave the office before dark on a regular basis, and to have more time to enjoy being innkeepers (Barbara and Donna run two guest houses on the beach near their Alligator Point home). Naiad has already cut back to three employees from six, by not filling positions as staff members left for other reasons.

"It's actually better this way," Barbara told *FBN*. "I get to keep control of Naiad — which would have been very difficult to give up. I can advise Kelly on everything that she wants my opinion on, and there are a lot of favors I can draw in to help her along — but I can't try to boss her around. Everyone knows I'm so confrontational and impassioned that it's better if I don't have someone within immediate reach...."

"[Donna and I are] both in good health, and we're not retiring, but we do have some other goals now," she said. "We get to do some of the other things we enjoy now.... Collect shells, walk on the beach (now that Donna's knee is fixed), go to women's basketball games and other sports." She also said she got to read books rather than manuscripts — seven of them — on her holiday trip to Australia.

Meanwhile, Bella is gearing up as if to take over the world — raising money, setting up systems, and getting the first books ready to go. Kelly is currently working seven days a week running the store and launching the press, and she also puts in a Friday night shift bar-tending at the local dyke club. So far she's raised about half of the \$100,000 she needs to launch the press.

"Eventually I'll have to hire someone to run the store," she admits, "but I need to stay involved with the store. Doing the bookstore is a huge advantage." She also credits her year at Naiad: "Barbara took me under her wing, even knowing that I wanted to open another publishing house. I got to learn so much, and instead of making all those mistakes myself, I got paid to learn to avoid them. Barbara took twenty-five years of experience and put it on a silver platter for me."

That experience is paying off in such basic areas as choosing a name. "I wanted a name that, when you heard it, you could figure out how to spell it. And when you saw it in print, you could pronounce it," she laughed. *Bella*, of course, is Italian for beautiful — often a beautiful woman.

Kelly's goal for *Bella* is to take the work being done by Naiad and "bring it up a notch or two" toward the more literary side by allowing for — and demanding — more complex character and plot development, by allowing for more rewriting time during the editorial process, and by publishing longer books. "I want to keep the loyal Naiad readers, but I also want to bring back the readers who haven't picked up a Naiad in years," she said. Lila Empson will be *Bella*'s in-house editor.

In addition to signing up a slew of recently-known-as-Naiad authors, *Bella* has signed contracts for Bonnie Morris' (*Eden Built by Eves*) first novel and a mystery by Nikki Baker.

*Bella*'s Fall 2000 list will include Jackie Calhoun's *Off Season* and Peggy J. Herring's *Calm Before the Storm*

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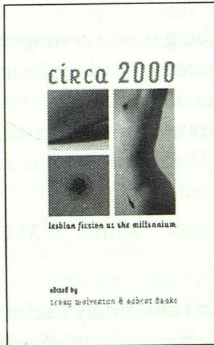
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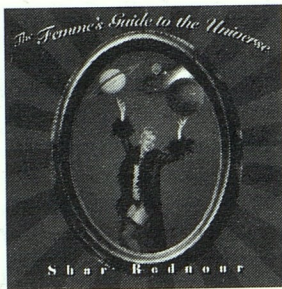
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(both due in September), Diana Tremain Braund's *Bold Coast Love* and Therese Szymanski's *When Evil Changes Face* (October), and Lyn Denison's *Wild One* and Saxon Bennett's *Sweet Fire* (November). Bella's Winter 2001 schedule (January, March, May, and June) will include books by Pat Welch, Laura Adams, Frankie J. Jones, and Laura DeHart Young as well as the novels by Bonnie Morris and Nikki Baker and a Naiad-styled erotica anthology. Five titles are already scheduled for Fall 2001.

Bella Books will be distributed by LPC.

Kelly and Bella Books will be at BEA in the LPC booth. Barbara and Donna will also attend BEA but won't have a booth.

## Rising Tide Transitions to the Next Generation

Debra Tobin and Brenda Kazen are the proud new owners of Rising Tide Press. The couple had wanted to own a business together for years, and when they saw the "women's press for sale" ad in *Rubyfruit Journal*, the Tucson women's newspaper, they knew it was exactly what they wanted. They both love books — Brenda has a degree in English that she's long wanted to apply — and they are excited about the books that Lee Boojamra and Alice Frier signed on for upcoming seasons.

Having owned the press only since the end of January, they are already going to press with *Storm Rising: A Delta Stevens Mystery* by Linda Kay Silva, which will quickly be followed by books by Beverly Shearer, Nancy Sanra, and several others. They've put together a manuscript review committee, and their goal for this year is to publish 15 to 20 books. Other goals include increasing the number of books featuring characters who are women of color and initiating a series that will address teen issues. They are also entertaining the idea of doing children's books.

Debra's has 20 years of experience in health care, and she's been responsible for everything from patient care to administration. She's Rising Tide's in-office, day-to-day person, and she is very pleased to be doing something creative and to have her days filled with interesting people and authors. Brenda is employed by the school district as the liaison between



the business community and schools, and she also works with high school students. They are definitely a high-energy couple: between them they have four kids (ages 9, 11, 12, and 13), a house, and "a lot of animals." Debra sums it up: "It's amazing what you can do in a day!" Their first book should be off press by the time you read these words.

"We feel very fortunate to have been able to sell *Rising Tide* to two such bright and independent and strong women who have so much energy and enthusiasm for the press and the work — energy we no longer have," Alice Frier told *FBN*. Alice and Lee Boojamra started *Womankind Bookstore* in 1979 and founded *Rising Tide Press* in 1990. *Womankind* was originally a storefront bookstore on Long Island, but was later converted to a very successful mail order bookstore focused on lesbian books. Lee and Alice sold *Womankind* to Linda Bronmer, the publisher of *Rubyfruit Journal*, last July.

Lee and Alice had moved their home, the press, and the mail-order book business to Arizona from Long Island just a few years before selling both. Deciding to sell their businesses was a complicated process, and in the end they were motivated by two major traumas.

Overwork was the original motivation for selling *Womankind*: "We realized that, despite having moved to this gorgeous place, we were spending all of our days with our heads buried in books and computers. It seemed endless," Alice said. Selling *Womankind* and getting out from under that workload was the answer. And it worked.

"We were feeling great," Alice told *FBN*, but the euphoria was brief. Two weeks after the sale, Lee was riding her bicycle down the hill on their very quiet, residential street when a motorist, who was attempting to read a map while driving, crossed over the center line and hit Lee head-on. "The amazing thing is that she's walking and able to walk, that there wasn't a concussion, and that she won't have a permanent disability," Alice said. But recuperation has been slow and painful, and Lee was incapacitated for several months. Shortly after the accident, Lee's younger brother died of a heart attack. The two events served as a wake-up call. "We realized how fragile life is; we really had to reassess how we were living. We realized that we needed to make big changes," Alice elaborated. Selling the press was the conclusion.

"We're looking forward to this new chapter in our lives," Alice continued, "though we will miss our community of bookwomen and the bookstores and the wonderful friends we've made over the years. [Running the bookstore and the press] was a growing, learning, difficult, and wonderful experience. Our hope is that there are enough women out there with the commitment and vision to continue the fight and that there are enough younger women to step in as the older guard steps down."

And so the press has been passed on to the next generation of lesbian/feminist publishers.

One of the many advantages of selling a press in the same community is that the address, phone, and fax stay the same: 3831 N. Oracle Road, Tucson AZ 85705; 520-888-1140, fax 520-888-1123. The email address is <milestonepress@gateway.net> ("Milestone" because it turns out that there are already a lot of "rising tides" on the Internet). <www.risingtidepress.com> is currently under construction.

New and backlist *Rising Tide* titles will continue to be available from BP, Koen, Alamo, B&T, and Ingram. Direct order discounts are: 40% for 1–25 books, 45% for 26–49, and 50% for 50+ books.

### BookSense.com Back on Track

Many independent booksellers were sorely disappointed when BookSense.com wasn't ready in time for holiday sales. The delay was so prolonged that ABA returned booksellers' deposits and made apologies whenever possible. But despite the setbacks and the developers' failure to deliver, ABA persisted in developing a point-and-click Web site sales program for member stores.

In January the word came down that the program was back on track with a new team of developers, this time from a different office of the same firm. Between the lines of ABA's careful refusal to set deadlines and create expectations (which could be disappointed again), there is some serious hope that the program will be ready by late summer, or at least in time for holiday ordering next fall.

Meanwhile, technology continues to evolve, and the delay means that Booksense.com will be able to

launch with two important improvements: Booksellers who utilize BookSense.com will be able to order from multiple wholesalers and they will also be able to choose between having books shipped directly to the customers from the wholesaler or having books shipped to the store for customer pick-up or shipment by the store.

ABA remains confident that, when introduced, BookSense.com will provide its member stores with a superior e-commerce tool. And we remain hopeful and eager. —CS

### Robert Drake's Attackers Sentenced

Last fall, two men were found guilty of the near-fatal beating of Philadelphia author Robert Drake. On January 31, 1999, Drake was attacked in his apartment in Silgo, Ireland. Ian Monaghan, 20, and Glen Mahon, 21, were found guilty of "recklessly causing serious harm," the Irish equivalent of aggravated assault. They were sentenced to eight years in prison; the maximum sentence this kind of assault is ten years. Friends of Robert's expressed satisfaction that his attackers are being dealt with seriously.

More than a year after the attack, Robert Drake is recovering slowly. Three days a week, he receives outpatient rehabilitation at the Moss Rehabilitation in Philadelphia, where he spent many months last spring and summer. His insurance provider was considering placing Drake in an alternative center, one that didn't have the same level of rehabilitation experience and services — and that naturally didn't have months of experience treating Drake. Ed Hermance of Giovanni's Room called the decision to place Drake at Moss "a close call."

Meanwhile, a new novel by Rick Sandford published posthumously acknowledges Drake's influence on developing writers: Stacey Foiles, executor of Rick Sandford's estate, writes: "Without Robert Drake there might be no book. He never abandoned Rick as a writer despite publishers' fears about Rick's work. All of us — you, Rick, and I — have Robert to thank for this book and for Rick's stories coming to print; without him, they would live only in my boxes of Ricky's things. Thank you, Robert."

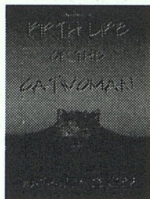
### Amazon.com Settles with Amazon After Dyke-Baiting Fails

After six months of "lawsuit hell," Amazon, the feminist bookstore in Minneapolis, accepted a settlement in its lawsuit against Amazon.com for trademark infringement. Although the feminist bookstore is bound by the terms of the agreement *not* to reveal the terms of the settlement beyond a few basics, it is clear that the bookstore staff are glad to have left that chapter of their history behind. Their new focus is on their upcoming move and designing the details of their new built-with-Ama-zon-in-mind home. (See "Bookstore News.")

The press release on the settlement states that both Amazon and Amazon.com "will work together on certain steps to ensure that there will not be any confusion among the public about the association of the two companies." But the only specific given is that Amazon, the feminist bookstore, "will always refer to itself by its full legal name of Amazon Bookstore Cooperative." It's a demand that strikes *FBN* as a bit ludicrous, a bit like having to refer to your best friend or your sister by her full, married name, (e.g., Mary Patricia McCarthy-Rabinowitz instead of just Mary). Given that Amazon is a 30-year-old institution, *FBN* fails to see how this is going to solve any ongoing confusion.

Basically the deal is that Amazon (Bookstore Cooperative) is trading its common law rights to the Amazon name to Amazon.com, and Amazon.com will then license our feminist bookstore to use "Amazon Bookstore Collective" as its name. One has to hope that the feminist bookstore received a good chunk of change for this exchange, but if that's the case, no one is talking about it. And my recent trip to Minneapolis for the "Hooray the lawsuit is over" party didn't turn up any new Mercedes or BMWs in booksellers driveways, nor even a new crop of cell phones. I did find one new computer, though, and there are indications that Amazon-the-feminist-bookstore will buy some new shelving units for the new store rather than build them, but that about sums up any new extravagances in Minneapolis....

In the months leading up to the settlement, Amazon.com sank to a new low. After months of leading questions and insinuations that the feminist bookstore was somehow trying to capitalize on the

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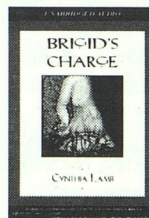
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dot-com's megalithic presence, Amazon.com started asking bookstore workers about their "sexual preference" and who, if anyone, in the bookstore had had sex together. Amazon.com's idea being, it seems, that lesbians could only sell books to other lesbians, and therefore Amazon.com isn't in the same business because it sells to a "general interest market" (and therefore isn't competing with the feminist bookstore whose name they took). The extensions of this argument are, of course, that if one is a lesbian, one can only sell lesbian books to other lesbians or, say, if one is Black, one could only sell books of African American interest to other African Americans (but not to white folk), and that lesbians (or African Americans or Latinas or women or insurance salesmen) only buy and read books about other lesbians (African Americans, Latinas, women, insurance salesmen, etc.) and never read or buy "general interest" books. Following this line of reasoning, then, one would have to believe that, if Amazon.com's founder Jeff Bezos is heterosexually married (and he is), that Amazon.com could not then sell books to or about gays and lesbians — but they certainly do. Or maybe Amazon.com was just hoping to play to the jury's homophobia.

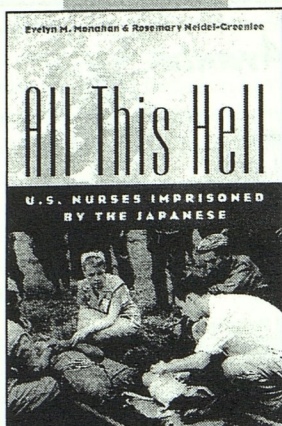
The questions about bookstore workers' sexuality were asked during depositions. Depositions, the pre-trial "fishing expedition" ritual during which each side gets to ask the other side a wide range of questions to establish evidence, are given under oath and are recorded both by a court reporter and (in this

case) on video tape. The videos are subject to being played in court and any testimony given in deposition may become part of the public record.

During the October round of depositions, Amazon.com's lawyer Paul Weller asked Amazon Bookstore Cooperative members Jo den Boer and Lori Schroeder such questions as, "Have you had any interest in promoting lesbian ideals in the community?" and "Are you gay?" Both booksellers refused to answer these questions, but Weller followed up with questions about whether any of the bookstores' owners or employees were gay, whether any of the staff were "domestic partners" (which seemed, to this reporter, to be a euphemism for "Does anyone in the store have sex with anyone else in the store," rather than a concern for anyone's civil rights). He defended this line of questioning by saying, "I think...it's important for the jury to know, for example, whether the people who work in this bookstore have a particular sexual orientation [and how the bookstore represents itself]."

This totally outrageous and grossly offensive — and stupid — behavior was reported in a series of publications from *Salon* and *Holt Uncensored* to *Ms. Magazine* and *Sojourner* and circulated on a number of e-lists. If it wasn't the turning point in the lawsuit, it was likely the turning point in the settlement as outraged readers, Amazon.com customers, and Amazon.com employees began emailing their indignation to the megalith,

See News, page 25.



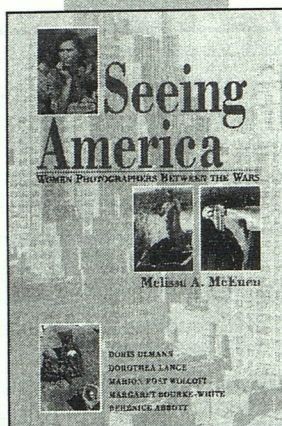
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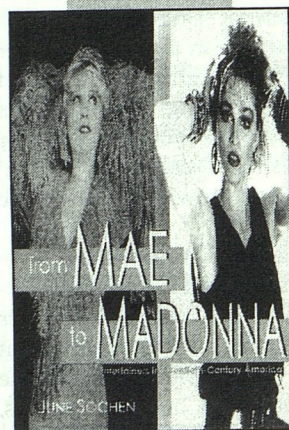
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# Charis and New Words Turn 25

By Carol Seajay

I spent one incredible weekend last fall (November 5–7), traveling from San Francisco to Atlanta to Boston, celebrating Charis Bookstore's and New Words' 25th anniversaries. It was also Crazy Ladies' and Women & Children First's 20th — if only there had been a few more days in the weekend!

## New Words

One of Charis' many supporters had donated a number of frequent flier tickets to Charis to bring writers, publishers, and others to participate in Charis' celebrations. Thanks to some wonderful cooperation between bookstores, I was able to use one of those tickets to participate in Charis' celebration, then to fly up to Boston for New Words 25th birthday party, a fabulous dinner party featuring food from 25 local restaurants that donated food for the buffet. The evening was emceed by Joni Seager and featured readings by poets Kate Rushin (including the hilarious "Ten Unattributed Comments" written for the occasion) and Jaclyn Friedman, a

very Boston "strip show" (in which two New Words staffers, present and past, revealed a new t-shirt — and poster that Alison Bechdel designed for New Words' anniversary), a reading (and near performance) by Gilda Bruckman and Jean MacRae, a few pithy words from yours truly, some wonderfully rowdy moments with collective members past and present, and then the crowding in of all the rest of the staff, present and past, onto what had until that moment seemed to be a good-sized stage.

It was a fiercely proud, tender, and funny evening recognizing and celebrating both what New Words has contributed to the community and the incredible work and vision of the many women who have created and sustained New Words during these 25 years.

## Charis

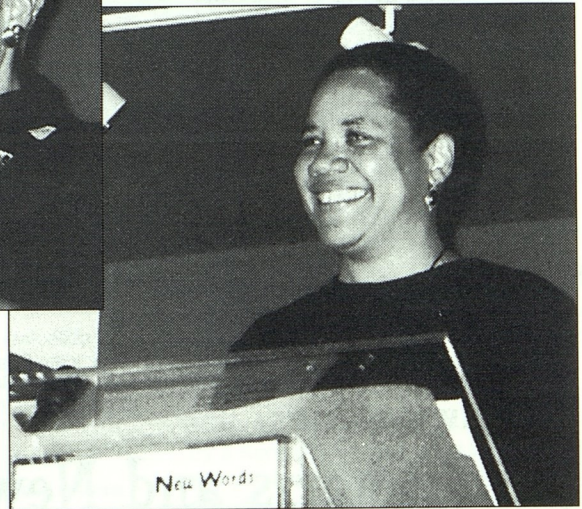
Charis organized a spectacular ten-day/two-weekend series of events around the theme of "celebrating our stories."

The letter at the beginning of the program read: "Come Celebrate!"



Left: Jean MacRae and Gilda Bruckman tell stories and reveal statistics

Below: Kate Rushin reads "Ten Unattributed Comments" at New Words' party



"We are celebrating our stories.  
 "We have 25 years of stories. These stories are written in poetry, biography, short stories, plays, essays, songs, and novels. These stories are told in circles — circles of women, circles of children, circles of dreamers, circles of men seeking hope, all making justice. Some stories are read to huge crowds, others are spoken in whispers, one to one. Some stories are found in books while others emerge from our own hearts as we recognize ourselves in someone else's eyes or words.

"For 25 years, these stories have been weaving themselves together and finding voice in our little corner of Little Five Points in Atlanta, Georgia. For 25 years there has been a growing, vibrant space to nurture and honor these stories. We call this space a feminist bookstore. We call this space "Charis," a Greek word that means grace, gift, thankfulness.....

"...we invite old friends, new friends, bold friends, and bashful friends — come celebrate with us! We love you,

"Linda, Sherry, Sara, Beth, Cherie, and Kelly,  
 The women of Charis Books"

The celebration included three "Celebrating Our Stories" evenings. The first was subtitled "How Our Stories Emerge from Our Experience" and featured writers Pearl Cleage, Kim Kiehl, bell hooks, and Urvashi Vaid. The second was subtitled "Activism and Our Future." It featured Bylye Avery, Lisa Kung, and Minnie Bruce Pratt. The third, "Weaving

Our Words in Poetry and Prose," which was on the weekend I was there, featured readings (and splendid commentary) by Johnetta Cole, Nikky Finney, Katherine V. Forrest, and Connie Mae Fowler, each of whom spoke about the impact of Charis on her life and writing: "The thing that Charis did was it took me seriously," (Nikky Finney); "I would not be standing here today, with a fourth book about to be published, if it weren't for the likes of Charis Bookstore," (Connie Mae Fowler); and "Charis is not a place, but a movement; not a store, but women's souls," (Johnetta Cole).

Other events included the Sistership Healing Ritual Workshop, the Zona Rosa Writing Workshops, a Women Mystery Writers, and the Women in Print Workshop (see excerpts below). Festivities included "Club Charis" (a Caberet/Club night), the Diva Dance ("Come as your favorite diva — or yourself!"), Autumn Harvest (a collage of readings from 50 diverse women writers on menopause, midlife, aging, and death) and, of course, Charis' Big, Beautiful Thank You Party. (Note: The Autumn Harvest "anthology" is accessible at <[www.charis-anthology.org](http://www.charis-anthology.org)>.)

## Analyses, Thoughts, and New Directions for the Movement: Women in Print Panel

Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

Charis Books (Atlanta) held its 25th anniversary celebration this fall. One of the many events in its two-week celebration was a panel discussion titled "Women in Print: How They Made (and Make) the Books That Change Our Lives." My illustrious leader Carol Seajay was among the panelists, and she handed me two cassette tapes and asked me to transcribe some highlights of that talk, which collected the wisdom of people at the forefront of the women in print movement: Barbara Grier, Barbara Smith, Nancy Bereano, Joan Drury, Lisa Moore, and of course Carol. The talk was moderated by Mary Bricker-Jenkins.

As I listened to this group talk about the state of feminist publishing today, I could almost hear the shock of the writers in the audience who thought they were there to get good publishing tips and probably make some contacts. I remembered my own introduction to the incredibly intense, hard, complex world of feminist publishing. The women at the publishing company where I was to be interning decided, in a fit of unconscious sadism, that a great introduction to publishing would be attendance at an ABA convention. On the very first day, after cups of Cuban coffee, we bussed our way through the streets of Miami Beach to the Feminist Presses' annual meeting. And I was promptly overwhelmed by the spectrum of issues and personalities surging through the room. I wondered, who is this Nancy Bereano? She's really articulate. And is that Barbara Smith, the Barbara Smith, over there? And Barbara Grier of Naiad Press and The Ladder fame? All in one room.

This initiation, this introduction to the work I am still doing, was blistering, intense, and intoxicating. I am reminded every time I go to a conference or festival where the lesbian/feminist book-buying industry is addressed why I love to do this

Women in Print panel, left to right: Barbara Grier, Lisa Moore, Carol Seajay, moderator Mary Bricker-Jenkins, Barbara Smith, Joan Drury, and Nancy Bereano

work and why this work needs to be done. I hope that the women who attended the Women in Print panel, whether or not their level of ignorance equaled mine seven years ago, were similarly shocked, energized, ready to act, ready to read indie press books, and eager to spend their extra dollars at feminist bookstores.

Kudos to Charis for presenting a panel that addressed the very hard realities of the publishing world today instead of sentimentalizing the movement's past. I am honored to have attended this panel, sort of, through the audio expertise of Amanda Gable and friends, who produced a cassette recording of superior quality.

**Barbara Grier, editor and publisher of The Ladder, CEO of Naiad Press.** *On the present:* "We never knew that what has happened in the last four or five years would happen: that there would be so much competition for our writers, that our bookstores would have to be put in the position to fight for their lives, that independent presses would have to fight for their lives, that agents would parasitically control writers' lives."

*On the future:* "What's going to happen in the future: When at least half of this panel doesn't exist anymore — in terms of being active in publishing — there will be young women who will be doing this [work] in our place. I think a great many bookstores will survive this — I'm not one of those people who think that independent presses aren't going to survive. And I think that the Internet will teach the





Above: Deidre McCalla performing at Club Charis; right: Nikky Finney taking the audience apart and putting it back together during a Celebrating Our Stories reading

general public some very important and forgotten skills: how to read and how to write."

*On the changing landscape of bookselling:* "Many of my best stores have gone out of business.... [Chains do carry our titles, but their gay/lesbian sections] are not set up professionally, not consistently, not well. I have, of course, cased these stores — the gay/lesbian sections, anyway."

*On the diversity of women's publishing:* "I don't pretend for a moment that Naiad Press answers all of women's book-buying needs.... All these presses have to be there. The danger today is that the chains sell to the common denominator. The other more serious books — they aren't able to carry them."

**Carol Seajay, cofounder of Old Wives' Tales, editor and publisher of the Feminist Bookstore News.** *On the past:* "In the 70s there was a real sense of 'sisters doing it for themselves,' whether it was through printing mimeographed newsletters or publishing actual books. Because if

you want the truth told about your life, you had better write it yourself — and you damn well better publish it yourself.... It's hard to look around Charis at all the different fascinating books and believe that there was a time when the publishing infrastructure believed no one cared about women's lives, but that's how it was."

*On the impact of the Women in Print movement:* "It's been tremendous. Twenty years ago, there were no books on incest and none on battering. And spirituality, forget it. You mean there used to be some



religions that were woman-centered?' But now there are stacks of books published on that, not to mention, say, nonexploitive books by and about lesbians. The Women in Print movement has made our books and ideas publishable."

*On the role of the consumer and the Home Depot-isation of the book world:* "If we as individuals do not take a stand on what we value and cherish in our lives and stand for that, what we will have is Home Depot. The future is very much in our hands — the hands of readers and consumers."

*On Barnes & Noble's attempted acquisition of Ingram:* "I read once — and they covered this statement up pretty fast, you didn't see this unless you caught it right after it was said — that they wanted to be the book distribution system in the United States."

*On Barnes & Noble's book buying:* "They have only one gay/lesbian buyer for 2,000 stores."





Urvashi Vaid, Kim Diehl, and Pearl Cleage from the How Our Stories Emerge from Our Own Experience discussion

*On Borders' strategies to put small stores out of business:* "Do you think it was coincidence that Borders opened across the street from Sisterhood Books in Los Angeles? Do you think they don't place each and every new store very, very carefully?"

*On the chains' role in destroying small presses:* "Papier Maché Press, which published *When I Am an Old Woman, I Shall Wear Purple*, has gone bankrupt and changed owners. And that was because of promised orders [from chain stores] that did not materialize."

**Barbara Smith, author, theorist, and cofounder of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press.** *On the infrastructure of publishing and the creation of Kitchen Table Press:* "The experience of the younger feminist/lesbian writers was horrible. We needed to create our own means of production. We needed to be in control of what we published, how we published, and who we tried to reach."

*On women of color in publishing:* "We were the only press for so long who did work by women of color. It makes a real difference who is in control of what's published.... I want more. I want to see more women of color running presses. I want to see more women of color in publishing."

*On superstores:* "I refer to them as 'the spawn of Satan....' If you leave here understanding why superstores are the spawn of the devil, then we've done our job. Just because they sell Naiad Books doesn't mean

that they live on Naiad Books. They live on non-authors like Danielle Steele, John Grisham, Stephen King. That's where they make their money.... They stock books from small presses because they are in competition with independent booksellers, that's the only reason."

*On periodicals in the women in print movement:* "Before I was a publisher, I was a writer. My work was published in places like *Sinister Wisdom*, *Afra*, and *Sojourner*. Periodicals are an important part of the movement as well."

*On the needs that Kitchen Table filled:* "There were so few women of color publications of national and international reach that we performed functions that we really should not have had to, but that were necessary. We became a community center for women of color."

*On politics:* "Political leaning in this country in the late 20th century is far more toward the Right."

*On educating people about the evils of the superstores:* "I was being interviewed by a young woman from the popular gay/lesbian press who told me, 'Our Borders has a really good gay and lesbian section.' These are people in the media!... I feel it's important to make those people aware of what's happening, even though I'm not publishing anymore."

*On activism:* "We have to be politically active.... This is Black Atlanta, and look at this audience.... We have work to do."



Carol Seajay and Linda Bryant on Charis' front steps — telling stories and catching up



Left: Shirlene Holmes, Lisa Kung, Byllye Avery, and Mary Bricker-Jenkins after Celebrating Our Stories: Activism and Our Future

Below: Charis volunteer Nan and staffers Cherie Frazier, Alecea Williams, and Fiona Lewis

**Nancy Bereano, founder, editor, and publisher, Firebrand Books.** *On the nature of books within the feminist movement:* "Books in and of themselves do not create movements. But they help to develop further and incite consciousness around information. I am not sanguine about the significance of books per se. The place of books in general in people's lives — as a form of self-development, perspective, knowledge, exploring other people's worlds and lives that [a reader] is not personally living in, developing inner consciousness, opening doors, discovering a place in activism — the place of books has diminished greatly."

*On technology:* "[Technology is having an effect] on how consciousness is developed. Don't take for granted not only the continuation and survival but also the significance of a book in terms of the development of community, a movement, a set of ideas."

*On the state of the publishing world today:* "We are moving into what I believe is really a fascistic sort of a world.... Many of us benefit from that world, which is one of the reasons it's very hard to rebel against it. One of the traits of that world is that power is concentrated into the hands of a few and options get narrowed.... This is not about being pessimistic, it's about looking at the realities and not being mired in sentimentalism."

*On the changing tastes of the lesbian reading community:* "The reality of us as a community is that we are

not reading in the way we used to read. The reason that [bookstores] aren't ordering [political titles] is because they know their audience won't purchase them."

*On dealing with the chains:* "The reason that Naiad Press is in the chain stores is because they are the biggest [lesbian press].... The smaller you are, the harder it is to compete in that system."

**Joan Drury, writer, activist, and editor and publisher of Spinsters, Ink.** *On becoming a publisher:* "The convergence of words and feminism was like coming home for me. Being a publisher appeals to



me as a reader.... Our stories won't be told if we don't tell them. I try to let women tell their stories. These stories need to be published, whether they make money or not."

*On agendas:* "No one talks about the white male agenda. If a book is published that's very conventional, boy meets girl, they fall in love, they get married, it doesn't mean it doesn't have an agenda. It

does. Its agenda is about maintaining [the status quo]. That's the lowest common denominator, and those will be the only stories out there unless we make sure they aren't. It's up to you to support feminist presses so that everyone survives this and everyone continues to have good books available that can save our lives."

**Lisa Moore, founder and editor of RedBone Press.** *On being part of a new generation of feminist publishers:* "Every woman on this panel has affected me."

*On the economics of publishing:* "Part of what people don't often understand about publishing is the economics. So when you sell a book, an author gets 7 to 15 percent, the bookstore gets 40 percent, the distributor gets 10 to 15 percent, and that leaves the

publisher with...not much. Plus, there's the cover designer who gets a chunk of money because the designer makes the book look good and sell.... The printer gets \$5,000 to \$8,000.... So that's why you don't see so many people stepping out [and starting presses]."

*On whether she'll continue publishing after she's through graduate school:* "Oh, I'll continue publishing. I'll finance it the way I always have — through other part-time jobs."

*On how her work affects her:* "I get letters from prisoners, feedback from other publishers, from readers. Once this old grandmother came into a reading clutching the book [*Does Your Mama Know*]. She was still married, this was the first thing she had done [in coming out]. So it's important. But it's also important for people to buy the books. Buy the books!" ○

### News, continued from page 17.

setting off a public relations nightmare that should haunt Amazon.com for years to come.

Amazon.com's form-letter response: "We are, as a company and as individuals, sensitive to matters of personal privacy, and our commitment to diversity...forbid[s] discrimination based on sexual orientation...." convinced no one of anything except that perhaps Amazon.com doesn't read its own policies any more than it reads the lesbian and feminist books it sells. Or maybe the real message is this: Amazon.com will be nice (gee, even give domestic partner insurance benefits) to employees when it wants their skills and services, but that, as a customer base, lesbians, gays, women, feminists, and the people who love them are insignificant and undeserving of respect in any way, shape, or form except during that moment when our credit cards are being processed. And if we're perceived as competitors — or if independent booksellers stick up for themselves — Amazon.com is more than willing to bring out the cheapest, trashiest — and most dangerous — forms of homophobia to smash us. Amazon.com also seems to believe that its "general interest" audience supports this kind of verbal violence and homophobia. Wrong again, A.com!

Amazon.com offered to settle as word of this outrage was just beginning to circulate and the first waves of e-outrage hit its in-boxes. Even now, months

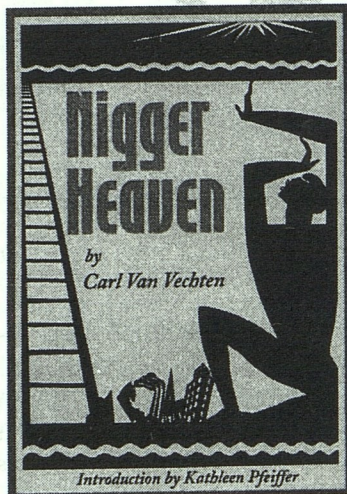
later, I still keep running into lesbians — and others — who are just hearing the story and are as furious as if it was their partner who was asked those questions.... It makes me think that Amazon.com's public relations problem is just beginning.

Meanwhile, back in Minneapolis at Amazon, our homegirls are glad that the lawsuit is over and glad to be able to shift their primary focus back to the important business of getting the books to the women who need them. They're proud of having fought the good fight, of having taken on Goliath and survived. And they are painfully wiser about the financial impossibility of defending oneself against deep-pocketed corporations and about the unlikelihood of justice being served when it's independent vs. corporation. But they've moved on. They're focused on the move this summer to that big, beautiful new store. The new store has parking (!) and is just the place for people to come...people who want to see and touch and feel the books, to find out about books they'd never discover at an e-tailer, and to open the covers to sample a few words....

If Amazon.com had any decency at all, it would have added a note to its home page years ago stating that isn't the (30-year-old) feminist bookstore in Minneapolis and included contact info. (Amazon.com did it for the *New York Times*.) But instead it sank to the lowest possible level. The legal case has been settled, but Amazon.com still has amends to make. —CS ○

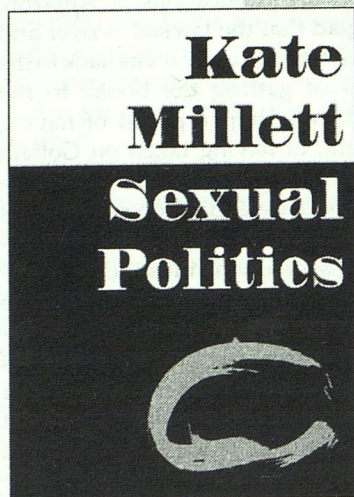
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# Lambda Literary Award Finalists 2000



The finalists for the twelfth annual Lambda Literary Awards have been announced. As always, the winners will be named at an awards ceremony during BEA. This year's gala event will be held at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, Illinois, on June 1. Tickets are \$125 for the whole event, including the schmoozy reception, \$100 for dinner and awards ceremony only. For tickets or more information, contact LLA Tickets/Lambda Literary Foundation, PO Box 73910, Washington DC 20056; fax 202-462-5264. A list of the finalists follows.

## LESBIAN FICTION

- Bruised Fruit* by Anna Livia (Firebrand)  
*Faults* by Terri de la Peña (Alyson)  
*Salt Water and Other Stories* by Barbara Wilson (Alyson)  
*Shy Girl* by Elizabeth Stark (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux)  
*Tipping the Velvet* by Sarah Waters (Riverhead)

## GAY MEN'S FICTION

- Allan Stein* by Matthew Stadler (Grove)  
*Comfort and Joy* by Jim Grimsley (Algonquin)  
*In September the Light Changes* by Andrew Holleran (Hyperion)  
*The Book of Lies* by Felice Picano (Alyson)  
*The Coming Storm* by Paul Russell (St. Martin's)

## LESBIAN AND GAY ANTHOLOGIES — FICTION

- Besame Mucho* edited by Jaime Manrique and Jesse Dorris (Painted Leaf)  
*Hers 3* edited by Robert Drake and Terry Wolverton (Faber & Faber)  
*His 3* edited by Robert Drake and Terry Wolverton (Faber & Faber)  
*Mammoth Book of Lesbian Short Stories* edited by Emma Donoghue (Carroll & Graf)  
*The Vintage Book of International Lesbian Fiction* edited by Naomi Holoch, Joan Nestle, and Nancy Holden (Vintage)

## LESBIAN AND GAY ANTHOLOGIES — NONFICTION

- A Woman Like That* edited by Joan Larkin (Bard)  
*Columbia Reader on Lesbians and Gay Men in Media, Society, and Politics* edited by Larry Gross and James D. Woods (Columbia University Press)  
*Completely Queer* edited by Steve Hogan and Lee Hudson (Henry Holt)  
*Fighting Words* edited by Charles Michael Smith (Avon)  
*This Is What Lesbian Looks Like* edited by Kris Kleindienst (Firebrand)

## LESBIAN AND GAY HUMOR

- Ethan Exposed* by Eric Orner (St. Martin's)  
*Subgurlz* by Jennifer Camper (Cleis)  
*That's Mr. Faggot to You* by Michael Thomas Ford (Alyson)  
*Way to Go Smith!* by Bob Smith (Weisbach-Morrow)  
*Wilma Loves Betty and Other Hilarious Gay & Lesbian Parodies* by Scott Brassart and Julie Trevelyan (Alyson)

## CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULT

- Dare, Truth, or Promise* by Paula Boock (Houghton Mifflin)  
*Hard Love* by Ellen Wittlinger (Simon & Schuster)  
*Name Me Nobody* by Lois-Ann Yamanaka (Hyperion)  
*The Blue Lawn* by William Taylor (Alyson)  
*The Year They Burned the Books* by Nancy Garden (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux)

## GAY MEN'S BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- An Underground Life* by Gad Beck (University of Wisconsin Press)  
*Firebird* by Mark Doty (HarperCollins)  
*Gore Vidal* by Fred Kaplan (Doubleday)  
*Left Out* by Martin Duberman (HarperCollins)  
*The Velveteen Father* by Jesse Green (Villard)

## LESBIAN BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- Baby Precious Always Shines* by Kay Turner (St. Martin's)  
*Eleanor Roosevelt Volume 2: 1933-1938* by Blanche Weisen Cook (Viking)  
*My Lesbian Husband* by Barrie Jean Borich (Graywolf)  
*Tales of the Lavender Menace* by Karla Jay (Basic Books)  
*The Trials of Radclyffe Hall* by Diana Souhami (Doubleday)

## GAY MEN'S MYSTERY

- Drop Dead* by Mark Zubro (St. Martin's)  
*Innuendo* by R.D. Zimmerman (Delacorte)  
*Justice at Risk* by John Morgan Wilson (Doubleday)  
*The Death of a Constant Lover* by Lev Raphael (Walker & Co.)  
*The Gumshoe, the Witch, and the Virtual Corpse* by Keith Hartman (Meisha Merlin)

## LESBIAN MYSTERY

- Hunting the Witch* by Ellen Hart (St. Martin's)  
*Lost Daughters* by J.M. Redmann (Norton)  
*Murder Undercover* by Claire McNab (Naiad)  
*She Came in Drag* by Mary Wings (Berkley Prime Crime)  
*Sleeping Bones* by Katherine Forrest (Berkley Prime Crime)

## LESBIAN AND GAY DRAMA

- Corpus Christi* by Terrence McNally (Grove/Atlantic)  
*Lovesick* by Lawrence Senelick (Routledge)

*Of All the Nerve* by Deb Margolin (Cassell Academic)  
*Prepare for Saints* by Steven Watson (Random House)  
*What I Meant Was* by Craig Lucas (Theater Communications Group)

**GAY MEN'S POETRY**

*Diva* by Rafael Campo (Duke University Press)  
*Last Rights* by Marvin K. White (Alyson)  
*Lyric* by G. Winston James (Grapevine)  
*The Anchorage* by Mark Wunderlich (University of Massachusetts)  
*Trappings* by Richard Howard (Turtle Point)

**LESBIAN POETRY**

*Interior with Sudden Joy* by Brenda Shaughnessy (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux)  
*Midnight Salvage* by Adrienne Rich (Norton)  
*Monkeypuzzle* by Rita Wong (Press Gang)  
*Rave* by Olga Broumas (Copper Canyon)  
*Walking Back Up Depot Street* by Minnie Bruce Pratt (University of Pittsburgh Press)

**GAY MEN'S STUDIES**

*Men Like That* by John Howard (University of Chicago Press)  
*Pictures & Passions* by James Saslow (Viking)  
*The Crisis of Desire* by Robin Hardy with David Groff (Houghton Mifflin)

*The Mismeasure of Desire* by Edward Stein (Oxford University Press)  
*Times Square Red, Times Square Blue* by Samuel Delany (New York University Press)

**LESBIAN STUDIES**

*A Desired Past* by Leila J. Rupp (University of Chicago Press)  
*Eden Built by Eves* by Bonnie Morris (Alyson)  
*Strange Sisters* by Jaye Zimet (Viking)  
*To Believe in Women* by Lillian Faderman (Houghton Mifflin)  
*The Whole Lesbian Sex Book* by Felice Newman (Cleis)

**LESBIAN AND GAY PHOTOGRAPHY/VISUAL ARTS**

*Homoerotic Art of Pavel Tchelitchev*, introduction by David Leddick (Elysium)  
*John Singer Sargent* by John Esten and Donna Hassler (Universe)  
*Pictures & Passions* by James Saslow (Viking)  
*Strange Sisters* by Jaye Zimet (Viking)  
*The Drag King Book* by Del LaGrace Volcano and Judith Halberstam (Serpent's Tail)

**LESBIAN AND GAY SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY**

*Minions of the Moon* by Richard Bowes (Tor Books)  
*Night Shade* by Victoria Brownworth and Judith Redding (Seal Press)  
*The Annunciate* by Severna Park (Avon-Eos)  
*The Gumshoe, the Witch, and the Virtual Corpse* by Keith Hartman (Meisha Merlin)  
*Through a Brazen Mirror* by Delia Sherman, Cortney Skinner, and Ellen Kushner (Circlet)

**LESBIAN AND GAY SPIRITUALITY/RELIGION**

*Coming Out Spiritually* by Christian de la Huerta and Matthew Fox (Tarcher-Putnam)  
*Gay Spirit Warriors* by John Stowe (Findhorn)  
*Prayer Warriors* by Stuart Howell Miller (Alyson)  
*Queer Dharma 2* by Winston Leyland (Gay Sunshine Press)  
*Respecting the Soul* by Keith Boykin (Avon)

**TRANSGENDER**

*Crossing* by Deirdre McCloskey (University of Chicago)  
*From Toads to Queens* by Jacobo Schifter (Harrington Park Press)  
*The Drag King Book* by Del LaGrace Volcano and Judith Halberstam (Serpent's Tail)  
*Transmen and FTM's* by Jason Cromwell (University of Illinois)  
*Trumpet* by Jackie Kay (Pantheon)

**LESBIAN AND GAY SMALL PRESS**

*Christ-Like* by Emanuel Xavier (Painted Leaf)  
*Hey Paesan!* by Capone, Leto, and Mecca (Three Guineas)  
*Massage* by Henry Flesh (Akashic)  
*Mr. Dalloway* by Robin Lippincott (Sarabande)  
*The Queer Press Guide* by Paul Harris (Painted Leaf)



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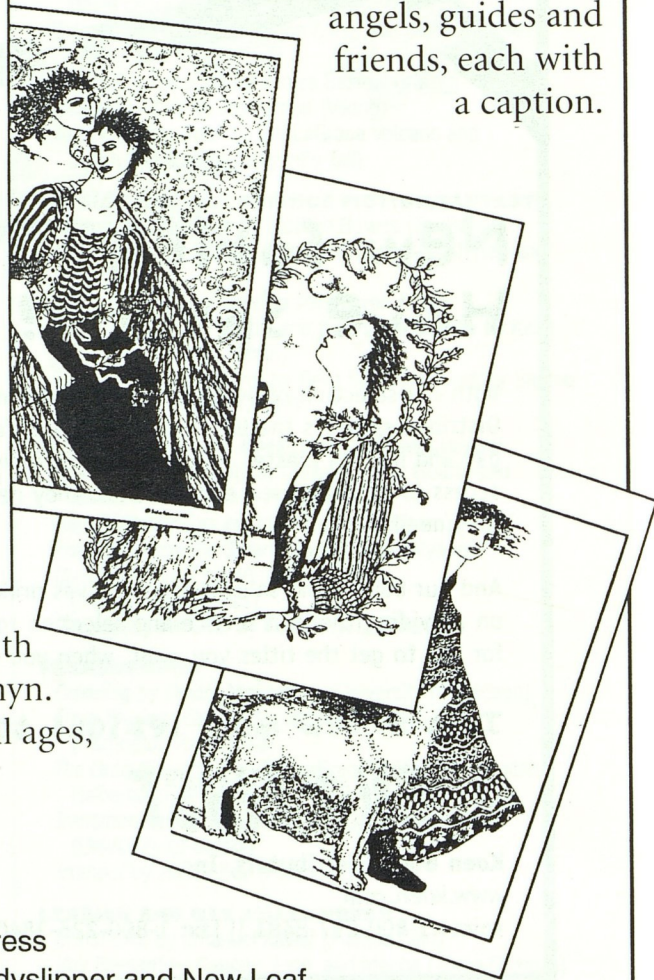
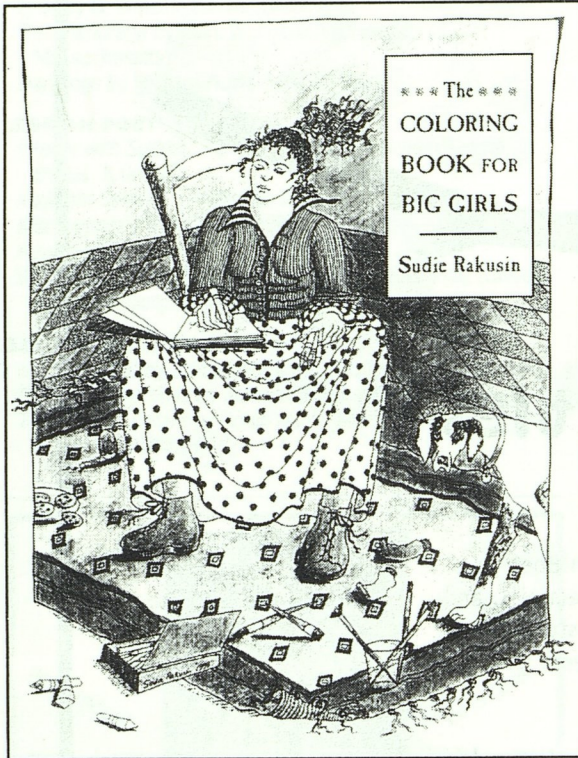
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# News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Compiled by Carol Seajay

## Amazon Is Moving to a New Building

Amazon Bookstore (that's the *real* Amazon Bookstore, AmazonNOTcom) is celebrating the end of the lawsuit (see "News") by moving into a beautiful new building. The building is being built by Chrysalis, a 25-year-old therapy and recovery center serving women and children in Minneapolis. The agency — which is open weekdays, evenings and Saturdays, employs 50 women, and sees thousands of clients on a regular basis — is thrilled their new building will be able to host Amazon Bookstore as well as their own organization. In addition to bringing a new clientele

to get coffee or a quick lunch. The café, a separate entity from the bookstore, will be managed by Marcia Teal.

The new location is closer to much of Amazon's customer base, and is two blocks from an art theatre and a small restaurant community. The expectation is that Chrysalis' staff and clients will create a "walk-by" community that far exceeds the pedestrian traffic that Amazon gets in its current location. Except for the heady days when there was a thriving women's café next door to the bookstore, Amazon has, primarily, been a destination for its customers.

The move is being driven by the dearth of parking in Amazon's current Loring Park location, where a burgeoning restaurant and café community have created a parking crisis that has driven away many a would-be customer. While a handful

Amazon Bookstore will have the right half of the ground floor in Chrysalis' new building. Below: The new building — shrinked-wrapped against the Minnesota winter.



(literally) to Amazon, the center will include a drop-in day care facility that will be available to Amazon customers during the day and during events, a meeting room which will seat 100 people that Amazon will be able to use for large events, and a library area that will be available for use by Amazon's many book groups. Other highlights include a parking lot and ample street parking.

Amazon's new 2500-square-foot storefront will double the store's sales space and will include a 500-square-foot coffee bar and café which will serve soups, salads, sandwiches, etc., as well as the expected mix of coffee drinks. The coffeeshop/café will be the only place in the neighborhood



of customers have expressed regret that the store is leaving the Loring Park neighborhood, many more have telephoned to say that they are thrilled by the new location, adding that they haven't been to Amazon for a long time because the parking situation has become untenable.

The building, the result of a \$4 million fundraising drive on Chrysalis' part, is currently under construction. The move is scheduled for July 1.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Brigit Books (St. Petersburg) on the store's tenth birthday celebration, which included arts and crafts vendors in the courtyard, performers throughout the day, raffles for gift certificates, refreshments, three birthday cakes, and more. Friends and customers sent flowers, cards, emails, and themselves — and made it the best sales day ever at Brigit Books.

Provincetown's Now Voyager and Cape & Dagger (g/l/f and mystery bookstores, respectively), both now in the same location, have just celebrated their tenth birthdays.

The Women's Bookstop (Hamilton ON) celebrated its 15th anniversary on International Women's Day. Their focus for the year is community. "We believe that a community can be judged by the smiles on the faces of women and children. *If it's good for women and children, it's good for everyone!*"

Women & Children First celebrated its 20th with Sara Paretsky and Nicole Hollander appearing as goddesses and leading chants for a thriving future. See photos on W&CF's Web site for details <[www.womenandchildrenfirst.com](http://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com)>.

BookWoman is 25! Susan Post reports that BookWoman's sales have stabilized and that they are renewing their lease for three more years. They'll cut back on space to counter rising rent in order to keep their space in what has become Austin's hottest new area. Predictions are that two years from now, 30,000 cars will pass by their front windows daily. Their anniversary message: "Looking for a book? *Save your life* — shop at BookWoman. We are women working for women; we are a safe space when dealing with life, community...; we are 25 years old this year, born in Austin, birthed by you, don't let Texas' *only* feminist bookstore disappear. Buy gift certificates for

doubting friends, ask yourself what you get out of Amazon.com, ask yourself why you would buy a book anywhere else. We, you, are the real Amazons. Don't let anyone co-opt your life energy. If BookWoman dies, we have all lost a life."

### Ultra events

Women and Children First hosted a book signing with Annie Leibovitz for *Women*. It was an awesome, very Chicago event, with 500 people attending — half of whom bought books at \$75 per copy....

Charis' community is turning out for their wonderful events. Linda Bryant writes, "We had Shay Youngblood last week to a *big* crowd, and it was a very moving reading. Some old, close friends read some of her older work to her as a surprise, and she was thrilled. Then she met with our high school writers group, and that was amazing and wonderful. Last night was bell hooks with close to 200 people, very varied audience, and good spirits all around. We are so blessed." (Both events were held in the church hall where Charis' birthday party was held.) Linda is shifting more and more to working with the Charis Circle, while previously part-time staff work full time to cover her bookstore hours.

### Fundraising

Recent grants at Charis Circle include a \$20,000 grant from the Arthur Blank Family Foundation to support Charis Circle's work with girls and young women and to do strategic planning for the future of that work, as well as grants from Astraea and several local foundations. Programs sponsored by the Charis Circle include a high school women's writers group, Gaia Girls (a circle of older and younger women who know they have something important to learn from each other), mother-daughter book groups, story hours, and a quarterly Feminism 101 series.

### Brilliant Ideas

Savannah Bay, the women's bookshop in Utrecht, The Netherlands, features a page on their Web site that tells visitors — in words and photos — about the book stands Savannah Bay provides for conferences and other events. The photos on the page show the quality of stand Savannah brings to events, and they would convince even the most hesitant that,

yes, this kind of bookstand is something that they want at their event and that Savannah Bay is the store they want to do it. Take a look at <[www.xs4all.nl/~savannah/](http://www.xs4all.nl/~savannah/)>. It's a great site and it gives the surfer an immediate sense of the store, the range of books and activities to be found there, et al. The current trend in American Web sites is for minimal words, but I found this site to be well balanced and text-rich in a way that's totally appropriate for book lovers. The text is arranged in a way that is very inviting and, despite my lack of Dutch, I could sort out many of the themes (vrouwenstudies, spiritualiteit, psychologie, literaire fictie en detectives...). Check it out!

New Words has created an advisory group that meets monthly to look at book industry issues and to shape the future of the store. It's composed of current and past staff, a (brilliant!) consultant, and a variety of people with analyses about the state of the economy, technology, and the future. The group has been both insightful and helpful.

Modern Times (which works valiantly to fill the void left by the closing of San Francisco's feminist bookstore a few years ago) is running an "Indie Press of the Month" series. The series honors the contributions of small and independent presses to the health of our literary culture. "Modern Times believes," the statement reads, "that in an era of chain bookstores and massive publishing conglomerates, independent booksellers and presses form a natural — and indispensable — creative partnership." The series features a different independent press each month and offers a 25 percent discount on all of the press' books for a month (most presses are more than glad to offer a deeper discount in exchange for the promo that compensates for the discount) and special events featuring the press and its authors, backlist, and/or new titles. It's one more way to (tactfully and positively) drive that important message home to both customers and the media, and it's a great hook for getting a bit of extra media attention.

Herland (Santa Cruz) has re-created its newsletter in a cheaper, easier, more widely circulated format: they do a four-page insert (the centerfold, no less!) in the local women's newspaper. It includes all the regular newsletter features — news of the bookstore, announcements that Herland won't be taking

used books for trade during the January inventory (and move!), holiday gift suggestions, book and music announcements, bookstore poetry(!), Herland's slogan ("Keep your business in your community, keep your community in business"), and all of the ads that helped to finance the newsletter in the old format — at a fraction of the cost. (See "Thataway" for the scoop on Herland's move.)

Crazy Ladies is doing a series of Bookstore Benefit Buffets as fundraisers for the bookstore. Each



That's Arline García in the doorway to the *Librería Feminista* the women's bookstore in San Cristóbal! The bookstore is part of a community of activists in this Chiapas community. The store's official name is Casa de la Luna Creciente, and it is located at Real de Guadalupe 118, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. We're thrilled that it's there and look forward to learning more about the store. The photo is by Arline's partner, novelist Allison Green.

evening features an intimate dinner for twelve with a special guest and is hosted by board members and friends of Crazy Ladies. The first evening featured mystery writer Lynette Carpenter (aka D.B. Borton and Dell Borton). The second featured local author and chef David Benjamin Warda; other dinners featured a local travel agent with traveling tips and hints on great places to visit and a local expert who discussed pets and natural pet care.

Women's Eye View Video opened as an independently owned business inside the Women's Bookstop (Hamilton ON) last fall. The business rents movies by, for, and about women. A small membership fee is charged and then is used to buy children's videos for a local women's shelter.

### And Internationally

The Women's Bookshop in Auckland has moved! "We've relocated the shop to wonderful, fresh, spacious new premises in Ponsonby Road, in the same block as Atomic Café and Maggazzino," Carole Beu writes. "We have office/storage space at the back and already lots of foot traffic from Ponsonby Road strollers. The increased space means we can display our wonderful range of stock much more effectively — our regular customers and supporters seem to love the new environment as much as we do. More than 20 volunteers moved the whole shop on a Sunday morning. It was an astonishing feat, and I am grateful for such extraordinary community support — including a friend who, in the weeks before opening, voluntarily and single-handedly painted the new premises four times, including four coats on the new purple shelves!"

In addition to moving, Carole was also the Auckland coordinator for New Zealand's awesome Listener's Women's Book Festival. May the store and its community continue to thrive, despite Border's attempt at recolonizing New Zealand....

The new address is 105 Ponsonby Rd, Ponsonby Auckland, New Zealand; 09-376-4399, fax 09-376-4365, email <womenbks@iprolink.co.nz>.

Watch for Silver Moon's new Web site <www.silvermoonbookshop.co.uk>. Once it's up, your favorite London feminist bookstore is only a click away. ○

### Mama Bears & Other Renters Seek Ownership of the East Bay Women's Buildings

Mama Bear's (Oakland CA) and the other tenants of the East Bay Women's Buildings are preparing to take ownership of their property.

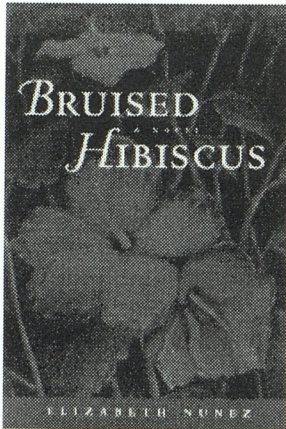
The California Land Trust has approved the buildings for purchase, and the East Bay Women's Building Committee has organized several fundraising events to acquire the down payment as soon as possible; the original target date was March 1.

The California Land Trust buys buildings for low-income families and nonprofit businesses. Theresa Clark of CLC has secured many loans and donations toward the total building purchase price of \$890,000. The current owner, too, has been supportive of the EBWBC's attempts to purchase the buildings, even lowering the price.

Three buildings make up the Women's Building complex. In its heart is Thyme Square, a courtyard where monthly fundraising events take place. According to Deb Pascke, who is a member of the EBWBC, the organization is close to raising the money. The latest fundraising event, which featured a lesbian choir, raised about \$3,000. At press time, there is \$57,000 left to raise. The next fundraising event will occur at the end of March. In addition to the events' musical entertainment, developers discuss financial and other plans for the buildings. One exciting topic is the use of a vacant storefront. EBWBC is discussing making that storefront a genuine shared space, available for nightly/short-term rental for women's community events.

It's always exciting when a small group can wrest property from the insane pace of business development that is the Bay Area property market. We wish Mama Bear's and the EBWBC members luck in raising the last bit of cash necessary to put them over the top.

The EBWBC is still seeking loans and donations. Contact them at 510-587-3385 or <ebwomensbldg@mail.com> for more information. Mama Bear's is at 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland CA 94609; 510-428-9684, fax 510-654-2774, email <MaBear@pacbell.net>. —TMR ○

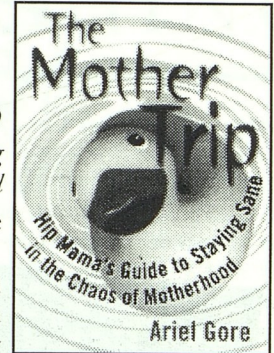


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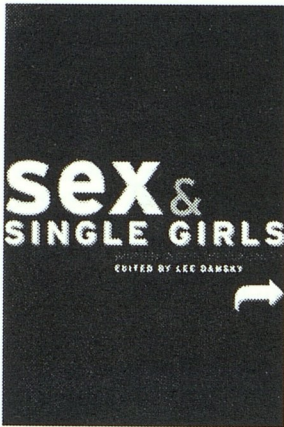


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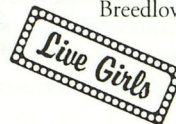
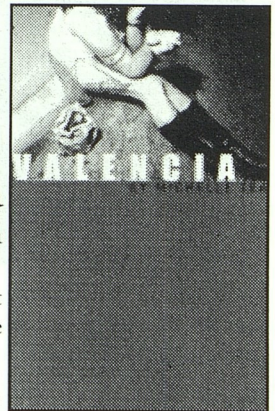


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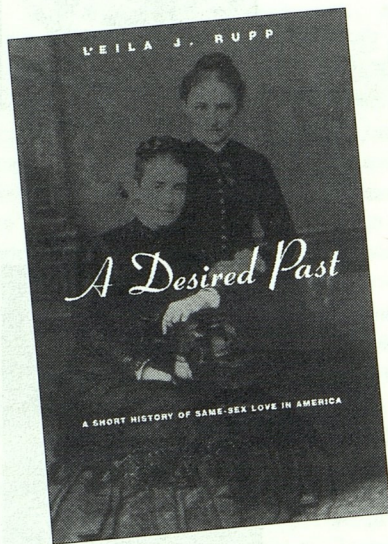
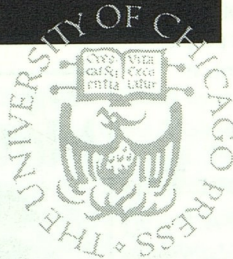


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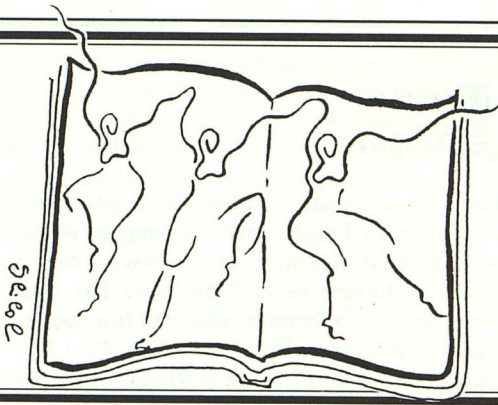
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# ON FEMINIST PUBLISHING

By Carol Seajay

We've seen a veritable explosion in new feminist and womanly inclined publishers over the last six months. There's the launch of Bella Books, of course, the sale of Rising Tide to new owners and of Papier-Mache Press to LPC (see "News"), as well as a slew of other new presses:

Diana Rivers, the author of the Hadra science fiction trilogy, has founded Hadra Books to publish her new titles and reprint her books that have gone out of print. *Daughters of the Great Star* is now back in print, and *Hadra*, which is still in print, is now available from Hadra (it was previously available from Alyson). A reprint of *Journey to Zelindar* is next on the schedule. It will be followed by two new titles; the first, *Clouds of War*, is scheduled for Fall 2000. (See "From Our Own Presses" for details.)

With women's sports participation at an all-time high and U.S. women's teams setting new standards of excellence, Holly Kondras's new Wish Publishing will focus exclusively on women's sports and health issues. Wish will publish five titles in 2000, then expand to ten in 2001. "We're looking for everything from traditional sports, coaching, and skill-development titles to manuscripts on healthy living, diet, and exercise," Kondras writes. Potential authors and others can contact Wish at 812-478-3529; PO Box 10337, Terre Haute IN 47801, or <www.wishpublishing.com>.

GreyCore Press is a new woman-owned publisher featuring fiction and "lively, well researched" nonfiction that tackles challenging topics. Founder and president Joan Schweighardt says of GreyCore's birth: "Generally, the foundation for a new business

venture is capital. GreyCore has been built almost entirely on good will.... Not only will our line feature the highest quality writing by truly talented individuals, but the books themselves will be works of art. We want GreyCore books to jump off the shelves and into readers' hands and hearts; a start like this increases our chances for success tremendously." Joan is a public relations expert and the author of three books published by Permanent Press in the early 90s. (See "Small Press.") GreyCore Press, 2646 New Prospect Rd., Pine Bush NY 12566; 914-744-5081, fax 914-744-8081.

Arania Books is a new "Audio & Print" publisher that launched its first book on tape, *The Fifth Life of the Catwoman*, last Fall. Founded by Jan Eshleman and Cindy Hollenberg, Arania is committed to producing only unabridged audio books, since that's the listening preference of both founders. The press will focus on first-time authors. Their next project is an audio version of Cynthia Lamb's *Brigid's Charge*, a sweet but telling novel that received too little attention and distribution when it was first published. Next on the schedule is *Snake's Glorious Legs*, a children's book. Cindy is the reader for both audio books. Their first publication, *Fifth Life of the Catwoman*, is a finalist in *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year in the Audio category. Arania Books, PO Box 15691, Fort Wayne IN 46885; 219-486-3554, email <aranja@earthlink.net>. (See "From Our Own Presses" for more information.)

\* \* \*

Meanwhile, Laugh Lines Press closed in December, citing mammoth returns and the resulting loss of its distributor. "With negative numbers and no

## ***Erotic E-Book News***

### DOWN THERE GOES ELECTRONIC

Microsoft, in a recent ad for their Microsoft Reader application, claimed that by the year 2020, Webster's definition of "book" would be altered to read "a substantial piece of writing commonly displayed on a computer or other personal viewing device."

There are those among us who might scoff at such declarations, but for those with an eye on the future of publishing, electronic books are not to be ignored. The initial trickle of interest in this new medium is beginning to grow. The prices of e-book readers, like the much-touted Rocket Book, have settled at around \$199. *Publisher's Weekly* has introduced a twice-monthly e-book review section. For certain genres, like software books and industry directories, e-books are published as a matter of course along with the printed versions.

Maverick publisher Down There Press, which specializes in books about sexuality, has joined the e-book fray. Leigh Davidson of Down There believes that the press' niche has particular appeal to e-book readers. She performed some informal surveys — like asking a woman on the bus if she'd want to read a novel on her Palm Pilot (the answer was no) or whether she'd read an erotic short story on it (the answer was a resounding yes) — and became convinced of e-book viability for Down There's titles.

Before BEA 1999, Leigh began researching e-book publishers, checking which platforms they used on (were they publishing PC-only e-books, e-books that could be only downloaded on a Rocket eBook reader, or e-books downloadable on a Palm Pilot?), the costs and terms, and who their clients were.

After some post-convention courting by online companies, Leigh eventually signed a contract with PublishingOnline.com. Down There's entire list, including *Good Vibrations: The New Complete Guide to Vibrators*, the *Herotica* series, *The Good Vibrations Guide: Adult Videos*, *First Person Sexual*, and *Anal Pleasure & Health* are now available through the Seattle-based company.

Davidson cited many reasons for choosing PublishingOnline.com. First of all, the company's clientele is mainly small presses (they carry titles from about 50 presses at this time), so they are accustomed to working with small press books. Also, PublishingOnline.com was excited about getting erotic content on their list (as were several other companies). Further, PublishingOnline.com provides work on many platforms, one of the few e-book companies to do so. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, PublishingOnline.com *bought* the electronic publishing rights for the books. Leigh says, "Many companies pitch you by saying, 'Here's a great deal: we'll cut your per-title publishing cost to \$100.' PublishingOnline.com assumes the price of converting files.... I'm treating this like a rights sale, both for the press and for our own authors." PublishingOnline.com typically pays the publisher 40 percent of sales, keeping 60 percent.

The prices of Down There's e-books are, as is the developing standard, slightly less than the cover prices of printed versions. *Anal Pleasure & Health*, for example, will retail at \$13 as an e-book compared to the \$18 paperback price.

We will be eagerly watching Down There Press as it ventures into this brave new world.

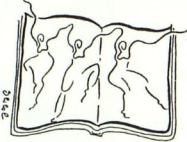
—TMR ○

distribution, going out of business makes sense," founder Roz Warren wrote. "The press lasted (and often thrived) for close to a decade. The goal of Laugh Lines was always to get the work of women cartoonists and humorists to an audience, and I'm pleased that many of the women whose work I first published are now nationally syndicated." And, *FBN* would

add, she should be proud of the distribution: rights for her collection *Women's Lip* were recently sold to the U.K. — and to Korea. Roz will continue to edit humor books for others presses (*Eat, Drink and Remarry*, a collection of cartoons and quotes by women about divorce, will be published by Sourcebooks this Spring.)



But even more exciting, Roz (who has been working in a library for the past year) is fulfilling another longtime dream: opening a bookstore. Ring of Fire Books will feature a good range of used books (and, undoubtedly some new ones) including, of course, a strong section of women's, lesbian, and humor books. (See "Thataway.")



On the other hand, Papier-Mache Press' bankruptcy has been resolved with the sale of most of its assets to the LPC Group last fall. LPC purchased the rights to seven titles (all edited by Papier-Mache founder Sandra Martz), the Papier-Mache trademark, and tie-in sidelines inventory. Papier-Mache was best known for its anthology, *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple*, which has sold over 1.5 million copies. LPC bought the rights to that anthology as well as *Generation to Generation: Reflections on Friendships Between Young and Old*; *If I Had a Hammer: Women's Work in Poetry, Fiction, and Photographs*; *If I Had My Life to Live Over, I'd Pick More Daisies*; *Grow Old With Me: The Best Is Yet to Be*; and *At Our Core: Women Writing About Power*. Papier-Mache was founded in 1983. LPC president David Wilk said that his company's initial plans call for reviving the Papier-Mache list and that he may consider doing new anthologies at some point in the future. LPC will retain Papier-Mache as an imprint and has named Robert Boyd as managing editor. Boyd, who was formerly an editor at a graphic novel publisher, Kitchen Sink Press, currently markets and maintains the anthology list. Boyd says that new releases are not in Papier-Mache's immediate future. Boyd is based in LPC's Milford, CT, sales and marketing offices and can be reached at 203-877-8573.

Getting books printed isn't as easy as it used to be — not that it was ever easy. But Dani Bauter, who managed *FBN*'s office a few years back, telephoned to say that Data Reproductions had refused to print the kinky erotica book, *Viscera*, that she had been helping to midwife. (See "Small Press.")

New Moon's publishing agreement with Random House seems to be moving along apace with two books coming out this spring: *Writing: Stories, Poems, Interviews, Advice on Improving Your Writing* and *Money: Stories, Poems, Interviews, Advice — What Girls Should Know About Money, Hints on How to Budget*. New Moon's promotion for *Sports* included a donation of 5 percent of its direct sales during February to National Girls & Women's Sports Day (NGWSD). Random House matched the donation. The money was used to help fund the NGWSD 2000 poster, community action kit, and award certificates.

Elsewhere, anecdotal evidence is that returns continue to be an — or *the* defining issue, with waves of returns appearing whenever a major chain or wholesaler decides to clean house.

Seal reported a great year in sales and subrights (including excellent sales on *Climbing High*) that helped them "get their heads above water" and is looking for another good year with an excellent 2000 list. Good thing, too, given the publisher's settlement with Mattel, which sued Seal last winter for "trading on the Barbie name" in *Adiós Barbie*. The suit made no sense to *FBN*, given that both critique and parody are protected — and that "Barbie" is a cultural icon closely associated, in many feminists' analysis, with the epidemic of anorexia and bulimia. Although, to us, this seemed to be much more of a free speech issue than a trademark issue — and yet another example of corporations with big legal budgets abusing independent businesses — we respect Seal's decision to protect the long-term survival and viability of the press over what could have been a lengthy and costly battle. (See "News" for more on Seal, Barbie, and Mattel.)

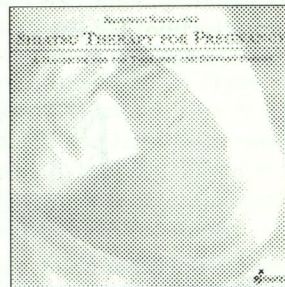
Fundraising is of the essence: Paris Press is involved in a major fundraising drive to support the poetry and literary work it publishes. So is early women's liberation group, Redstockings, which celebrated its 30th anniversary last year. Redstockings is raising money to support an archive of women's liberation materials. You can reach Paris Press at PO Box 487, Ashfield MA 01330; 413-628-0051, email <parispr@crocker.com>. Redstockings is at the Archives for Action Distribution Project, PO Box 2625, Gainesville FL 32602; 352-373-4841, <www.afn.org/~redstock>. ○

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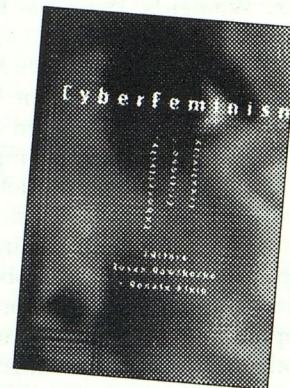
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# ZINE UPDATE

By Teri Mae Rutledge

This update was inspired by a hodgepodge of feminist zines that have entered my world via *FBN's* PO Box and the World Wide Web. Zines are wonderful and unique things to stock, and they can draw new customers, particularly young readers. The salability of zines hasn't escaped "legitimate" publishers, who have published books collecting work from zines like *Bust* and *FatSo* and writing by many a zine creator.

Zines can present a conundrum for booksellers, though. Zine distributors sometimes refuse discounts to bookstores, causing stores to raise prices to make a profit and making customers feel that they're getting ripped off. Zines are generally priced at a break-even point or lower; it's a medium more designed to get the word out than to make money for the creators. Providing an additional bookseller discount is hard for zine makers/distros to do and often isn't part of their agenda. Ordering directly from the zine creators usually can ensure a discount, but the process of ordering zine-by-zine is time-consuming.

I, however, remain committed to zines. As the base of power in the publishing world shrinks ever more, edgy, good, risky, feminist work is less and less likely to come from publisher's row. As publishing in the mainstream increasingly means that aspiring authors *must* hire an agent; when making it beyond the midlist graveyard means authors *must* hire independent publicists to boost their careers, things like zines become a very important forum for those of us who have not the financial resources to participate in such a system. And as purveyors of radical literature, feminist booksellers should herald zines as the voices

from the edge, the voices of the young, and the voices of the economically not-as-privileged.

There's no underestimating the new audience that zines can bring to one's store. Their presence can spark the interest of a new generation of feminist book buyers. And a strong unique feminist zine section is something that your local Borders isn't going to have.

Granted, if a store isn't at least marginally committed to maintaining a good zine section, zines won't sell. With that in mind, I talked to Kevin Sampsell, who oversees the huge and successful zine section at Powell's City of Books (Portland OR), about stocking and marketing zines. Incidentally, In Other Words of Portland also has a great feminist zine section, one of many aspects of the store that appeals to a younger clientele.

Powell's orders many zines directly from the zine creators, and they get standard discounts of 40 percent, though Sampsell is willing to take as little as a 20 or 25 percent discount for some zines. He says that the policy at Powell's is to buy the zines outright, so that the zine people get their money right away. This makes the zine people more amenable to placing their zines at Powell's; they don't have to put out a lot of cash for production in order to meet the demand of an order. Powell's also orders zines from Small Press Distribution, AK Press, and Desert Moon.

Sampsell has some inexpensive marketing ideas that make the zines stand out in the store. First of all,



he suggests that booksellers not segregate zines from magazines. Powell's used to shelve zines with the small press books prior to Powell's big renovation/expansion. Now zines and magazines live in the same room. It's perhaps an obvious point, but when your customers decide that they want to expand their lesbo sex-periodical collection beyond *On Our Backs*, you should have *The Volcano* near their itchy fingers. (Another shameless plug for this zine: *The Volcano* is still available from former FBN office wiz, Kristin Redmon. There is a new issue at press as we speak. Stay tuned. The Volcano, PO Box 682, Madison WI 53701; email <thevolcano@hotmail.com>. Also available from AK Press.) Also, there are a lot of great zines that flirt with legitimacy (Are they zines or magazines?) like *Bust* and *Bitch*. Certainly, those sharp feminist pop-culture zines need to be shelved next to *Ms.* And the many zines by younger women should be served up in the space you used to shelve *Hues*.

Another low-cost marketing tip for zines is shelf talkers. Sampsell has pretty much filled Powell's zine section with shelf talkers. For a genre of media whose content isn't always self-evident, this seemed like a fabulous strategy to me.

Sampsell also features zines and small press books in a special section. This is a way to draw attention to a few zines, and has also gotten great results thus far.

Finally, Sampsell is doing a one-page, monthly newsletter on small press books and zines called *The Umbrella*. In it, he provides paragraph-long blurbs featuring some of the zines at Powell's. The store's graphic designer laid the newsletter out and produced 300 copies on the store's copier, making *The Umbrella* another fairly low-cost way to market zines. *The Umbrella* is free and featured prominently in Powell's zine section.

Sampsell's biggest advantage in selling zines is his obvious love for them. His enthusiasm is infectious — his shelf talkers and zine reviews are both informative and entertaining. He feels that zines will sell themselves. "Once people start reading one and like it, they'll get to the ads in the back, which will lead them to another zine."

## ZINE REVIEWS


I'm pleased to announce a new (to me) catalog of anarchist/lefty/feminist zines from Illinois. Among the many zines about anarchy and a *huge* section of zines from prisoners is a fairly interesting feminist section. Order or stock the 40-page catalog by sending \$2 to South Chicago ABC Zine Distro, PO Box 721, Homewood IL 60430. You can find ABC Zine Distro on the Web at <<http://members.xoom.com/thoughtbombs>>.

Anthony Grayson of ABC was wonderfully patient with all my questions about discounts and my ruminations on zines in feminist bookstores. His role as a zine distro is certainly not informed by capitalist ideals; he just wants to get the zines into the world. In keeping with that, Rayson prints the addresses of each zine in his catalog so that people can order from ABC or direct from the zine creators. I've also printed the address of each zine creator (when available) for stores that want to order direct. As I mentioned, Rayson distributes a lot of work by prisoners, and he sends many prison zines free to other prisoners. He is also unabashedly anti-copyright (making my publisher sensibilities hackle a bit) and suggests

that if a bookstore wants a big order (like 30), he'll just send a master copy so that the store can copy the rest themselves and keep all monies accrued. Which is an awfully nice deal for bookstores. "Zines should be free — like everything else," he says. He also offers discounts to booksellers for smaller orders of five or ten.

From ABC Zine Distro: **Cyanide number two, resist psychic death** is "72 pages of d.i.y. feminist explosiveness. Lynn is a brilliant, deaf, Chinese, lesbian, violin-playing high schooler who has an ocean of things to say. She's now at university. This baby should be required reading. A zine classic." \$2.

Chalm Media Press explores the sexist history of Tampax Inc. and explains the dangers of corporate menstrual products including toxic shock syndrome in **The Period Conspiracy**. There's also an alternative menstrual product list. Send stamp for zine. Chalm Media Press, 2504 Ravencroft Ct., Virginia Beach VA 23454; email <[cooties@rocketmail.com](mailto:cooties@rocketmail.com)>, <<http://cooties.punkrock.ne>>.

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2000

Breen Casey has produced a passionate and informative zine on everything from prisoner's issues to animal stories to book reviews with **Disgusted Life #5**. \$1. Breen Casey, 3229 Dawson St., Pittsburgh PA 15213.

**Witch Hunt** is a feminist zine covering a great range of issues. Cari B. does some reprints of articles from other zines, lots of handmade graphics, and some cut-and-paste material in a zine clinic. ABC mentions that Cari also provides a lot of contact info. \$2.

**(Re)Sisters** is a publication from the San Diego State Women's Resource Center, also edited by Cari B. It has a more professional look to it because she was able to utilize the university's resources. Also adamant, full of info and underground graphics. Includes a page of recommended Web sites. \$2.

Bikini Kill, the riot grrrl band out of Olympia, has put together **Bikini Kill: A Color and Activity Book** with information on the band, lyrics, feminist arguments, graphics, contacts, and more. Bikini Kill c/o Kill Rock Stars, 120 NE State #418, Olympia WA 98501.

**Body Count/Fem-uh-nist, Summer 1998** is a split zine (two zines in one!). Those involved are self-proclaimed "pistolpackin', tampon-slingin' angry punk rock girls." Articles on everything from "What Do You Call a Womun" to "HIV and AIDS: Get the Facts" to zine, book, and music reviews. Lots of content here for your dollar. **Body Count/Fem-uh-nist, Episode 2** is more in-your-face anarcho-feminist writing. Each issue \$2. Body Count, 730 Riddle Rd. #208, Cincinnati OH 45220; email <femuhnist@aol.com>. They also distribute. **Body Count** and many other feminist zines are available from Bitch Distro (see listings below).

Four zines for \$1! **Insisterhood I, II, III, and IV** are passionate arguments about the way male-dominated society and the Christian religion have combined to keep women oppressed. Lots of graphics and contacts for info about rape, assault, and health concerns. All four for \$1. Insisterhood, RR#1 Heather Site C-69, Sechelt BC V0N 3A0, Canada.

In **Starlight #3**, Yael Grauer attacks many

enormous and ambitious themes including U.S. militarism, the status of women, Food Not Bombs, the destruction of the environment, overcoming male oppression, police brutality, human rights, and more.

Phew! \$1. Yael Grauer, Shimer College, Box 500, Waukegan IL 60079.

[All of the above zines may be ordered direct — when contact info is provided — or through ABC Distro.]

**Ruthie: a female voice, a feminist perspective** is a great monthly zine published out of Calgary, Alberta, available directly from the publisher. Issues are themed; last fall there was an issue on pornography and another on single life. I liked the

breadth of the articles, and I liked the regular magazine-y features like "Dear Ruthie," "Whoreascopes," and "Herstory." This is a great zine for your younger zine-reading audience. The writing ranges from fair to really great, and I love the ambitious topics handled in these pages. Recommended. \$2. Ruthie, #28, 101A-601 17th Ave. SW, Calgary AB T2S 0B3; phone/fax 403-228-5793, email <ruthie@3web.net>.

Bitch Distro is run by the women who produce **Body Count/Fem-uh-nist**. It's a distro that mostly sells to individuals, so they don't really do discounts. But their list is just so interesting to me that I've got to include some of it. The best way to check out Bitch is through its Web site, <<http://surf.to/unitedgirlfront>>. Bitch Distro, 730 Riddle Rd. #208, Cincinnati OH 45220; email <bitchdistro@urlmail.com>.

**The Air I Breathe** has an "old-school" photo of Madonna on the cover (from the *Like a Virgin* days? One can only hope — Oh, those yummy rubber bracelets...). Contains writing about failed love, Madonna idolatry, anger and self-loathing, gays and lesbians in the media, fear of mental illness, music reviews, art as a means of survival, and more. \$1, Z-001. Include \$.55 for postage.

**HeartattaCk Issue 19**. Created by Laura, who does *The Air I Breathe*. Includes music and zine reviews; "Tall Tales"; a column about smoking, and

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**There's no  
underestimating  
the new audience  
that zines  
can bring  
to one's store.**

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an interview with Converge. \$.50, Z-016, 72 pp. Include \$1.21 for postage.

**HeartattaCk Issue 22** is themed, "Vulvalution: A Woman's Issue." How could you not stock that? \$.50, Z-018, 92 pp. Include \$1.21 for postage.

**Tales of a Punk Rock Mama Issue 1** is a zine by, for, and about punk parents. Handwritten by a woman in Vancouver. An amazing range of issues in this 64-page, handwritten zine. \$.3, Z-057. Include \$.77 for postage.

**Wimmin's Alternative Menstrual Health** was created for the Southern Girls Convention. Reports what the FDA has to say about tampons and has info on alternative menstrual products, PMS, TSS, and examining your breasts. There are even patterns for making your own pads. \$.2, Z-058. Include \$.99 for postage.

**Femme Menstruation Nation** includes info about cramps, late periods, and alternative menstrual products. \$.1, Z-013. Include \$.33 for postage.

**My Life as a Goddess (Exodus)**, issues 2, 3, and 4. This is a punk feminist zine with short fiction and music reviews and articles on riot grrrls, freedom of speech, veganism, anarchy, tampons and TSS, grrrl power, assault on women, bisexuality, gender issues, masturbation, and zine culture. Wow. Each \$.1. Issue 2: Z-028. Issue 3: Z-029. Issue 4: Z-030. Include \$.77 each for postage.

**One Bedroom Apartment Issue 1** has info on Joan Jett, tampons, the keeper, sex, the Spice Girls, housewives, and abortion as well as Web page and book reviews, violence against women statistics, poetry, and so much more. \$.2, Z-035. Include \$.77 for postage.

**One Bedroom Apartment Issue 2** has more on the Spice Girls and (a few highlights) "when girls violate girls," "punk as fuck," "born under a bad sign," and again much much more. \$.2, Z-036. Include \$.77 for postage.

**Slutwhorebitch** includes an "Anti-Pleasure Dissertation," an article on fat oppression, another article entitled "Abortion is Biblical," and more. \$.1, Z-040. Include \$.55 for postage.

**The Vegetable Inside Us All Issue 8** is the sex, violence, and antisocial behavior issue. Has articles on paper addiction, Jerry Springer, Monica Lewinsky, masturbation, college athletes, prostitution, etc. \$.1,

Z-048. Include \$.55 for postage.

**Fight the White** was written for the Confronting Whiteness Conference held at the University of Chicago in 1998. \$.2, Z-014. Include \$.77 for postage.

**Anti-Racist Action Packet** and **Anti-Racist Action Primer** includes info on how to fight racism and identify fascists, as well as articles on anarchism, the Klan, Copwatch programs, and more. **Packet**: \$.3, Z-002. Include \$1.21 for postage. **Primer**: \$.2, Z-003. Include \$.77 for postage.

**White Trash Diaries #2/Canned Under Authority #1** is a split zine from Arkansas that covers living an alternative lifestyle, online freedom of speech, thoughts on diets, thoughts on punks, welfare reform, potty words, prostitution, and the death of the father. \$.1, Z-050. Include \$.55 for postage.

**Sammy's Got Hemroids Issue 6** is the *Tank Girl* issue. This issue slams Courtney Love, interviews Kathleen Hanna, and talks about racism/discrimination and date rape, the zine scene, art, and religion. \$.1, Z-055. Include \$.66 for postage.

**Gender Bias and Sexism in the Elementary Classroom** talks about how girls get screwed out of a decent education and what readers can do about it. \$.1, Z-016. Include \$.55 for postage.

**Body Count/Fem-uh-nist**, issues 2, 3, and 4. See description above. Issues 2 and 3 are \$2 each (Z-004 and -005, respectively) and should include \$.77 for postage. Issue 4 is \$1 (Z-054) and should include \$.33 for postage.

**Brat Issue 8** talks about youth violence, pirate radio, hip-hop, school "democracy," welfare myths, graffiti art, how to make a zine, emergency contraception, unschooling, reviews, rants, comics, and more. \$.2, Z-056. Include \$.99 for postage.

**Deconstruction Issue 1** is written in a journal format, with poetry and prose about self-mutilation. Includes a resource section. \$.1, Z-009. Include \$.55 for postage.

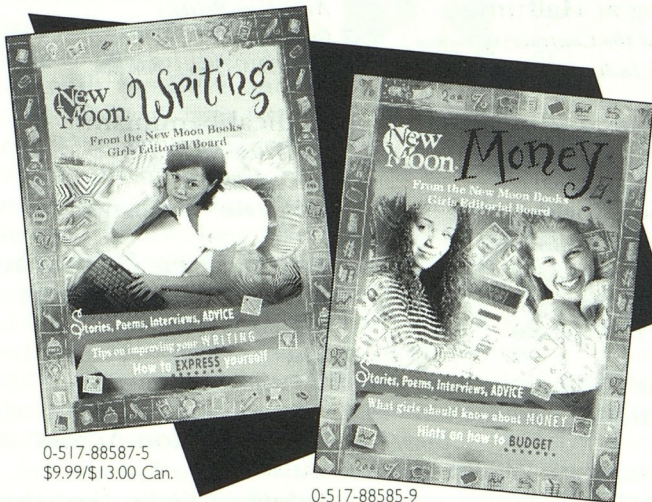
**Jurm**, issues 1 and 2. On — really — germs. The first one is pretty basic education, the second goes into more depth. I'm listing it because how obsessive these little zines make you so tickles the Bitch girls; also I'm thinking of my favorite maniacally anti-dirt friends. Both issues are free, Z-025 and -026, respectively. Include \$.33 each for postage. ○



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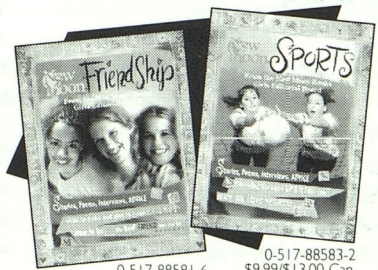


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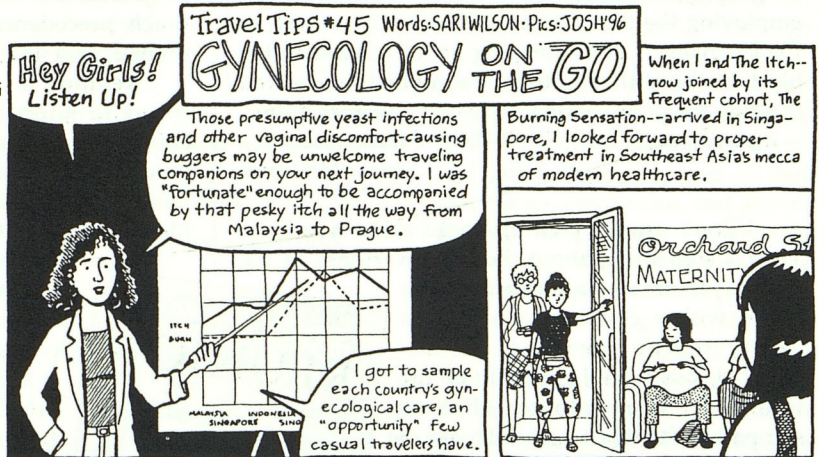


# SHORT RAVES

Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

I sold an impressive number of Michelle Tea's first book, *The Passionate Mistakes and Intricate Corruption of One Girl in America* to happy blue-haired queer girls who beamed as they walked away with the little underground goodie all their friends were talking about. They sort of looked as if they'd just scored some really good drugs. Reading her new book, *Valencia*, kind of makes you feel like you did. Tea is an all-around whiskey-swilling, word-wielding queer-girl role model (sort of) whose credentials read as follows: she's the cofounder of Sister Spit (the traveling girl-poetry road show), the recipient of the 1996 Cable Car Award for Best Critic (for her writing in the San Francisco *Bay Times*), and the winner of the 1999 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award.

In *Valencia*, Tea provides a look into her raunchy, urgent, and, yes, poetic Mission-dyke life. Lots of crazy hairdos, lots of sexy girls, lots of cheap liquor, lots of naughty sex, lots of dyke drama, and lots of broken hearts (mostly Tea's) all wrapped up in short story-like chapters named for the girls that Tea is obsessed with, and in some cases in love with. Tea is clever, perceptive, and at times knock-down drag-out funny. Tea's middle-of-the-night "break-ins" to host zine parties in the office of the labor union where she once worked were my favorite. Each partyer was obliged to contribute to a zine something they wrote on the fancy computers and Xeroxed for free on the office photocopiers in the first light of morning. Another highlight is Tea's assessment that "Dykes are really sceney everywhere, not just San



From Maxine, in *From Girls to Grrrlz, The History of Women's Comics From Teens to Zines* (Chronicle Books)

Francisco. If you don't think so it's just cause you are part of the scene."

In *Valencia*, Tea manages to distill the raunchy sex and fast-paced, generally outrageous queer-girl mecca of San Francisco so you can have it all without having to dye your hair pink, deal with the SF housing shortage, or weather the hangover the next day. \$13 pb, 1-58005-035-2, May, Seal Press. Distributed by PGW.

—Kristin Redmon  
*A Room of One's Own/Madison WI*

**The Good Listener: Helen Bamber, A Life Against Cruelty** by Neil Belton is an account of a half-century of political atrocities and the life of one woman who has dedicated herself to taking a stand against them. Helen Bamber was raised in a safe, respectable neighborhood in London, but, as the descendant of a Polish Jewish family that had fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe, she grew up certain that war and genocide were inevitable. In 1945, at the age of twenty, Bamber was a member of one of the first rehabilitation teams to enter the concentration camp

at Belsen. She returned to England two years later and helped orphan children who had survived the camps adjust to a new life. Bamber joined the newly founded Amnesty International in 1961, and since 1985 has led the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture. "**The Good Listener** straddles the genres of biography, history, and reflective moral essay, employing the techniques of the novelist as well as the journalist.... A challenging act of witness to the bleak truths of this century's recent history, viewed through the prism of one exceptional woman's life." —*Irish Times*. \$27 cl, 0-375-40100-8, Pantheon.

—Lisa McGowan

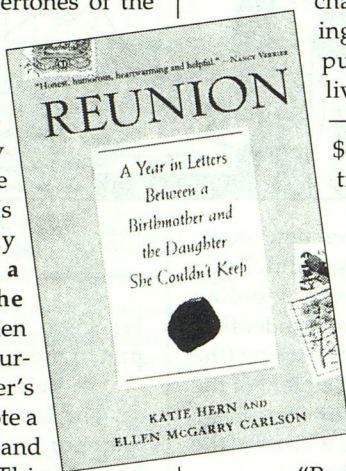
I don't usually pick up books about adoption. There's something about the epic overtones of the pop-psychoanalysis, abandonment issues with a capital *a*, that makes pretty tedious reading for me. Granted, this would probably be different if I were adopted, but my sympathy of that fact does not make me pick up the books or tune in to Oprah's Mother's Day special. That's why **Reunion: A Year in Letters Between a Birthmother and the Daughter She Couldn't Keep** by Katie Hern and Ellen McGarry Carlson was such a lovely surprise. Hern tracked her birthmother's name down when she was 26. She wrote a letter to Carlson introducing herself and inviting further correspondence. This birthed a conversation through mail and email, and its first year is chronicled in **Reunion**.

The letters are, first of all, wonderfully well written. The small portraits and stories Carlson and Hern trade back and forth are subtle, telling glimpses into each woman's character, and they make this correspondence unfold with the quick intimacy of a good love story. The letters are frank, honest, and warm right from the start. Hern comes out to Carlson in the first letter, and some of the most amusing exchanges have to do with Carlson's frank questions on lesbian identity.

Naturally, for both women, there are issues to be addressed after the initial honeymoon period; Carlson dealt her whole life with the shame of being unwed and pregnant, and openly admitting Hern's

existence to some family members and friends was a hurdle for her. And Hern, too, does eventually stumble over the abandonment issue, but she does so from her very personal point of view, much removed from the meta-narrative tone that issue seems to take in the adoption genre. The relationship Hern and Carlson forge is hard to classify; it's not a relationship that has much precedence, and its strength and flavor is unique. And its formation is fascinating.

**Reunion** is a book I would (naturally) recommend to adoptees, women who gave up their children for adoption, and adoptive parents, but I would also recommend it to general fiction and memoir readers. Also, I'm thinking this would be an ideal Mother's Day book. Finally, if you have the chance to book Hern or Carlson for a reading, do it. I've heard Hern read, and my publicist cockles were warmed by the lively, personal discussion she fostered — and the high sales that were its result. \$16.95 pb, 1-58225-030-1. Seal Press, distributed by PGW.



This next "book" has a format at least as innovative as its content: Espresso Press' **The History of Panty Hose in America** edited by B.C. Brown comes in a panty hose packet-like package which boasts, "Breakthrough Technology Reveals the Women Inside," "Now Sheerer Than Ever,"

"Perfect for Day or Evening," and "Silky." Inside, on broadsides looking suspiciously like the shape holders in panty hose packets, are nine stories that deal with the synthetic second skin that so many women don every day of their professional lives.

The stories range from pretty good to clever as hell and play on the personal and cultural importance of hosiery. There are a few that consider the real, cultural, bizarre necessity of wearing panty hose; others are radical and flagrant fantasies about alternative uses for hosiery: robbery, fishing on a deserted island after a plane crash, as a polymer for an alien whose human skin-suit has ruptured. There are at least a couple of references to the mythical, magical golden eggs from which hosiery hatches. There's a treatise about the *right way* and the *wrong way* to put it on. And there is a mythological, evolutionary account of panty hose's birth.

In the midst of Jodi Cohen's page-long, fictional, and fatal description of putting on panty hose is this little gem of a parenthetical: "Simone always wondered what would happen if a spaceship from another planet landed in the room when she was putting on her panty hose. After the creatures on board observed her attempt to cover her real life-size body with a fake nylon plastic covering barely large enough to wrap up some leftovers in, what could they possibly think of our species?"

This is a wonderfully energetic, creative, and acerbic collection on a manmade product that's flimsy and porous as a sieve, yet saturated with cultural meaning. And an absolutely smart design. This is worth the effort to order. Bookstore discount: 40%. \$10, 0-9672466-0-1. Espresso Press, PO Box 2042, Madison WI 53701; 608-249-8897, Web site <www.espressopress.com>.

**In From Girls to Grrrlz: A History of Women's Comics from Teens to Zines**, Trina Robbins, author of a great many books on women cartoonists and editor of the first all-women comic book, provides a 50-year history of comics for girls and women. Her chapters cover four comic genres: Girl Comics (1941–1957), Women's Comics (1947–1957), Womyn's Comix (1970–1989), and Grrrlz's Comix (the 1990s).

From the world of Betty and Veronica, Little Dot, and Josie and the Pussycats to the world of Hot-Head, Bitchy Bitch, and Little Goth, Robbins has enthusiasm, expertise to spare, and a fabulous analysis of comics for females. I expected to get a big old hit of nostalgic camp from Archie and the gang, confessional comics, and women's lib comics from the 70s. Certainly, I got it: Robbins generously provided strips on just about every page of the book. But I also got an extremely solid analysis on the role of women's

comics (the good, the bad, and the merely trite) within pop culture, the author's genuine affection for the quirks and successes of each comic genre, and a whole lot of information that I just didn't know. Robbins displays her usual expertise and joy on this subject, and Chronicle provides its typically amazing layout. \$17.95 pb, 0-8118-2199-4, Chronicle.

—Teri Mae Rutledge

I've been loving *Janet, My Mother, and Me*, William Murray's memoir of growing up with his

mother, Natalia Danesi Murray, and Janet Flanner — and of their marvelous, passionate, and stormy 38 year relationship. Flanner and Murray met at a party on Fire Island in 1940 (Flanner was 48 at the time). It was an evening that the then 14-year-old boy recalled vividly. "Janet dazzled me. She seemed to be the center of attention, as if a shaft of sunlight had singled her out.....The next day I asked my mother about her. 'Did you like her?' she inquired. 'She's the funniest woman I ever met,' Bill replied" What Natalia didn't tell him — at the time — was that after he left, she and Janet "had danced together, had drunk a lot, had toasted their mutual hatred of dictators, and had fallen in love." Natalia would later describe their meeting "as a *coup de foudre*, a thunderbolt that had instantly sent them rushing into each other's arms and forever altered their lives."

And so begins the story, the story of a relationship and of the lives of two passionate, fiercely independent women. "Young Bill" (now in his mid-seventies) does a wonderful job of re-creating their

lives and filling in the holes Natalia left in *Darlinghissima: Letters to a Friend*, the 500-page collection of Janet's letters to Natalia that she published in 1985 (Random House). Natalia quite intentionally left him their letters and her journals, clearly

---

*"I feel like a foreigner  
everywhere in life,  
unsatisfying, polygamous,  
neither Christian or pagan,  
neither good friend  
nor loyal lover,  
neither bold enough  
for my desires  
nor harsh enough  
to be responsible  
for my acts  
which I slip into  
like chasms.  
I am only sure that  
I have loved and  
that I do love."*

---

intending that he should celebrate their relationship to the world.

And he does. Bravely, directly, and unflinchingly. He describes the post-war crisis in their relationship after Janet had returned to Paris and Natalia couldn't find work in Europe; he writes, however briefly, of Janet's other relationships, of their respective struggles for their careers (both were feminist daughters of ardent feminists), of the lives they invented for themselves, of Janet's writing life and the conflicts it created for her, of their aging, and also, quite movingly, of their passion.

But the letters speak for themselves: an overworked and exhausted Flanner writes, in 1946, to her lover of their upcoming vacation together: "I am so tired and driven and worried that when I think of Capri and you and Teresina's cottage terrace it is like a remembered dream of reality. I feel like a foreigner everywhere in life, unsatisfying, polygamous, neither Christian or pagan, neither good friend nor loyal lover, neither bold enough for my desires nor harsh enough to be responsible for my acts which I slip into like chasms. I am only sure that I have loved and that I

do love. I have been what is called abnormal for so long, organically though that is a commonplace exception in nature which papal civilization has made a ridiculous and unscientific lot of fuss about, that I now accept the fact that I am also far more abnormal in my ability to love not too little, but too long, that it may be a burden which drives me crazy to love without stopping, even after sex stops, but that I do so continue to love those I have loved and I do love you.... I hope I make you happier than I am in this world...." She clearly writes herself out of her mood to end with, "You are a wonderful woman, Natalia, and I love you with my pain as well as my pleasure, my weakness as well as what is my windy strength. God bless you, my sweet. We shall walk up to Teresina's terrace together and lie down in the night and in the sun."

I loved learning that Flanner used the term, "a woman loving women" to describe herself. (Guess we didn't originate that phrase back in the 70s after all!) Or how about, "...the mad kindly tender joy only such love brings; it is a love which truly understands the beloved because there is no different ratio of reaction or character as between men and women. I feel it is the most equal and therefore the most powerful in its imaginative bliss and pain; each truly shares. I share, you share, I pay, you pay, my body is yours in our struggle for survival, at a distance for a few more months, as it is in love when we are alone...."

It would have been worth living on opposite sides of the Atlantic all those years to be the recipient of such letters! But what a gift it is now, in the midst of my own crazy life and career, to have such an intimate look at the lives of two women from the generation of lesbians who came before me. Gertrude Stein and the circle of women who escaped to Paris in the 20s were among my first lesbian role models. But what I've craved is the story of the other women, the working women who had to support themselves while inventing their lives. Women like booksellers Adrienne Monnier and Sylvia Beach — and Janet Flanner and Natalie Danesi Murray.

*Also highly recommended for anyone interested in the lives of children who grow up with lesbian mothers — and to other adult children of lesbians. It is also a wonderfully warm and reflective story of being a boy raised by two fiercely strong women. \$24 cl, 0-684-80966-4, Simon & Schuster.*  
—Carol Seajay O

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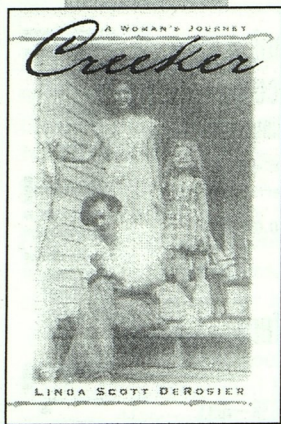
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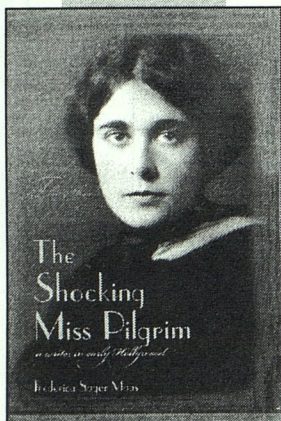
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# BESTSELLERS '99

Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

In addition to Richard Labonté's extensive annual listing of men's, women's, and all-gender titles, we've collected 1999 bestseller lists from three other stores.

## A Different Light West Hollywood and San Francisco

For the past several years, I've passed along rough and raw sales information from A Different Light's three stores for those readers who love the numbers. This year's edition follows, based on sales from January 1 to December 31, 1999 (but for only West Hollywood and San Francisco — a New York pre-Y2K computer crash scrubbed much of the data). The lines go like this: rank, title, author, price, binding, publisher, total sales. (A couple of anomalies: without NY sales to balance SF and WH, some San Francisco titles are higher than might be expected.... The Tales of the City series might be ranked lower, as would *Gay By the Bay*; and the William Gibson title was a bestseller at the San Francisco Bay Area Book Festival.)

—Richard Labonté, *A Different Light Bookstores*

### MEN'S TITLES

1. **Burning Plain**, Nava. \$5.99 pb, Bantam. Sales: 780.
2. **Finding the Boyfriend Within**, Gooch. \$21 cl, Simon & Schuster. Sales: 745.
3. **Are You Ready?** Isensee. \$13.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 656.
4. **Coming Out Spiritually**, de la Huerta. \$14.95 pb, Tarcher. Sales: 610.
5. **Gore Vidal Sexually Speaking: Collected Sex Writings**, Vidal. \$24.95 cl, Cleis. Sales: 587.
6. **Best Gay Erotica 1999**, Labonté. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 582.
7. **Meatmen 23**, Leyland. \$16.95 pb, Leyland. Sales: 394.



8. **Ins & Outs of Gay Sex**, Goldstone. \$12.95 pb, Dell. Sales: 350.
9. **That's Mister Faggot to You**, Ford. \$11.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 349.
10. **Best of the Superstars 2000**, Patrick. \$11.95 pb, Starbooks. Sales: 338.
11. **Openly Bob**, Smith. \$12.50 pb, Avon. Sales: 302.
12. **Abide with Me**, Harris. \$24.95 cl, Doubleday. Sales: 286.
13. **Death of Friends**, Nava. \$5.99 pb, Bantam. Sales: 282.
14. **In September the Light Changes**, Holleran. \$23.95 cl, Hyperion. Sales: 280.
15. **Mongrel**, Chin. \$11.95 pb, Griffin. Sales: 264.
16. **Military Trade**, Zeeland. \$19.95 pb, Haworth. Sales: 258.
17. **Twins Underhill**, Bruno. \$39.95 pb, Gmünder. Sales: 240.
18. **Allan Stein**, Stadler. \$22 pb, Grove. Sales: 238.
19. **Men on Men 7**, Bergman. \$13.95 pb, Plume. Sales: 230.
20. **Meatmen 22**, Leyland. \$16.95 pb, Leyland. Sales: 218.
21. **The Spell**, Hollinghurst. \$24.95 cl, Viking. Sales: 206.
22. **Queer Astrology for Men**, Dearman. \$13.95 pb, St. Martin's. Sales: 204.
23. **Friction 2**, Erich. \$14.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 200.
24. **Arrow's Flight**, Merlis. \$13.95 pb, Griffin. Sales: 182.
25. **Penis Book**, Cohen. \$9.95 pb, Koneman. Sales: 180.
26. **Love Between Men**, Isensee. \$12.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 180.

27. **Queer Dharma**, Leyland. \$19.95 pb, Gay Sunshine Press. Sales: 180.
28. **Queer Corners**, Olson. \$14.95 pb, Bridge City. Sales: 176.
29. **Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up**, Tobias. \$24.95 cl, Random House. Sales: 176.
30. **Book of Lies**, Picano. \$24.95 cl, Alyson. Sales: 174.
31. **Virgins Guerrillas & Locas: Gay Latinos Writing About Love**, Cortez. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 172.
32. **His 3**, Drake. \$15 pb, Faber & Faber. Sales: 172.
33. **Coming of the Night**, Rechy. \$24 cl, Grove. Sales: 172.

WOMEN'S TITLES

1. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1999**, Taormino. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 742.
2. **She Came in Drag**, Wings. \$6.50 pb, Berkley. Sales: 398.
3. **Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For**, Bechdel. \$10.95 pb, Firebrand. Sales: 367.

4. **Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians**, Pepper. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 323.
5. **Complete Hothead Paisan**, DiMassa. \$24.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 218.
6. **Aimee & Jaguar**, Fischer. \$12.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 197.
7. **Queer Astrology for Women**, Dearman. \$13.95 pb, St. Martin's. Sales: 196.
8. **Electric**, Foster. \$12.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 185.
9. **Best Lesbian Erotica 2000**, Taormino. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 164.
10. **To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America**, Faderman. \$30 cl, Houghton Mifflin. Sales: 160.
11. **Indelible Alison Bechdel**, Bechdel. \$16.95 pb, Firebrand. Sales: 159.
12. **Salt Water & Other Stories**, Wilson. \$12.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 148.
13. **She Came to the Castro**, Wings. \$5.99 pb, Berkley. Sales: 144.
14. **Female Masculinity**, Halberstam. \$17.95 pb, Duke University. Sales: 132.
15. **Murder on the Prowl**, Brown. \$6.99 pb, Bantam. Sales: 132.
16. **Cavedweller**, Allison. \$13.95 pb, Penguin. Sales: 131.
17. **Apparition Alley**, Forrest. \$5.99 pb, Berkley. Sales: 131.
18. **Strange Sisters**, Zimet. \$19.95 pb, Penguin. Sales: 130.
19. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1998**, Taormino. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 121.
20. **Hot Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out For**, Bechdel. \$10.95 pb, Firebrand. Sales: 120.
21. **Fragile Union**, Nestle. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 118.
22. **Survivor's Guide to Sex**, Haines. \$21.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 116.
23. **Stone Butch Blues**, Feinberg. \$13.95 pb, Firebrand. Sales: 110.
24. **Early Embraces 2**, Elder. \$12.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 106.
25. **Liberty Square**, Forrest. \$5.99 pb, Berkley. Sales: 105.
26. **Sleeping Bones**, Forrest. \$21.95 cl, Berkley. Sales: 104.
27. **Drag King Book**, Halberstam. \$25 pb, Serpent's Tail. Sales: 102.

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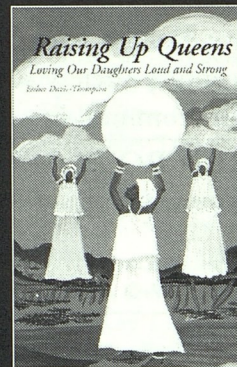
28. **Whole Lesbian Sex Book: A Passionate Guide for All of Us**, Newman. \$21.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 101.
29. **Case of the Good for Nothing Girlfriend**, Maney. \$14.95 pb, Cleis. Sales: 98.
30. **Passionate Mistakes & Intricate Corruption of One Girl in America**, Tea. \$8 pb, Semiotext(e). Sales: 96.
31. **Watermark**, Kallmaker. \$11.95 pb, Naiad. HSales: 94.
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1. **Healing HIV**, Kaiser. \$19.95 pb, Healthfirst. Sales: 442.
2. **All About Me**, Keel. \$12 pb, Broadway. Sales: 440.
3. **Savage Love**, Savage. \$12.95 pb, Plume. Sales: 388.
4. **What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality**, Helminiak. \$9.95 pb, Alamo Square. Sales: 319.
5. **Tales of the City**, Maupin. \$13 pb, HarperCollins. Sales: 296.
6. **Gay by the Bay**, Stryker. \$24.95 pb, Chronicle. Sales: 287.
7. **The Hours**, Cunningham. \$23 cl, Farrar Straus Giroux. Sales: 286.
8. **Naked**, Sedaris. \$13 pb, Little Brown. Sales: 216.
9. **The Kid**, Savage. \$22.95 cl, Dutton. Sales: 212.
10. **Four Steps to Financial Security for Lesbian and Gay Couples**, Lustig. \$14 pb, Fawcett. Sales: 210.
11. **Cybersocket Edition Y2K**, Cybersocket. \$9.95 pb, Gaynet. Sales: 185.
12. **All Tomorrow's Parties**, Gibson. \$24.95 cl, Putnam. Sales: 183.
13. **Gay & Lesbian Online, Third Edition**, Dawson. \$17.95 pb, Alyson. Sales: 165.
14. **Armistead Maupin**, Gale. \$9.95 pb, Outlines. Sales: 164.
15. **Gay & Lesbian Self Esteem Book**, Hardin. \$13.95 pb, New Harbinger. Sales: 153.
16. **Openly Gay, Openly Christian**, Kader. \$15.95 pb, Leyland. Sales: 153.
17. **Now That You Know**, Fairchild. \$13 pb, Harcourt Brace. Sales: 152.

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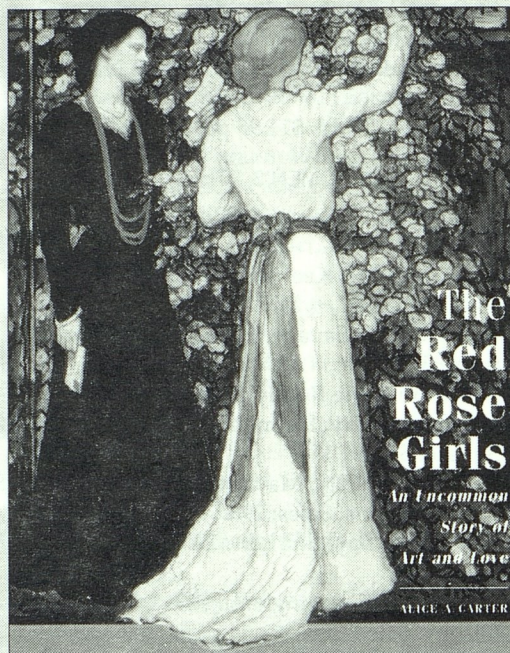
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6. **Girl, Interrupted** by Susanna Kaysen. \$12 pb, Random House.
7. **Murder Undercover** by Claire McNab. \$11.95 pb, Naiad.
8. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1999** edited by Tristan Taormino, selected and introduced by Chrystos. \$14.95 pb, Cleis Press.
9. **Girls Who Rocked the World** by Amelie Welden. \$8.95 pb, Beyond Words Publishing.
10. **Teresa of Avila: The Progress of a Soul** by Cathleen Medwick. \$26 cl, Random House.

## 1999 BESTSELLERS

1. **Cunt: A Declaration of Independence** by Inga Muscio. \$14.95 pb, Seal Press.
2. **Beautiful Necessity: The Art and Making of Women's Altars** by Kay Turner. \$19.95 pb, Thames and Hudson.
3. **Girl, Interrupted** by Susanna Kaysen. \$12 pb, Random House.
4. **Baby Precious Always Shines: Selected Love Notes Between Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas** by Kay Turner. \$17.95 cl, St. Martin's Press.
5. **Technology of Orgasm: "Hysteria," the Vibrator, and Women's Sexual Satisfaction** by Rachel P. Maines. \$22 pb, Johns Hopkins University Press.
5. **the bull-jean stories** by Sharon Bridgforth. \$12 pb, Red Bone Press.
6. **Set Up: Detective Inspector Carol Ashton Mystery** by Claire McNab. \$11.95 pb, Naiad.
7. **Peel My Love Like an Onion** by Ana Castillo. \$23.95 cl, Doubleday.
8. **Split-Level Dykes to Watch Out For** by Alison Bechdel. \$10.95 pb, Firebrand.
8. **Tree of Red Stars** by Tessa Bridal. \$13.95 pb, Milkweed Editions.
9. **Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver. \$14 pb, HarperCollins.
9. **First Comes Love** by Marion Winik. \$12 pb, Random House.

## Book•Woman

### Austin, TX

## DECEMBER 1999 BESTSELLERS

1. **Bone Black: A Memoir of a Girlhood** by bell hooks. \$11.95 pb, Henry Holt.
2. **Cunt: A Declaration of Independence** by Inga Muscio. \$14.95 pb, Seal Press.
3. **Beautiful Necessity: The Art and Making of Women's Altars** by Kay Turner. \$19.95 pb, Thames and Hudson.

10. **Cavedweller** by Dorothy Allison. \$13.95 pb, Plume.
10. **Caucasia** by Danzy Senna. \$12.95 pb, Riverhead.

### Orlando Books Edmonton AB, Canada

#### 1999 FICTION AND POETRY BESTSELLERS

1. **Boys Like Her** by Taste This. C\$19.95 pb.
2. **Season of Mercy** by Sally Ito. C\$11.95 pb.
3. **All the God-Sized Fruit** by Shawna Lemay. C\$16.95 pb.
4. **At the Full and Change of the Moon** by Dionne Brand. C\$32.95 cl.
5. **In Search of April Raintree**, a revised edition by Beatrice Culleton Mosionier and edited by Cheryl Suzack. C\$14.95 pb.
6. **My Paris** by Gail Scott. C\$17.50 pb.
7. **Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver. C\$20.95 pb.
8. **Floating Shore** by Sally Ito. C\$18.95 pb.
9. **Blue Place** by Nicola Griffith. C\$18 pb.
10. **Fifth Sacred Thing** by Starhawk. C\$19.95 pb.

#### 1999 NONFICTION BESTSELLERS

1. **Consciousness Rising** edited by Cheryl Malmo and Toni Laidlaw. C\$19.95 pb.
2. **Biopiracy** by Vandana Shiva. C\$19.95 pb.
3. **Book of Jessica** by Linda Griffiths and Maria Campbell. C\$16.95 pb.
4. **Musical Prodigies** by Claude Kenneson. C\$39.95 cl.
5. **Making of High-Performance Athletes** by Debra Shogan. C\$14.95 pb.
6. **Staying Alive: Women, Ecology & Development** by Vandana Shiva. C\$26.95 pb.
7. **Vagina Monologues** by Eve Ensler. C\$19.95 pb.
8. **Cunt: A Declaration of Independence** by Inga Muscio. C\$23 pb.
9. **Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom** by Christiane Northrup. C\$24.95 pb.
10. **Can You Listen to a Woman?** by David Forsee. \$18.95 pb.

### In Other Words

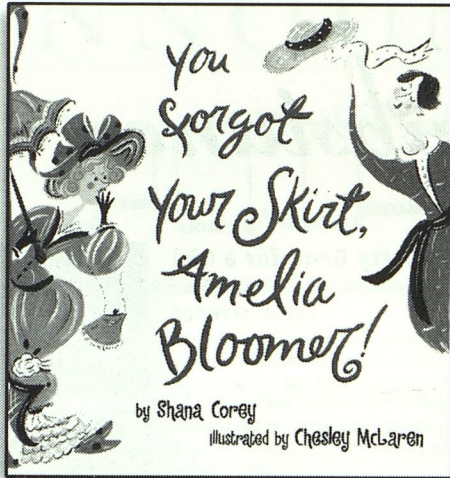
#### Portland, OR

#### 1999 FICTION BESTSELLERS

1. **The Second Coming of Curly Red** by Jody Seay. \$13.95 pb, Firebrand.
2. **The Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver. \$14 pb, HarperCollins.
3. **Gut Symmetries** by Jeannette Winterson. \$12 pb, Simon & Schuster.
4. **Cavedweller** by Dorothy Allison. \$13.95 pb, NAL/Dutton.
5. **Best Lesbian Erotica 1999** edited by Tristan Taormino. \$14.95 pb, Cleis Press.
6. **Last Standing Woman** by Winona LaDuke. \$22.95 cl, Voyageur Press.
7. **Homestead** by Rosina Lippi. \$12 pb, Houghton Mifflin.
8. **The Love of a Good Woman: Stories** by Alice Munro. \$13 pb, Vintage.
9. **Summer Sisters** by Judy Blume. \$7.50 pb, Dell.
10. **Close Range: Wyoming Stories** by Annie Proulx. \$25 cl, Scribner.

#### 1999 NONFICTION BESTSELLERS

1. **Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom** by Christiane Northrup, M.D. \$17.95 pb, Bantam.
2. **Cunt: A Declaration of Independence** by Inga Muscio. \$14.95 pb, Seal Press.
3. **Are You Somebody?** by Nuala O'Faolain. \$11.95 pb, Henry Holt.
4. **Imagine a Woman in Love with Herself: Embracing Your Wisdom and Wholeness.** \$14.95 pb, Conari.
5. **Apples and Oranges: My Journey Through Sexual Identity** by Jan Clausen. \$24 cl, Houghton Mifflin.
6. **Cool Women: The Reference** edited by Pam Nelson. \$19.95 pb, Girl Press.
7. **Listen Up: Voices from the Next Feminist Generation.** \$14.95 pb, Seal Press.
8. **Girl, Interrupted** by Susanna Kaysen. \$12 pb, Random House.
9. **The Bust Guide to the New Girl Order** edited by Debbie Stoller and Marcelle Karp. \$15.95 pb, Penguin.
10. **The Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians** by Rachel Pepper. \$14.95 pb, Cleis Press.



★“This is as deliciously subversive a picture book as has turned up in some time.”

—Booklist, starred review

◆“Corey and McLaren debut with a tale of an intelligent woman who had strong opinions and possessed the courage to express them...”

—Kirkus Reviews, pointer review

by Shana Corey

illustrated by Chesley McLaren

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Scholastic Press 

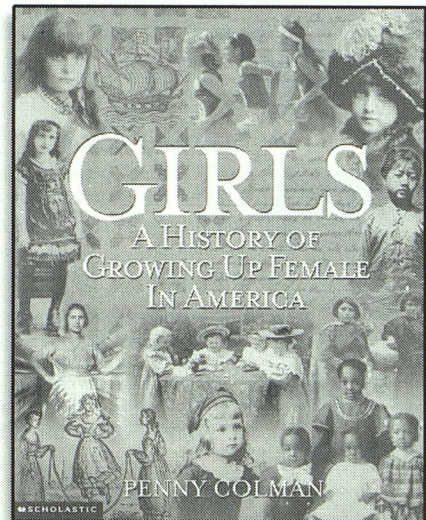
## Distinctive Books For Girls Of All Ages

“...(An) excellent overview of what it has meant to be a girl in this country, from pre-colonial times to the present....lively writing that is greatly enhanced by page after page of black-and-white photographs...A must-have.”

—Kirkus Reviews

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**SARAH BERRY**

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**LESLIE HEYWOOD**

"A stirring account of one female athlete's struggles in an arena defined by males. A rousing critique of what can go awry in the world of women athletes and a passionate plea to value sports for the sense of competence they can so often bring to young females."—Kirkus

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*The Invention of Dolores del Río* explores the intersection of ethnicity, gender, and stardom in American popular culture through the lens of del Río's successful and unusually lengthy career, which included international stardom and work with Hollywood's top directors and leading men.

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## Homeless Mothers

*Face to Face with Women and Poverty*

**DEBORAH R. CONNOLLY**

A first-person look at the challenges and cultural perceptions confronting homeless women. Both an anthropologist in the field and a social worker on the job, Deborah R. Connolly is ideally placed to draw out homeless women's life stories, the stories that our culture tells about them, and the revealing contradictions between the two.

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## The Daily Planet

*A Critic on the Capitalist Culture Beat*

**PATRICIA AUFDERHEIDE**

*Translated by Elizabeth Irene Libbrecht and Jim Cohen*

*The Daily Planet* is a long-awaited selection of Patricia Aufderheide's most important critical essays, updated and organized thematically to demonstrate the breadth of her thinking on media and film, public telecommunications policy, and contemporary society. The result is a pithy and provocative exploration of "the culture of daily life under capitalism."

\$19.95 Paper • ISBN 0-8166-3342-8  
Available March 2000

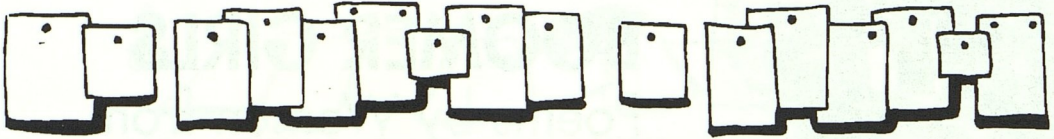
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www.upress.umn.edu

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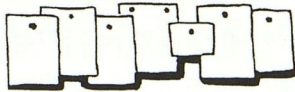
**MINNESOTA**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



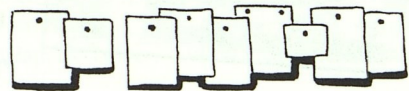
By Teri Mae Rutledge

The 24th annual WisCon: The Gathering of the Feminist Science Fiction Community is taking place May 26–29 at Madison's Concourse Hotel. This year's guests of honor are Charles de Lint and Jeanne Gomoll. WisCon is a festival where writers, editors, publishers, scholars, and artists from around the world discuss science fiction and fantasy with an emphasis on feminism, gender, race, and class. Early registration (before March 15) is \$30 per adult, registration before May 1 is \$40, and registration at the door is \$50. Organizers recommend early registration; there will be an 850-member cut-off for WisCon 24. For more information on registration and accommodations, contact WisCon, PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701; 608-233-8850, email <wiscon.concom@lists.best.com>. To discuss programming ideas, contact Debbie Notkin at the email or snail mail address.



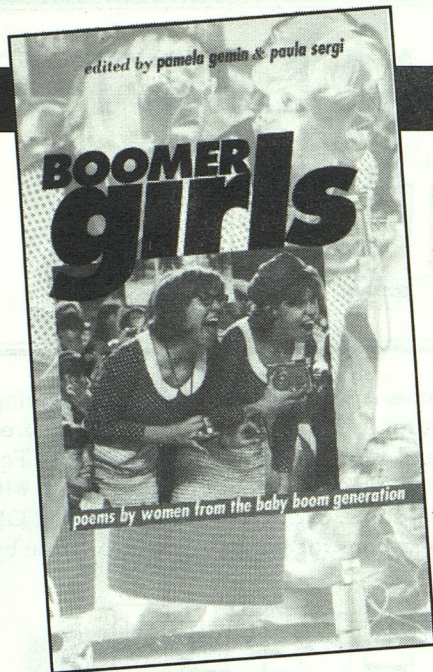
Flight of the Mind is now accepting applications for its annual summer workshop sessions. The workshops, which run June 16–23 and June 25–July 2, are as usual instructed by some pretty amazing writers including Grace Paley, Judith Barrington, Gish Jen, Dorianne Laux, Aleida Rodríguez, Marjorie Sandor, Helena Maria Viramontes, and Barbara Wilson. For more information, send a SASE to Flight of the Mind, 622 SE 29th Ave., Portland OR 94214. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 17.

Soapstone, A Writer's Retreat, is also accepting applications for its 2001 season. Residencies are free of charge and range from one to four weeks. For more information and an application, send a #10 SASE to Soapstone, 622 SE 29th Ave., Portland OR 97214. Applications for the 2001 season are due by August 15.



The Women's WORLD Program is an international free speech network of women writers and their supporters that fights the silencing of women. Established to support women who "produce works of art so powerful that they will forever change the way people think about class, race, sexuality, and gender" like Leslie Marmon Silko, Toni Morrison, and Ursula Le Guin, the network enables women to sustain each other when the backlash hits and to develop the means to ensure that women's words reach those who need them. Currently seeking to expand its staffing and projects, the organization has written a fundraising letter and drafted a five-year plan. Among its future projects: to develop an international distribution network for women's books for bettering knowledge and creating worldwide publicity of women's work; to start a Women's WORLD Institute in New York City, a site for seminars, events, writing workshops, a writer-in-residence retreat, and an Internet cafe; to produce a Web site; and to organize regional meetings of women writers. For more information or to make a donation to the project, contact

*See Announcements, page 66.*



**“like your old diaries . . . only better”**

# **BOOMER GIRLS**

## Poems by Women from the Baby Boom Generation

*Edited by Pamela Gemin & Paula Sergi*

“Where were you between Betty Crocker and Gloria Steinem?” The answers to that question fill the poems in this anthology with the energy, passion, heartbreak, and giddiness of women’s lives. From Elvis Presley to Janis Joplin, from hula hoops to Woodstock—the universal images and icons of the Boomer Generation reemerge in ways both hilarious and tender.

**“This impressive and enjoyable collection of poems sets off so many little explosions of buried memories and eerie sensations of déjāvū—it’s like reading your old diaries . . . only better.”**  
—Marly Swick, author of *The Summer Before the Summer of Love*

**“Here they come, the biggest, loudest voices in the millennial USA, and there is no avoiding their oomph and bravado—who would want to? Boomer girls rock and rule in this eclectic collection of the female vernacular. No tiny feet here (lots of stamping though)—listen up!”**  
—Maureen Seaton, author of *Furious Cooking*

October. \$44.95 cl 0-87745-698-4) • \$15.95 pa 0-87745-687-9

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HARRIET LEVIN  
DONNA MASINI  
ANGELA JACKSON

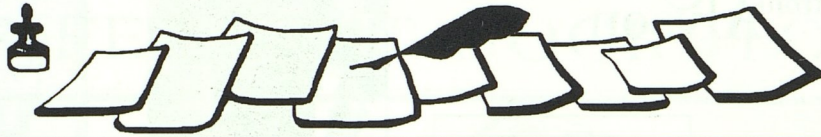
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# WRITING WANTED



By Teri Mae Rutledge

*Issues*, a brand-spanking new magazine by and for lesbians of color, is looking for writers. *Issues* will be a national publication offering popular culture, news, sports, and special features. The editors are looking for feature writers, columnists, photographers, and artists. Applicants should send writing samples, a brief bio or resume, and a statement about issues of interest to them to Issues Publishing Company, PMB #435, 484 Lake Park Ave., Oakland CA 94610.



Hanne Blank, the author of *Big Big Love: A Sourcebook on Sex for People of Size and Those Who Love Them* (see "Small Press") is compiling an anthology to be published by Cleis Press, *Zaftig: Well-Rounded Erotica*. Blank is seeking fiction from women or female-identified trans or intergendered persons of all shapes and sizes on "the joys, vicissitudes, triumphs, terrors, and torrid teasing titillations of making love with, to, and in bodies that aren't what society sees as 'perfect.'" Queer, straight, bi, trans, kinky, vanilla, polyamorous, monogamous, and even masturbation stories will all be considered. The stories should be affirming of body size diversity and have at least one character who is identified as being larger than average. Naturally, entries also need to be sexy. To get an idea of what Blank is looking for, you can read *Scarlet Letters*, stories on her *Zaftig!* Web site, <[www.xensei.com./users/zaftig](http://www.xensei.com./users/zaftig)>. For more information on sending work, visit <[www.hanne.net/anthology](http://www.hanne.net/anthology)> or write to the Well-Rounded

*Erotica Anthology*, *Zaftig Productions*, 54 Boynton St. 1st Fl., Boston MA 02130. Deadline April 15.

*Lesbian Writing Wanted*. Odd Girls Press is looking for fiction, mystery, historical fiction, suspense, fantasy, and science fiction. Full length books only, no short stories. For submission guidelines, send a SASE or visit the Web site and go to the submission guidelines Web page. Odd Girls Press, PO Box 2157, Anaheim CA 92814; email <[publisher@oddgirlspress.com](mailto:publisher@oddgirlspress.com)>, <[www.OddGirlsPress.com](http://www.OddGirlsPress.com)>.

Rainbow Pride Press is seeking stories for its upcoming book, *Journeys Across the Rainbow: Inspirational Stories for Gays and Lesbians*. Entries should be no more than 1,400 words, or between one and six pages. Entries should motivate, inspire, and uplift individuals. Original stories are preferred, but previously published work will be considered. Entries should also include a short biography. Send stories or queries to Rainbow Pride Press, "Journeys Across the Rainbow," 6525 Gunpark Dr. Ste. 150-117, Boulder CO 80301, or email to <[editorRPP@aol.com](mailto:editorRPP@aol.com)>. Deadline March 31.



Chinwe Odeluga has extended the deadline for entries for her poetry/health video. Odeluga is seeking poetry from lesbians and bisexual women of color on the topics of abuse, biphobia, breast cancer, chemical dependency, HIV/AIDS, lesbianphobia, racism, and sexism. Maximum three poems. Send to Chinwe Odeluga, 1941 Gaston Place Dr. #328, Austin TX 78723, or email to <[chinweodeluga@hotmail.com](mailto:chinweodeluga@hotmail.com)>. New deadline April 1. ○

# New this Spring from Alyson



## Out & About Campus

Personal Accounts by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered College Students  
Edited by Kim Howard & Annie Stevens

*Inspiring first-person accounts of coming out, being out, and staying out on campus*

"Through the richness of the voices of students, this collection offers poignant and powerful glimpses into the lives of LGBT people on campus." —Ronni Sanlo, author of *Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender College Students*

1-55583-480-9 • \$12.95  
April 2000



## No Mercy

Short Stories  
by Pat Califia

This long-awaited collection of short fiction by world-renowned author and activist Pat Califia combines pornography, science fiction, romance, fantasy, fairy tale, and horror into a potent cocktail for queer grown-ups who have been very, very bad and aren't one bit sorry. Continuing the boundary-smashing tradition of *Macho Sluts* and *Melting Point*, *No Mercy* is leather-flavored fiction without a safeword—smart, challenging, intellectual, funny, transgressive, and hotter than the gates of hell.

1-55583-542-2 • \$14.95  
June 2000



## The Silk Road

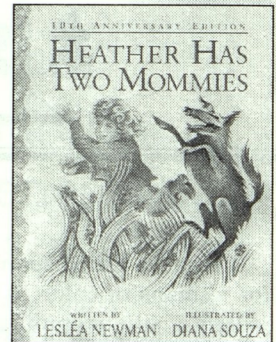
A Novel  
by Jane Summer

*An extraordinary encounter becomes an adventure into the fierce and tender heart.*

"Assisted by a veritable sex machine of a 440 Magnum V-8 Plymouth Barracuda, this narrative is an entirely original variation on the relentless theme of the seduction of the innocent old by the feral and Byronic young. Paige Bergman is a mesmerizing and unforgettable Lolita." —Bertha Harris, author of *The Lover*

"An engaging, endearing, enchanting first novel. Whether you're gay, straight, male, or female, you will love Paige Bergman, the coolest, fiercest, most screwed-up-yet-brilliant 15-year-old to ever make it through the 1970s." —William J. Mann, author of *The Men From the Boys* and *The Biograph Girl*

1-55583-549-X • \$12.95  
May 2000



## Heather Has Two Mommies

Tenth Anniversary Edition

by Lesléa Newman;  
Illustrated by Diana Souza

*\*The tenth anniversary celebration of the groundbreaking children's book.\**

The first title in Alyson's newly formed Alyson Wonderland imprint in 1990, the simple and straightforward story of a little girl named Heather and her two lesbian mothers was attacked by the religious right, lambasted by Jesse Helms from the floor of the U.S. Senate, and stolen from library shelves. Thanks to the overwhelming support of booksellers, librarians, parents, and children, however, *Heather Has Two Mommies* has sold over 30,000 copies and launched a minor industry in providing books for the children of gay and lesbian parents.

1-55583-543-0 • \$10.95 • Paper  
1-55583-570-8 • \$18.95 • Cloth  
June 2000



# GAY MEN'S LIT

## FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonté  
A Different Light Bookstores

This spring, there are a couple of dozen newer titles worth stocking in the gay books section.

First off, there are a number of paper editions of last year's popular titles....

**In September the Light Changes** by Andrew Holleran — Collected short stories from 20 years of this dazzling writer's work. He's certainly one of the gay male writer brand names. \$12.95, 0-452-28171-7, Penguin, May.

**The Spell** by Alan Hollinghurst — From an acclaimed British author, a skilled novel mixing romance and remembrance. \$12.95, 0-14-028637-3, Penguin, May.

**Frontiers** by Michael Jensen — This sweeping story, one of my favorites of last year, is a marvelous blend of pioneer history and heart-thudding passion...and it lets us know that Johnny Appleseed was a lover of men. \$13.95, 0-671-02721-2, Simon & Schuster, May.

**Sex Squad** by David Leddick — Not a lot of literary art here, but there is a lot of campy fun in Leddick's humorous tale of homo lust. \$12.95, 0-312-24326-X, St. Martin's.

**Burning Girl** by Ben Neihart — Another of my 1999 best reads, an intense tale about young women and men on the cusp of adulthood figuring out what they want from life. \$13, 0-688-17689-5, Morrow, April.

**Last Kabbalist in Lisbon** by Richard Zimler — As much historical thriller as fictional memoir, this *Umberto Eco*-esque tale is set in Lisbon. \$14.95, 1-58567-022-7, Putnam.

**Take the Young Stranger by the Hand** by John Donald Gustav-Wrathall — A serious but highly readable study of the role the YMCA has played in establishing a gay male topography of sex and

mentorship. \$15, 0-226-90785-6, University of Chicago Press, May.

**Fadeout** by Joseph Hansen — It's great that Alyson is reissuing the fabled Dave Brandstetter novels, which a couple of decades ago set the standard for gay-charactered mysteries. A must for any sleuth section. \$11.95, 1-55583-552-X, Alyson, May.

**Justice at Risk** by John Morgan Wilson — Mass market edition of the third in a West Hollywood-set series featuring a former newspaper reporter solving atmospheric murders, accompanied by a sassy female sidekick. \$6.50, 0-553-57860-X, Bantam, May.

**Velveteen Father** by Jesse Green — A gay man "marries" into children; a gracious, compelling writer documents the blossoming of his joy at gay parenting. \$14, 0-345-43709-8, Ballantine, May.

**Field Guide to the Soul: A Down-to-Earth Handbook of Spiritual Practice** by James Thornton — Though not aimed directly at a gay audience, this clear-eyed author's take on self-discovery and inner peace is all-inclusive (and two of the author's favorite authors are Jim Grimsley and Michael Nava). \$12, 0-609-80392-1, Bell Tower.



And some new titles...

**Mr. Right Is Out There: The Gay Man's Guide to Finding and Maintaining Love** by Kenneth D. George — Every season there seems to be yet another "boyfriend" book, and since they all sell, they're certainly fulfilling a need; this one manages to be both cheery and serious about meeting and keeping the men of one's dreams. \$13.95 pb, 1-55583-506-6, Alyson, April.

**Beautiful Twisted Night** by Marc Almond — First U.S. edition of a novel by the man who was Soft

Cell, the British group whose "Tainted Love" was a hit many years ago. We all knew he was queer: here's a thinly veiled fictional memoir. \$18 pb, 1-84166-023-X, Ellipses/Norton, April.

**Ratz Are Nice (PSP)** by Lawrence Ytzhak Braithwaite — From the author of the legendary *Wigger* (out of print), a fast, furious, and intensely complex novel about the lives of young Blacks and skins, some gay, some not, on the streets. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-554-6, Alyson, April.

**Period** by Dennis Cooper — The last in Cooper's controversial inter-linked novels (*Closer*, *Fris*, *Try*, *Guide*) dealing with the hypnotic overlay of pain with passion, death with love, obsession with aloofness. \$21 cl, 0-8021-1656-6, Grove.

**Fabulous Hell** by Craig Curtis — Not many novels are light and fluffy and deadly serious at the same time, but this story of a lost soul's struggle with addiction and AIDS is fast-lane reading at its best. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-479-5, Alyson, April.

**War Boy** by Keif Hillbery — The speedy, tangled-limb landscape of the fraternity of alienated youth is the backdrop for this hyper-intense debut novel about girls and boys figuring out who they are and where they belong from a writer already justly compared to Dale Peck. \$24 cl, 0-688-17141-9, Morrow, April.

**The New York Years** by Felice Picano — From the author of the novel *The Book of Lies* and the memoirs *Ambidextrous* and *A House on the Ocean*, *A House on the Bay*, a collection of fables and short stories from the early years of gay publishing (and life) in NYC. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-522-8, Alyson, May.

**Honor the Dead** by Steve Saylor — In a gripping departure from his ancient Rome-set series, a master storyteller turns to the Texas of his lifetime for a modern-day thriller. \$24 cl, 0-684-85681-6, Simon & Schuster, May.

**Is He Gay?** by Ed Baker and Chris Busick — Like the "boyfriend" book, this type of humorous guide to gay foibles for straight women (and even men) has become a popular new genre. \$10 pb, 0-688-86793-1, Simon & Schuster, April.

**Hedwig and the Angry Inch** by John Cameron Mitchell — Script of the acclaimed gender-bending musical that took New York by storm. \$19.95 pb, 1-58567-034-0, Putnam, May.

**Plasticville** by David Trinidad — New poetry from a writer who blends the playful and the sublime

with great power. \$14.99 pb, 1-885983-46-8, Turtle Point/DAP.

**Trailblazing: The True Story of America's First Openly Gay Track Coach** by Eric Anderson — Biography of a real-life Front Runner, an inspiring account of a proudly out track coach and his devoted athletes. \$13.95 pb, 1-55583-524-4, Alyson, May.

**Dancing Naked** by Robert Hodgson Van Wagoner — If there's a book every bookstore reading these blurbs should stock, this is it: set in Salt Lake City, this is the introspective, alert story of a homophobic, non-practicing Mormon professor's reaction to the self-strangulation of the gay teenage son everyone, including his best friend of 20 years, himself a gay but married Mormon, knew about but him. \$20.95 cl, 1-56085-130-9, Signature Books.

**Golden Men: The Power of Gay Midlife** by Harold Kooden with Charles Flowers — Do the math: many of us were in our early to mid 20s in the early to mid 70s, and now we're in our 50-plus years and of course midlife matters to us...so, in the wake of Rik Isensee's bestselling trendsetting *Are You Ready?* comes this anecdotal/analytical guide to queer golden years, an important addition to a short shelf of gay male aging books. \$21 cl, 0-380-80443-3, Avon. ○

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### Announcements, continued from page 61.

Women's World Organization for Rights, Literature, and Development, 208 West 30th St. #901, NY NY 10001; 212-947-2915, fax 212-947-2973, email <wworld@igc.org>.

Attention media-owned periodicals that are operated primarily by, for, and about women: The Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press wants to hear from you. The institute is assembling a new edition of the *Directory of Women's Media*, published originally in 1975. It will be a small edition that only includes periodicals. The institute is also planning expanded coverage of women's media (i.e. presses, publishers, news services, media organizations, and film groups) in the future. To get an email copy of the questionnaire, periodical publishers should send a query to <wifpresearch@mindspring.com>, attention: interns. Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, 3306 Ross Pl. NW, Washington DC 20008; 202-966-7783, <www.igc.org/wifp>. ○

# AmazonNOTcom

## and the Survival of Community Culture

By Anne Newkirk Niven

*The following article was reprinted for the Feminist Bookstore News with permission from PanGaia: Earthwise Spirituality, a quarterly publication for Gaians, Pagans, and earth-loving women and men.*

Is the threat real?

In spite of propaganda to the contrary, the threat of e-tailers and chain stores to the independent bookselling community is extremely real. I've seen many of the first bookstores to carry *SageWoman* and *PanGaia* go out of business in the last few years. Bookstores come and go, it's true, but the independent bookstore (like many other small businesses in the era of Wal-Martization) is rapidly becoming an endangered species. (For more information on the threat to independent bookstores, see the ABA Web site at <[www.bookweb.org](http://www.bookweb.org)> or call 800-637-0037.)

The mega e-tailers threaten to destroy not only independent stores in the Real World, but *all* bookstores in the Real World. The e-tailers have some unusual advantages that make them even deadlier than the average chain store to local communities and culture.

### Wall Street Clobbers Main Street

One of the most unfair advantages is how just about anything with the words "dot-com" tacked onto its name attracts attention — and money. AmazonDOTcom hasn't *ever* turned a profit; in fact, they continue to run operating losses measured in the hundreds of millions of dollars year after year. ("Amazon.com Posts Larger-Than-Expected Fourth Quarter Loss." CNET.com, 2/2/2000.) So why are they still in business? you ask. Ah, never underestimate the power of greed and the willingness of folks to be snookered by a fast talker. In what can only be described as a con game of massive proportions, AmazonDOTcom convinces investors that, someday, they're going to be

a really, really, *really* valuable company, because they're going to sell everything to everybody everywhere. And folks (either cynical greedmongers or naïve believers in free money) just keep buying stock. Mom-and-pop businesses (like this magazine) have trouble getting a line of credit at the bank; nobody ever offers them a dime because they might *someday* make a profit. The dot-coms, however, get tons of money in spite of the fact that they (like AmazonDOTcom) are running in the red year after year.

### The Myth of the Altruistic Affiliate Site

Some believe that Amazon.com deserves our respect and patronage because they perfected the model of so-called affiliate linkage between sites. Naïveté seems to be the rule here, which isn't surprising, since the entire affiliate (Amazon.com calls this "associate") program is cynically designed to appeal to Webmasters in search of easy cash. (Anybody remember the adage "there's no such thing as a free lunch"?) Here's how an associate link works: You put a banner on your site, thus notifying your customers/members that you approve of your affiliate partner and all that it stands for. (That alone should be worth "real" money!) In addition, you put a "hot link" from your site to their site so that all your customer has to do to reach your "partner" is "point and click." The partner site then promises you a kickback of whatever your (former) customer spends on her trip. (Amazon.com calls this a "referral fee," but I like to call 'em the way I see 'em.)

There's a lot to be said for links between businesses; it's a friendly way to network and share resources. But the affiliate model is not just a friendly way to network; it's a cheap way for one company to buy access to another's customers (and community) at bargain-basement prices.

Now, if the business that you are linking to is one you actively want to support, cool. For example,

*PanGaia* recently formed an affiliate relationship with Powell's Books, one of the largest independent Real World bookstores in the world. (And for the record, we are looking for more Real World stores to connect with.) But if you are just affiliating to get some extra cash, perhaps you (and your customers) should think twice.

### Buying Your Eyeballs

What's sweet for the Megs is that they only have to pay the friendly affiliate, which you (the customer) want to support, for things you bought directly through the link. In other words, if you see a book listed on Grandma's Web page and you wander over to MegaDOTcom to take a look, Grandma only gets paid if you buy the book on that *exact* visit. If you browse around, sign off to make a cup of tea, and come back to MegaDOTcom later, Grandma gets stiffed. (Remember, it's a lot easier for folks to remember the MegaDOTcom's Web site address that is advertised on every TV show in existence than Grandma's.) Even if Grandma does get the measly 5 to 15 percent from the sale of that book she recommended, the MegaDOTcom only has to pay her once; but they've bought you for life.

Remember the part about the DOTcom companies needing to prove to their investors that someday their investment will actually be worth something? What these companies need more than anything else is customers, or what is graphically referred to in the business as "eyeballs." Even more

than your dollar, that MegaDOTcom needs your attention, not only because they can sell you stuff, but more importantly, because they can sell *you*. While your postal address has probably already been sold hundreds of times (where do you think all those catalogs come from?) and its value is somewhat deflated, your email address is virgin territory, and *nobody even knows how much it's worth*

*yet*. What about your customer profile? The list of which books, toys, and videos you buy? How about which affiliate site you came to the MegaDOTcom from? The mind boggles.

The more information that MegaDOTcom can gather about you, the more valuable a product *you* are to them. Amazon.com says that they won't resell your

customer information — yet. But they "retain the right to do so to 'trustworthy third parties' in the future." (I'm quoting directly from their Web site here.) Do you trust these people? I don't, and I don't think that you should either.

By exploiting Grandma's need for a little quick-and-easy cash the MegaDOTcom gets the following:

1. Your loyalty. If Grandma recommends Mega, they can't be that bad, can they? This kind of customer loyalty is priceless; too bad Grandma is giving it away for free.
2. Your eyeballs. Even if you just wander around and don't buy anything, MegaCorp knows where you came from and what you looked at. This is valuable information to help them decide what stuff to push at you next.
3. Your hard-earned cash; it could be going to support your friendly community book/hardware/toy/drug store, but instead, it's going to go to MegaDOTcom.

I'd say that Mega has gotten one hell of a deal for their little kickback to Grandma, and poor ol' Grandma doesn't even know that she's been had. (Take a look at the fine print that Grandma has to sign in order to become an "associate" site of AmazonDOTcom. That information is currently at [www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/subst/associates/join/operating-agreement.html/102-7815332-2371210](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/subst/associates/join/operating-agreement.html/102-7815332-2371210).)

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**How loyal are the  
Megs going to be  
after they've gotten  
what they want  
from the (no-longer)  
independent writers?**

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Just as this magazine was going to press, Amazon.com announced that they had received a patent on the entire *concept* of affiliate ordering as well as the concept of "one-click" shopping. Industry analysts, even old Amazon.com allies like Timothy O'Reilly, CEO of computer book publisher O'Reilly and Associates, are furious. O'Reilly, in an open letter to Amazon.com, published February 29, 2000, accused them of

patenting "obvious" ideas. "Once the Web becomes fenced in by competing patents and other attempts to make this glorious open playing field into a proprietary wasteland, the springs of further innovation will dry up," he wrote. "They [Amazon.com] are being a bad citizen [of the Web] and the most offensive thing is that they did not actually invent this

stuff [that they are patenting]." (*ZDNet Technology News*, 3/1/2000, <[www.zdnet.com](http://www.zdnet.com)>.) If upheld in court, Amazon.com's patents in these areas will make small scale affiliate sites impossible, shutting all but the largest companies out of the burgeoning affiliate market. Now who says that Amazon.com is one of the "good guys?"

### Friend of the Writer?

Some argue that the folks at Amazon.com are friends of independent writers. But a writer's partnership with Amazon.com looks an awful lot like the betrayal of your best friends to save your own butt.

Clerks handselling books at Real World bookstores has always been one of the best ways that an unknown writer could break out of obscurity; for writers outside of the so-called mainstream, success has always depended on the community bookstore. These stores are the *true* friends of the independent writer and are first in the line of fire when the MegaDOTcoms come to town. Every ad that touts the Megas, every affiliate link from an author to a Mega, is just another nail in the coffin of the independent stores.

I find myself wondering just how loyal the Megas are going to be after they've gotten what they want from the (no-longer) independent writers. After they have flattened the competition and there isn't a Real World store left on the planet, who says that they are going to continue to carry that small niche title that only sells three copies a month? Who says that they are even going to continue to sell books at all? Amazon.com started by selling books, then moved on to music, videos, toys, hardware, software, and even ladies' underwear. Maybe someday they'll dump books completely. It's clear that they aren't really interested in books and certainly not in writers — just in cold, hard cash.

### Class Warfare, Courtesy of the Web

Many seem enraptured by the Web, embracing it as the One True Thing that levels the playing field for all. But it is a well-known marketing fact that the Web skims the cream of the most affluent consumers on the planet. It's one thing to be available online (you'd be crazy not to have a presence in cyberspace) and another thing entirely to sell out to the forces that are destroying Real World communities and culture. Not *everybody* is wired, or wants to be or can afford to be.

Web sites are awesome, but are, by their very nature, classist; true access to the Web is only available to those who have the luxury of having a computer in their home (libraries try hard, but aren't really that accessible) and don't forget, a credit card. A Real World bookstore is open to all folks, not just the wired ones. For a truly eloquent and comprehensive argument on this topic, see <[www.codysbooks.com/warning.html](http://www.codysbooks.com/warning.html)>. Or write me and I'll mail you a copy of the article via good old postal mail.

### Put Your Money Where Your Home Is

I'm not saying that everyone who ever buys from a chain store or a MegaDOTcom is a Tool of the Devil; sometimes it can't be avoided. But don't be fooled; where you spend your \$20 for that bestseller (or that toaster or pair of slippers) is very important. My priorities about where to buy are simple; here's my list.

1. Real World independent stores. If you've still got them, please support them!
2. Independent online stores (especially ones that support a Real World presence as well).
3. Real World chain stores.
4. The MegaDOTcoms (only as a last resort).

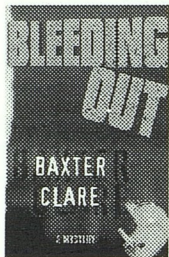
I know that when I need help, friendship, or just plain company, the MegaDOTcoms aren't gonna give a damn — but my Real World friends and neighbors are going to be there for me. I know who my friends are, and I want them to be there for a long time to come. ○

—Anne Newkirk Niven lives in Point Arena, California, with her husband and three children. She is CEO of *Blessed Bee, Inc.*, the publisher of *SageWoman*, PanGaia, and *The Blessed Bee*.

See PanGaia on the Web at <[www.pangaia.com](http://www.pangaia.com)> or call for a free sample issue toll free, 877-726-4242. PanGaia is available from a number of major distributors as well as direct to bookstores from the publisher. Subscriptions are \$13 for four issues. BBI Media, publisher of PanGaia, also publishes a newsletter for Pagan families, *The Blessed Bee*, as well as its flagship title, the women's spirituality magazine *SageWoman*. BBI, PO Box 641, Point Arena CA 95468.

The Feminist Bookstore News is a quarterly publication dedicated to fostering feminist bookstores. The *Feminist Bookstore News*, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188; 415-642-9993, email <[fbn@fembknews.com](mailto:fbn@fembknews.com)>.

# Firebrand Books



## BLEEDING OUT A Mystery by Baxter Clare

Meet Frank, Lieutenant L.A. Franco, described by one of her detectives as "Dirty Harry's personality stuffed into Martina Navratilova's body." Frank commands Homicide Squad #93 in the gang-ravaged heart of south-central Los Angeles. A workaholic, she allows nothing into her bruised private life but booze and exercise, football and music—her own drugs of choice.

First one, then another brutally murdered girl turns up within Frank's jurisdiction. As she finds herself dealing with a serial rapist turned murderer, a trap is laid for the unknown assailant. The bait is Allison Kennedy, a playful young narcotics detective who seems to delight in irritating Frank.

Their hunt for the killer brings Frank painfully close to her own demons—and the need to make life-saving choices.

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280 pages  
March



## POST-DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR by Alison Bechdel

Mo's having a touch of performativity anxiety—a post-feminist, post-gay kind of moment—as she considers a panoply of possible gender permutations. Angst with her as she inquires: Is gender essential? If she were a transsexual woman, a bisexual man, or a straight woman with a penchant for gay girls, would Mo still be a dyke to watch out for?

These and other similarly searching questions are queerly addressed in *Post-Dykes To Watch Out For*, multiply talented Alison Bechdel's ninth collection on the cartoon continuum.

Whether you yearn for the days when lesbians were wimmin, or are just over it all, this witty critique on the fringes of heteronormative discourse—i.e., the straight world—will have you doodling in the margins of your theory books.

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1-56341-123-7

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\$24.95 cloth

144 pages  
May



## NATURAL BIRTH by Toi Derricotte

Toi Derricotte's *Natural Birth* "captures at length, and more than any other childbirth poem I know, the thing itself and not the myth," a reviewer wrote of the book when it first appeared in the early '80s.

The intervening two decades have not blunted the power of the author's language, her stunning ability to make the particularities of her experience as a young woman giving birth in the hostile environment of a "maternity home" resonate for a broad readership.

Now, almost twenty years after its publication—and thirty-eight years after the birth of her son—celebrated poet and memoirist Toi Derricotte revisits the writing of the book, the information she left out of the story the first time around, in a lengthy, moving introduction to this edition.

1-56341-120-2  
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\$10.95 paper  
\$22.95 cloth

88 pages  
February



## WOMEN ON THE ROW Reflections From Both Sides of the Bars by Kathleen O'Shea

Kathleen O'Shea is the only person to have contacted every woman currently in U.S. prisons under a death sentence. *Women On The Row: Revelations From Both Sides of the Bars* is her honest, startling, sometimes raw, sometimes radiant exploration of the places where doing heavy time and being free overlap.

Neither a treatise against the death penalty, nor an apology for female innocence, *Women On The Row* focuses on the interconnectedness of women's lives. The author reflects on her encounters with condemned women and how their stories illuminate her own, creating a call and response across realities.

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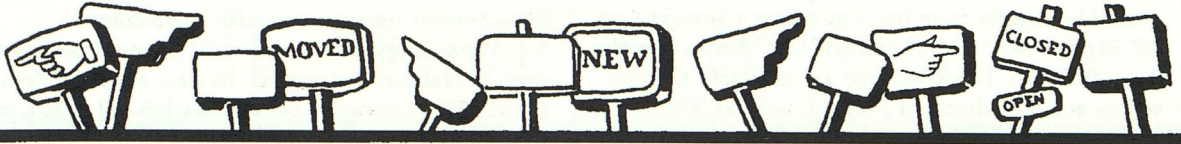
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# THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Teri Mae Rutledge

## New Store

Roz Warren, acclaimed feminist humorist and former "Women's Humor" columnist for *FBN*, has opened a bookstore in Pennsylvania. Though the store has been open for business since January, the big grand opening party will be held April 1. Ring of Fire Books began as an online bookstore run by a friend of Warren's, but now the store exists in literal space as well as virtual. The store is located in Narbeth, a mere ten-minute train ride from Philadelphia. Warren reports that the store currently sells used books only, but hopes to expand and acquire new books soon. She has strong fiction, mystery, women's studies, gay and lesbian, nonfiction, and (of course!) women's humor sections. (Nicole Hollander, creator of the "Sylvia" cartoon, donated five cartons of good books of all types to Ring of Fire.) There is a Borders one mile away, as well as a B&N and another Borders less than three miles away, but Warren is determined that her store will outlast them all. Ring of Fire Books, 35 N. Narbeth Ave., Narbeth PA 19072; 610-617-3442.

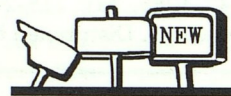


## More New Stores

Since the last print issue of *FBN*, there have been a number of women throughout the U.S. and Canada gathering information to open feminist bookstores. While none of these women is near opening stores yet, we find this surge of activity heartening and significant. Watch for news on stores in Waterloo, Ontario; East Lansing, Michigan; Essex, Massachusetts; Texas; and elsewhere in future issues.

## Stores Close

Textures, the San Antonio bookstore founded by Martha Cabera, which was bought by Frankie Jones and Naiad author Peggy Herring a few years ago, closed in November.



## New Owners

Thunder Road Books, the online bookstore based in New Jersey, has changed owners. Pamela Teal and Chris Mazurkeiwicz have sold the business to Alison Shaman and Dee Costantino. I talked to Alison about her plans for the future of Thunder Road. She has some ambitious ideas, including her goal to get the site ready for online ordering. Already the women have added to the links page, updated other pages to reflect the changes in ownership, and proposed upgrades. They're hard at work on a new catalog so they can update the offerings of the site. Note the new snail mail address: Thunder Road Books, PO Box 354, Union NJ 07083; 888-THNDRRD (888-846-3773), email <thundrrd@thunderroadbooks.com>, <www.thunderroadbooks.com>.

Alice Frier and Lee Boojamra sold Rising Tide Press. The new owners are Debra Tobin and Brenda Kazen. Rising Tide's address and phone remain the same: Rising Tide Press, 3831 North Oracle Rd., Tucson AZ 85705; 520-888-1123.

Linda Brawner has bought the mail-order bookstore formerly known as Womankind, which she has renamed Rainbow Readings. Brawner, who also publishes the Tucson monthly lesbian newsletter *Rubyfruit Journal*, plans to send out the next RR mailing in early April. Rainbow Readings, 1740 E. Water

St., Tucson AZ 85719; 800-675-0415, fax 520-795-2443, email <LSDBRuby@aol.com>.

**Books**

Roz Warren is now making two of her books available directly from her. *Can't Keep a Straight Face* (\$7.50 pb, 0-9632526-1-5) and *Still Can't Keep a Straight Face* (\$8.95 pb, 1-889594-01-6) are available to book-sellers at a 50% discount prepaid, with \$1.50 s/h for up to three books. Email <eorleans@aol.com> or call 303-444-2691 for information.

*Prayers to Sophia: A Companion to "The Star in My Heart"* by Joyce Rupp (\$12.95 pb, 1-880913-42-9) has released from Innisfree Press simultaneously with the tenth anniversary edition of *Star in My Heart*. *Prayers to Sophia* was previously scheduled to release last fall. Innisfree Press, 136 Roumfort Rd., Philadelphia PA 19119; 215-247-4085, fax 215-247-2343, email <innisfree@aol.com>. Distributed by Consortium.

**Bookstores Move**

Herland Book-Café of Santa Cruz has moved to a new location a block from the old building. Its new home is more central to downtown. Herland Book-Café, 1014 Cedar St., Santa Cruz CA 95060; 831-429-6636, email <herland@cruzio.com>.

Venus Envy, a bookstore and women's sexuality shop in Halifax, has moved. Its new address: Venus Envy, 1598 Barrington St., Halifax NS B3J 1Z6, Canada; 902-422-0004.

People Called Women (Toledo OH) has a new email address: <pcwtoledo@yahoo.com>.



**Publishers Move**

After many delays, the Feminist Press has finally moved into its new offices at CUNY. The Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 365 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10016; 212-817-7915, fax 212-817-1593. Also, the press has email! Reach them at <fempres@gc.cuny.edu> or visit the Web site at <www.feministpress.org>.

Girl Press is on the move. You can contact the press at its new address: Girl Press, 8430 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste 102, West Hollywood CA 90069; 323-822-0044, fax 323-822-0444.

Ride the Wind Press has also moved. Ride the Wind, PO Box 965 Stn. A, Campbell River BC V9W 6Y4, Canada; 250-923-5964, fax 250-923-0541. Also, the press has changed its email address: <ridewind@angelfire.com>.

Sourcebooks Inc. has moved. The publisher's new address is Sourcebooks Inc., PO Box 4410, Naperville IL 60567; 630-961-3900, fax 630-961-2168.

**Distributor News**

Consortium Book Sales and Distribution has opened a London office to recruit new publishers, attend conferences and book fairs, and manage Consortium's increasing presence at the London Book Fair and the Frankfurt Book Fair. Katherine Bright-Holmes, a former editor at Women's Press, will manage the London office. Consortium U.K., 17 Lambton Rd., London N19 3QJ; 011-44-207-686-0279, fax 011-44-207-686-0290, email <kbh@cbsd.com>.



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# BACK TO PRESS

## AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Teri Mae Rutledge

The winners of the ALA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Book awards have been announced. *Po Man's Child* by Marci Blackman (Manic D Press), was named the winner of the GLBT book award for literature. The nonfiction award went to *My Lesbian Husband: Landscapes of a Marriage* by Barrie Jean Borich (Graywolf Press). Finalists for the literature award also include *Comfort and Joy* by Jim Grimsley (Algonquin Books), *Last Rights: Poems* by Marvin K. White (Alyson Publications), *Lawnboy* by Paul Lisicky (Turtle Point Press), and *Mr. Dalloway: A Novella* by Robin Lippincott (Sarabande Books). Finalists for the nonfiction award also include *Biological Exuberance: Animal Homosexuality and Natural Diversity* by Bruce Bagemihl (St. Martin's Press), *Firebird: A Memoir* by Mark Doty (HarperCollins), *Lorca: A Dream of Life* by Leslie Stainton (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux), and *Victory Deferred: How AIDS Changed Gay Life in America* by John-Manuel Andriote (University of Chicago Press). The awards will be presented at the annual ALA conference in Chicago in July.

Arte Público, publisher of contemporary and recovered U.S. Hispanic literature, celebrated its twentieth birthday last fall with a benefit and a slew of literary events in the press' hometown, Houston, Texas. Arte Público has published more than 450 books.

Kathleen Alcalá (*Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist*, *Spirits of the Ordinary*, *The Flower in the Skull*) was awarded the Governor's Writer's Award as an outstanding Washington state author last fall.

Down There Press' *I Am My Lover: Women Pleasure Themselves* by Joni Blank tied for the 1999 Social Responsibilities Round Table "Almost Banned

Books" award. The award recognizes the books that are selected by the fewest number of OCLC libraries in the United States. Earl Lee, collection development librarian and associate editor of *Counterpoise*, said "few books if any are banned outright in this country. But many books *are* overlooked, sidelined, and squeezed out of the marketplace.... [T]he books found in the fewest number of libraries tended to be those that dealt with sex in a graphic 'how to' manner.... Evidently masturbation is not a popular topic in libraries." *I Am My Lover* was also nominated for a Lambda Literary Award.

Down There Press' *Herotica 6* was nominated as a finalist for *ForeWord Magazine's* second annual book of the year award in the erotica category.

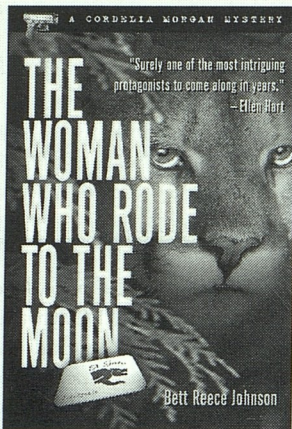


The National Book Awards were announced last fall. Among the winners was Ai, who took the poetry award for her collection, *Vice: New and Selected Poems* (Norton).

The American Booksellers Association has announced the finalists for the Book Sense Book of the Year award. The finalists were culled from Top Ten Book Sense 76 lists from last year. Among the finalists are, for children's books, *Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride* by Pam Muñoz Ryan (Scholastic) —a fabulous book; see my rave of it in the Fall 1999 *FBN*. For adults, there's the runaway indie hit *Girl in Hyacinth Blue* by Susan Vreeland (MacMurray & Beck), *Ahab's Wife* by Sena Jeter Naslund (Morrow), and *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver (HarperCollins).

Movie fans: Barbara Wilson's *Gaudi Afternoon* is currently being filmed on location in Barcelona. Stay tuned for details....

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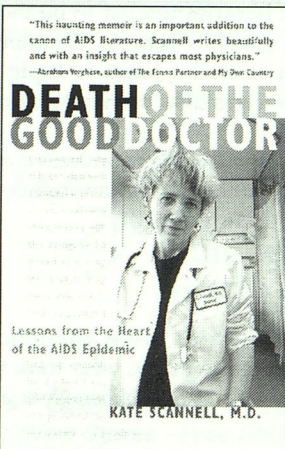
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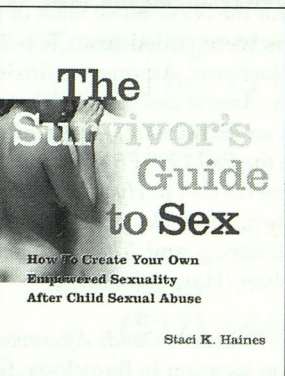


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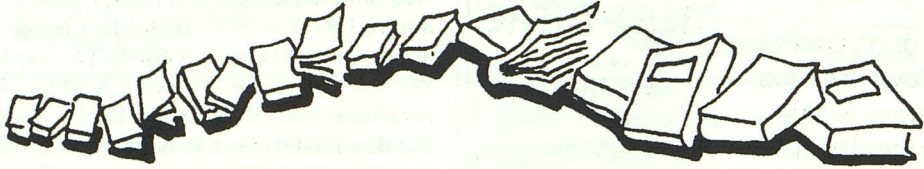
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# FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

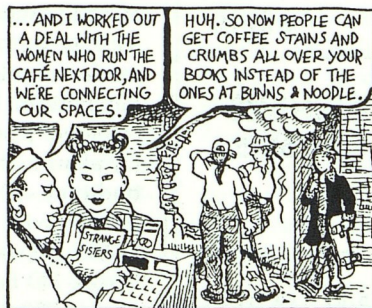
## New Magazine

*Issues*, a new magazine by and for lesbians of color, hits the shelves this month. At press time, I have a few articles from the premiere issue, and I'm really impressed. As the name suggests, *Issues* tackles serious topics of importance to lesbians of color with depth and thoughtfulness. LaVerne Baker wrote an article about the uterine fibroid tumor she had removed *without* getting a hysterectomy. There's a wonderful review of Sharon Bridgforth's *bull-jean stories*. There's an article on gay Hawaii, there's an article on lesbian parenting, there's poetry, there's fiction. In all, I'm just tickled to find a new lesbian magazine of substance. This is a must for *all* your lesbian customers looking for a magazine that tackles subjects of depth, relevance, and interest to our community. Discount: 40%. \$4.50, no ISSN yet. Issues Publishing Company, PMB #435, 484 Lake Park Ave., Oakland CA 94610; 510-593-4453, email <issuesmag@aol.com>. —TMR

## Arania Books

The women of Arania have launched a press to put important small and feminist press works on audio tape. The book that inspired the press is a self-published fiction title, *Fifth Life of the Catwoman* by Kathleen Dexter (winner of the National Self-Publishing Award in the fiction category). Kat is a woman given the "gift" of nine lives by her mother just before she was taken away by witch hunters. Now on her fifth life, Kat is fed up with humanity

and is living alone on a mirage surrounded by 50 cats. When her brother from her first life convinces her to teach history, she teaches her students to live as if they will come back to the world they create. She teaches them the effects of intolerance, poverty, witch hunts, ignorance, and mob violence. In the end, she is able to face her life (lives) again without fear. (\$29.95 unabridged audio, 1-893530-12-4.) (*Fifth Life of the Catwoman* is also available in print: \$14.95 pb, 0-9651770-0-9. Llano Press, PO Box 86, Penasco NM 87553; 505-587-1022.) *Brigid's Charge* by Cynthia Lamb tells the story of Deborah Leeds, a witch, a pagan, and a respected healer who inherited her gift



From *Post-Dykes to Watch Out For* by Alison Bechdel (Firebrand)

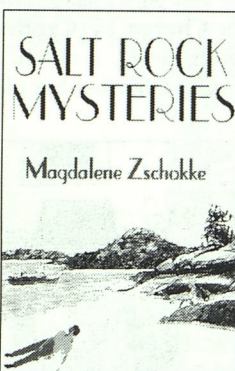
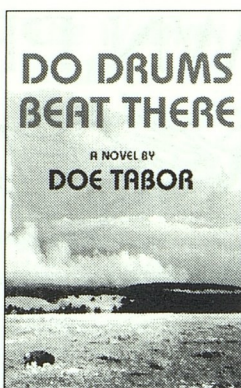
**DO DRUMS BEAT THERE**  
by Doe Tabor

Recipient of an Emerging Writers Fellowship, Doe Tabor explores Native American identity in this fast-paced and moving novel.

A gritty coming-of-age story about a young Native American woman who flees the reservation and becomes involved in the Red Power occupation of Alcatraz.

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by Magdalene Zschokke

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unimaginable passion, and a few too many dead bodies.

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of healing from her grandmother. When the Doctor of Physic (a descendant of witch hunters) arrives, he tries to ruin Deborah by claiming that her 13th child was fathered by a witch hunter. (\$32.95 unabridged audio, 1-893530-09-4.) (**Brigid's Charge** is also available in print: \$14 pb, 0-9654694-1-7. Bay Island Books, PO Box 485, Corte Madera CA 94976; 415-924-9026. Available from BP.) Arania Books Audio and Print, PO Box 156091, Fort Wayne IN 46885; 219-486-3554, fax 219-486-1993, email <arania@earthlink.net>. Available from B&T and Ingram.

—TMR

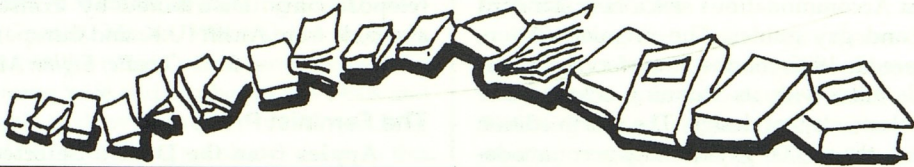
**Aunt Lute Books**

**Babylan: An Anthology of Filipina and Filipina American Writers** edited by Eileen Tabios and Nick Carbó. The writings collected here reveal how the work of Filipina storytellers and poets has changed in style and language to reflect the experiences of colonization and emigration. Starting with a short story that was the first written in English in the Philippines and concluding with work by current Filipina American authors, the collection traces the development of a rich literary tradition that puts diverse cultures in dialogue with each other. Authors represented include Jessica Hagedorn, Cecilia Manguerra Brainard, Marianne Villanueva, Linda Ty-Casper, and the poets Fatima Lim-Wilson, Virginia Cerenio, Maria Luisa Aguilar, and Edith Tiempo. \$16.95 pb, 1-879960-59-1, June. Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141; 415-826-1300, fax 415-826-8300. Distributed by Consortium. —Livia Tenzer, *Aunt Lute Books*

**CALYX Books**

**Black Candle: Poems About Women from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh** by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. In a revised edition of poetry by award-winning author of *Sister of My Heart* and *Mistress of Spices*, Chitra Divakaruni sumptuously renders the lives of women in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Set amid banyan trees, the smell of crushed jasmine, and bougainvillea blossoms, Divakaruni tells of painful truths interwoven with tradition, and the quiet ways in which women learn to cope with their own private and public burdens. \$12.95 pb, 0-934971-76-5; \$26.95 cl, -75-7. CALYX Books, PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97339; 541-753-9384, fax 541-753-0515. Distributed by Consortium.

—Amy Callahan, *CALYX Books*



## Cleis Press

**Best Women's Erotica** edited by Marcy Sheiner (editor of the Herotica series). First book in a new annual series showcasing the best erotic fiction by women. For all readers who enjoy women's erotica — heterosexual, bisexual, and lesbian. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-099-X; e-book edition: -103-1.

**Christine Jorgensen: A Personal Autobiography** by Christine Jorgensen. An intimate memoir of Jorgensen's experience getting the world's first publicized sex-change operation. In her own personable style Jorgensen offers a brave, firsthand account of her groundbreaking life as a long-suffering, sexually confused youth who chose to end his unhappiness in 1951 by becoming a woman — and, consequently, an international celebrity. Includes never before seen photographs from the author's private collection. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-100-7, May.

**Ceremonies: Prose and Poetry** by Essex Hemphill, introduction by Charles Nero. A landmark collection of the author's best work, offering provocative commentary on highly charged topics such as Robert Mapplethorpe's controversial photographs of African American men, feminism among men, racism in the gay community, AIDS in the Black community, and many more. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-101-5.

**Public Sex: The Culture of Radical Sex, Second Edition** by Pat Califia. New and fully updated with two new essays and an introduction by the author, **Public Sex** collects the best of Califia's work published during the past 20 years. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-096-5, April.

**Dirty Weekend** by Helen Zahavi, a reissue. "Bella woke up one morning and realized she'd had enough." So begins this comic thriller of a tale that chronicles one fed up woman's revenge on a world of male Peeping Toms, rapists, and obscene phone callers. \$12.95 pb, 1-57344-097-3, April.

**Best of the Best Gay Erotica** edited by Richard Labonté, series editor, highlights the top stories from the bestselling gay erotica series in America. Contributors include some of the most admired writers in the

genre, including Jack Fritscher, Scott O'Hara, D. Travers Scott, and Michael Lassell. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-104-X, May.

**Best of the Best Lesbian Erotica** edited by Tristan Taormino, series editor, offers the steamiest collection in the series to date, collecting the hottest and most thought-provoking lesbian sex writing available. Contributors include Dorothy Allison, Heather Lewis, Pat Califia, and Cecilia Tan. \$14.95 pb, 1-57344-105-8, May.

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

—Cleis Press



## The Damron Company

**The Damron Women's Traveller 2000**, now in its eleventh year, provides lesbian travelers with all the information they need to plan the perfect vacation. It includes an extensive "Travel & Tours" section, listings of local and national women's events, a comprehensive camping and RV park index, and city overviews that highlight women's businesses and offer basic tourist information. \$13.95 pb, 0-929435-33-8.

**Damron Men's Travel Guide 2000** (aka **Damron Address Book**), the original gay travel guide. The year 2000 edition covers the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and several major European cities with over 10,000 listings. "The Guide" has been recognized by the *New York Times*, *Out & About*, the *Advocate*, and *Out* as the most comprehensive guide for gay travelers. \$17.95 pb, 0-929435-32-X.

The eighth edition of the **Damron Road Atlas** covers 71 major North American, Canadian, and European cities, pinpointing accommodations, bars, restaurants, and bookstores that welcome lesbians and gays. Its easy-to-read color maps and larger format make it a favorite with business and vacation travelers alike. \$17.95 pb, 0-929435-34-6, April.

**Damron Accommodations** sets a new standard for lesbian and gay guides. The premier edition, which appeared in 1995, charmed travelers and travel professionals alike with its stunning color photographs and clean, elegant design. The fourth edition includes more than 1,000 gay-friendly accommodations around the world, with all the important details a reader needs to decide where to stay. \$18.95 pb, 0-929435-35-4.

The Damron Company, PO Box 422458, San Francisco CA 94142. Available from BP and Publishers Distribution Company, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. 10th Fl., Los Angeles CA 90028.

—*Rebecca Davenport, The Damron Company*



### Down There Press

**Still Doing It: Women & Men Over 60 Write About Their Sexuality.** Editor Joani Blank believes that these 40 stories and narratives “will help sexually active oldsters to realize that they are far, far from alone,” and reassure the pre-AARP crowd that they can continue to engage in a variety of sexual practices. **Still Doing It** presents empowering and moving accounts of sexual intimacy and gives readers permission to seek lifelong sexual pleasure. \$12.50 pb, 0-940208-27-X, May. Down There Press, 938 Howard St. Ste. 101, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-974-8985 ext. 205, fax 415-974-8989, <[www.goodvibes.com/dtp/dtp.html](http://www.goodvibes.com/dtp/dtp.html)>. Distributed by LPC. Available from BP, Bookazine, Last Gasp, Alamo Square, Koen, Marginal (Canada), B&T, Ingram, the distributors, and other wholesalers.

—*Heather Cassell, Down There Press*

### Eighth Mountain Press

**Lifesaving: A Memoir** by Judith Barrington. In 1963, the author’s parents drowned when the cruise ship *Lakonia* caught fire and sank north of the Canary Isles. Barrington was 19. **Lifesaving** is a lyrical rendering of the years of holding grief at bay — much of them in Franco’s Spain — and her eventual passage through mourning. **Lifesaving** illuminates the special ways that teenagers deal with overwhelming loss. \$13.95 pb, 0-933377-44-4, April. Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Ave., Portland OR 97214; 503-233-3936, fax 503-233-0774, email <[soapston@](mailto:soapston@)

[teleport.com](http://teleport.com)>. Distributed by Consortium. Also available from Airlift (U.K. and Europe).

—*Ruth Gundle, Eighth Mountain Press*

### The Feminist Press

**Apples from the Desert: Selected Stories** by Savyon Liebrecht, foreword by Grace Paley, introduction by Lily Rattok. A bestselling writer in her native Israel, Savyon Liebrecht explores the everyday tragedies that emanate from strained relations between Arabs and Jews, women and men, older and younger generations. Her short fiction reveals the impact of social and political conflicts within the private world of the home with a precision and a subtle ferocity reminiscent of the work of Nadine Gordimer. \$13.95 pb, 1-55861-235-1; \$19.95 cl, -190-8, April.

**Come Out the Wilderness: Memoir of a Black Woman Artist** by Estella Conwill Májozo. At the intersection of poetry and politics, race and gender, analysis and feeling lies this soul-stirring memoir. As it traces the journey of an African American poet, performance artist, community arts activist, teacher, and single mother, **Come Out the Wilderness** testifies to the importance of living in pursuit of spiritual growth, cultural heritage, and personal integrity. \$13.95 pb, 1-55861-242-4; \$21.95 cl, -206-8, April.

**Almost Touching the Skies: Women’s Coming of Age Stories** edited by Florence Howe and Jean Casella, introduction by Marilyn French. Selected from the work of two dozen distinguished writers published by the Feminist Press, from Kate Chopin to Alice Walker, this special 30th-anniversary anthology pays tribute to the diversity and vitality of American women writers — and to the courage and resilience of young women — through a century’s worth of life experiences. \$15.95 pb, 1-55861-234-3; \$35 cl, -233-5, May.

**The Chinese Garden** by Rosemary Manning, afterword by Patricia Juliana Smith. A lost lesbian classic, **The Chinese Garden** is a delicate and finely crafted novel of the unfolding of consciousness and forbidden love in the repressive atmosphere of a girls’ boarding school in the late 1920s. Its protagonist, 16-year-old Rachel, is caught up in a tangle of passions and denial, a moral struggle to which all innocence will be lost. \$12.95 pb, 1-55861-216-5; \$29 cl, -215-7, June.



**Life Prints: A Memoir of Healing and Discovery** by Mary Grimley Mason. When she is six, Mary Grimley Mason is the nation's first "poster child" for polio. As a young wife and mother in the 1950s and 1960s, she fights to deny both her disability and her abandonment of a promising scholarly career. In this frank life story, Mason recounts her struggles to stand as a disabled person, an engaged scholar, and an independent woman. \$19.95 cl, 1-55861-237-8, June.

**Building Inclusive Science: Connecting Women's Studies and Women in Science and Engineering, *Women's Studies Quarterly* 28, nos. 1 & 2** (Spring/Summer 2000). Women have always been scientists, but over the centuries their contributions have been unrecognized, limited, and thwarted by unequal resources and opportunities. This issue of *Women's Studies Quarterly* broadens the dialogue between women's studies and the sciences and explores new methods and approaches to reduce the masculine bias in scientific inquiry and science classrooms. \$18 pb, 1-55861-243-2, June.

**The Little Locksmith: A Memoir** by Katharine Butler Hathaway, foreword by Alix Kates Schulman, afterword by Nancy Mairs. First published in 1943, **The Little Locksmith** was hailed as a major literary event. "You must not miss it," wrote the *New York Times* of this beautifully crafted memoir of a young disabled woman's struggle to overcome society's expectations. "It is the kind of book that cannot come into being without great living and great suffering and a rare spirit behind it." \$14.95 pb, 1-55861-239-4; \$35 cl, -238-6, July.

**The Politics of Women's Studies: Testimony from 30 Founding Mothers** edited by Florence Howe, introduction by Mari Jo Buhle. In the patriarchal halls of 1970s academe, women who spoke their minds risked their careers. Yet intrepid women persisted in collaborating to form women's studies. Now, in an unprecedented volume that captures both the history of a pivotal era and the drama of personal risks, triumphs, and losses, 30 scholars and activists document their world to establish women's studies programs. \$22.95 pb, 1-55861-241-6; \$55 cl, -240-8, August.

The Feminist Press at The City University New York, 365 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10016; 212-817-7928, fax 212-817-1593. Distributed by Consortium.

—Raquel Baetz, *the Feminist Press*

## Firebrand Books

**Bleeding Out**, a mystery by Baxter Clare. In real life, Baxter Clare is a biologist protecting small and furry creatures in the Southern California wilds. In **Bleeding Out**, she makes her debut as a hard-hitting mystery writer, whose principal character, Lieutenant L.A. Franco, is described by one of her detectives as "Dirty Harry's personality stuffed into Martina Navratilova's body." **Bleeding Out** is not a cozy book. \$13.95 pb, 1-56341-118-0; \$26.95 cl, -119-9.

**Natural Birth** by Toi Derricotte. It's both a sentimental and an intellectual/artistic journey for Firebrand to be reissuing **Natural Birth** with a fascinating introduction written for this edition. I first met the author and edited her book in the 1980s at Crossing Press, and have followed her work since. Although she is a fine and well-published poet, she is probably best known for the award-winning *The Black Notebooks*. **Natural Birth** combines both breathtaking poetry and a superb prose introduction. \$10.95 pb, 1-56341-120-2; \$22.95 cl, -121-0.

**Post-Dykes to Watch Out For**, cartoons by Alison Bechdel. I love the catalog copy I wrote for

### From the author of *Mistress of Spices and Sister of My Heart*



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June 2000, \$12.95 paper, 0-934971-76-5; \$26.95x cloth, 0-934971-75-7

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**Post-Dykes to Watch Out For** almost as much as I do the cover, so here goes: Mo's having a touch of performativity anxiety — a post-feminist, post-gay kind of moment — as she considers a panoply of possible gender permutations. If she were a transsexual woman, a bisexual man, or a straight woman with a penchant for gay girls, would Mo still be a dyke to watch out for? That's only the first paragraph. Don't miss the book. \$11.95 pb, 1-56341-122-9; \$24.95 cl, -123-7, May.

**Women on the Row: Reflections from Both Sides of the Bars** by Kathleen O'Shea. Leave it to a former nun and current lesbian to be the only person in the U.S. to have contacted every woman on death row. Interweaving her own story on the "outside" with theirs behind bars, she creates a powerful call and response across realities. This is an honest, startling, sometimes raw, sometimes radiant exploration of the places where doing heavy time and being free overlap. \$12.95 pb, 1-56341-124-5; \$26.95 cl, -125-3, April.

Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850; 607-272-0000. Distributed by LPC.

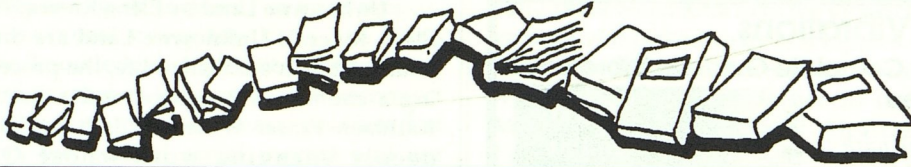
—Nancy Bereano, *Firebrand Books*

## gynergy press

**It's Like the Legend: Innu Women's Voices** edited by Nympha Bryne and Camille Fouillard. When Innu communities in Labrador decided to resist the presence of NATO military flight testing, Innu women played an important role in the acts of resistance that brought national and international attention to the plight of the aboriginal community. These experiences of resistance and imprisonment accompany the legends, stories, and poems from more than 25 Innu women. \$19.95 pb, 0-921881-56-8, May.

**Pat Lowther's Continent: Her Life and Work** by Toby Brooks. Pat Lowther was a down-to-earth woman of considerable talent whose poetry was inspired by her daily life. In 1975, she had begun to receive national and international recognition when her jealous husband bludgeoned her to death. (He was convicted of her murder and died in prison.) Toby Brooks, a community feminist who worked with battered women, spent over a decade researching Lowther's life and work. \$19.95 pb, 0-921881-54-1, April.

**A Long Life of Making: Poems from the Pat Lowther Memorial Award Winners** edited by Rhea



Tregebov. Seventeen women poets have won the Pat Lowther Memorial Award since it was inaugurated in 1981 to honour the memory of a talented poet whose life was cut short. This award has encouraged the growth of the feminist literary community. Almost 20 years later, the award has proven to be a showcase for the remarkable talents of Canadian women poets. \$16.95 pb, 0-921881-55-X, April.

gynergy press, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI C1A 7N7, Canada; 902-566-5750. Distributed by UTP, 2250 Military Rd., Tonawanda NY 14150; 800-565-9523, fax 800-221-9985. In Canada: 5201 Dufferin Street, North York ON M3H 5T8, Canada; 800-565-9523 or 416-667-7791, fax 800-221-9985. Available in the U.K. from Turnaround.

—Jennifer Whitlock, *gynergy press*



### Hadra Books/HandMaidBooks

Diana Rivers has self-published the first book of her acclaimed feminist science fiction Hadra series, **Daughters of the Great Star**. When Alyson let the book go out of print in 1998, Rivers, who has two later books in the series in print, decided to revise the edition and publish it herself. In **Daughters of the Great Star**, women born under a passing star gain mysterious powers. The very existence of these women affects the world's order. "An exciting and rewarding read." —Sally Gearhart, author of *The Wanderground*. "[Rivers] has the magic gift of ancient storytellers. She draws readers into a faraway, long ago world she weaves with simple words and sharply focused scenes." —Rosemary Keefe, author of *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking the Silence*. \$12.95 pb, 0-9668075-0-2. Hadra Books, PO Box 1184, Fayetteville AR 72702; 501-643-3519. Hadra Books are available from the publisher; standard discounts on any size order are 40%. At press time, Hadra was in the process of acquiring distribution through Koen, New Leaf, and BP. Check for availability before ordering. —TMR

### Innisfree Press

**The Star in My Heart: Experiencing Sophia, Inner Wisdom, Tenth Anniversary Edition** by Joyce Rupp. Joyce Rupp's extraordinary reflections on Sophia — Feminine Wisdom in the Hebrew scriptures — have made this book a classic. For ten years, this collection of quieting verse and meditative writing, with mandalas and suggestions for spiritual journaling, has gently invited readers to explore the inner journey. Rupp's healing images invite us to dip into the Sophia's quiet guidance and come away refreshed. \$12.95 pb, 0-931055-75-X.

**Raising Up Queens: Loving Our Daughters Loud and Strong** by Esther Davis-Thompson. In the wake of Pipher's book *Reviving Ophelia*, there has been an enormous groundswell of interest — and concern — about raising today's young girls. Yet in the African American community, there is a paucity of materials focused on mothers and daughters. As a mother of ten children, Esther Davis-Thompson understands women's concerns about raising young girls. Continuing in the spirit of her first book, *MotherLove*, Davis-Thompson weaves another series of powerful meditations. It is only, she proposes, by centering first on healing their own inner spirits that mothers can hope to nurture a strong feminine spirit in today's daughters. \$12 pb, 1-880913-38-0, May.

**Leading Ladies: New Images for Leadership from Biblical and Contemporary Women** by Jeanne Porter, Ph.D. Today's women have entered the ranks of leadership in every sector of society, yet the studies and models of leadership remain primarily corporate and male-dominated, often overlooking the experience and worldviews of women and people of color. This provocative and inspirational book offers alternatives to traditional male and Eurocentric leadership paradigms and fills the need for a new model of leadership, rooted in a spiritual core, for women in the 21st century. Drawing on lessons from biblical women, **Leading Ladies** explores six unique styles of women's leadership and offers examples of

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contemporary women whose action, ministry, and work model this leadership from the depths of their spirit. \$14.95 pb, 1-880913-45-3, June.

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—Marcia Broucek, Innisfree Press

## Kelsey St. Press

**Symbiosis** by Barbara Guest, drawings by Laurie Reid. The bright synergies of this collaborative volume bring together the work of poet Barbara Guest and painter Laurie Reid. Guest began her career as a member of the now canonic New York School, and Reid is a young West Coast artist whose work has received unusual early critical recognition. The title they chose, **Symbiosis**, is a verbal expression of the pleasure and inspiration they found in each other's work. The mysterious beginnings and endings of art, both similar and dissimilar in art's forms, shine through this book's generous makings. \$16 letterpress edition, Special editions, numbered and signed by the artists: 0-932716-52-0; -54-7, 48 pp.

**Unknowne Land** by Eléna Rivera. The poems in Eléna Rivera's **Unknowne Land** are drawn from a young woman's transient life, the process of adopting a country, a language, and a past. The book, Kathleen Fraser writes, "...is a brilliant, mature, deeply engaging work whose Question is constructed through its unfolding shape — a developing exhalation of grief and wasted opportunity, both classical in its references and recasting of historic quest/myth, as well as expansively modern in its resistance to these known parameters." Winner of the Frances Jaffer Book Award for a first book of poetry. \$10 pb, 0-932716-53-9.

Kelsey St. Press, 50 Northgate, Berkeley CA 94708. Distributed by SPD.

—Rena Rosenwasser, Kelsey St. Press

## Lazara Press

**Halfway to the East** by Marusya Bociurkiw is a beautifully designed book. On the top of each page is a strip of half-tone photos — tiny cars, the tops of buildings, tapestry — all evoking the travel, literal and figurative, that Bociurkiw embarks upon in this collection. The pages are thick, woven, luxurious. The poetry is lovely as well. Buckurkiw writes about women all over the world, creating a portrait that reveals herself and her subjects as both residents and refugees. \$14.95 pb, 0-920999-38-7. Lazara Press, Box 2269 VMPO, Vancouver BC V6B 3W2, Canada; 604-872-1134, fax 604-847-6661, email <lazara@web.net>, <www.web.net/lazara>. Lazara offers a 40% discount with no minimum order. —TMR



## McGilligan Books

McGilligan is a relatively new publisher, the creation of former Women's Press (Canada) managing editor, Ann Decter. Though not every book McGilligan produces is a women's title, the press has a strong feminist line called All-Girl Productions. The titles I've looked at so far are lovely in design with smart and diverse subject matter. Following are a few titles from the 1999 list.

**Living Beside: Performing Normal After Incest Memories Return** by Tanya Lewis is Lewis' reframing of everyday life after incest memories return. She challenges the notion that survivors

heal until they are again "normal," instead proposing that survivors' everyday lives are lived "beside" the knowledge of violation. She writes, "While therapy teaches the survivor to reconnect body and feeling and to listen to messages from that reconnection, the general social context will not support the survivor in this work." Elly Danica, author of *Don't: A Woman's Word*, called **Living Beside** "an insightful, liberating, and profoundly important contribution that moves the dialogue about child abuse beyond the thrall of captivity and expands the vision toward what must be the goal — from the personal toward the political and social change." An important addition to the field, this book is both scholarly and filled with personal insight. \$15.95 pb, 0-9698064-7-7.

**I'll Sing 'Til the Day I Die: Conversations with Tyendinaga Elders** is written by the extremely gifted Native writer Beth Brant. She conversed with 15 Tyendinaga elders about a hundred years of history. This first-person history is incredibly valuable, revealing a community that "transcends Canadian colonial oppression to arrive full and rich, grounded in land and community." \$11.95 pb, 0-9698064-2-6.

Last summer I mentioned the utterly fabulous and very orange book, **She's Gonna Be: Stories, Poems, Life** edited by Ann Decter, a collection of writing from young women. Do order it if you have not yet done so. It's delicious! \$10.95 pb, 0-9698064-6-9.

McGilligan Books, 859 Dundas St. W., PO Box 16024, Toronto ON M6J 1W0, Canada; 416-538-0945, fax 416-538-0547, email <mcgilbks.@idirect.com>. Distributed by University of Toronto Press, 800-565-9523, fax 416-667-7791. —TMR

### New Victoria

**Salt Rock Mysteries** by Magdalena Zschokke. Here's a great Caribbean getaway mystery, but also a sharp study of island life. Historian Janet McMillan encounters more on her island visit than she bargained for — a shipment of drugs behind the customs shed and a dead man washed up on the beach. Love, blackmail, and mysteries past and present all have Janet wondering whether she will get off the island alive. \$11.95 pb, 1-892281-07-4, May.

**Do Drums Beat There** by Doe Tabor. We thought this was an earnest and appealing novel about a young Lakota claiming her identity. It's the

early 1970s when Ritta flees the violence on her reservation and is picked up by four hippies. She examines her bisexuality, her politics, and above all her heritage when her journey leads her to the Red Power Movement's occupation of Alcatraz. \$10.95 pb, 1-892281-09-0, May.

New Victoria Publishers Inc., PO Box 27, Norwich, VT 05055; 802-649-5297. Distributed by LPC. —New Victoria Publishers

### Onlywomen Press

**All in the Game** by Eleanor Hill. This lesbian romance is a must for readers who love athletics. Robin is coach of a small-town women's soccer team. When Penn, a brilliant young kicker, joins the squad, attraction blossoms and several sorts of jealousies erupt. But Robin insists, "Coaching and sex don't mix." Does true love triumph where these players' short-term lovers didn't? Does professional women's football (aka soccer) beckon? \$10.99 pb, 0-906500-62-1, May. Onlywomen Press, 40 St. Lawrence Terrace, London W10 5ST, England; email <onlywomen\_press@compuserve.com>. Available from Alamo Square.

—Lilian Mohin, *Onlywomen Press*



### Paris Press

**Simon Says** by Jan Freeman. Suffused with grief and beauty, **Simon Says** is also playful, sardonic, emotionally and politically daring, and stylistically innovative. Freeman's high-pressure language blends images of the natural world, the body, and the psyche, and far surpasses the "stunning debut" (*Women's Review of Books*) of her award-winning first collection, *Hyena*. \$13.95 pb, 0-9638183-4-1, April. Paris Press, PO Box 487, Ashfield MA 01330; email <parispr@crocker.com>. Distributed by Consortium.

—Paris Press

### Polestar Book Publishers

**Girls Around the House** by M.A.C. Farrant. Domesticity and creativity wrestle with each other in these hilariously skewed tales of postmodern family life. This is a dust-busting collection from one of our wittiest, most observant, and most original writers. *Publisher's Weekly* says, "Tart-tongued former hippie

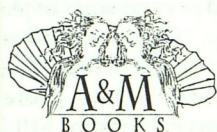
Marion narrates these twelve jaunty, interconnected stories of humorous parental angst...passages read like postmodern Erma Bomeck entries." \$15.95 pb, 1-896095-93-3.

**Pluto Rising: A Katy Klein Mystery** by Karen Irving. The first in a series of gripping mysteries introducing a female sleuth and an astrological twist. Katy Klein, a single mom and professional astrologer, is drawn into the nightmarish world of one of her clients. *The Globe and Mail* says, "...fast paced and compelling, and the use of astrology as a tool in the investigation of a murder has certain wacky charm." \$8.95 pb, 1-896095-95-X.

**Safe Teen: Powerful Alternatives to Violence** by Anita Roberts. It is an alarming truth that adolescents — including girls — are resorting to violence as a method of resolving disputes. Based on the Safe Teen workshops, assault-prevention worker Anita Roberts has developed a necessary guide that covers issues such as anger management and assertiveness training for young women, and awareness of gender stereotypes and violence prevention for all teens. \$15.95 pb, 1-896095-99-2.

Polestar Book Publishers, PO Box 5238, Station B, Victoria BC V8R 6N4, Canada; fax 604-669-8250, email <polestar@direct.ca>, <<http://mypage.direct.ca/p/polestar/>>. Distributed by LPC.

—Emiko Morita, Polestar Book Publishers



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**Press Gang Publishers**

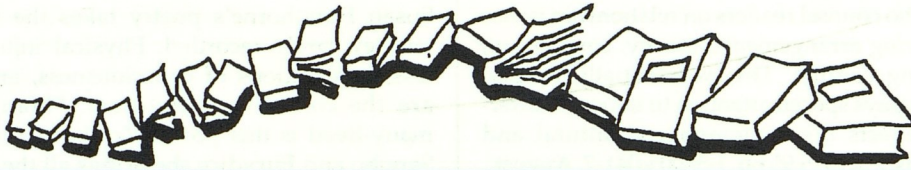
**Magic Eight Ball** by Marion Douglas. From childhood crushes to accidental motherhood to a lesbian love affair, Julia's story is told with insight and wit. Praising Douglas' previous novel, *Lambda Book Report* says, "What might happen if Jeanette Winterson, Jane Rule and Margaret Atwood ran into each other head-on.... Douglas' vivid language, her deft character development, and storytelling make this a fine novel, full of heart and eccentricity." \$13.95 pb, 0-88974-063-1. Press Gang Publishers, 1723 Grant St., Vancouver BC V5L 2Y6, Canada; 604-251-3315, <[www.pressgang.bc.ca/](http://www.pressgang.bc.ca/)>. Distributed in the U.S. by LPC, in Canada by General, and in the U.K. by Turnaround.

—Press Gang Publishers

**Ride the Wind Press**

**grandmother threads** by Ceridwen Collins-West is a poetic journey of rediscovery. Separated by the dark secrets and circumstances of age and family, two women are reunited at the end of life's journey. Inspired by a true story. Winner of the Moonprint Press Poetry Chapbook Contest. \$14 pb, 1-896910-02-5.

**Wolf Moon: Siobhan the Wolf Series Book 1** by Ceridwen Collins-West. The popular character first introduced in **the Dark One comes** is now in her own series! Siobhan the Wolf again takes up her sword and her bow to protect English refugees from death and, in the process, uncovers a mystery that threatens the very foundation of the Norman juggernaut. \$22 pb, ISSN: 1487-444X.



Ride the Wind Publishing, PO Box 965 Stn. A, Campbell River BC V9W 6Y4, Canada; 250-923-5964, fax 250-923-0541, email <admin@ridewind.com>, <www.ridewind.com>. Also available from John Coutts Library Services.

—*Ceridwen Collins-West, Ride the Wind Publishers*



### Seal Press

Once again novelist and professor Elizabeth Nunez — critically compared to both Alice Walker and Toni Morrison — has raised the bar for Caribbean literature. Set in the village of Otahiti in Trinidad in the 1950s, **Bruised Hibiscus** weaves an intricate and shocking tale of the multivalent interstices of gender, colonialism, and race, told through the stories of two women, once girlhood friends. \$24.95 cl, 1-58005-036-0, April.

Our Live Girls series has never been so electric, with two new books that both stimulate and edify. Michelle Tea's latest work, **Valencia**, takes the reader on a dizzying spin through the queer-girl underground of San Francisco's Mission district. From knife-wielding lovers to turning tricks to an honest quest for love, Tea's world is one where all tragedies and ecstasies weigh equally. (\$13 pb, 1-58005-035-2, May.) As **Valencia** proves, the contemporary sexual terrain of women is quite distinct from that of earlier generations. **Sex and Single Girls: Women Write on Sexuality** edited by Lee Damsky is a bold and comprehensive collection of personal essays that speaks to the experiences of women in their 20s and 30s. Contributors include Angela Bronner, Lisa Miya-Jervis, Jill Nagle, Tatiana de la Tierra, and Michelle Tea; topics range from straight to queer, abortion to strap-ons, S/M to interracial relationships and everything in between. At long last! (\$16.95 pb, 1-58005-038-7, June.)

First love then marriage then baby in the baby carriage.... Wait just a minute! says Ariel Gore,

author of **The Mother Trip: Hip Mama's Guide to Staying Sane in the Chaos of Motherhood**. Part self-help, part critique of the mommy myth, and part hip-mama handbook from the publisher and creator of *Hip Mama* magazine, this book offers support to moms who elect, by choice or by circumstance, to subvert traditional parenting models. \$14.95 pb, 1-58005-029-8, May.

The latest from our tremendously popular *Adventura* series is the compelling account of one woman's answer to a stifling marriage and a search for meaning. **Desert Sojourn: A Woman's 40 Days and Nights Alone** details Debi Holmes-Binney's travails and ultimate triumph as she braves blizzards, floods, and isolation alone in the harsh Utah desert. Hers is an inspiring story of spiritual renewal and the personal direction she gained through this experience. \$14.95 pb, 1-58005-040-9, July.

Seal Press offers a number of titles aimed at helping victims of domestic violence; **To Be an Anchor in the Storm: A Guide for Families and Friends of Abused Women** is unique in that it weaves together personal experiences of author Susan Brewster — herself a survivor — with those of other women in an instructive, straightforward, and nurturing book that offers understanding to loved ones of abused women so that they may in turn offer support and comfort. \$12.95 pb, 1-58005-037-9, May.

"¡Andele! Real latinas in the pages of American lit!... Thank you, Terri, for bringing us to life." We agree with Sandra Cisneros so much that we are re-issuing prize-winning author Terri de la Peña's first novel, **Margins**, which offers a memorable portrait of a complex and real Chicano family and of the life and loves of a young Chicana lesbian, Veronica Melendez. A classic addition to our Djuna Books series. \$12.95 pb, 1-58005-039-5, May.

**Lesbian Couples: A Guide to Creating Healthy Relationships** has sold over 50,000 copies, with good reason: authors D. Merilee Clunis, Ph.D., and G. Dorsey Green, Ph.D., are experienced lesbian

therapists who counsel readers on relationship issues including living arrangements, money, coming out, and resolving conflict. This substantially revised third edition pays special attention to issues of difference and reflects the contemporary cultural and political landscape. \$15.95 pb, 1-58005-041-7, August.

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



## Spinifex

**Body/landscape journals** by Margaret Somerville.

"[Margaret Somerville] has provided a new practice for breaking down old binaries (mind/body, inside/outside, landscape/bodyscape...) which has major implications for methodologies to open up texts, rather than closing them down; that invite the reader to become a writer; that model alternate politics of knowing/telling." —Prof Laurel Richardson, Ohio State University. "...an extraordinary piece of work which reads as compellingly as the most absorbing piece of fiction." —Sneja Gunew, University of British Columbia. \$17.95 pb, 1-875559-87-6.

**Rumours of Dreams** by Sandi Hall, author of *The Godmothers*. "Here is a book that stretches the mind and keeps it taut. From the first page, Sandi Hall grabs you by the imagination and never lets you go. It's a novel that feels like history retold, but retold so authentically that you'd swear it was true. Maybe it is. If, as scholars acknowledge, the Gospels are highly fictional, then this compelling account of life in Jerusalem and Alexandria 2000 years ago has just as much claim to be the correct version of events in whose shadow we still live. 'The world thinks it knows what happened next,' writes Hall at one point, 'but the world could be wrong.'" —Denis Welch, *NZ Listener*. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-75-2.

**Bird** by Susan Hawthorne. "Birds don't fly with leads, I said. / Safety belts are to learn with, not to live with — / I'm safer on the trapeze than crossing the road. / And I do that every day, often by myself." So thirteen-year-old Avis argues when confronted by the limitations imposed on her at school. She has epilepsy, and some of the teachers want to stop her from participating in the sport she loves most. From societal limitations to the inner experience of seizures,

Susan Hawthorne's poetry takes the reader on a journey rarely recorded. Physical injury, memory loss, explorations of consciousness, and language are the concerns of the poet. "Many-eyed and many-lived is this poet.... To the classic figures of Sappho and Eurydice she brings all the Now! Here! sense of discovery that fires her modern girl in taking lessons in flight." —Judith Rodriguez. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-88-4, April.

**Wire Dancing** by Patricia Sykes. Circus as drama and risk, as exuberance and irrepressible spirit, is the central metaphor Patricia Sykes uses to open a world where public and private share the same tightrope. The poems speak of women searching for footholds along the spectrums of politics, power, history, culture, and relationships. "Theirs are performances drawing on the blood of sugars of language and the cinemascope of hope" as they wire dance through circumcision and incest, madness and suicide, genocide and war. There is passion and resistance, "hot comedy" and "fire in the belly." "Falling is the first victory;" balance is the ultimate skill. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-90-6, April.

**Shiatsu Therapy for Pregnancy: A Handbook for the Therapist and Support Person** by Bronwyn Whitlocke. This comprehensive manual contains information about the causes and symptoms of an array of conditions that can occur during pregnancy, during labour, and after delivery, such as fainting, insomnia, morning sickness, postnatal depression, and urinary incontinence. All readers — the qualified Shiatsu therapist, the pregnant woman, the labouring woman's support person, and the new mother — will enjoy reading about the method's basis in traditional Chinese medicine and applying the author's easy-to-follow treatment instructions. The suggested treatments for the support person to apply are easy to identify, and the Shiatsu treatments are supplemented with dietary, lifestyle, and exercise therapy. Whitlocke's highly successful *Chinese Medicine for Women* was first published by Spinifex Press. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-81-7, June.

**Help! I'm Living with a Man Boy** by Betty McLellan, author of *Beyond Psychoppression*. What do you do when the towel is never picked up off the bathroom floor? How do you go about making men understand the difference between helping out with the housework and doing it? Have you ever walked





through a supermarket with a 35-year-old child who wants only the most expensive things on the shelves? And what about violence? \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-79-5, June.

**White Turtle** by Merlinda Bobis, author of *Summer Was a Fast Train Without Terminals*. An anomalous kiss. A white turtle ferrying the dreams of the dead. A woman's twelve-metre hair trawling corpses from a river. These enigmatic tales of chance and hope are among 23 stories set in the Philippines and Australia. Alternately mythic, wistful, or quirky, Merlinda Bobis' tales resonate with an original and confident storytelling voice. "Merlinda Bobis writes like an angel. Her characters whisper to you long after they've told their bittersweet tales." —Arlene J. Chai, author of *Last Time I Saw Mother*. "Gingered chicken in green papayas, smothered with coconut milk, never fails to keep the tongue moist long after the meal is over. So does slightly burnt sugar lodged at the roof of the mouth, melting with infinite slowness. The acrid sweetness teaches the tongue not to forget..." —from the book. \$14.95 pb, 1-875559-89-2, May.

Spinifex Press, PO Box 212, North Melbourne Vic 5051, Australia; +61-3-9329-6088, fax +61-3-9329-9238, email <world@spinifexpress.com.au>, <www.spinifexpress.com.au/~women>. Spinifex NY Office: 718-351 9599, fax 718-980 4262. Distributed in North America by University of Toronto Press, 5201 Dufferin St., New York ONT M3H 5T8, Canada; 800-565-9523, fax 800-221-9985.

—Laurel Guymer, Spinifex Press



### Spinsters Ink

Spinsters Ink is honored to publish for the first time in the United States the fifth Lindsay Gordon mystery, **Booked for Murder** by Val McDermid, originally published to great critical acclaim by The Women's Press in England. In this latest Lindsay Gordon adventure, the ex-journalist and amateur

sleuth investigates murder among the literati in the high-powered, seemingly glamorous world of London publishing. Val's not-so-subtle jabs at the pretensions and rivalries that sometimes rear their ugly heads in the publishing world are alone worth the price of the book. \$12 pb, 1-883523-37-0, May.

Joan Drury, the award-winning author of the critically acclaimed Tyler Jones feminist mystery series, now turns her hand to historical fiction with **Those Jordan Girls**. This sweeping epic novel about four generations of women living together in a sprawling house in small-town Minnesota is narrated against a historical backdrop of some of the most dramatic events and major social movements of the modern era, from the farmer/labor activism of the early part of the century, to the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery march. \$12 pb, 1-883523-36-2, June.

**They Wrote the Book: Thirteen Women Mystery Writers Tell All** edited by Helen Windrath is an authoritative collection of essays that paint an intimate portrait of contemporary women writers at work. Thirteen acclaimed British and North American women mystery writers describe their professional lives: their struggles to make time to write, strategies for maintaining concentration and focus at all stages of the creative process, and reflections on the thought and effort that go into crafting each word and every story they weave. Contributors include: Jean Bedford, Sarah Dreher, Joan Drury, Stella Duffy, Ellen Hart, Gillian Linscott, Val McDermid, Marcia Muller, Chris Niles, Abigail Padgett, Barbara Paul, Penny Sumner, and Anne Wilson. This collection is sure to be essential reading and reference, not just for mystery fans, but for all readers and writers, from novices to seasoned pros, who like to know how they-done-it. \$12 pb, 1-883523-35-4, June.

Spinsters Ink, 32 East First St., #330, Duluth MN 55802; 800-301-6860, email <spinster@spinsters-ink.com>, <www.spinsters-ink.com>.

Distributed by Words. Available from Ingram, B&T, and all other wholesalers.—*Claire Kirch, Spinsters Ink*

## Volcano Press

**Guidebook for Prosecutors Working with Battered Immigrant Women** by Susan M. Breall of the district attorney's office in San Francisco and Deborah A. Adler. This book is required reading, not only for those in the legal profession, but for all the domestic violence advocacy programs and shelters in the country. The special problems of immigrant women is a rapidly emerging issue, but there has been little written about them. For example, Islam is the third-largest religion in the U.S. today (and represents one-sixth of the world's population). Immigrant Islamic women may well be deported or deprived of basic rights, should they come to court. They frequently lack adequate language skills and other forms of support. \$15 pb, 1-884144-19-X. Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689; 800-879-9636, 209-296-4995, email <sales@volcanopress.com>.

—*Ruth Gottstein, Volcano Press*



## Wolfe Video

**Not for Ourselves Alone.** A Ken Burns documentary about the birth of the women's movement and the enduring friendship between Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. \$29.95 two-tape set, #3301, 210 minutes.

**The Brandon Teena Story.** In 1993, Brandon Teena was a fresh scrubbed young man of 20. He soon began dating girls. But the truth came out that he was biologically a woman, a discovery that prompted two of his former friends to beat, rape, and later kill him. While this is something of a bleak tale, it is given exhaustive and heartfelt handling by the filmmakers, who had extraordinary access to all of the involved. Much of the information in the film formed the basis of the 1999 fiction film *Boys Don't Cry*. \$24.95, #3298; \$29.95 DVD, #3298DVD, 88 minutes.

**A Luv Tale.** Wolfe Video is proud to present a great find: a lesbian love story with an all-Black cast. Candice is the editor of *Meridian Magazine*, where she's being overworked and overlooked by her boss/boyfriend. Then she meets Taylor, a photojournalist who's tiring of the industry. Their two worlds

come together in a seductive and memorable tale. \$29.95, #3302, 45 minutes.

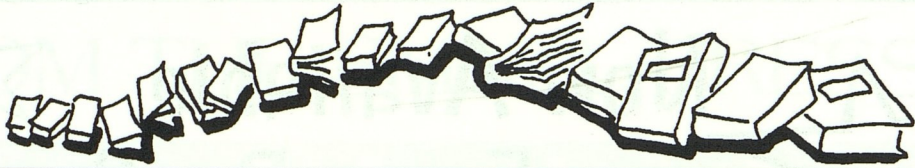
**Better Than Chocolate.** When 19-year-old red-head Maggie's nutty mother calls and says she is moving in, Maggie — who quit law school and has been sleeping on the couch of the lesbian bookstore — must find a sublet apartment and make it livable fast. To complicate matters, she has just met the sultry Kim, an artistic road warrior who has rolled into town. This wildly enjoyable and refreshingly sexy tale shows lesbian love winning against all the odds. \$79.95, #5225; \$24.95 DVD, #5225DVD, 98 minutes.

**Dangerous When Wet.** Six lesbian shorts. *Sleep Come Free Me* peeks into a woman's unbearably dull life, which is infiltrated by her rich and sexy fantasy life. *I'm Starving* is about the relationship between an Asian ghost and the apartment she shares with an African American woman. *Adam* is a Claymation piece about a baby dyke who is mistaken for a boy. *Bad Ass Super Mama* was inspired by 1970s action heroine Pam Grier. *Blue Diary* is the story of a young dyke pining over a one-night stand with a straight girl. *Dangerous When Wet* is an ironic and humorous tale of a woman's first orgasm. \$39.95, #5288, 62 minutes.

**Ruth Ellis: Living with Pride.** Born July 23, 1899, Ruth Ellis is the oldest "out" African American lesbian. With vivid narrative recreations, this documentary offers a rare opportunity to experience a century of our history as lived by one inspiring woman. \$29.95, #5219, 60 minutes.

**The Adventures of Sebastian Cole.** Sebastian Cole is a restless 17-year-old who dreams of leaving his small hometown for an adventurous life as a writer. His first adventure begins when his stepdad, Hank, suddenly announces that he is going to become a woman. While other family members run for cover, Sebastian decides to stay with Hank, who becomes Henrietta. The two of them form a unique and winning bond as Sebastian learns to cope with prejudice and the nonstop curve balls life keeps throwing him. \$69.95, #3299; \$29.95 DVD, #3299DVD, 100 minutes.

**Relax...It's Just Sex.** Acclaimed writer/director P.J. Castellaneta (*Together Alone*) superbly entertains us with the best sexual comedy/drama of the 90s. A unique group of friends — Jennifer Tilly (*Bound*), Lori Petty (*Tank Girl*), Mitchell Anderson (*Party of Five*), and others — discover lots of sex, the perils of relationships, the truth about love, and the meaning of



friendship with humor and sensitivity. \$79.95, #3287; \$24.95 DVD, #3287DVD, 110 minutes.

**Blind Faith.** A shockingly powerful piece of storytelling — hammering at themes of racism, social justice, and homophobia — in this intense drama about a Black teenager accused of murdering a white teen in 1950s Brooklyn. Charles Jr. (Garland Whitt) is a seemingly happy recent high school graduate. One evening his father, a Black policeman, is accused of killing a white youth. The investigation and the trial reveal secret shames that threaten the moment the truth from coming out. \$14.95, #3300, 121 minutes.

**Chocolate Babies.** A fractious band of self-styled gay activists terrorize New York City with acts of theatrical violence against politicians insensitive to AIDS. Their divergent goals cause them to bicker constantly — a situation that undermines their need for love, self-respect, and hope. \$39.95, #5196, 83 minutes.

**Out of Season.** Though complete opposites often attract, the question is “Can they make it together?” Polar opposites Micki and Roberta try as each struggles to overcome the obstacles that have scuttled previous relationships. A love story for anyone who has ever wanted to run away. \$29.95, #5218, 98 minutes.

**Cynthia Cooper I: A Champion's Secrets for Success.** Let a champion motivate, stimulate, and elevate your life. (\$19.95, #3255, 40 minutes.) **Cynthia Cooper II: Raise Your Game.** Scoring secrets of a superstar. Fundamentals of offensive basketball and valuable tips that build great players. (\$19.95, #3256, 40 minutes.) **Cynthia Cooper III: The Champions' Workout.** A new approach for those striving for optimum fitness and peak body condition. (\$19.95, #3257, 40 minutes.) For all three tapes: \$49.95, #3257, 120 minutes.

DVD Corner: **Finding North.** She's looking for prince charming...he just lost his. (\$24.95, #3239DVD, 95 minutes.) **Broadway Damage.** “One of the most joyous American films of the year.” —*New York*

*Observer.* (\$24.95, #3236DVD, 110 minutes.) **Lilies.** “A shoo-in for best of the year status.” —*LA Weekly.* (\$24.95, #5195DVD, 96 minutes.)

Price Reductions: **Gods & Monsters.** \$14.95, #5241, 105 minutes. —*Maria Lynn, Wolfe Video*



## Women in Translation

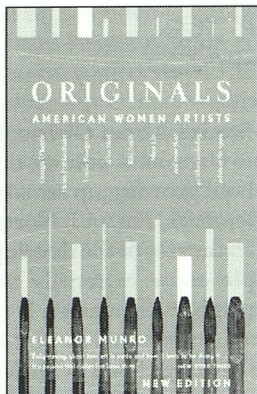
**Echo: Scandinavian Stories About Girls** edited by Ia Dūbois and Katherine Hanson. A volume of fiction and autobiography about growing up female by 28 women writers from Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. “Compared to the rest of the developed nations, the Nordic people enjoy extremely short working days, and the status of their women is very high. Dūbois and Hanson attribute this in part to a long tradition of creative writing, filled with feisty and adventurous female characters. In the average American classroom, girls are exposed to three times as many boy-centered stories as girl-centered stories; they read six times as many biographies of men as of women. All the more reason then, to turn to anthologies like *Echo* for a lively, wide-ranging, and intelligent read.” —Christian McEwen, author of *Jo's Girls*. \$18.95 pb, 1-879679-14-0, April. Women in Translation, 523 N. 84th St., Seattle WA 98103; 206-781-9612, email <wit@scn.org>. Distributed by Consortium and available in the U.K. from Airlift.

—*Barbara Wilson, Women in Translation*

## Women's Press — U.K.

**A Second Skin: Women Write About Clothes** edited by Kirsty Dunseath is a collection of pieces examining the diverse meanings of clothing in women's lives. Includes work by Margaret Atwood, Carol Shields, Joyce Carol Oates, and more. \$13.95 pb, 0-7043-4588-9. Women's Press — U.K., 34 Great Sutton St., London EC1V 0DX. Distributed by Trafalgar Square, North Pomfret VT 05053; <www.trafalgarsquarebooks.com>. —TMR ○

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Updated Edition

Eleanor Munro has added a new generation of artists—including Kiki Smith and Julie Taymor—to this superb collection

which also includes 175 illustrations.

“Anyone wondering ‘Where are the great women artists?’ should be directed to Munro’s remarkable and absorbing book.”—*Atlantic Monthly*



## Becoming Mae West

Emily Leider

Like her modern day counterpart Madonna, Mae West challenged the prevailing sexual and racial taboos of her day, wrote salacious plays that were often

censored, and forged a new identity for women in pre-code Hollywood.

“Unapologetically libidinous and ambitious . . . devastatingly funny . . . and soulful, West was a woman of robust originality, valor and conviction.”

— *Hungry Mind Review*



## The Autobiography of Eleanor Roosevelt

Eleanor Roosevelt

A self-portrait unmatched for its candor and liveliness, its wisdom, tolerance, and breadth of vision—by one of the greatest Americans of our time.

Also coming this September in paperback

## Empty Without You

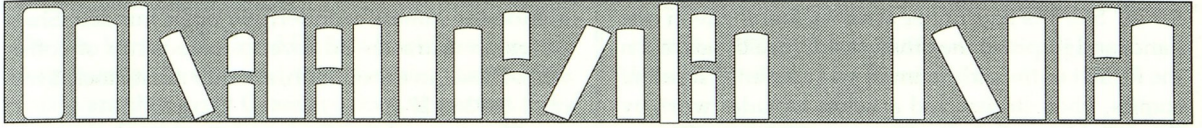
The Intimate Letters of Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok

Roger Streitmatter, editor



Da Capo Press • A Member of the Perseus Book Group • [www.dacapopress.com](http://www.dacapopress.com)

# FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Teri Mae Rutledge

I've never seen a person with a tattoo on the cover of a cookbook. Admittedly, not too many cookbooks make their way into my life. But I may have to make an exception for **How It All Vegan! Irresistible Recipes for an Animal-Free Diet** by Tanya Barnard and Sarah Kramer. Besides having cute girls on the cover, this book has some really amazing-looking recipes to help readers make their way to the "Vegan Empire," from Chocolate Cheese-less Cake to Tofu Jerky, Sloppy Joes to Shepherd's Pie. Barnard and Kramer have a background in catering, and of course they both champion animal rights issues. The design of the book is campy and fun, with lots of 50s-style graphics. A great cookbook for the 20-something set (if my response is any indication) and everyone seeking a fresh look at veganism and vegan cuisine. \$15.95 pb, 1-55152-067-2.

Arsenal has the next installments in the Hot & Bothered and Quickies series. **Hot & Bothered 2: Short Stories on Lesbian Desire** edited by Karen X. Tulchinsky has more sexy short shorts from the likes

of Carol Queen, Jewelle Gomez, Joan Nestle, Shani Mootoo, Elana Dykewoman, and many many more stars of the lesbian literati. (\$14.95 pb, 1-55152-068-0.) Also available: **Quickies 2: Short Short Fiction on Gay Male Desire** edited by James C. Johnstone. (\$14.95 pb, 1-55152-069-9.)

Arsenal Pulp Press, #103 1014 Homer St., Vancouver BC V6B 2W9, Canada; 604-687-4233, fax 604-669-8250, <[www.arsenalpulp.com](http://www.arsenalpulp.com)>. Distributed by LPC.

There's another resource for stores wishing to young-ify and diversify their collections. Slab-O-Concrete, a U.K. publisher specializing in alternative comics, pop culture, art, and music, have recently become available in the states through LPC. Its list includes a few books that are feminist, lesbian, and sex-positive from a gal's point of view. And the look of the books is great. The bright, splashy, in-your-face designs beg for you to pick them up and page through.

OK, really, everyone should stock **The Girlfrenzy Millennial: A Big Girl's Annual** edited

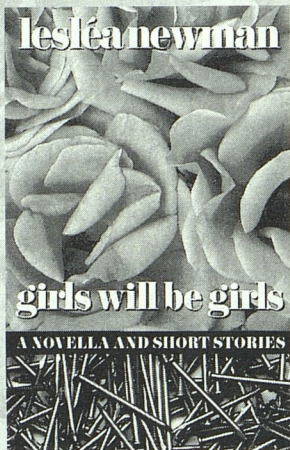


By Kati Närhi in *The Girl Frenzy Millennial* (Slab-O-Concrete)

by Erica Smith. *Girlfrenzy*-the-zine is a forum for the work of female comic strip artists, women musicians, riot-grrrls, and anti-censorship feminists. This very orange book has a big girl in a little black dress proclaiming "The end of 2,000 years of Patriarchy — Run for it!" She has hair in her armpits, a grenade in one hand, and its pin in the other. Inside, Smith has taken the format of the girls' annual and crammed it full of comics, photostories, and articles. Includes work by Trina Robbins, Roberta Gregory, Charlotte Cooper (*Fat and Proud*), Ellen Forney, and many more. There's even a free menstrual chart, good through the year 2002. This has been bathroom reading for me for a few days, and I'm just loving it. It is big good fun, and I highly recommend it. \$12 pb, 1-899866-18-3.

"A **memorable** cast of characters: **dazzling** femmes and **devastating** butches, performance artists and sexy seniors. Newman documents the way we live now with wit, eros, and affection."

—Terry Wolverton, author of *Bailey's Beads*



An unforgettable ensemble of women spring to life in this alternately hilarious and heartrending collection of new fiction by one of America's best lesbian writers.

ISBN: 1-55583-537-6 \$12.95  
January 2000

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Distributed by Consortium Book Sales and Distribution, (800)283-3572

Leanne Franson's "semi-autobiographical" comic book character is Liliane, a bi-dyke. In **Teaching Through Trauma**, Franson gives us strips on everything from dying hamsters to artificial insemination to buying wigs. Her character (herself?) is adorably honest, wonderfully open-minded. She's a cartoon character I'd love to have a cup of coffee with. This is, in my opinion, another must-stock. \$9.95 pb, 1-899866-27-2.

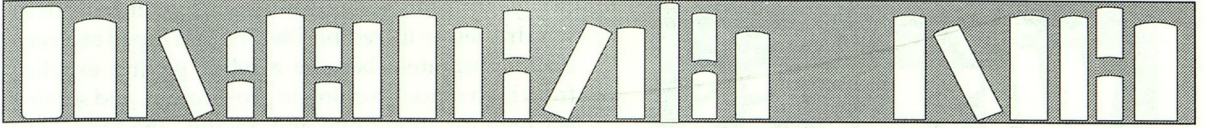
**Floozy** by Jane Graham, illustrated by Xtina Lamb, is an illustrated chronicle of a British sex worker's life. Graham's account is matter-of-fact, revealing the good, the bad, and the seedy in the life of a stripper. She also has a good streak of humor and a remarkably down-to-earth perspective on who she is, what she does, and who she does it with. Fascinating reading. \$9.95 pb, 1-899866-11-6.

In her collection of strips, **Witch**, Lorna Miller has parodied several comic strip styles and stories. Her range (of topic and of drawing style) is incredible, and the strips run the gamut from a story about Jane (of Tarzan) who rebels and makes a life for herself in the weird world of the comic strip to the horrors of Catholic girls' school to the last days of the Berlin Wall. She's a very talented and complex artist — worth a look. \$9.95 pb, 1-899866-21-3.

Slab-O-Concrete, 19A Upper Market St., Hove BN3 1AS, U.K.; +44-0-1273-770299, fax +44-0-1273-737461, email <mail@slab-o-concrete.demon.co.uk>. Distributed by LPC.

Hanne Blank, editor and founder of the pansexual fat smut zine *Zaftig! Sex for the Well Rounded*, has written her first book, **Big Big Love: A Sourcebook on Sex for People of Size and Those Who Love Them**. In this time of public disclosure on just about all aspects of sex, sex for people of size remains a cultural taboo. Blank brings fat sexuality out of the closet. She covers fat sex, fat matchmaking, fat activism, fat sexual health, and resources for sexual fat people. Her discussions cover straight, gay, lesbian, and bisexual fat folks/fat-folk admirers. Part of her research was based on a survey posted on the Web, and the book is peppered with quotes from the respondents. Another cool sex book from the folks at Greener Press. \$15.95 pb, 1-890159-16-6.

**Health Care Without Shame: A Handbook for the Sexually Diverse and Their Caregivers** by



Charles Moser, Ph.D., M.D., is a book designed for the sexually diverse and their health practitioners. This is another great Greenery book about the more amicable meshing of a community and the doctors who serve it. Lots of good advice and education for all parties concerned. \$11.95 pb, 1-890159-12-3.

Greenery Press, 3739 Balboa Ave., PMB 195, San Francisco CA 94121; 415-665-0417, <www.bigrock.com/~greenery>. Distributed by LPC.



"A brilliant, gripping narrative." —Ralph Nader.

**All Our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life** by Winona LaDuke is the nonfiction debut of this Native American environmental activist. LaDuke gives an in-depth account of Native resistance to environmental and cultural degradation. LaDuke is a stunning thinker and activist, and this is a must-carry. \$16 pb, 0-89608-599-6.

Also from South End is a book exploring disability, class, queerness, and child abuse, **Exile and Pride: Disability, Queerness, and Liberation** by Eli (Elizabeth) Clare. From logging to her relationship to the word freak, Clare covers a lot of intellectual ground. Another important title from South End. \$14 pb, 0-89608-605-4; \$40 cl, -606-2.

Finally, **Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply** by Vandana Shiva is the latest by this activist who has done so much to reveal the human and environmental effects of corporate-engineered international trade agreements. In this book, she looks at the effects of industrial agriculture on small farmers and the environment. She discusses the quality and healthfulness of the food we eat. As South End claims, this book should "shape the debate about genetic engineering and commercial agriculture for years to come." \$14 pb, 0-89608-607-0.

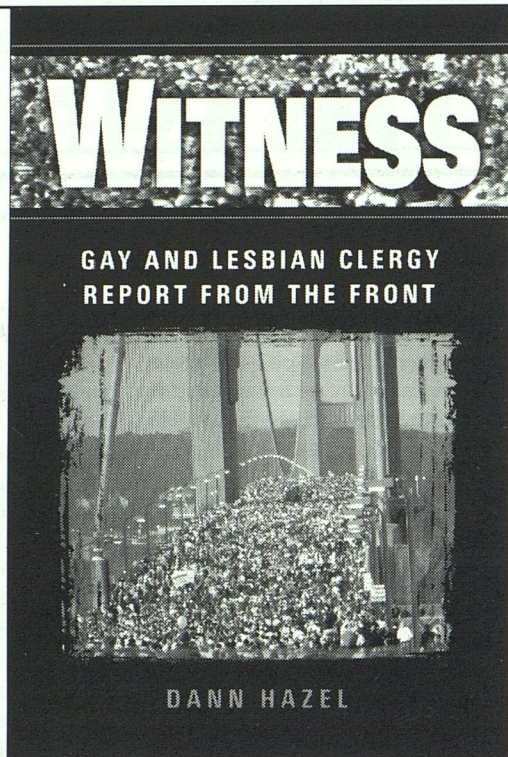
South End Press, 7 Brookline St. #1, Cambridge MA 02139; 617-547-4002, fax 617-547-1333, email

<southend@igc.org>, <www.lbbs.org/sep/sep.htm>. Distributed by Consortium.

**Sorrow Mountain: The Journey of a Tibetan Warrior Nun** by Ani Pachen and Adelaide Donnelly has a couple of famous people involved in its writing. The Dalai Lama wrote a foreword for this book and actor Richard Gere wrote the preface. This is one of few firsthand accounts of a woman living through the Tibetan crisis. Ani Pachen was training to be a nun when the Chinese Army invaded Eastern Tibet, killing her father, a local chieftan. Ani decided to take over for her father and lead her people in resistance. She lived in the hills for two years, ambushing Chinese convoys and destroying their camps. In 1960, after the freedom fighters were defeated, Ani was captured and imprisoned for more than twenty years. In 1988, seven years after her release, she feared recapture and fled to India, where she met with the Dalai Lama and told her story. This is her astounding memoir. \$24 cl, 1-56836-294-3. Kodansha America, 575 Lexington Ave. 23rd Fl., NY NY 10022; 800-451-7556, fax 212-935-6929. Distributed by Oxford University Press.

**Nellie Stone Johnson: The Life of an Activist** by David Brauer is an oral history of a woman who has been an activist for more than 70 years. She has battled throughout her life for three basic human rights: equal opportunities in education, the work force, and health care. A member of the only African American family in her rural Minnesota hometown, Johnson was distributing literature by horseback for the Non-partisan League at age 13. Ever since, she has been tireless in seeking equality and justice for all. An inspiring life. \$23 cl, 1-886913-35-8. Hungry Mind Press, 1648 Grand Ave., St. Paul MN 55105; 651-699-7038. Distributed by Consortium.

Sadly missed last fall: **From the Mississippi Delta: A Memoir** by Endesha Ida Mae Holland, Ph.D., was originally published by Simon & Schuster



Based on interviews with gay and lesbian clergy, the author constructs a mosaic depicting the ministry of gays and lesbians across the denominational spectrum. He poignantly describes the personal challenges they face in their efforts to do constructive work in theology and to build faith communities where gay men and lesbians can flourish spiritually.

0-664-25787-9 • Paper \$14.95 (Canada \$22.50)

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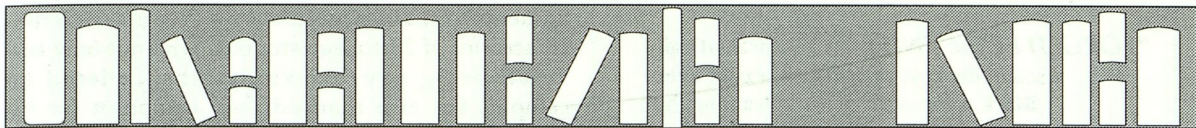
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two years ago. Holland is another woman activist who has led an incredible life. She was raped at eleven and immediately became a rebel, getting expelled from high school, turning to prostitution, and serving jail time for shoplifting and assault. She says, "I've been a whore, I've been a thief, and I've been a street fighter." This book is for anyone who wants a better life." During the civil rights movement, Holland found her calling as an activist and leader. She was imprisoned over and over again for the civil rights cause, and white bigots cruelly attacked her family. Having persevered so much in her life, Holland has triumphed as well, receiving her doctorate from the University of Minnesota. This book tells of the coming of age — and consciousness — of this remarkable woman. \$15.95 pb, 1-55652-341-6. Lawrence Hill Books, an imprint of Chicago Review Press Inc., 814 N. Franklin St., Chicago IL 60610. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group.

"Every girl-child should be handed a copy of *Fatal Flowers* at puberty. In telling her story, Daniell gives strength to the rest of us." —Dorothy Allison. Hill Street Press has brought Rosemary Daniell's classic memoir, originally published 20 years ago, back into print. The book won the press' Palimpsest Prize, an annual award reprinting out-of-print titles that are in great demand. The press considers suggestions from readers and booksellers in the awarding of the prize. *Fatal Flowers: On Sin, Sex, and Suicide in the Deep South* is Daniell's attempt to come to terms with her mother's suicide and come of age as a liberated woman in the South. She discusses the contradictions in Southern culture that is drenched in eroticism but repressive of female sexuality. Hill Street has done a beautiful job of designing this book. *Fatal Flowers* is as important for your shelves now as it was two decades ago. \$15.95 pb, 1-892514-26-5. Hill Street Press, 191 E. Broad St. Ste. 209, Athens GA 30601; 706-613-7204, fax 706-613-7200, email [info@hillstreetpress.com](mailto:info@hillstreetpress.com), <[www.hillstreetpress.com](http://www.hillstreetpress.com)>. Distributed by LPC.

Terry Wolverton has written another collection of poetry! I've adored her creative work ever since I was lucky enough to pick up *Black Slip* (from Clothespin Press — remember them?) a few years ago. She is perhaps most well known for her editorial





work; she coedited (with Robert Drake) the *Her and His* series of lesbian and gay short stories. She also wrote a novel, *Bailey's Beads*, a couple of years ago. In *Mystery Bruise*, her poems chronicle loss, pain, and a troubled adolescence. She is astonishingly, poignantly present in poems about her lesbian life, loves, and losses, about urban decay, about grief. Yet somehow, in her survival, she offers hope, a sort of truth, a sort of satisfaction. I really *really* love her work and highly recommend this collection. \$9.95 pb, 1-888996-14-5.

More poetry from Red Hen, old and new: **Waiting for the Beloved** by Ally Acker "is a book about beauty and pain, a poetry of unabashed feelings and self-revelation. Here is a brave transparency to existence and all it brings." —Jane Hirshfield (editor of *Women in Praise of the Sacred*). (\$10.95 pb, 1-888996-11-0.) Also Sarah Bein, a poet whose first collection was written before she was 17. Amazing! Her work has been compared to early Plath. Something good to stock for all those young girl poets. **This Quiet Sun**, (\$7.95 pb, 1-888996-02-1). The second collection was written during Bein's undergraduate years. **Instead of Indonesia**, (\$9.95 pb, 1-888996-10-2).

Red Hen Press, PO Box 902582, Palmdale CA 93599. Distributed by Valentine Publishing Group. Available from B&T.

Acclaimed poet and El Salvadoran activist Claribel Alegría has a new volume of poetry, produced in a lovely bilingual edition by Curbstone Press. **Sorrow** also has a wonderful preface by translator Carolyn Forché. In **Sorrow**, Alegría writes poems that are love letters to her dead husband. Through these letters, she summons their past to the last vivid detail, ponders the meaning of death and separation, and yearns for reunion. These are tight, tiny verses suffused with grief and longing. Like all of Alegría's work, it is stunning in its intensity and truth. \$13.95 pb, 0-880684-63-2. Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson St., Willimantic CT 06226; 860-423-5110,

fax 860-423-9242, email <info@curbstone.org>, <www.curbstone.org>. Distributed by Consortium.

In **Lesbian Lives: Identity and Auto/Biography in the 20th Century**, Nicky Hallett considers to what extent lesbian representation has changed from the deviancy of the 1920s to the lesbian chic of the 1990s. In her study, she looks at testimonials of individuals, including Virginia Woolf, Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude Stein, Vita Sackville-West, and Radclyffe Hall. She frames her study within the broader context of gender, sexuality, race, and the construction of identity in a postmodern culture. She questions how coded and indirect lesbian lives really were in the 20s and how out lesbian lives really are in the 90s. Looks positively fascinating. \$18.95 pb, 0-7453-1131-8. Pluto Press, 345 Archway Rd., London N6 5AA, U.K. Distributed by Stylus Publishing, 22883 Quicksilver Dr., Sterling VA 20166; 703-661-1500, fax 703-661-1501, email <styluspub@aol.com>.



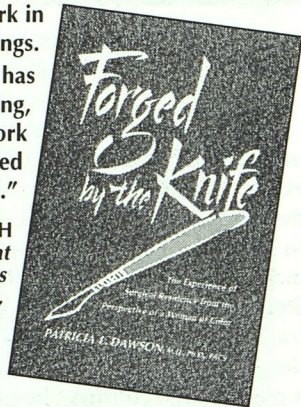
In **Some Mother's Daughter: The Hidden Movement of Prostitute Women Against Violence**, the International Prostitutes Collective (via editor Nina Lopez-Jones) shows how, in England and the U.S., violence against sex workers is built into the law and its enforcement. As a result, prostitute women and their allies have been an important and hidden part in the women's movement against violence. This is another important title from the publishing arm of the IPC, Crossroads Press. \$10 pb, 0-9517775-8-X. Crossroads Books (U.S.), PO Box 14512, San Francisco CA 94114; phone/fax 415-626-4114. Available from AK Press, PO Box 40682, San Francisco CA 94140; 415-864-0892, email <akpress@akpress.org>.

**Women, Work, & Islamism: Ideology & Resistance in Iran** by Maryam Poya is another incredibly interesting cultural study from the folks at Zed. This

**"FORGED by the KNIFE** not only dramatically documents how racism and sexism affect Black women surgeons in training, but depicts situations that will ring true to women of color who work in all kinds of settings.

PATRICIA DAWSON has created a fascinating, groundbreaking work and a much needed survival manual."

~ BARBARA SMITH  
author of *The Truth That Never Hurts: Writings on Race, Gender, and Freedom*



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time, Poya explores Islamism in practice in Iran. Since the 1979 revolution, the Iranian state and society has tried to keep women secluded at home. Due to a number of factors — the Iran-Iraq war, economic restructuring, and women's resistance to this doctrine — more women work now than before the revolution. Women also have a greater level of gender consciousness in the 90s; now religious and secular women in urban areas are forming alliances to fight for reform. An excellent and up-to-date source. \$19.95 pb, 1-85649-682-1. Zed Books, 7 Cynthia St., London N1 9JF, U.K. Distributed by St. Martin's Press.

The cover of the latest Lesléa Newman short story collection fairly screams. With roses a shade of pink my conservative soul can only politely call "daring" comes **Girls Will Be Girls: A Novella and Short Stories**. The prolific Newman again showcases her incredible sense of characters as unusual and outrageous as she herself. A no-brainer, women: stock it. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-537-6.

**Out & About Campus: Personal Accounts by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered College**

Students edited by Kim Howard and Annie Stevens is an account of 28 college students who not only survived being gay/bisexual/transgendered on campus, but also changed their campuses for the better. There's a student who attended the University of Texas in drag, a queer woman of color who helps foster gay Chicano/a solidarity at Stanford, and a lesbian basketball player who battles homophobia on the school team. An important and inspiring book. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-480-9, April.

Now available in paperback: Carren Strock's runaway hit, **Married Women Who Love Women**. Alyson again scores a strong midlist title from a mainstream publisher; Doubleday printed the hardcover edition of this book a couple of years ago. \$12.95, 1-55583-555-4.

Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Blvd. Ste. 1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 323-860-6065, fax 323-467-0152. Distributed by Consortium.

A new erotica anthology from a new press, Venus or Vixen, **Viscera** edited by Cara Bruce, is dark, edgy, perverse, and sexy. Venus or Vixen is an award-winning monthly Webzine with erotic stories, reviews, horoscopes, sex advice, and artwork. **Viscera** is the first of their line of in-print anthologies. Dani Bauter, former office manager at *FBN*, is the assistant editor at Venus or Vixen and she has a story included in the anthology. From decapitation to deadly viruses to lesbianism, this anthology runs the gamut of perverse behavior. A truly fitting addition to your queer erotica shelf. \$12.95 pb, 0-9673638-0-2. Venus or Vixen Press, PO Box 591257, San Francisco CA 94159; 415-819-6907, email <info@venusorvixen.com>. Available from Last Gasp, 415-824-6636.

**Cracks** by Shelia Kohler is a tale of adolescence and mystery set at a South African boarding school in the 60s. The young girls there were devoted to their swim coach, Miss G., an attractive and charismatic woman who was their first crush. Forty years later, at the headmistress' bidding, the girls return to the school. While there, they revisit the details surrounding the disappearance of foreign student Fiamma Coronna. Lushly written, **Cracks** explores passion, girlhood, and violence. \$21 cl, 1-58195-008-X. Zoland Books, 384 Huron Ave., Cambridge MA 02138;

617-864-6252, fax 617-661-4998, <www.zolandbooks.com>. Distributed by Consortium.

I recently read *Jump-Off Creek* by Molly Gloss and decided that I really love westerns by women. Which is one reason that I'm so excited to read **Leaping Man Hill** by Carol Emshwiller, the sequel to **Ledoyt**. More reasons are the great reviews this book has received from all over the place and exuberant blurbs from the likes of Grace Paley and Ursula Le Guin. In **Leaping Man Hill**, Emshwiller tells the story of Abel, a mute boy, and Mary Catherine, a young woman from an abusive background who is hired to teach him. Surrounding these two are a family of fabulously complex characters. "Permeated with Western atmosphere and studded with small surprises, this is both a heartfelt family drama and a tender love story that marks Emshwiller as a writer of distinctive talent." —*Publishers Weekly*. \$14.95 pb, 1-56279-111-7. (**Ledoyt** is now available through print-on-demand at Ingram. They apparently ask for a minimum order of 25 copies. I hear a rumor that Mercury House may have a few spare copies; it might be worth a phone call if you haven't yet stocked this extraordinary novel. \$14.95 pb, 1-56279-081-1.) Mercury House, 736 Clementina St. #300, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-626-7874, fax 415-626-7875. Distributed by Consortium.



Acclaimed Native American author Diane Glancy has a new novel, **Fuller Man**. Set in rural Missouri, it is the story of the bitter fights between a man and his wife and the disparate and strong influences of their conflict on each of their children. \$22.95 cl, 1-55921-271-3. Moyer Bell, Kymbolde Way, Wakefield RI 02879; 401-789-0074, fax 401-789-3793. Distributed by PGW.

If your store was a part of the sales phenomenon that was Jane Kenyon's poetry collection *Otherwise*,

you should stock **A Hundred White Daffodils: Essays, Interviews, the Akhmatova Translations, Newspaper Columns, and One Poem**. The collected pieces give insight into Kenyon's writing life, her spiritual life, and her relation to nature and the country. She was an astounding poet, and this new collection of her writing will surely be treasured by her readers. \$23.95 cl, 1-55597-291-8.

Now available in paperback: Jan Zita Grover's memoir on fishing, the natural world, and the interior landscape of the fisher's mind, **Northern Waters**. \$14, 1-55597-294-2.

Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave. Ste. 203, Saint Paul MN 55114; 651-641-0077, fax 651-641-0036, <www.graywolfpress.org>. Distributed by Consortium.

Layle Sibert, the daughter of a Russian immigrant and a writer who came to her craft late in life, has penned her debut book: **The Free Thinkers: Two Novellas**. Set in the U.S. at the turn of the century, this book explores life in a new country. Sibert's characters come from the Ukraine knowing no English, and they record, through Sibert's impeccable eye, the details of this new, funny nation. Her characters slowly trade Russian and Yiddish for English, find work in factories or Jewish newspapers, and try to realize their dreams. They also try to reconcile the very American value of individuality with their own cultural need for community. This is a beautiful debut, written with an incredible eye for detail and a great sense of the experience of people new to the U.S. \$25 cl, 1-58322-025-9, May.

Assia Djebar writes of the tragedies of Algerian history in her new novel, **So Vast the Prison**, translated from the French by Betsy Wing. A modern, educated woman watches her marriage disintegrate in Algeria, a culture intolerant of women. She is, however, amazed by the close-knit groups of women in the ritual baths and elsewhere. Raised in the time of Colonial oppression and the Algerian War, the woman also recalls the ancient history of her land. A

powerful and important novel. \$24.95 cl, 1-58322-009-7.

Annie Ernaux, author of *Simple Passion* and *Shame*, evokes her experience caring for her mother who had Alzheimer's in "**I Remain in Darkness.**" She tries to help her mother recover from the disease, but when that becomes futile, she records her mother's decline and her own experience of losing a parent. As always, Ernaux's writing is spare and powerful. \$18.95 cl, 1-58322-014-3.

Seven Stories Press, 140 Watts St., NY NY 10013; 212-226-8760, fax 212-226-1411, email <info@sevenstories.com>, <www.sevenstories.com>. Distributed by PGW.



Pia Pera, an Italian author, had some legal trouble publishing her first book in the U.S. It's **Lo's Diary**, a retelling of *Lolita* from Lolita's point of view. Dmitri Nabokov, son of Vladimir, sued Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, claiming that the novel represented a copyright infringement. FSG dropped the book and Fox Rock Inc. picked it up after Dmitri signed an agreement giving him 5 percent of the royalties. I really like this retelling. *Lolita* is complex, calculating, funny, and fickle. I like how she scoffs at Humbert, I like how decisive she is, full of character and agency. It may not be a story that all of you want to revisit, but I think that there's something especially subversive about hearing the other side of this famous story from the character who was originally penned as merely an object of desire. \$22.95 cl, 0-9643760-1-3. Fox Rock Inc., 61 Fourth Ave., NY NY 10003; 212-505-6880, fax 212-673-1039, email <loro@webtv.net>. Distributed by PGW.

**Garden Primitives** by Danielle Sosin is another Coffee House discovery. Written with a wonderful sense of character, these stories show how people's perception is confused. Sosin is also attentive to the external world and how her characters deal or withdraw from it. There are some unforgettable personalities in this book. \$14.95 pb, 1-56689-100-0, April.

Now available in paperback: The stunning novel-within-a-novel debut of Norah Labiner, **Our Sometime Sister**. Her protagonist notices that the

stories she writes resemble her own life, which resembles a set piece from *Hamlet*. Realities blur in a deliciously complicated narrative. \$15.95 pb, 1-56689-095-0.

Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th St. Ste. 400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125, fax 612-338-4004, <www.coffeehousepress.org>. Distributed by Consortium.

"Witty, wise and tragic — what it's like to be female." —Faye Weldon. **The Queen of Hearts: Tales of Middle-Age Passion** by Millie Crace-Brown collects three quirky novellas about women at midlife finding love and courage. In "The Queen of Hearts," Rosie's husband leaves her for his secretary, prompting Rosie to go on antidepressants, a move that brings up a whole new crop of concerns. In "The Queen of Diamonds," Linda, a woman dying of breast cancer, asks God to help her find a man. God responds (she thinks) by pointing her in the direction of an uneducated drunk. The ensuing relationship holds surprises for both parties. In "Me and Bobby DeNiro Out in the Front of the BabaLand," Rita finds courage to confront her husband after Robert DeNiro moves into the neighborhood. \$23 cl, 0-9671851-7-3, May.

Steve Dant, main character of **The Secret Keepers**, is trying to transcend a sad past and become a functional human being. Unfortunately, he becomes obsessed with a beautiful woman he sees at the post office and begins stalking her. His presence on the periphery of her life is obvious to the private investigator who has been hired to dig up some dirt on her. A highly voyeuristic novel. I'm a little dubious of this book, I must admit. The writing's not great, and the twisted man with the sad past ends up totally redeemed and a good friend to the stalk-ee and her daughter. \$23 cl, 0-9671851-4-9, May.

GreyCore Press, 2646 New Prospect Rd., Pine Bush NY 12566; 914-744-5081, fax 914-744-8081. Available from all major wholesalers, including B&T and Ingram.

Some really cheesy, trashy reading from Justice House Publishers: Their latest lesbian mystery/romance, **Lucifer Rising** by Sharon Bowers, features fallen DEA angel Jude Lucien and the lovely *Miami Herald* reporter bound and determined to discover Jude's secrets. When the women are targeted by

a sniper, they must race to find out who wants to kill whom. And, naturally, these two are destined for a romp in the sheets and perhaps even true love before the book is done. Oh, such incredibly awful writing! I must quote: "Taking in the sight of her lover's supple form, Jude snickered approvingly. 'Now this is what I call a room with a view.'" You know what, though? Betcha it sells. \$16.99 pb, 0-9638231-6-7. Justice House Publishing, Tacoma WA; <www.justicehouse.com>. Distributed by Bookmasters. Available from Ingram.

Speaking of mysteries, there's a new edition of that must-have reference for chick-mystery aficionados: **Detecting Women, 3rd Edition** by Willetta L. Heising profiles 225 new authors. Interesting authorial factoids are followed by an in-order listing of all the books written in each author's series. Very fabulous. (\$34.95 pb, 0-9644593-6-1; \$44.95 cl, -5-3.) Almost as fabulous but not quite as spendy: the pocket edition. (\$16.95 pb, 0-9644593-7-X.) Purple Moon Press, 3319 Greenfield Rd. #317, Deerfield MI 48120. Distributed by Partners. Available from Ingram and B&T.

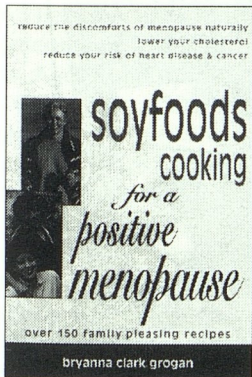
Susan Levitt, a columnist for *Sage Woman*, is also a feng shui consultant, astologer, and tarot reader. Her newest book is **Taoist Feng Shui: The Ancient Roots of the Chinese Art of Placement**. She claims that without a knowledge of Taoism, through which feng shui was developed, one

cannot understand feng shui. In this book, she demonstrates to readers how the fundamental understandings of Taoism work in feng shui, ultimately showing readers how to transform their personal environments to create peace, harmony, health, wealth, and good fortune. \$14.95 pb, 0-89281-723-2. Destiny Books, One Park St., Rochester VT 05767; 800-246-8648, <www.gotoit.com>.



In **Voices of a Generation: Teenage Girls Report About Their Lives Today**, Pamela Haag compiles the results of a questionnaire given to girls (ages 11-17) at "Sister-to-Sister" summits in 1997-8. Girls identified the major issues in their lives, thought about what schools could do to help them, and revealed what advice they'd give other girls. Some fascinating things in this report. Naturally, all customers interested in girls' lives today, the *Ophelia* book, and its descendants would be in the market for this. \$13.95 pb, 1-56924-624-6. Marlowe & Company, 841 Broadway 4th Fl., NY NY 10003. Distributed by PGW.

Milkweed is continuing its newest series of children's literature with the winner of the Milkweed Prize for Children's Literature, **The Ocean Within** by V.M. Caldwell. Elizabeth, an eleven-year-old orphan, is adopted by the Sheridan family. Every experience



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she's ever had with foster families says that the demonstrative Sheridans will eventually send her away. She keeps herself emotionally apart from all except the quietest member of the Sheridan family, Petey. Slowly, over the course of the summer, Elizabeth loses her fear and finds her place in the family. \$6.95 pb, 1-57131-624-8; \$15.95 cl, -623-X. Milkweed Editions, 430 First Ave. N. Ste. 668, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-332-3192, fax 612-332-6248. Distributed by PGW.

**November Ever After** by Laura Torres is the story of a friendship between two girls. Amy's mother recently passed away, and the support of her best friend Sara is the only thing that is getting her

through high school. But when Sara finds herself a new close friend, a cheerleader, and Amy begins to date a boy from her church, the girls spend less time together, to Amy's dismay. Eventually, Amy discovers that Sara and the cheerleader are dating. Amy can't accept Sara's lesbianism at first, until her father, a pastor, counsels her about loving one's friends unconditionally, citing Sara's unconditional support for Amy after her mother's death. The book ends with Amy still disapproving of Sara's lifestyle, but tolerating it because she loves her. This would be a good book for an older child struggling to understand the gayness of a relative or friend. One of the main characters is religious, making it a palatable book for



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- Julia Tung, librarian Stanford University

Often vilified in Chinese history, Wu Ze Tian is the true story of the only female emperor in over 5,000 years of Chinese history. She held power for almost half a century during the Tang Dynasty (618 - 917 AD), a period of prosperity and cultural achievements in China.

1-878217-31-3 \$7.95

*"Lovely watercolor illustrations"*

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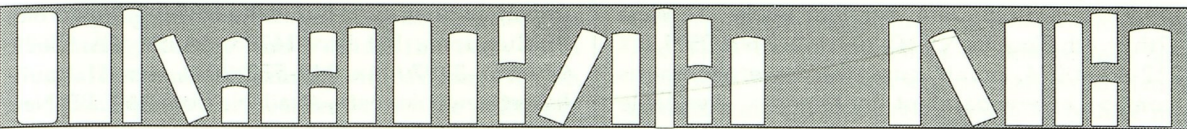
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conservative readers who are trying to reconcile the presence of someone gay in their lives. That said, I'm not really sure how well this sits with me — I probably should be happy that the book talks about tolerance of gayness for the sake of humanity, friendship, and love. I suppose I should be happy that this author is honest about the difficulties of someone religious accepting someone gay. But the fact that the narrative voice in this novel won't condone lesbianism all the way up to the end leaves a sour taste in my mouth. Nonetheless, it will sell well for any store that does well with teen lesbian literature. For the record, Carol likes this book *much* more than I do, and recommends stocking it. \$16.95 cl, 0-8234-1464-7. Holiday House Inc., 425 Madison Ave., NY NY 10017; 212-688-0085, fax 212-421-6134. Available from all major wholesalers.

**Marguerite Makes a Book** by Bruce Robertson, illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt, is a lovely story set 15th-century Paris. Marguerite's father is the most talented manuscript illustrator in Paris. Lady Isabelle has ordered a book, but she will not receive it unless Marguerite helps her father. She does this on the sly — no one trusts her painting ability — but of course in the end, her talent is vindicated. Lavishly illustrated with all the bric-a-brac of a 15th-century manuscript (Hewitt uses a lot of gold plating), this book is a treasure. There's even a map of Paris (through which Marguerite had to trot for supplies) and a glossary of terms. Ages 8 and up. \$18.95 cl, 0-89236-372-X. The J. Paul Getty Trust, 1200 Getty Center Dr. Ste. 500, Los Angeles CA 90049; 310-440-6795, fax 310-440-7706. Distributed by Oxford University Press.

**Extraordinary Girls** by Maya Ajmera, Olateju Omolodun, and Sarah Strunk, foreword by Isabel Carter Stewart, National Director of Girls Inc., depicts extraordinary achievers from 60 countries. This book highlights the things that girls do and what they care about. Most of the profiles are about girls from the U.S., but there is an extravagant number of photos

and information from girls all over the world. This is worth stocking. \$16.95 cl, 0-88106-065-8. Charlesbridge Publishing, 85 Main St., Watertown MA 02472; 800-225-3214, fax 800-926-5775, email<books@charlesbridge.com>, <www.charlesbridge.com>. Available from most major wholesalers, including B&T, Koen, and Ingram.

Redleaf Press has a great bilingual series, **Anti-Bias Books for Kids**, of which the next two titles are a part. **Best Best Colors** by Eric Hoffman, illustrated by Celeste Henriquez, tells of Nate's quest to discover his favorite color. He of course explores the marvelousness of each one, finally realizing, when his two moms come home from the gay pride parade with a big rainbow flag, that colors are best all together. A really great story that sort of directly but indirectly touches upon themes of diversity and acceptance. And the illustrations are wonderful. Ages 3-7. (\$10.95 pb, 1-884834-69-8.) In **Heroines and Heroes** by Eric Hoffman, illustrated by Judi Rosen, Nate and his friend Kayla play that they will capture a dragon. Nate is captured by the dragon and Kayla must use her bravery, strength, and smarts to rescue him. In the end, they make friends with the dragon before going on their next heroic adventure. Ages 3-7. (\$10.95 pb, 1-884834-68-X.) Redleaf Press, 450 N. Syndicate Ste. 5, St. Paul MN 55104; 651-641-0305 or 800-423-8309, fax 800-641-0115. Distributed by Gryphon House. Available from all major wholesalers.



**Grandmothers' Stories: Wise Woman Tales from Many Cultures** retold by Burleigh Mutén and illustrated by Siân Bailey presents for children tales of grandmothers from Senegal, Japan, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, Germany, and Sweden. Each is lavishly illustrated and proves that grandmothers are resourceful and independent women.

\$19.95 cl, 1-902283-24-4. Barefoot Books, 37 West 17th St. 4th Floor E., NY NY 10011; 212-604-0505, fax 212-604-0074, email <ussales@barefoot-books.com>, <www.barefoot-books.com>. Available from Ingram and B&T.

Karen Casey, author of the daily meditation book for women (*Each Day a New Beginning*) and nine other meditation books, has written a daily meditation guide especially for girls: **Girls Only! Daily Thoughts for Young Girls**. Inspired by her own troubled youth, Casey hopes this book will help girls to make better sense of their daily activities, their changing values, their familial relationships, and their friendships. Ages 7–12. \$12 pb, 0-930100-92-1. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by Consortium.

**Forged by the Knife: The Experience of Surgical Residency from the Perspective of a Woman of Color** by Patricia L. Dawson, M.D., Ph.D., FACS, considers her own experience of surgical residency as well as the experiences of other women of color. She shows how women of color must be trailblazers in the midst of a practice developed as a sort of boot camp or endurance test for men. Flipping through, I'm fascinated by the stories of the women in this book and impressed with their strength of character and determination. \$15 pb, 0-940880-64-4; \$24 cl, -63-6. Open Hand Publishing Inc., PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122; 206-323-2187, fax 206-323-2188, email <openhand@jps.net>, <www.openhand.com>. Available from B&T and Partners West.

The title of this next book perhaps oversteps itself a little bit, but the information presented is important: **The Ultimate Rape: What Every Woman Should Know About Hysterectomies and Ovarian Removal** by Elizabeth Plourde, C.L.S., M.A., was inspired by the author's own experience following her hysterectomy, including the unauthorized removal of her ovaries. She records the incredible impact of her hysterectomy on her body and health. She also reports the results of her twelve years of research on hysterectomies and relates other women's stories. This is a book for women considering hysterectomies, and it is for women who are post-operative and thinking about hormone replacement therapy. An

important book. \$19.95 cl, 0-9661735-0-3. New Voice Publications, PO Box 14133, Irvine CA 92623; 949-551-3397, fax 949-552-9041, email <publisher@newvoice.net>. Available from B&T, BP, New Leaf, Quality Books, and Ingram.

For all women who have had treatment for breast cancer. Approximately 25 percent of breast cancer surgery patients experience lymphedema, a disfiguring, painful swelling, most frequently on the arm. Many doctors say that there is little that can be done to prevent lymphedema, but Jeannie Burt and Gwen White have written a book on treating and preventing the condition, **Lymphedema: A Breast Cancer Patient's Guide to Prevention and Healing**. An important and little-acknowledged health issue in our community. \$12.95 pb, 0-89793-264-1.

Another important book on a little-known women's health issue: **Androgen Disorders in Women: The Most Neglected Hormone Problem** by Theresa Cheung. This book explains the effects of an imbalance of androgen, the "male" hormone, which occurs in 10 percent of women. Some of the symptoms of this imbalance are excess facial and body hair, acne, hair loss, fatigue, weight gain, and menstrual dysfunction. Some of the effects can include infertility, ovarian cysts, and metabolic problems that could increase the risk of heart disease and diabetes. Many women are embarrassed to discuss the symptoms with their doctors. This book delineates both medical-help and self-help options. \$13.95 pb, 0-89793-259-5.

Hunter House Publishers, PO Box 2914, Alameda CA 94501; 510-865-5282, fax 510-865-4295. Distributed by PGW.



**Multiple Chemical Sensitivity: A Survival Guide** by Pamela Reed Gibson, Ph.D., provides an extensive guide for coping with environmental illness, chemical injuries, chemical hypersensitivity, chemical allergy, and chemical intolerance. \$15.95 pb, 1-57224-173-X. New Harbinger Publications, 5674 Shattuck Ave., Oakland CA 94609; 800-748-6273 or 510-652-0215, fax 510-652-5472. Distributed by PGW.



**Qigong for Women: Low-Impact Exercises for Enhancing Energy and Toning the Body with Special Sections on Sexuality and Women's Health** by Dominique Ferraro teaches women the practice of qigong, based in the concept of acupuncture meridians, to help maintain both physical and mental equilibrium. \$19.95 pb, 0-89281-838-7. Healing Arts Press, an imprint of Inner Traditions, PO Box 388, Rochester VT 05767; 800-246-8648. Available from New Leaf, BP, B&T, and Ingram.

**Lesbian Gothic** by Paulina Palmer explores the growth of lesbian Gothic fiction over the past 25 years. Palmer looks at the role of the lesbian in Gothic fiction, which was painted with overtones of misogyny and homophobia before the women's movement and gay liberation. In more recent years, the witch, vampire, etc., have been appropriated by lesbian writers to express the transgressive aspects of lesbian sexuality and identity. Looks quite interesting to me. For all your literary, pop-culture theory buffs. \$19.95 pb, 0-304-70154-8.

Continuum has brought over another thoughtful study from Britain: **Childfree and Sterilized: Women's Decisions and Medical Responses** by Annily Campbell explores the decision of women in "developed" countries to become sterilized rather than to continue dealing with contraception. She interviews women ages 22 to 51 about the resistance and prejudice they got from the medical community when seeking surgery, living childless in a society that expects women to be mothers, and expressing their feelings of relief and occasional regret. \$19.95 pb, 0-304-33747-1.

Continuum has also published a tenth anniversary edition of Carol Adams' theoretical book that links the philosophies of vegetarianism and feminism. **The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory** has garnered critical praise from Andrea Dworkin, *Ms.*, and the *Vegetarian Times*. \$18.95 pb, 0-8264-1184-3.

Continuum, 370 Lexington Ave., NY NY 10017; 212-953-5858, fax 212-953-5944, email <contin@tiac.net>, <www.continuum-books.com>. Available from all major wholesalers.

**Women Afraid to Eat: Breaking Free in Today's Weight-Obsessed World** by Frances M. Berg

challenges the social and medical pressures to be thin and offers specific guidelines on how women (and those who work with women) can change their hatred of their bodies. There's not a whole lot of new info here, but it is a medical-type book written by a medical-type woman, which I suppose lends it a bit more credibility to the mainstream. \$24.95 cl, 0-918532-63-9. Healthy Weight Network, 402 S. 14th St., Hettinger ND 58639; 701-567-2602, email <hwj@healthyweight.net>, <www.healthyweight.net>. Distributed by IPG, 800-888-4741. Available from B&T and the Bookmen.



**Eat First — You Don't Know What They'll Give You: The Adventures of an Immigrant Family and Their Feminist Daughter** by Sonia Pressman Fuentes is the story of one of the pioneers of the Second Wave feminist movement. Fuentes originally intended to write a serious and scholarly historical work on the feminist movement, but ended up with this humorous, touching, warm memoir instead. A lovely story. Tragically, not such a lovely book. The extremely uninspiring cover will mean that this title will need some handselling attention. \$14.40 pb, 0-7388-0635-8. Xlibris Corporation, 888-7-XLIBRIS, email <orders@Xlibris.com>, <www.Xlibris.com>. Available from B&T.

Theodore Roszak writes, "Male scientists have always been more male than scientist" in **The Gendered Atom: Reflections on the Sexual Psychology of Science**. He demonstrates sexual biases and gender stereotypes in "objective" views of the natural world, down to and including the conception of the atom. He calls upon scientists to redefine the practice of science to consider nature as something connected to scientists' feelings of responsibility and emotions. Foreword by Jane Goodall. \$21.95 cl, 1-57324-171-1.

In **The 12 Secrets of Highly Creative Women: A Portable Memoir**, Gail McMeekin profiles and interviews authors, businesswomen, artists, musicians, scholars, an interior designer, and an actress to reveal the secrets of their success. McMeekin identifies twelve practices or "patterns" that the women share,

which she outlines so that any woman can overcome roadblocks and realize her creative self. \$16.95 pb, 1-57324-141-5.

**The Courage for Peace: Daring to Create Harmony in Ourselves and the World** by Louise Diamond, an expert in conflict-resolution and cofounder of the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy, writes of the four principles of inner and outer peace and the simple actions people can take to create peace in themselves and the world. \$15.95 pb, 1-57324-165-2.

Conari Press, 2550 Ninth St. Ste. 101, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-649-7175, fax 510-649-7190. Distributed by PGW.

Now in paper: **Letters to a Young Feminist** by Phyllis Chesler. \$11, 1-56858-151-3. Four Walls Eight Windows. Distributed by PGW.

A new resource has been compiled by one of our very own proofers, Sarah Holmes. **An Annotated Bibliography of Lesbian and Gay Titles from the Simmons College Libraries** collects and briefly

describes the Simmons College collections. Of interest to librarians. Discounts: 1-4 copies: 20%, 5-24: 42%, and 25-99: 44%. \$20 pb. The Publishing Project, PO Box 184, 203 Washington St., Salem MA 01970; 978-741-1507.



**Adopting in China: A Practical Guide/An Emotional Journey** by Kathleen Wheeler, Ph.D., and Doug Werner is based on the authors' experience adopting a baby girl from China. It is estimated that there are up to four million girls in Chinese orphanages, and the Chinese government has recently relaxed restrictions against foreigners adopting these girls. This book is a resource guide for those interested in adopting children from China, and it is the story of one middle-aged couple's decision to become parents. \$11.95 pb, 1-884654-00-2. Tracks Publishing, 140 Brightwood Ave., Chula Vista CA 91910; 800-443-3570, fax 619-476-7125, <www.startupsports.com>. Distributed by IPG, 800-888-4741.

By Donna Niles

**The New Estrogen Alternative: Natural Hormone Therapy with Botanical Progesterone** by Raquel Martin with Judi Gerstung, D.C. An updated and revised edition of a really good book, used by *moi* many times. Martin has had a long career as counselor/advisor on all matters concerning women's health. \$14.95 pb, 0-89281-893-X.

**Reclaiming the Spirituality of Birth: Healing for Mothers and Babies** by Benig Mauger. "A therapist and childbirth educator shows how connection to nature and the spiritual world can heal birth trauma and preserve the health of mothers and babies." \$14.95 pb, 0-89281-896-4.

Inner Traditions, PO Box 388, Rochester VT 05767; 800-246-8648. Available from New Leaf, BP, B&T, and Ingram.

**Green Witchcraft III: The Manual** is the third in the series about the Natural Witch by Ann Moura. Here she focuses on herbal magic and attunement

with nature as a way of life. \$12.95 pb, 1-56718-688-2.

**The Energy Body Connection** by Pamela Welch, M.A. Another approach to energy medicine, this book demonstrates methods of awakening your body's cells and tissues and directing your consciousness to obtain healing and new soul patterns. \$14.95 pb, 1-56718-819-2.

**Italian Witchcraft** by Raven Grimassi. Formerly titled *The Way of Strega* (as in Strega Nona), Raven traces the roots of Italian Pagan traditions to the present day. It's also a how-to, hands-on, modern Pagan ceremonial guide. \$14.95 pb, 1-56718-259-3.

**Candles, Meditation, and Healing** by Charlene Whitaker. A guide to using candles in meditation, divination, and many other forms of ritual. I can think of no other title with this specific information, and since I know a lot of candle users, it seems like this would be a great book to stock. \$7.95 pb, 1-56718-818-4, April.

Llewellyn Publications, PO Box 64383, St. Paul MN 55164; 800-843-6666, fax 651-291-1908. Available from BP, Koen, B&T, and Ingram. ○

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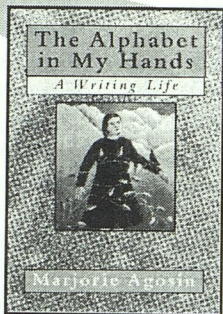
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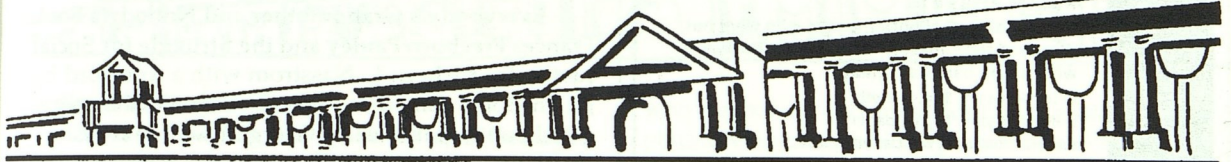
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## Broadview Press

In a "theoretical autobiography," Christine Overall shares her personal history as a working-class feminist academic in **The Feminist I: Reflections on Academia**. \$14.95 pb, 1-55111-219-1.\*

## Columbia University Press

**Critical Condition: Feminism at the Turn of the Century** by Susan Gubar may become a pivotal book in feminist theory in the first decade of 2000. Gubar examines feminist theory and literary criticism across recent generations (1970s, 80s, 90s) — including her own writing during those years — to understand major divisions and problems within feminism. She claims that what undermines feminism's struggle for unity also proves its resilience. She points to a hopeful future of pluralized perspectives and disciplines. \$24.50 cl, 0-231-11580-6.

**A Thousand Moons on a Thousand Rivers** by Hsiao Li-Hung, translated by Michelle Wu, is the story of Zhenguan, a sensitive young Taiwanese woman whose coming of age is influenced by new experiences in the city, the wisdom of her elders, and her strong, unique identity. Infused with Buddhist teachings, this novel portrays the intimacy of agricultural life in the midst of an increasingly industrialized society. \$24.50 cl, 0-231-11202-5.

We now have enough of second-wave feminism to take a critical look at its successes and failures and

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

to explore the potentialities for the future. This is the purpose of **Why Feminism?: Gender, Psychology, Politics** by Lynne Segal. This book looks at the shifts from the brash emergence of the Women's Liberation Movement of the 60s through the diverse and discordant feminisms that have emerged in the last three decades and highlights some of the major issues and debates. \$16.95 pb, 0-231-11965-8; \$45 cl, -11964-X.

Also of interest: **When Women Become Priests: The Catholic Women's Ordination Debate** by Kelley A. Raab is the first sustained reflection on the differences that would be apparent with women at the altar. (\$19.50 pb, 0-231-11335-8; \$49.50 cl, -11334-X, May.) **Let's Get This Straight: A Gay- and Lesbian-Affirming Approach to Child Welfare** by Gerald P. Mallon is the first book to approach child welfare from a gay- and lesbian-affirming perspective to challenge the "heterocentrism" within child welfare that detrimentally affects those in need of assistance. (\$22 pb short discount, 0-231-11137-1; \$49.50 cl, -11136-3.)

Now available in paperback: **Modern Girls, Shining Stars, the Skies of Tokyo: Five Japanese Women** by Phyllis Birnbaum. Reviewed in the January 1999 *FBN*. \$14.95, 0-231-11357-9, April.



## Cornell University Press

Fans of Virginia Woolf (and there are many) will no doubt want to add **The Measure of Life: Virginia Woolf's Last Years** by Herbert Mauder to their collection. This narrative looks at Woolf's life from 1930 until her suicide in 1941 and places it in the context of the approach and arrival of World War II, during which she wrote her major novel. It traces recurring references in her work to water and drowning, which

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foreshadow her own death, and recognizes her battle with manic depression. This is likely to become a major biography on Virginia Woolf. \$35 cl, 0-8014-3729-6, June.

**Everybody's Grandmother and Nobody's Fool: Frances Freeborn Pauley and the Struggle for Social Justice** by Kathryn L. Nasstrom with a foreword by Julian Bond combines regional context (the segregated South, particularly Georgia) with oral history (Pauley's combined with students, activists, and scholars who knew her) and biography to create a memoir of Frances Pauley. Pauley — a 94-year-old white woman who grew up in the South — was a champion of civil rights and racial justice and an advocate for the poor and disenfranchised. Her life encompassed much of the last century, thus providing a view of not only her life but also the span of social change and Southern politics during the 1900s. \$26 cl, 0-8014-3782-2, April.

**Duke University Press**

Many of us may be familiar with "all-girl groups," but what about bands?! **Swing Shift: "All-Girl" Bands of the 1940s** by Sherrie Tucker offers firsthand accounts of more than a hundred women who performed during this era. This book not only archives their history but also offers insight into why whole bands of dedicated and talented women musicians were dropped from national memory. \$29.95 cl, 0-8223-2485-7, June.

**Queer Diasporas** edited by Cindy Patton and Benigno Sánchez-Eppier illustrates how queer identities are affected in ways that are as varied and nuanced as the cultural, social, and physical environments in which they are created. It illuminates the complex nature of queerness in the postmodern world and makes contributions to cultural, literary, and postcolonial as well as gay/lesbian studies. \$18.95 pb, 0-8223-2422-9; \$54.95 cl, -2387-7, June.

Of related interest: In **Queering the Color Line: Race and the Invention of Homosexuality in American Culture** Siobhan B. Somerville shows that race has historically been central to the cultural production of homosexuality. \$17.95 pb, 0-8223-2443-1; \$49.95 cl, -2407-5.

Now in paperback: **Failing the Future: A Dean Looks at Higher Education in the 21st Century** by Annette Kolodny. \$17.95, 0-8223-2470-9.



### Indiana University Press

Now in paperback: **Bequest and Betrayal: Memoir of a Parent's Death** by Nancy K. Miller explores the ways in which the death of our parents forces us to rethink our lives, to reread ourselves. (\$14.95 short discount, 0-253-21379-7.) **Mary Ann Shadd Cary: The Black Press and Protest in the Nineteenth Century** by Jane Rhodes. Reviewed in the March 1999 issue of *FBN*. (\$18.95 short discount, 0-253-21350-9.)

**"We Only Come Here to Struggle": Stories from Berida's Life** by Berida Ndambuki and Claire Robertson depicts the life of Berida Ndambuki, a Kenyan woman whose life defies Western stereotypes of African women. In addition to raising 16 children with minimal help from her husband, she is a leader of women's groups in Kathozweni and at Gikomba Market in Nairobi. (\$17.95 pb short discount, 0-253-21366-5; \$39.95 cl, -33701-1, April.) This book becomes even more alive with its companion video, **Second Face: Berida's Lives**, produced and directed by Claire Robertson, which also shows the living conditions of a large number of Kenyan women. (\$29.95, 37 minutes, 0-253-21394-0, April.)

It's sometimes hard to anticipate what will likely become "popular" university press books, but experience tells me that this next one will be course-adopted and a steady seller out of our feminist theory section. **Decentering the Center: Philosophy for a Multicultural, Postcolonial, and Feminist World** edited by Uma Narayan and Sandra Harding highlights how contemporary philosophy is being transformed by postcolonial and multicultural feminism. \$16.95 pb short discount, 0-253-21384-3; \$39.95 cl, -33737-2.

### Johns Hopkins University Press

**The Only Menopause Guide You'll Ever Need** by Michele Moore recognizes the individuality of women as it addresses their concerns in dealing with the changes of menopause. It is written for women

who are making decisions about treatment for menopausal symptoms and incorporates Moore's personal experiences with perimenopause, menopause, and postmenopause. \$13.95 pb, 0-8018-6408-9; \$42.50 cl, -6407-0, May.

**Women in Science and Engineering: Choices for Success** edited by Cecily Cannan Selby identifies the ways in which women working in science fields can adapt to existing institutional systems while examining how these systems can and should improve so that more women will choose to work in them. \$19.95 pb short discount, 0-8018-6434-8.

Now in paperback: Two collections of Josephine Jacobsen: **What Goes Without Saying: Collected Stories of Josephine Jacobsen** (\$18.95, 0-8018-6338-4, May) and **In the Crevice of Time: New and Collected Poems** (\$18.95 pb, 0-8018-6339-2, May).



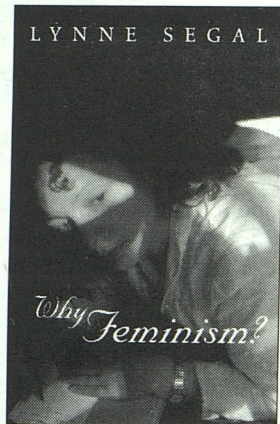
### Northwestern University Press

Now available: **Is Feminist Philosophy Philosophy?** edited by Emanuela Bianchi looks at the contested boundaries between feminist theory and philosophy. \$26.95 pb, 0-8101-1595-6; \$69.95 cl, -1594-8.\*\*\*

### Ohio State University Press

**Travels with the Wolf: A Story of Chronic Illness** by Melissa Anne Goldstein offers an autobiographical account of her experiences with lupus narrated through poetry and prose. Goldstein reflects on her experiences with this elusive and debilitating disease as she explores her relationships with her family and friends, struggles to maintain independence, and examines her spiritual core. \$22 pb, 0-8142-5043-2; \$65 cl, -0840-1, June.

Now available in paperback: **Women Drinking Benedictine**, short stories by Sharon Dilworth. \$16.95, 0-8142-5012-2.\*



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### Penn State University Press

Mary Daly's writings have been some of the most controversial works in contemporary feminism — critiqued, embraced, abandoned, ignored. **Feminist Interpretations of Mary Daly** edited by Sarah Lucia Hoagland and Marilyn Frye offers a rereading of Daly's works from multiple vantage points of contemporary feminism. Some of the themes explored include subjectivity as be-coming, territoriality of lesbian and women's space, and theological dimensions of 20th-century philosophy. In the end, it deauthorizes the official canon of Western philosophy and disrupts the claims of some feminists that Daly's work is unworthy. \$25 pb short discount, 0-271-02019-9; \$70 cl, -02018-0, August.

### Rutgers University Press

As of this writing (early February), **Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology** edited by Barbara Smith and originally published by Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, has not yet been available — though Rutgers lists it in the catalog as recently published. So keep an eye open for it. This still-requested, longtime favorite will be something you'll want on your shelves. \$20 pb short discount, 0-8135-2753-8.

Rutgers' list for the Spring includes several titles focused on women's concerns about the medicalization of the body in biology and science, as connected to physiology and rhetoric. It may be easy for many stores to dismiss them as too academic, but

they touch on some new horizons that make them worth a look. **Feminism and the Biological Body** by Lynda Birke criticizes the recent interest in "the body" in feminist and sociological theories that, she claims, remain oddly disembodied. As a biologist, Birke rejects bodily function as fixed and unchanging and suggests ways to bring together science and feminism for a new politics that includes rather than denies the flesh. (\$19 pb short discount, 0-8135-2823-2; \$49 cl, -2822-4.) **Medicalized Motherhood: Perspectives from the Lives of African American and Jewish Women** by Jacquelyn S. Litt explores the use of Dr. Spock's *Baby and Child Care* as a text that medicalizes motherhood. Litt interviews African-American and Jewish women who raised children in the 1930s and 40s to show how this medicalization affected their childrearing, even though their parenting was still shaped by ethnic, race, and class inequality. (\$20 pb short discount, 0-8135-2782-1; \$50 cl, -2781-3, May.) **The Rhetoric of Midwifery: Gender, Knowledge, and Power** by Mary M. Lay explores the ways in which midwives receive credentials in the state of Minnesota (certified degrees versus direct-entry, nonacademic training) to understand the complex relationships between power, knowledge, and gender within the medical profession. (\$24 pb short discount, 0-8135-2779-1; \$55 cl, -2778-3, May.) Finally, **A New and Untried Course: Woman's Medical College and Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1850–1998** by Steven J.



Peitzman looks at the history of the first college to formally train women in the medical profession. (\$22 pb short discount, 0-8135-2816-X; \$60 cl, -2815-1, June.)

Available in paperback: **Pillar of Salt: Gender, Memory, and the Perils of Looking Back** by Janice Haaken. \$22, 0-8135-2837-2, July.\*\*

### State University of New York (SUNY)

As highly regarded as Toni Morrison is, critics and reviewers of her writings fail to really look at and appreciate the challenging views Morrison presents on Black Americans, especially the traumas of slavery and the horrors of racist oppression. These are some of the views expressed in **Quiet As It's Kept: Shame, Trauma, and Race in the Novels of Toni Morrison** by J. Brooks Bouson. This book uses the psychoanalytic and psychiatric work of shame and trauma theorists in order to explore the role of shame and trauma as it applies to issues of race, class, color, and caste in Morrison's novels. \$21.95 pb, 0-7914-4424-4; \$65.50 cl, -4423-6.

**Abby Hopper Gibbons: Prison Reformer and Social Activist** by Margaret Hope Bacon provides a biographical and historical look at the life and work of a 19th-century American social activist particularly known for her pioneering efforts to improve the treatment of women prisoners. \$19.95 pb, 0-7914-4498-8; \$59.50 cl, -4497-X, April.

SUNY has a very strong education list this season with several of their titles directly addressing issues of gender and sexuality. Stores with comprehensive education or women's studies sections may want to consider offering these titles. **Codes and Contradictions: Race, Gender Identity, and Schooling** by Jeanne Drysdale Weiler takes an in-depth look at a diverse group of young women at an alternative "at-risk" high school and identifies the impact of race, class, and gender in shaping identity. Additionally she shows the enormous power schools have to reorient women from school failure to success. (\$23.95 pb, 0-7914-4520-8; \$71.50 cl, -4519-4, May.) **Principles of Power: Women Superintendents and the Riddle of the Heart** by C. Cryss Brunner shares perspectives from twelve successful women superintendents and puts them in cultural context that highlights what can be learned from their success. (\$18.95 pb, 0-7914-4570-4; \$57.50 cl, -4569-0, May.) Similarly, **Balancing Acts: Women Principals at Work** by Lisa

Smulyan offers surprising insights into the complex worlds of women principals. (\$22.95 pb, 0-7914-4518-6; \$68.50 cl, -4517-8, May.) Finally, **Subject to Identity: Knowledge, Sexuality, and Academic Practices in Higher Education** by Susan Talburt offers an interpretive ethnography of three lesbian faculty members that depicts the complicated relationship of knowledge, identity, and sexuality and how it applies to policy and practice in higher education. (\$23.95 pb, 0-7914-4572-0; \$71.50 cl, -4571-2, May.)

Now available in paperback: **A Spiritual Life: A Jewish Feminist Journey** by Merle Field. Reviewed in the January 1999 issue of *FBN*. (\$19.95, 0-7914-4118-0.) **Paradise Farm** by Brenda Webster. Reviewed in the January 1999 issue of *FBN*. (\$24.50, 0-7914-4100-8.)



### Temple University Press

As we — that is, the postmodern political left and feminists — become more articulate about the ways in which so many issues intersect and affect each other, it gets a little more challenging to do this column. Books that at one time would have been too general — or too issue-specific — for our stores now become increasingly important as they do encompass and more self-consciously include issues that affect women and feminist political strategies. This is certainly true for two new titles coming from Temple this season.

**Voices of the Religious Left: A Contemporary Sourcebook** edited by Rebecca T. Alpert includes large sections on women and feminists. Contributors include Delores Williams, Rita Nakashima Brock, Barbara Holmes, Helen Prejean, Rosemary Radford Reuther, and others. Though the collection has a fair number of men in it and perhaps covers some issues our stores might not ordinarily be concerned with, this book appears too important not to include in our feminist spirituality sections. (\$27.95 pb, 1-56639-757-X; \$84.50 cl, -756-1, April.) Similarly, **Critical Race Theory: The Cutting Edge, Second Edition** edited by Richard Delgado and Jean Stefanic covers a wide range of issues pertaining to racism — especially on atypical topics for our



New from Cornell

## The Measure of Life

Virginia Woolf's Last Years

HERBERT MARDER

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24 photos JUNE

## Everybody's Gandmother and Nobody's Fool

Frances Freeborn Pauley  
and the Struggle for  
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KATHRYN L. NASSTROM

Foreword by Julian Bond

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19 b&w photos, 1 map APRIL

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MICHEL CHAUVEAU

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49 images, 2 maps,  
1 genealogical table MARCH

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JUNE

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across the Fifty States

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MAY

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MARCH

## Three Women in Dark Times

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Simone Weil

SYLVIE

COURTINE-DENAMY

Translated by G.M. Goshgarian

0-8014-3572-2 \$32.50

MAY

stores — but there are sections of the book specifically addressing gay, lesbian, and queer issues and critical race feminism. Contributors include Patricia Williams as well as many names I don't recognize — so we will also be exposed to some additional theorists with whom we may be unfamiliar. (\$29.95 pb, 1-56639-714-6; \$79.50 cl, -713-8.) Though I have not yet seen either of these books, the table of contents for both looks promising, and we should strongly consider them for our stock.

Now available in paperback: **Paradise, New York: A Novel** by Eileen Pollack. Reviewed in the January 1999 issue of *FBN*. \$17.95, 1-56639-789-8.

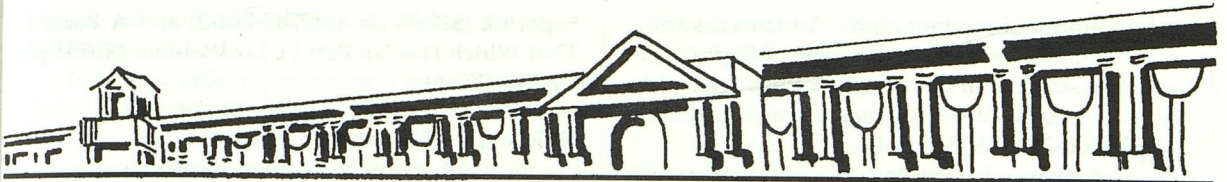
## Texas A&M Press

Of regional interest: **Chiricahua Apache Women and Children: Safekeepers of the Heritage** by H. Henrietta Stockel. \$24.95 cl, 0-89096-921-3, April.

## University of California Press

**Venus on Wheels: Two Decades of Dialogue on Disability, Biography, and Being Female in America** by Geyla Frank presents an ethnography that is both thoughtful and empathetic. Frank writes of her friendship with Diane DeVries — a woman born without arms or legs — who grows up to be sexy, gutsy, and optimistic. Frank explores the cultural sources that would describe DeVries as a victim and analyses the portrayal of women with disabilities in popular culture. This book appears promising, and I look forward to its release. \$19.95 pb, 0-520-21716-0; \$50 cl, -21715-2, April.

Two books on California's list explore the impacts of race and culture on women's lives in strikingly different ways. **Feminism on the Border: Chicana Gender Politics and Literature** by Sonia Saldívar-Hull provides a comprehensive account of Chicana feminist writing, which argues for a feminism that transcends national borders and ethnic identities. (\$16.95 pb, 0-520-20733-5.) In a completely different approach, Janet McDonald's autobiography **Project Girl** explores the opposing worlds in which she has lived. Despite being raised in a neighborhood filled with poverty, drug abuse, and crime, McDonald excels as a ghetto kid with academic talent, attends ivy league schools, and finally flees to Paris where she is now a lawyer. \$15.95 pb, 0-520-22345-4, May.



For those who like biography and anthropology: **Harukor: An Ainu Woman's Tale** by Honda Katsuichi reconstructs the life of an Ainu woman living on the northern island of Japan more than five hundred years ago. (\$19.95 pb, 0-520-21020-4; \$50 cl, -21019-0.) **From Grandmother to Granddaughter: Salvadoran Women's Stories** by Michael Gorkin, Marta Pineda, and Gloria Leal creates an intimate portrayal of Salvadoran women's lives through the interviews conducted across generations. (\$19.95 pb, 0-520-22240-7; \$50 cl, -21165-0.)

Available in paperback: **America Day by Day** by Simone de Beauvoir, translated by Carol Cosman. Reviewed in the March 1999 *FBN*. \$17.95, 0-520-21067-0.

New edition available: **Sappho** translated by Mary Barnard. \$10.95 pb, 0-520-22312-8.



### University of Chicago Press

Queen. Virgin. Ruthless. These are some of the words most associated with Elizabeth I of British history. Apparently, she was also a productive and gifted writer. **Elizabeth I: Collected Works** edited by Leah S. Marcus, Janel Mueller, and Mary Beth Rose collects a number of her writings in one volume, including childhood letters to her father (Henry VIII), fledgling speeches as a monarch, prayers, poems in various languages, and more. Together they permit us a glimpse of Elizabeth — her confidence and insecurity — in her own words. \$40 cl, 0-226-50464-6, July.

Is your vision for a feminist future based on some notion of Utopia? Sally Kitch, author of **Higher Ground: From Utopianism to Realism in American Feminist Thought and Theory** argues, based on her examination of feminist utopian fiction, that this is a mistake. In this study, Kitch defines utopian thinking, explores the pitfalls of pursuing social change based

on utopian ideas, and argues for a "higher ground" — a contrasting approach she calls realism. Realistic thought will help us to avoid generalizations and false idealizations so that we can respond to changing circumstances, acknowledge sameness and difference, and create a more exciting vision for a feminist future. \$17 pb short discount, 0-226-43857-0; \$45 cl, -45856-2, May.

### University of Georgia Press

**Apalachee: A Novel** by Joyce Rockwood Hudson is the lead title for Georgia this season, and my sales rep tells me they're putting a lot of money into promoting it — so this may be one to have around. The story centers on Hinachuba Lucia, a Native American wise woman caught in the rapidly changing world of the early colonial South. It portrays the decimation of the Indian mission culture of Spanish Florida by English Carolina, Indian slavery in colonial America, and the ravaging of native culture by disease and Christianity. This promises to be an important historical novel. \$27.95 cl, 0-8203-2190-7, April.

### University of Illinois Press

Feminist classics now available again, in paperback: two important books by Kate Millet are now available with new prefaces by the author. **Sexual Politics**, first published in 1970, identifies patriarchy as a socially conditioned belief system masquerading as nature with attitudes and systems that penetrate literature, philosophy, psychology, and politics. (\$17.95, 0-252-06889-0.) First published in 1977, **Sita** presents an intimate and painful autobiography of Millet's relationship with a woman ten years her senior. It's an obsessive and passionate portrayal of love, chaos, abandon, and abandonment. (\$14.95, 0-252-06887-4.)

**Jane Addams: A Biography** is based on Addams' personal papers, which, before her death, she turned over to James Weber Linn, her nephew

and the author of this biography. Addams is known as the founder of Hull House, and this portrayal combines substantial published writings with additional unpublished letters, papers, and speeches. \$15.95 pb, 0-252-06904-8, June.

And for fun: I know this title will create some conflict for the animal rights/anti-rodeo activists in our town, but **Cowgirls of the Rodeo: Pioneer Professional Athletes** by Mary Lou Lecompte fills a gap in the history of women's sports. \$16.95 pb, 0-252-06874-2.

### University of Iowa

Iowa has several titles of interest to stores with strong poetry sections. **H.D. and Poets After** edited by Donna Krolik Hollenberg is the first book to explore H.D.'s influence on contemporary American poetry. These 20 essays by writers such as Alicia Ostriker, Sharon Dubiago, Rachel Blau DuPlessis, Leslie Scalapino, and others include autobiographical testimony by poets whom H.D. influenced and critical analysis by scholars attuned to modern poetics. \$19.95 pb short discount, 0-87745-721-2; \$39.95 cl, -709-3, June.

Iowa's poetry list includes collections from two Iowa Poetry Prize winners: **Isolato** by Larissa

Szporluk (\$10.95 pb, 0-87745-704-2) and **A Point Is That Which Has No Part** by Liz Waldner (\$10.95 pb, 0-87745-702-6).

### University of Kentucky Press

In 1995 Kentucky Governor Brereton Jones granted parole to ten women who had been convicted of killing, conspiring to kill, or assaulting the men who had abused them for years. The media began referring to them as the Sisters in Pain, a name they embraced. **Sisters in Pain: Battered Women Fight Back** by L. Elisabeth Beattie and Mary Angela Shaughnessy tells their stories through interviews with seven of the released women and places them in historical and cultural context of domestic violence in the U.S. \$29.95 cl, 0-8131-2151-5, June.

Now available in paperback: **Bloodroot: Reflections on Place by Appalachian Women Writers** edited by Joyce Dyer. Reviewed in the March 1998 *FBN*. \$17, 0-8131-0983-3.



### University of Minnesota Press

**Methodology of the Oppressed** by Chela Sandoval with a foreword by Angela Y. Davis challenges current critical theories by inserting what Sandoval terms "U.S. Third World feminism" into the narrative. U.S. liberation movements have generated modes of oppositional consciousness and language — a methodology of the oppressed — marked by cultural and identity struggles. This global exchange presents the possibility of a new historical moment, a new form of alliance and politics, and a methodology that mobilizes love as a category of critical analysis. \$19.95 pb short discount, 0-8166-2737-1; \$49.95 cl, -2736-3, June.

A homeless mother can't possibly be a *good* mother in the cultural definitions of motherhood in U.S. society. **Homeless Mothers: Face to Face with Women and Poverty** by Deborah Connolly draws on actual women's life stories and the concocted stories that our culture tells about them to reveal the contradictions between the two. In doing so, Connolly breaks the silence and disturbs the headlines, cultural stereotypes, and paranoia to offer a glimpse at women struggling with the harsh

**Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation:** FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS (02/01/00), published monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Subscription price: \$70/year/store. Mailing address of Known Office of Publication: 2180 Bryant St. #207, San Francisco, CA 94110. Mailing Address of Headquarters: Same. Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor and Owner: Carol Seajay, PO Box 882554, San Francisco, CA 94188-2554. Known bondholders: none. Average Number of Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months (Actual Number of Copies September 1999/ Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date): A-Total Copies/Net Press Run: 662 (525). B-Paid and/or Requested Circulation 1) Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors and counter sales: 0 (0), 2)Mail Subscription 414 (425). C-Total Paid or Requested Circulation: 415 (425). D-Free Distribution: 20 (10). E-Total Distribution: 434 (435). F-Copies Not Distributed 1)Office use, leftover, etc: 228 (90), 2>Returns from News Agents: 0 (0). G-Total: 662 (525). Signed Carol Seajay, Editor & Publisher. PS Form 3526.

realities of motherhood on the streets. \$24.95 cl, 0-8166-3281-2, May.

Now available in paperback: **Pretty Good for a Girl: An Athlete's Story** by Leslie Heywood. \$15.95, 0-8166-3659-1.

Now available: **Women of White Earth: Photographs and Interviews** by Vance Vannote. \$24.95 pb, 0-8166-3274-X.\*

### University of Nebraska

In 1995, Joan Acocella wrote a controversial article in the *New Yorker* in which she argued that the central element of Willa Cather's work was not political agenda but rather a tragic vision of life. **Willa Cather and the Politics of Criticism** expands that theory to show how critics, both of the left and right, have distorted analyses of Cather's work. \$20 cl, 0-8032-1046-9.

**Grandmother's Grandchild: My Crow Indian Life** by Alma Hogan Shell and edited by Becky Matthews is the story of the author, a Crow woman raised by her grandmother, the famous medicine woman Pretty Shield. \$25 cl, 0-8032-4277-8.

Now available: **Hide: A Child's View of the Holocaust** by Naomi Samson. \$15 pb, 0-8032-9272-4.\*



### University of New Mexico Press

Mystery fans who like something quirky will enjoy **The Stolen Blue: A Claire Reynier Mystery** by Judith Van Gieson. A buyer of rare regional books for a southwestern university library discovers that the dream job that one would expect to be "safe" can turn life-threatening due to a thief who hijacks a box of carefully selected precious books. Book enthusiasts and Internet shoppers may also find it entertaining. \$22.95 cl, 0-8263-2233-6.

**Latina Self-Portraits: Interviews with Contemporary Women Writers** edited by Bridget Kevane and Juanita Heredia contains ten interviews that give Latina writers an opportunity to talk about how they began to write, the craft of writing, and the conjunctions of life, art, politics, and their goals as artists. Interviews include: Denise Chávez, Sandra Cisneros, Rosario Ferré, Cristina García, Nicholesa Mohr, Cherríe Moraga, Judith Ortiz Cofer, Esmerelda

Santiago, and Helena María Viramontes. \$19.95 pb, 0-8263-1972-6; \$45 cl, -1971-8, April.

First published in Mexico in 1983, **Frida Kahlo: An Open Life** by Raquel Tibol and translated by Elinor Randall is now available for the first time in English. This eclectic collection taken from medical records, journals, letters, interviews, and personal collections reveals the complexities, profound sadness, and immutable creative spirit of the famed Mexican painter, Frida Kahlo. \$14.95 pb, 0-8263-2188-7.

Reprint available: **The Girl: Revised Edition** by Meridel Le Sueur. \$12.95 pb, 0-931122-97-X, West End Press.

Now available: **The Last Matriarch** by Sharman Apt Russell, a novel which re-creates the life of a family group in southern New Mexico 11,000 years ago. \$19.95 cl, 0-8263-2131-3.\*

### University of Wisconsin Press

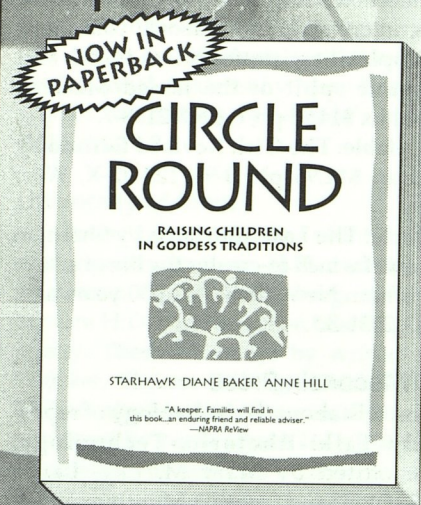
How do you talk about the technology of reproduction? **Body Talk: Rhetoric, Technology, Reproduction** edited by Mary M. Lay, Laura Gurak, Clare Gravon, and Cynthia Myntti explores the rhetoric of reproductive technology throughout the 20th century, examining the ways discourse about these technologies has shaped thinking about reproduction and women's bodies, framed public policy, and empowered or marginalized points of view. \$24.95 pb short discount, 0-299-16794-1; \$60 cl, -16790-9, April.

Now available: **Transforming Women's Education: The History of Women's Studies in the University of Wisconsin System**, a collaborative project of the University of Wisconsin System and the Women's Studies Consortium. \$14.95 pb, 0-9658834-6-9.\*\*\*

### University Press of New England

It's not often that we get the combination of humor and feminism from a university press, so **Too Much of a Good Thing Is Wonderful** by Regina Barreca provides a welcome change of pace. These essays talk of growing up in an Italian American household, adult pajama parties, Barreca's hysterectomy, and many adventures with friends. *Ms.* magazine has called Barreca a "Feminist Humor Maven," so we *do* have a sense of humor! \$16.95 pb, 0-939883-06-6, April, Bibliopola Books. ○

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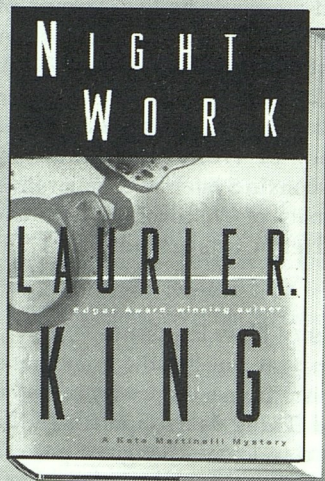
From Starhawk, the bestselling author of *The Spiral Dance*, and friends, comes this important book, which introduces children to the eight annual festivals of the Goddess calendar. With special crafts, cooking projects, songs, and stories, it brings the entire family together to honor Mother Earth. Illustrated throughout.

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The Edgar Award-winning author of *A Grave Talent* returns to the world of tough-minded homicide detective Kate Martinelli. In this captivating and complex suspense tale, a piece of candy may be the key to a brutal murder case growing more sinister—and deadly—by the minute.

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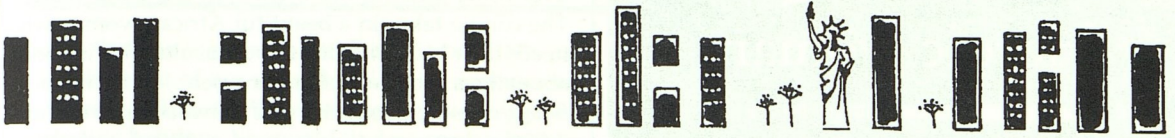
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## AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

### Algonquin

**The Sky Unwashed** by Irene Zabytko is a novel based on a true story about a community of Ukrainians who moved back to their village near Chernobyl less than a year after the nuclear accident of 1986. Zabytko's narrative focuses on an old woman, Marusia, and her family. After the meltdown, the villagers were told nothing. They smelled metal and watched insects fall out of the air dead. Eventually the government evacuated them to a hospital in Kiev. Marusia watches her family die, then simply gets on a train back to her village. She is joined by four other old women, and the group of them live out their days in their village home. \$22.95 cl, 1-56512-246-1. —TMR



### Atlantic Monthly/Grove Press

Helen Dunmore, acclaimed British novelist and Orange Prize winner, has a new novel, **With Your Crooked Heart**. Louise, her protagonist, is caught in a battle between two brothers: Paul, her husband, and Johnnie, a criminal. "Reading Helen Dunmore is like sitting down to a feast. The flavors are intoxicating.... One cannot come away without having tasted an uncommonly satisfying tale." —*L.A. Times*. \$24 cl, 0-87113-773-9.

Now available in paperback: **Daughter of the River**, Hong Ying's (*Summer of Betrayal*) memoir of coming of age from the time of China's Great Famine through the Cultural Revolution to the time of Tiananmen Square. (\$12, 0-8021-3660-5.) Also Dionne Brand's **Another Place, Not Here**, the story

of two Caribbean women who find refuge in one another during a political uprising. (\$12, 0-8021-3633-8.) —TMR

### Avon

Now in paper: **Heads by Harry** by Lois Ann Yamanaka (\$12.50, 0-380-73316-1), **I Left My Back Door Open** by April Sinclair (\$12.50, 0-380-73280-7, April), and **Swimming with Jonah** by Audrey Schulman (\$12.50, 0-380-80086-1).

**Out of the Shadows** by Sue Hines. Teenage Rowena must rebuild her life and family after surviving the carwreck in which she was driving and her mother died. Cringing to remember her reaction when she found out that Deb, her mother's friend, was actually her lover, Rowena unites in grief with Deb to rebuild their lives. \$6.99 pb, 0-380-81192-8.

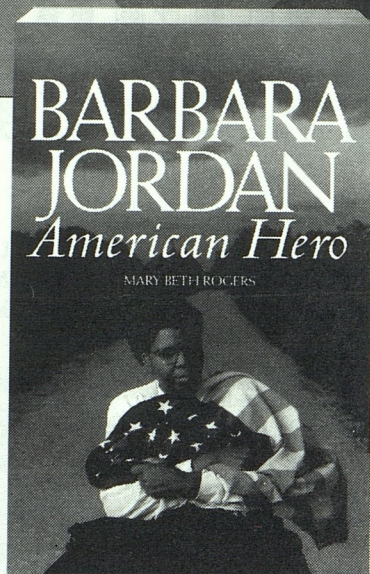
**Connecting: The Enduring Power of Female Friendship** by Sandy Sheehy. Journalist Sheehy draws from a pool of recent research, and 200 girls and women, to ask questions of female friendship. How do friendships evolve at different stages of life? What are the key ingredients to lasting and satisfying relationships? \$25 cl, 0-380-97430-4, April.

—Donna Niles

Severna Park (*Hand of Prophecy*) has written another work of science fiction, **The Annunciate**, in which humans, despite huge technological advances, still struggle against a caste system and are seduced by drugs. The main characters search for the mythical Annunciate, hoping for deliverance. Park has been compared to Ursula Le Guin for her redefinitions of love and gender. \$23 cl, 0-380-97737-0.

Carol Weston, the author of advice books for teen girls, has another: **Private and Personal: Questions and Answers for Girls Only**. \$9.95 pb, 0-380-81025-5, April. —TMR

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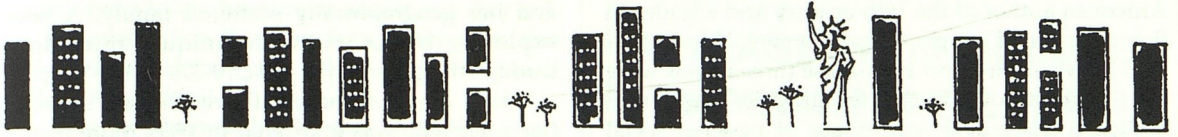
Kristin Lattany (*Kinfolks, Guests in the Promised Land*) has a new novel about a culturally correct African American couple who learn the consequences of over-romanticizing one's roots in **Do Unto Others**. The couple takes in a beautiful African woman who needs their help with disastrous results. This is a book about the importance of helping people without sacrificing oneself, about the gulf between Africans and African Americans, and about political correctness and Afrocentricity. \$24 cl, 0-345-40708-3.

**Eleanor of Aquitaine: A Life** by Alison Weir is a biography of the girl who, at 15, inherited the duchy of Aquitaine and Gascony. In the twelfth century, it was unthinkable for a woman to rule over men, so arrangements were made for Eleanor to marry the teenage King of France so that he could control her duchy. She annulled the marriage after 15 rocky years only to get into an even stormier marriage with Henry of Anjou, who would ascend to the English throne. A great account of a female personality in medieval times. \$28 cl, 0-345-40540-4.

Now available in paperback: **The First Sex: The Natural Talents of Women and How They Are Changing the World** by Helen Fisher, an anthropologist, demonstrates why women are best suited to solve the complex problems of the world. (\$16, 0-449-91260-4.) **Meeting Luciano** by Anna Esaki-Smith explores a mother-daughter relationship and assimilation. (\$12, 0-345-43682-2, April.) Carolyn See explores what it means to make enduring art in her novel **The Handyman**. (\$12.95, 0-345-42660-6, April.) **The Things We Do to Make It Home** by Beverly Gologorsky is a first novel that captures the repercussions of the Vietnam war from the point of view of women characters. (\$12, 0-345-42802-1.) **The Orchid Thief: A True Story of Beauty and Obsession** by Susan Orlean is the story of plant crime and one man's quest to clone orchids for desperate collectors. (\$14, 0-449-00371-X.) **Dr. Miriam Stoppard's New Pregnancy and Birth Book** is fully revised and expanded. (\$16, 0-345-43795-0.) **While I Was Gone** by Sue Miller is a novel of suspense that explores love, betrayal, and the meaning of being a "good wife." (\$12.95, 0-345-43500-1.)

Patti Panaccia, former CNN correspondent, has written **Work Smarts for Women: The Essential Sex Discrimination Survival Guide** after receiving





notice that she was being "replaced" from CNN just after the birth of her second child. Her replacement was a man without children who could work any day, including holidays. She could find no comprehensive guide outlining her legal rights and options when faced with this discrimination, so she decided to write one. This book is for anyone who wants to understand what constitutes sex discrimination and what legal steps to take when an offence has been committed. \$14 pb, 0-345-42261-9.

Now available in paperback: Kate Clinton's very clever **Don't Get Me Started**. \$14 pb, 0-345-43016-6. —TMR



## Beacon

Remember that Beacon is now distributed by Houghton Mifflin.

**The Female Man** by Joanna Russ is back in print. This well-loved feminist science fiction novel, first published in 1987, should make a good comeback in feminist bookstores. It sold over 100,000 copies the first time. \$13 pb, 0-8070-6299-5.

Another reprint is **Next Time, She'll Be Dead** by Ann Jones, about battering and how to stop it. Jones is one of the radicals in the "domestic violence" field, one who still prefers the term "battered." This is a revised edition. \$15 pb, 0-8070-6789-X.

Some stores may want to carry Louise DeSalvo's **Writing as a Way of Healing**, which unfortunately includes Henry Miller along with Isabel Allende, Audre Lorde, and Virginia Woolf. DeSalvo uses excerpts from diaries, journals, and fiction to show how writing can be transformative. \$14 pb, 0-8070-7243-5.

**The Myth of Matriarchal Prehistory** offers some anti-goddess, anti-matriarchy reading. Cynthia Eller debunks the "myth" of a pre-patriarchal, goddess-worshipping matriarchy, stating that this vision of a peaceful, woman-centered society is one feminists

should be wary of. I don't know about that, but guess I'm curious enough to get a copy. \$26 cl, 0-8070-6792-X, April.

New in paper this April is Sonia Sanchez' newest collection of poetry, **Shake Loose My Skin**. This award-winning, activist poet is one whose books actually sell well. This one is a retrospective of over thirty years of work, so it is doubly important for our shelves. \$14, 0-8070-6853-5.

**Cries of the Spirit**, Marilyn Sewell's collection of inspirational and spiritual thoughts by women writers, is now in paperback. Includes Lucille Clifton, Joy Harjo, Marge Piercy, and a host of other well-known feminist writers. \$20, 0-8070-6849-7, April.

—Patty Calahan

*Brigit Books/St. Petersburg FL*

**The Pleasure of Their Company** by Doris Grumbach. There are not too many things more exciting than a new book by Doris Grumbach, and as always, this one does not disappoint. Known for her meditations on solitude, Grumbach here gives us a surprising and enticing memoir of the writers, friends, and lovers who have enriched her life. She tells us about her marriage to a man she loved and speaks openly for the first time about her lesbian partnership. As quoted in the *New York Times*, "Grumbach's prose shines with a serene grace." \$22 cl, 0-8070-7222-2, May.

**Face to Face** by Lynn Sharon Schwartz. Since reading *Disturbances in the Field* many years ago, I have been a devoted Lynn Sharon Schwartz fan. In this collection of essays, she takes us on a tour of our attempts at connection. She shares with us some of her most marginal encounters on the street as well as her close and sustaining personal relationships. As always, we recognize ourselves in her sometimes wary, frequently hopeful, and always intelligent writing. \$22 cl, 0-8070-7220-6, April.

**Minnie's Sacrifice, Sowing and Reaping, Trial and Triumph, Three Rediscovered Novels** by Frances E.W. Harper, edited by Frances Smith Foster. Frances E.W. Harper was the best known African

American author of the 19th century and a leader in the suffrage and temperance movements. First serialized between 1868 and 1888, these three novels were the first written specifically for an African American audience. They deal with issues of passing, social responsibility, courtship, sexuality, and temperance. They are lively, idealistic, and fun to read. (\$14 pb, 0-8070-6233-2.) Also available is Harper's *Iola Leroy*. (\$13 pb, 0-8070-6519-6.) —*Harriet Clare*

**Adultery** by Louise De Salvo is part memoir, part sociological study on why men and women choose infidelity. De Salvo considers how her husband's adultery changed and sustained their thirty-year marriage. \$20 cl, 0-8070-6224-3.

**Don't Think, Smile! Notes on a Decade of Denial** by Ellen Willis is a collection of essays calling to question the political and cultural state of affairs in the 1990s. Willis challenges the Left to stop turning to the government instead of its own movement for answers. She claims that U.S. society is unable to think of wholly different solutions to its problems because of an inability to think radically. Great socio-political analysis. \$25 cl, 0-8070-4320-6. —*TMR*



### Chronicle Books

Here's the ultimate "toolkit" for fans of *The Artist's Way*. In *The Artist's Way Creativity Kit* by Julia Cameron, there is a journal with inspiring quotations, 60 writing exercises, 75 cards with creative tasks that promote spontaneity and play, and a wrapped package of sandalwood incense with a ceramic holder. \$22.95 cl, 0-8118-2636-8, April.

What happens when you actually get what you wish for? In *The Wishing Box* by Dashka Slater, a single mom in her late 20s gets unexpected results when her father, who deserted the family years earlier, returns after she and her sister have a "ceremony" wishing for him to come back. \$22.95 cl, 0-8118-2606-6. —*Suzanne Corson*

*Boadecia's Books/North Berkeley CA*

### Farrar, Straus, & Giroux

Taking the complexity of migration as its central subject, *Lost Geography*, the debut novel of Charlotte Bacon, follows the lives of a Saskatchewan woman

and her geographically scattered family. A novel exploring how survival techniques filter down through the generations. \$24 cl, 0-374-19160-3, April.

Jane Bernstein never allowed herself to mourn her sister who was murdered in 1966. More than 20 years later, she found herself thinking and dreaming constantly about her lost sister. She immersed herself in the details of the case, eventually coming to the realization that the object of her search was the discovery of who she had become in the face of this loss. Her journey, chronicled in *Bereft: A Sister's Story*, does not uncover the motive behind this inexplicable crime, but does track the ways in which unacknowledged loss warps the lives left in its wake. \$23 cl, 0-86547-586-5, April, North Point.

Two plays from Rebecca Gilman: *Boy Gets Girl* explores the life of a woman pursued by a stalker (\$13 pb, 0-571-19983-6, April, Faber & Faber) and *Spinning into Butter* explores the dangers of racism (\$12 pb, 0-571-19984-4, April, Faber & Faber).

Now available in paperback: Jamacia Kincaid's remarkable book *A Small Place*, which examines colonialism and its effects on Antigua. \$10, 0-374-52707-5, April. —*TMR*

### Harcourt

I'm much more interested in the children's list from Harcourt than its adult books this season. To start, there's the absolutely lovely picture book *America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle* by David Adler, illustrated with paintings by Terry Widener. Olympic medalist and multiple world record holder Gertrude Ederle decided that she wanted to swim the English Channel. Her efforts and success are beautifully depicted here. Many said that it was impossible for a woman to swim the channel; Trudy beat the men's record by two hours. A great story of a woman's triumph. Highly recommended. (\$16 cl, 0-15-201969-3.) Another inspiring tale of a woman's athletic achievement is now out in paper: *Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman* by Kathleen Drull, illustrated by David Diaz. Ages 6-9. (\$6 pb, 0-15-202098-5.)

A children's book that reflects reality: *Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild* by Mem Fox, illustrated by Marla Frazee, is a book showing that while child Harriet doesn't mean to be pesky and while her mom

doesn't mean to lose her temper, sometimes they both do. But even when they say things they wish they hadn't, they still love each other. Ages 3-7. \$16 cl, 0-15-201977-4, April.

**Mouton's Impossible Dream** by Anik McGrory is about Mouton, a sheep in the French countryside who wants to fly. Despite much cynicism from the rest of the barnyard, Mouton believes hard and realizes her dream. Again, beautiful. Ages 3-7. \$16 cl, 0-15-202195-7, April.

Now available in paperback for the first time: Lynne Cherry's classic book on rain forest ecology and the importance of saving the rain forest, **The Great Kapok Tree**. Ages 4-8. \$7 pb, 0-15-202614-2, April.

Brave heroines star in what looks to be another lavishly illustrated book from Harcourt: **Not One Damsel in Distress: World Folktales for Strong Girls** told by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Susan Guevara, has vivid, brainy, and brawny female heroines from all over the world. Ages 8-12. \$17 cl, 0-15-202047-0.

For older readers: The prolific and acclaimed Native American writer Joseph Bruchac has rendered the story of Sacajawea for young readers. **Sacajawea** is the tale of her journey with Lewis and Clark told in alternating chapters from her viewpoint and from William Clark's. A must-order for your young adult readers. \$17 cl, 0-15-202234-1.

For the grown-ups: **Father Courage: What Happens When Men Put Family First** by Suzanne Braun Levine, a founder of *Ms.*, shows how, even as women have trouble balancing work and family, men, too, seldom quite achieve the successful ideal: success at work, intimacy with family, and time for friends. "...a smart, humane, nuanced look at the lives of men and women who are proving that men can do what women can do. It's the other half of the revolution." —Gloria Steinem. \$24 cl, 0-15-100382-3, April.

**Ladies' Night at Finbar's Hotel**, devised and edited by Dermot Bolger, is a sequel of sorts to *Finbar's Hotel*. Again, seven of Ireland's women writers weave a spirited tale, this time of the hotel's revival under the ownership of a rock star. \$14 pb, 0-15-600866-1, Harvest. —TMR

## HarperCollins

**Lipshtick** by Gwen Macsai. "Gwen Macsai's great gift is to run the ordinary experiences of

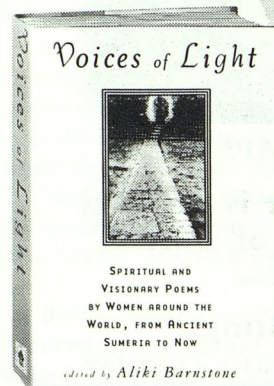
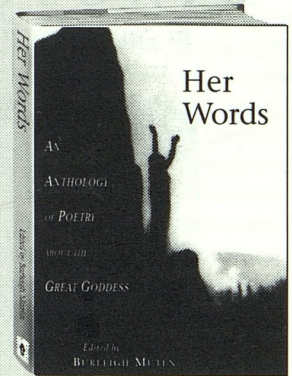
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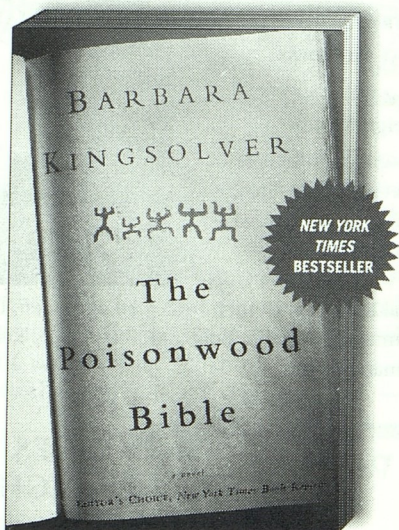
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**All New People** by Anne Lamott. This early novel of Anne Lamott’s is finally back in print! It’s a coming of age story of a girl growing up in Marin County in the 1960s. \$13 pb, 1-58243-054-3.

—*Suzanne Corson*



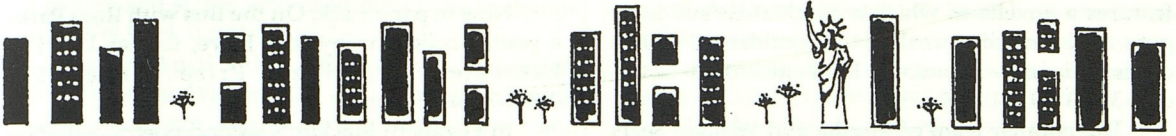
**The Western Women’s Reader: The Remarkable Writings of Women Who Shaped the American West, Spanning 300 Years** edited by Lillian Schlissel and Catherine Lavender collects fiction, memoir, history, testimony, poetry, photography, and art from women from the Great Plains, Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, Hawaii, the Rocky Mountains, the American Southwest, and the Far West. A very impressive collection. Recommended. \$18 pb, 0-06-095337-3.

**Is It Far to Zanzibar? Poems About Tanzania** by Nikki Grimes, illustrations by Betsy Lewin, presents thirteen poems and lovely watercolor illustrations about Tanzania. Ages 6 and up. \$15.95 cl, 0-688-13157-3.

I’m including **My Baseball Book** and **My Soccer Book**, both by Gail Gibbons, because they’re so darn cute, because they’re a great introduction of sport to young kids, and because they feature both girls and boys prominently in the illustrations. Ages 3–7. \$5.95 pb each. **Baseball:** 0-688-17137-0. **Soccer:** 0-688-17138-9.

**Pioneer Girl: Growing Up on the Prairie** by Andrea Warren is the nonfiction account of Grace McCance, who settled in a one-room sod house when she was only three. Despite the hardships of pioneer life, Grace thrived. Ages 8 and up. \$6.95 pb, 0-688-17151-6, April.

For young adults: Thirteen-year-old Sophie is the only girl on a sailboat bound for England in **The Wanderer** by Sharon Creech. Through her and her



cousin's travel logs, readers witness the experiences of the six-member crew. \$15.95 cl, 0-06-027730-0, April.

Now available in paperback: **Beyond the Mango Tree** is a story for young adults of a girl who moved to Liberia from Boston and must contend with her mother's mental illness alone. She finds refuge in a friendship with a Liberian boy. \$4.95, 0-06-440786-1, April. —TMR

### Houghton Mifflin

**Like Normal People** by Karen E. Bender. Covering three entire lifetimes in the course of one day, **Like Normal People** is an unforgettable novel. It is the story of Lena, 45 but mentally locked in childhood, her troubled 11-year-old niece, and her widowed mother Ella. When Lena escapes for a day from her residential home, she and her niece spend the day on a honky-tonk Southern California beach. Ella goes in search of them, and in the process relives her own life's dreams and disappointments. Lena has at last found approximate normalcy by marrying Bob, a man much like herself; now Ella must cope with letting her daughter go. \$23 cl, 0-395-94515-1, April.

**Africa in My Blood** edited by Jane Goodall and Dale Peterson. There have been many books about Jane Goodall, her research with chimpanzees, and her life as a scientist, but this is the first to reveal the personal Jane, the Jane her family and friends know. This is the one to read. \$28 cl, 0-395-85404-0, Mariner, April.

Also available from Mariner: **In the Shadow of Man** by Jane Goodall (\$15 pb, 0-618-05676-9, April) and **Through a Window, My 30 Years with the Chimpanzees of Gombe** by Jane Goodall (\$15 pb, 0-618-05677-7).

**Becoming Madame Mao** by Achee Min. In a story that moves gracefully from the personal to the political, Min creates a tale of passion, betrayal, and survival and paints a finely nuanced portrait of the one of the most fascinating women of the twentieth century. Min's story begins with the early life and humble beginnings of the headstrong and rebellious young girl who became the wife of the great

revolutionary leader. She uses the facts of history and her psychological imagination to give us more than the myth of this woman who influenced an entire generation of Chinese. \$25 cl, 0-618-00407-6, June.

**Stern Men** by Elizabeth Gilbert. Here is a comedy reminiscent of John Irving — it's profoundly entertaining. A resilient heroine, Ruth Thomas, is born into a generations-old fishing feud between the lobstermen of two remote islands off the coast of Maine. The book is peopled with eccentric, lovable, and sinister characters and features a story of impossible love — impossible unless the feud is ended. \$24 cl, 0-395-83622-0, May. —Harriet Clare



### Hyperion

**Losing Your Parents, Finding Your Self** by Victoria Secunda focuses on how losing a parent has a profound effect on all aspects of the lives of adults. Secunda's previous book was *When You and Your Mother Can't Be Friends*. \$24.95 cl, 0-7868-6312-9.

Yippee! Mollie Katzen's cookbook **Vegetable Heaven** is coming in paper in April. This is a beautiful book. \$19.95, 0-7868-8409-6. —Trudy Mills

*Antigone Books/Tucson AZ*

**Being American: Personal Essays by First Generation Immigrant Women** edited by Meri Nana-Ama Danquah is a collection of essays glimpsing the process of assimilation into the American melting pot. The contributors describe how they find a balance between the culture of their birth and that of the U.S. and talk about the customs they keep and what they must let go. Includes writers from China, Chile, Germany, India, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, South Africa, and the Soviet Union. \$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6589-X. —TMR

### Little, Brown

Ellen Gilchrist has a new collection of short stories coming in April. **The Cabal & Other Stories**

features a novella in which a psychiatrist suddenly goes mad himself, revealing the confidential secrets of his patients — prominent local citizens all! \$24.95 cl, 0-316-314919-0.

The popular team of Martha and William Sears address breastfeeding in **The Breastfeeding Book**. \$14.95 pb, 0-316-77924-5.

In time for Mother's Day is a celebration in text and photographs of the bond between African American men and their mothers. **Sacred Bond** by Keith Brown is due in April. \$15.95 pb, 0-316-10984-3.

For your gift section, you might try Susan Branch's **Girlfriends Forever**. By no means cutting-edge, Branch's "homey" books will probably appeal to your more traditional customers. \$23.95 cl, 0-316-10672-0, April. —*Trudy Mills*

### Norton

Isabel Hilton explores Tibetan society and religious history as she relates the capture of a seven-year-old boy, thought to be the eleventh incarnation of the Panchen Lama (the second most important incarnation in the Tibetan Buddhist hierarchy), by Chinese officials. **The Search for the Panchen Lama** reveals the conflict between Tibet and its Chinese rulers. \$25.95 cl, 0-393-04969-8, April.

Chanrithy Him chronicles her childhood growing up under the brutal Khmer Rouge in **When Broken Glass Floats**. It is a memoir of the horrors of Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge took power, it is a story of family loyalty, and it is a heartbreaking memoir of sacrifice. \$23.95 cl, 0-393-04863-2, April.

Deborah Willis has assembled a collection of work by Black photographers in **Reflections in Black: A History of Black Photographers, 1840 to the Present**. Displaying and researching photos from the time of slavery to the 1990s, this is the first comprehensive history of Black photographers. Willis, a curator at the Smithsonian Institution, will see her exhibit of the same name open in conjunction with the book's release. \$50 cl, 0-393-04880-2, April.

**A Trick of Nature** by Suzanne Matson is a debut novel about a high school football coach whose comfortable suburban routine is disrupted when one of his players is struck by lightning during practice. "[This] absorbing, elegant novel...remains surprising to the end." —Suzanne Berne. \$22.95 cl, 0-393-04854-3, April.

Now in paperback: **On the Bus with Rosa Parks**, a poetry collection by Rita Dove, former U.S. Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner. \$11, 0-393-73046-8, April.

In Elizabeth Macklin's second poetry collection, **You've Just Been Told**, she contemplates the grammar of loss. \$22 cl, 0-393-04867-5, April.

Marilyn Hacker's **Squares and Courtyards** is a book of poetry focused on history and the past. \$21 cl, 0-393-04830-6. —*TMR*



### Penguin/Viking

Now in paper: **Hunger** by Lan Samantha Chang. Nominated for numerous awards, this debut collection of stories has garnered rave reviews from the likes of Amy Tan and Maxine Hong Kingston. (\$12.95, 0-14-028848-1.) **Mother**, photos by Judy Olausen. A wickedly funny and satirical collection of photos that was a huge hit in cloth. Judy and her model/mother create montages representing "womanhood" of a 1950s flavor. Think, Mom as a coffee table, Mother as doormat, etc. Brilliant! (\$15.95, 0-14-029084-2.)

Here are a few January and February titles to pick through: **The Portable Hannah Arendt** edited by Peter Baehr. The first comprehensive volume of her writing displays the formidable ideas of this modern intellectual and writer. (\$16.95 pb, 0-14-026974-6.) **The Measure of My Days** by Florida Scott-Maxwell. Long before there was a section on "aging" in our bookstores, there was this lovely treatise on the predicament of aging. First published twenty years ago, Florida's book is ageless. (\$11.95 pb, 0-14-005164-3.) **Ladies and Not-So-Gentle Women** by Alfred Allan Lewis. Seems like we have here a dishy, historical romp profiling four friends and lovers: Elizabeth Marbury, literary agent for Oscar Wilde, George Bernard Shaw, and others; her partner and interior designer Elsie de Wolfe; Anne Vanderbilt, tireless worker for the sick and poor; and Ann Morgan, activist on the picket lines for the Triangle Shirtwaist Strike and reformer for women's residences. Anecdotes of their like-minded contemporaries — Edith Wharton, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Ethel Barrymore — form a group portrait of women

of money and status who used their lives to change ours. (\$39.95 cl, 0-670-85810-2.)

March/April titles: **Marriage: A Sentence**, poems by Anne Waldman. A new collection of meditations on all our marital arrangements, queer and traditional. "Lyrical and 'berserk,' this is Waldman's most exciting, energetic, and accessible work yet." (\$15.95 pb, 0-14-058922-8, April.) **The World Split Open: How the Modern Women's Movement Changed America** by Ruth Rosen. Three decades of feminism, chronicled here by a distinguished scholar and author of *The Maimed Papers* and *The Lost Sisterhood*, two outstanding works on women and prostitution. Called an "indispensable book" by Sandra Gilbert, Rosen takes the reader on a journey through the last half of the twentieth century, charting the movement's impact on family, business, politics, and society at large. (\$34.95 cl, 0-670-81462-8, April.) **Motherland: A Daughter's Journey to Reclaim the Past** by Fern Schumer Chapman. Daughter Fern journeys to Germany to discover the memories that her mother, Edith (sent to America as a twelve-year-old), had shut out her entire life. Cut off from her heritage and traditions, Edith returns to Germany with Fern, where they both embark on a trip of great courage to reconcile with the past. (\$23.95 cl, 0-670-88105-8, April.)

**Mirror, Mirror: Forty Folk Tales for Mothers and Daughters to Share** by Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple. Prolific author Jane and her daughter Heidi have collected rather traditional patriarchal folk tales from around the world to illustrate models of the mother/daughter relationship. Each story is accompanied by their commentary. Snow White, Cinderella, and other tired old stories are included. (\$24.95 cl, 0-670-88907-5, April.) For a brilliant retelling of the same-old, this reviewer recommends **Kissing the Witch: Old Tales in New Skins** by Irish author Emma Donoghue, a feminist look at obsessive, betraying mothers and wicked stepmoms, too. (\$11 pb, 0-06-440772-1, HarperCollins.)

**Dressing Up for the Carnival** by Carol Shields. A new short story collection from the Pulitzer Prize-winning Shields. \$23.95 cl, 0-670-88921-0, May.

—Donna Niles

**S. A Novel About the Balkans** by journalist and novelist Slavenka Drakulic reveals the rape and torture of thousands of civilian women by occupying forces. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-89097-9.

**Comfort Woman** by Nora Okja Keller is the story of a Korean refugee of World War II who struggles to relate to her daughter her history as a "comfort woman" to Japanese soldiers. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-026335-7.

Jonis Agee (*Taking the Wall, South of Resurrection*) has written an extraordinary new novel, **The Weight of Dreams**. Ty is a 17-year-old boy working on his father's ranch. Abandoned by his mother long ago, Ty feels that violence is a part of being a man. He and a drinking buddy beat up two Indian boys from a nearby reservation. Ty flees and is trying to reinvent himself and his life when his drinking buddy finds him and commits an act of brutality that forces Ty to return to his Nebraska home. A story about responsibility, honor, and greed. A brutal story rendered honestly. This is another fine work from Agee. \$24.95 cl, 0-670-88233-X.

Now available in paperback: A sweet treat of a novel, **Chocolat** by Joanne Harris (\$12.95, 0-14-028203-3); Liz Jensen's latest black comedy about true love, extinction, and infertility, **Ark Baby** (\$13.95, 0-87951-729-8, Overlook); the bestseller on mothers relating to their teenage daughters, **"I'm Not Mad, I**

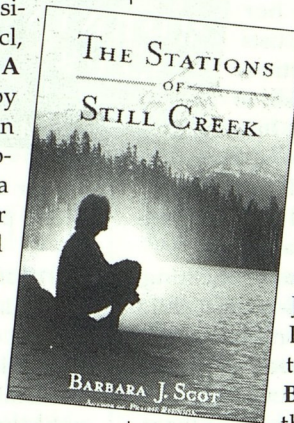
**Just Hate You!" A New Understanding of Mother-Daughter Conflict** by Roni Cohen-Sandler, Ph.D., and Michelle Silver (\$12.95, 0-14-028600-4); the biography **Nefertiti** by Joyce Tyldesley (\$14.95, 0-14-025820-5); and Loida Maritza Pérez's debut novel about a Dominican-American family, **Geographies of Home** (\$12.95, 0-14-025371-8).

For the kids: incredibly gifted YA author Katherine Paterson has brought a classic tale to life in **Parzival: The Quest of the Grail Knight**. Ages 10-14. \$4.99 pb, 0-14-130573-8.

—TMR

## Perseus

Riane Eisler has a new book out from Westview about educating children in the 21st century. In the wake of shootings in high schools all over the



country, she considers deeply what it is we are teaching our children. **Tomorrow's Children: A Blueprint for Partnership Education in the 21st Century** provides a systematic approach, offering children a more accurate and hopeful picture of what being human means. \$25 cl, 0-8133-9040-0.

Emily Fox Gordon has written a penetrating, rigorous, humorous account of her experience of therapy in **The Mockingbird Years: A Life In and Out of Therapy**. Throughout her adolescence and early adulthood, Gordon attended therapy, attempted suicide, and spent three years at a sanitarium. She describes her "therapeutic education" and the psychotherapist who helped her to break free. \$24 cl, 0-465-02727-X, April.

Eleanor Munro has updated her incredible chronicle of women visual artists in **Originals: American Women Artists**. The new edition of this classic collection of interviews includes Kiki Smith and Julie Taymor alongside existing interviews of Georgia O'Keeffe, Alice Neel, Helen Frankenthaler, Louise Bourgeois, and Jennifer Bartlett. \$22.50 pb, 0-306-80955-9, April, Da Capo.

Now available in paperback: **Eleanor Rushing**, a novel by Patty Friedmann. Eleanor is a great child heroine: her memory is impeccable and her gift of gab is unshelchable, but her life has been marred by tragedy and she's currently involved in a "relationship" with a married Methodist minister. "Brilliant, bitterly funny, and deeply scary." —*New Orleans Times-Picayune*. (\$14, 1-58243-077-2, April, Counterpoint.) The fascinating biography, **Becoming Mae West** by Emily Worth Leider, reveals West as an incredibly determined woman, able to bend the world to her will. (\$17, 0-306-80951-6, April, Da Capo.) Nancy Lord, writer and fisher from Alaska, writes of her home and its people in **Green Alaska: Dreams from the Far Coast** (\$13, 1-58243-078-0, April, Counterpoint) and **Fishcamp: Life on the Alaskan Shore** (\$14, 1-58242-070-5, April, Counterpoint). —TMR

### Putnam

The folks at Putnam are comparing Judy Muller, whose new book explores life behind the scenes at national news networks, to Linda Ellerbee. **Now This:**

Radio, Television...and the Real World chronicles the ironic and perverse in her profession. A single mother, her stories of how motherhood and career collide are sharp and witty. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14619-9, April.

**Woman Who Glows in the Dark: A Curandera Reveals Traditional Aztec Secrets of Physical and Spiritual Health** by Elena Avila with Joy Parker.

With a foreword by Clarissa Pinkola Estés, this book gives readers a global vision of how the gifts of indigenous health care, married with contemporary technology, can create a medicine of the future. \$14.95 pb, 1-58542-022-0, April.

**You Already Know What to Do: Ten Invitations to the Intuitive Life** by Sharon Franquemont presents an obvious conundrum to me: if you know what to do already, then why buy this book? But apparently Franquemont guides you how to use your intuition to improve collaboration in business, deepen relationships, make the most of

your time, and know what to do in any situation. \$13.95 pb, 1-58542-031-X, April. —TMR

### Random House

I just adore Molly Ivins. She's back with another sharp, cutting, astute, and utterly hilarious look at a political figure with **Shrub: The Short but Happy Political Life of George W. Bush**. She tracks his unlikely political career from his military days to his failed congressional bid to his governorship. \$19.95 pb, 0-375-50399-4.

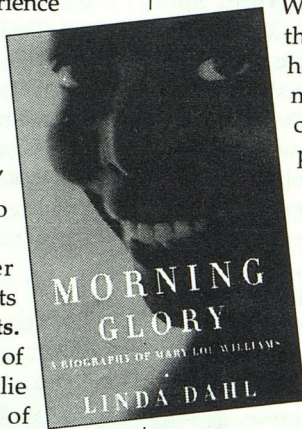
The latest book of poetry by Maya Angelou is out. **Phenomenal Woman** is sure to sell, even in hardcover. \$19.95 cl, 0-375-50406-0.

**Without Reservations: The Travels of an Independent Woman** by Alice Steinbach is a collection of letters. \$24.95 cl, 0-375-50188-6, April.

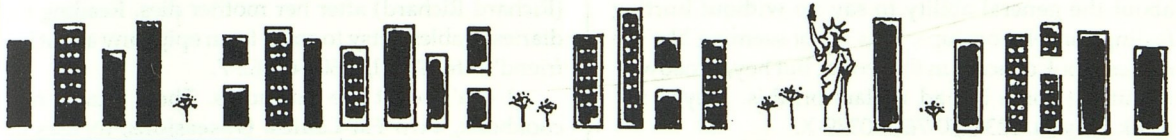
**Blameless** is a new novel by Lisa Reardon. \$24.95 cl, 0-375-50405-2, April. —TMR

### RH-Bantam, Doubleday, Dell

**Sister of My Heart** by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, the author of *Mistress of Spices*, tells the story of Anju, the daughter of an upper-caste Calcutta family. Her cousin Sudha is the daughter of the black sheep of that same family. Sudha and Anju have been







like sisters. They were both born on the same day — the day both of their fathers died violently. When they are urged into arranged marriages, their lives take opposite turns. Sudha becomes the dutiful daughter-in-law of a rigid small-town household, and Anju goes to America with her new husband. When tragedy strikes each of them, they discover that despite distance and marriage, they have only each other to turn to. \$13 pb, 0-385-48951-X.

**Hidden in Plain View** by Jacqueline Tobin and Raymond Dobard offers the first proof that certain quilt patterns were codes used by slaves to navigate their escape on the Underground Railroad. This story is part adventure and part history. Three people — Tobin, Dobard, and quilter Ozella Williams — pieced together one amazing American story. \$14 pb, 0-385-49767-9.

**Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith** by Anne Lamott was one of the funniest and wisest books I read last year. She never takes her faith or herself too seriously. Her faith isn't about easy answers, but about shining a light in the darkest parts of an ordinary life and exposing surprising pockets of meaning and hope. \$13 pb, 0-385-49609-5.

**In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of a Marriage** is a portrait an African American couple's nearly 40-year love affair. Not only did Shirlee Taylor Haizlip and Harold Haizlip make a commitment to each other and their families, but a commitment to the larger struggle of their generation to achieve integration and racial equality. \$14 pb, 0-385-49759-8.

**Woman: An Intimate Geography** by Natalie Angier is a mesmerizing anatomy and physiology lesson that culminates in a fascinating revelation about the ways in which cultural biases have influenced research in evolutionary psychology. Angier shows how natural selection has been misused as a model for confirming gender stereotypes and offers optimistic alternatives. This is an essential read for anyone interested in how biology affects who we are. \$15 pb, 0-385-49841-1.

—Sandi Torkildson

*A Room of One's Own/Madison WI*

Known as a comedian and inspirational speaker, Bertice Berry has now turned to fiction in the spiritual love story **Redemption Song**. One fun thing for booksellers about this novel is that the couple meets in an African American bookstore! \$19.95 cl, 0-385-49844-6.

**Strong Women Stay Young** by Miriam Nelson, Ph.D., with Sarah Wernick, one of those iffy books that we get lots of requests for, is being released in paperback in April. \$13.95, 0-553-38077-X.

Several biographies and memoirs are now available in paperback. **Barbara Jordan: American Hero** by Mary B. Rogers, a terrific biography of this powerful and inspirational woman (\$14.95, 0-553-38066-4), and **After Long Silence: A Memoir** by Helen Fremont, about the experiences of the author's parents during the Holocaust (\$12.95, 0-385-33370-6), are two that are available now. In April, **Bella Tuscany: The Sweet Life in Italy** by Frances Mayes will be out as well. (\$15, 0-767-90284-X).

A unique parenting handbook is now in paperback. **Circle Round: Raising Children in Goddess Traditions** by Starhawk, Diane Baker, and Anne Hill has ideas, resources, and support for people raising their children in Paganism. \$14.95, 0-553-37805-8.

Hope Edelman (**Motherless Daughters**) turns to grandmothers in **Mother of My Mother: The Intricate Bond Between Generations**, now in paperback. She discusses the bond between grandmothers and granddaughters, the "three-generation triangle," and the different roles grandmothers play in families. \$12.95, 0-385-31799-9, April. —Suzanne Corson



## RH-Broadway

I thought that **How to Say No Without Feeling Guilty: And Say Yes to More Time, More Joy, and What Matters Most to You** by Patty Breitman and Connie Hatch would be about virginity. I think that's probably a divine signal to me that I need to stop reading my Dawn Martin book. This book is actually

about the general ability to say no without hurting feelings or relationships. This is not seeming like the newest book concept in the world, but hey, Broadway is putting some big ad dollars on this. Maybe it'll work for you. \$23 cl, 0-7679-0379-X.

Elaine N. Aron, Ph.D., has written another book for highly sensitive persons. This time, the HSPs are trying to fall in love in **The Highly Sensitive Person in Love**. Aron covers everything from low-stress fighting to fear of intimacy to sensitive sexuality. If you have the buying HSP clientele, you should stock this. \$25 cl, 0-7679-0335-8, April.

Now available in paperback: the book that exposes the business practices of Hershey's and Mars candy companies, **The Emperors of Chocolate: Inside the Secret World of Hershey and Mars** by Noël Glenn Brenner. \$14, 0-7679-0457-5.

Worthy of notice: **Exploring the Labyrinth: A Guide for Healing and Spiritual Growth** by Melissa Gayle West shows readers how walking a labyrinth can be a meditative exercise. \$15 pb, 0-7679-0356-0.

—TMR



### RH-Crown

Photographer and close friend of Maya Angelou, Margaret Courtney-Clarke, has collected photos taken of Angelou over the course of a year for **Maya Angelou: The Poetry of Living**. \$22.50 cl, 0-609-60458-9.

**Great Dames: What I Learned from Older Women** by Marie Brenner collects portraits of women who helped shape the last century. Included are Jackie Onassis, Constance Baker Motley, Marietta Tree, Pamela Harriman, and Kay Thompson. Most of these portraits have been published in *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue*, and the *New Yorker*. \$22 cl, 0-609-60612-3.

Well, I reviewed one *Lolita* book in the small press column; I suppose I shouldn't ignore the other, which is being released from Crown this month. **Molly** is a novel, inspired by *Lolita*, that follows the lives of two young girls, first the shy, awkward Betsy, whose friendship with beautiful, vivacious Molly grows intense and even erotic. Molly and her family leave town and Molly later dies in childbirth at 17. She leaves Betsy her diaries, and through them Betsy finds out about Molly's relationship with her stepfather

(Richard Richard) after her mother dies. Reading the diaries enables Betsy to come to an epiphany about her friend's life. \$22 cl, 0-609-60462-7.

I can't resist the fat ladies. Their plump new cookbook, **Two Fat Ladies: Obsessions**, focuses on their favorite ingredients. \$30 cl, 0-609-60634-4.

Linda Schierse Leonard, Ph.D. (*The Wounded Woman, Meeting the Madwoman*), has written **The Call to Create: Liberating Everyday Genius** to help people find their creativity. It's a hugely original concept, I know. The gimmick here is the identification of the characters or archetypes that rise up in us when we imagine a better life. Those archetypes — the Sower, the Escape Artist, and the Adventurer — evidently can show readers how to turn everyday struggles into creative acts. \$24 cl, 0-609-60093-1, April.

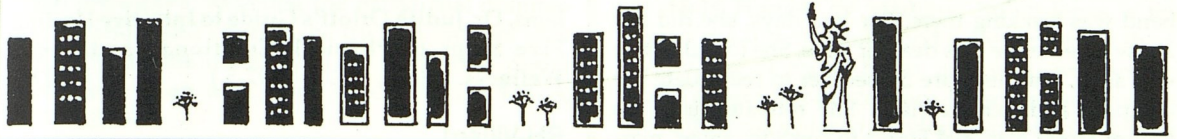
Another advice book that talks a lot about archetypes: **The Intuitive Businesswoman: Making Your Personality Type Work for You** by Judy George and Todd Lyon helps you figure out whether you are an Adventurer, Idealist, Artisan, or Visionary, and shows how each personality type affects your working life. \$23 cl, 0-609-60433-3.

—TMR

### RH-Knopf

Karen Armstrong, the author of *A History of God*, chronicles the "fundamentalist" form of religion in her new work, **The Battle for God**. She focuses on Protestant fundamentalism in the U.S., Jewish fundamentalism in Israel, and Muslim fundamentalism in Egypt and Iran to show how these traditions differ and how they are similar. She examines how each of these embattled movements sprang from a dread of modernity and assault by the mainstream society. Arguing that fundamentalism often exists in a symbiotic relationship with an aggressive modernity, she suggests compassion as a way to defuse what is now an intensifying conflict. \$27.50 cl, 0-679-43597-2.

**Passionate Minds: Women Rewriting the World** by Claudia Roth Pierpont explores the biographies, psychologies, and literary achievements of twelve 20th-century women writers. She organizes these portraits into three sections: sexual freedom (Olive Schreiner, Gertrude Stein, Anaïs Nin, and Mae West), race (Margaret Mitchell, Zora Neale Hurston, and Eudora Welty), and politics (Marina Tsvetaeva, Ayn Rand, Doris Lessing, Hannah Arendt, and Mary McCarthy). \$26.95 cl, 0-679-43106-3.



### George Sand: A Woman's Life Writ Large by

Belinda Jack illuminates the full complexity, mystery and vitality of Sand's character. Sand was the daughter of a prostitute and an aristocrat; great-granddaughter of the King of Poland; a convent-educated, mischievous, flamboyant rebel; and one of France's bestselling writers in the 1800s. \$30 cl, 0-679-45501-9, April.

—Sandi Torkildson

**In Glory's Shadow: Shannon Faulkner, The Citadel, and a Changing America** by Catherine Manegold explores the world of The Citadel and Faulkner's fight to be admitted. A very thorough look at The Citadel's history, exploring how Faulkner's lawsuit conflicted with this antebellum institution. Manegold covered the story for the *New York Times*. \$26.95 cl, 0-679-44635-4.

The incomparable Jane Smiley has a new novel. **Horse Heaven** releases in April. \$26 cl, 0-375-40600-X.

—TMR

### RH-Modern Library

Deborah Garrison, an editor for the *New Yorker*, has written a book exploring the day-to-day life of young women coming to terms with the world of work. **A Working Girl Can't Win and Other Poems** is a poetry collection that should appeal even to people who don't regularly read poetry. "Wry, sexy, appealing — with a wonderful lyric candor." —*Elle*. \$7.95 pb, 0-375-75540-3.

**Out of Her Mind: Women Writing on Madness** by Rebecca Shannonhouse is an anthology collecting women's best essays, memoirs, and fiction on madness. She includes Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper," a part of Sylvia Plath's *The Belljar*, and excerpts from Susanna Kaysen's *Girl, Interrupted* along with other, less well known writing. \$21.95 cl, 0-679-60330-1.

—TMR

### RH-Pantheon

**Morning Glory: A Biography of Mary Lou Williams** by Linda Dahl gives us the whole story of Williams' life, from her beginnings as a performer at

age seven through her career that lasted over fifty years. Williams was a phenomenal pianist but was equally well known as a composer and arranger. She was a mentor to such central figures in the jazz movement as Miles Davis and Bud Powell. \$30 cl, 0-375-40899-1.

At twenty, writer Alix Kates Shulman wrenched herself from her middle-class family and staked a claim to fierce independence. In **A Good Enough Daughter: A Memoir**, Shulman explores what it means to do what's expected of a daughter and discovers in the process the unexpected, complicated joys of going home again. She navigates the emotional and practical difficulties of rescuing the parents from whom she had once tried so hard to separate and weaves together the parallel stories of their growing old and her growing up. \$13 pb, 0-8052-1102-0.

—Sandi Torkildson

### RH-Reference

Now available in paperback: **Finding a Place Called Home: A Guide to African American Genealogy and Historical Identity** by Dee Parmer Woodtor, Ph.D., helps African Americans trace family roots that have often been lost through slavery. \$18, 0-375-70843-X.

—TMR

### RH-Shambhala

**Creative Journal for Parents** by Lucia Capacchione is a guide to finding your own inherent wisdom and guidance, what you really value, what dreams and aspirations you hold, and what your individual parenting styles are. Using journal writing and drawing, Capacchione takes readers through simple exercises that help parents get in touch with their true feelings and needs and articulate core beliefs and values. \$15.95 pb, 0-87773-497-6.

—Sandi Torkildson

### RH-Sierra Club

Barbara Scot (*The Violet Shyness of Their Eyes, Prairie Reunion*) has a new memoir, **The Stations of Still Creek**. Scot received news that there was an

avalanche in the Himalayas during the time her husband was trekking there. For two days, she did not know whether he was dead or alive. She found out he was alive, but this scare caused her to reevaluate her life path and her marriage. She retreated into the Mount Hood National Forest to consider aging, marriage, and her life's direction. There, she found seven special beautiful places she called stations. Through a ritualistic visiting of each, Scot became centered. \$22 cl, 1-57805-042-1.

Now available in paperback: Susan Griffin's **Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her**. \$13, 1-57805-047-2. —TMR

**RH-Three Rivers**

Worthy of notice: **The Beginner's Guide to Zen Buddhism** by Jean Smith (\$12.95 pb, 0-609-80466-9) and **The Golf Handbook for Women: The Complete Guide to Improving Your Game** by Vivien Saunders (\$18 pb, 0-609-80511-8).

Now available in paperback: **The Calling: A Year in the Life of an Order of Nuns** by Catherine Whitney looks at the lives of women who have chosen to wed God. (\$12, 0-609-80582-7.) **Celtic Oracles: A New System for Spiritual Growth and Divination** by Rosemarie Anderson, Ph.D., combines divination and Celtic spirituality to give readers advice for personal growth. (\$12.95, 0-609-80275-5). —TMR

**RH-Times**

In 1944 Ruth Gruber, a special assistant to one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's cabinet members, was sent on a mission to Italy to escort 1,000 World War II refugees to America. Her account of the experience, **Haven**, was published in 1983. In Italy, the refugees told Gruber about the truth of the Holocaust. In America, they were full of hope but were forced to live in an internment camp. Gruber updates her book for this new edition by reporting what has become of the refugees in subsequent decades. An important and powerful book. \$15 pb, 0-8129-3301-X, April.

Worthy of notice: **The Complete Eldercare Planner, Second Edition: Where to Start, Which Questions to Ask, and How to Find Help** by Joy Loverde. (\$18 pb, 0-8129-3278-1.) Also, there's

another book out all about intuitive solutions to problems, **Dr. Judith Orloff's Guide to Intuitive Healing: Five Steps to Physical, Emotional, and Sexual Wellness**. (\$24 cl, 0-8129-3097-5.) —TMR

**RH-Villard**

**Full Circles, Overlapping Lives** by Mary Catherine Bateson explores how longer life spans and changing lifestyles are reshaping our concepts of identity and fulfillment. Through the lives of a cast of remarkable women, Bateson redefines the ordinary and shows how our complex lives demand constant learning. \$25 cl, 0-375-50101-0.

**In Reunion: The Girls We Used to Be, the Women We Become**, Elizabeth Fishel interweaves the story of the Brearey School's class of 1968 with the history of a generation of American women born in the 1950s and engulfed by the radical politics and social change in the 1960s and 1970s. \$23.95 cl, 0-679-44983-3.

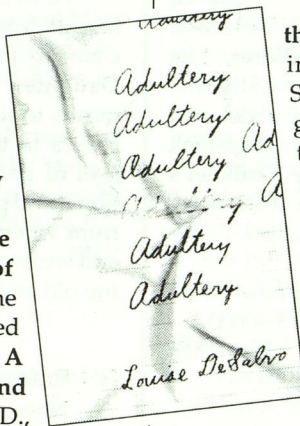
**Big Stone Gap** by Adriana Trigiani is a novel about 35-year-old, self-proclaimed spinster Ave Maria Mulligan from the sleepy hamlet of Big Stone Gap, Virginia, in the Blue Ridge Mountains. As the local pharmacist, she knows many of the townsfolks'

secrets, but she is about to discover a skeleton in her own family's tidy closet that will blow the lid right off her quiet, uneventful life. \$25 cl, 0-375-40947-5, April.

Martha Sherrill's intimate portrait of the beautiful, charismatic woman who founded and runs the largest Tibetan Buddhist monastery in America, **The Buddha from Brooklyn**, raises provocative questions about the nature of religious devotion and its price. \$25 cl, 0-679-45275-3, April.

**You Don't Have to Be Thin to Win** by Judy Molnar is a complete workout program which strives for health and fitness, not thinness. Her simple philosophy of eating less and moving more and her amazing commitment to her health inspired Rosie O'Donnell so much that she made Molnar the official Coach of her Chub Club. \$19.95 cl, 0-375-50414-1.

**Hungry for the World** by Kim Barnes is the memoir of an intelligent and passionate young woman who thirsted for experience beyond the Pentecostal Christian faith of her father and her small



Idaho hometown. Rejecting the patriarchal domination of family and church, she tried to find her way only to be undone at the hands of a man whose dominance was of an altogether different sort. \$23 cl, 0-375-50228-9.

Eve Ensler's play **Necessary Targets** is based on the author's experiences in the former Yugoslavia and the months she spent interviewing Bosnian women war survivors in refugee camps. The play is the story of two American women, a Park Avenue psychiatrist and a human rights worker, who go to Bosnia to help traumatized women refugees and, through an intense emotional group experience, are deeply changed themselves. \$12.95 pb, 0-375-75603-5, April.

—*Sandi Torkildson*



### RH-Vintage

**Amy and Isabelle** by Elizabeth Stout is a profound novel about a teenager's alienation from her distant mother and a mother's anger and shame at discovering her daughter's sexual relationship with a high school teacher. It is a stunning portrait of an older man's abuse of a young woman and the scandal it causes the mother in a small town. As her daughter seeks comfort elsewhere, she discovers the fragility of human happiness. \$13 pb, 0-375-70519-8.

**The Crime of Sheila McGough** by Janet Malcolm is the true story of a disbarred lawyer, recently released from prison, who served over two years for collaborating with a client in his fraud, but insisted on her innocence. \$12 pb, 0-375-70459-0.

Wendy Lesser's memoir, **The Amateur: An Independent Life of Letters**, is a reflection on the choices she made in pursuit of her vocation as a cultural observer with a passion for literature and art. Lesser shows how she found a way to live independently as a writer, editor, and critic, free to follow her enthusiasms where they led her. \$13 pb, 0-375-70381-0.

**The Rooms of Heaven** by Mary Allen is a love story and the story of a woman's journey to the brink of insanity and her struggles on the road to recovery. Allen falls in love with a man who has a drug problem and ends up killing himself. She attempts to recover from the loss by escaping from reality. \$13 pb, 0-679-77656-7, April.

**Holy Hunger** by Margaret Bullitt-Jonas is the story of the author's childhood in the repressive shadows of her alcoholic father and reclusive mother, whose demands for excellence, poise, and self-control drove their daughter to develop an insatiable hunger. When her father goes into treatment, she embarks on her own path to recovery by discovering the spiritual hunger beneath her craving for food. \$13 pb, 0-375-70087-0, April.

**In The Pig Farmer's Daughter and Other Tales of American Justice**, Mary Frances Berry examines a century's worth of appellate cases that show the ways in which racism and sexism in the American justice system from the Civil War era to the present have shaped our law. \$13 pb, 0-375-70746-8, April.

**No Shame in My Game: The Working Poor in the Inner City** by Katherine Newman gives a voice to the experiences of the working poor who are dealing with minimum wage, lack of child care and health care, and a shortage of even low-paying jobs in Harlem. She explores a side of poverty often ignored by the media and politicians. \$15 pb, 0-375-70379-9, April.

—*Sandi Torkildson*

**For the Time Being** by Annie Dillard is the newest collection of literary criticism and essays by this acclaimed author. \$12 pb, 0-375-70347-0. —*TMR*

### Routledge

*Notice: Routledge catalog now presents Taylor & Francis, Brunner Mazel, and others. Blurbs are from all these publishers — anything in the Spring Routledge catalog that looked useful. All titles can be ordered through Routledge.*

**Toward a Feminist Developmental Psychology** edited by Patricia Miller and Ellin Kofsky Scholnick. This collection of original essays integrates the exciting recent scholarship on feminist theories and methods into developmental psychology. It also acquaints women's studies scholars with issues in developmental psychology that raise interesting questions for feminist theorists. Might be good for feminist therapists. A definite consideration for women's studies classes. \$23.99 pb, 0-415-92178-3; \$80 cl, -92177-5.

**Wise Women: Reflections of Women at Mid-Life** edited by Phyllis Freeman and Jan Schmidt. This collection of autobiographical essays by the likes of Mary Gordon, Julia Alvarez, Paula Gunn

Allen, and bell hooks focuses on negotiating the psychological, physical, and social changes brought on by menopause and assessing how the aging process affects their lives as professionals, feminists, writers, mentors, and instructors in the academy. Sounds promising. Cover not shown — could make a difference in the ease of marketing it. \$18.95 pb, 0-415-92303-4; \$80 cl, -92302-6.

**Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v. Wade** by Rickie Solinger. Revised edition of a classic. Important book in understanding the politics of race, class, and reproductive rights. \$20 pb, 0-415-92676-9.

**Fresh Verdicts on Joan of Arc** edited by Bonnie Wheeler and Charles Wood. Contributors to this volume of original essays employ the latest tools of historical analysis, literary criticism, and feminist inquiry to reveal why Joan of Arc continues to remain such a potent symbol. \$24.95 pb, 0-415-33664-0.

For serious Joan scholars: **Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life** by Marjorie Garber. If you haven't created a bisexuality section in your store yet, this might be a good time to do so! And this will be a good academic look at bisexuality — through cultural, scientific, literary, and psychological lenses. Back in 1996, there was a book called *Vice Versa* by Garber which covered the same topic, but this publisher's catalog makes no reference to that book. You may want to ask your sales rep about this. \$21 pb, 0-415-92661-0.

**Life's Delicate Balance: Guide to the Causes and Prevention of Breast Cancer** by Janette D. Sherman, M.D. Finally, a book that looks at the correlation between breast cancer and the rise of chemical and nuclear industries. The author offers a landmark study on the toxins in our environment — chemical carcinogens, ionizing radiation and endocrine disrupters — and shows us how we can protect ourselves. This will definitely challenge current medical thinking. Personally, I think this conversation is long overdue! \$25.95 pb, 1-560328-70-3; \$49.95 cl, -68-X.

**Eating an Artichoke: A Mother's Perspective on Asperger's Syndrome** by Echo Fling. If you stock books on disability, this looks like a good addition. \$17.95 pb, 1-853-02711-1.

**The New Nineteenth Century: Feminist Readings of Underread Victorian Fiction** edited by Barbara Harman and Susan Meyer. If you carry

literary theory, you might want this. \$24.95 pb, 0-8153-3589-X.

**Toni Morrison's Fiction: A Collection of Contemporary Criticism** edited by David Middleton. Again, if you do literary theory... \$24.95 pb, 0-8153-3588-1.

**It's My Life Now: Starting Over After an Abusive Relationship or Domestic Violence** by Meg Kennedy Dugan and Roger Hock. Answering questions like — How do I start over again? How much money will I need? How can I support myself? How can I take care of my kids on my own? — and offering worksheets to monitor progress, this could be a very useful book. However, unless the cover changes from what is in the catalog, it will not be picked up very often. \$15 pb, 0-415-92358-1, April.

**What's Left of Theory: New Work on the Politics of Literary Theory** edited by Judith Butler, et al. For those stores stocking literary theory, one or two of these is a must. \$21 pb, 0-415-92119-8; \$85 cl, -92118-X, April.

**The New Don't Blame Mother: Mending the Mother-Daughter Relationship, Second Edition** by Paula Caplan. Of the first edition, *Lilith Magazine* said, "At long last! This is the book that redeems the mothers we have betrayed and the mothers we are." Fully revised and updated, including a new introduction, this second edition proposes new ways of mending the mother-daughter relationship. Good choice for your relationships section. \$15.95 pb, 0-415-92630-0, May.

—Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

*My Sister's Words/Syracuse NY*



### St. Martin's Press/Golden Books/ Bloomsbury USA/Henry Holt

One of the most exciting releases from St. Martin's this spring is the new Ruthann Robson story collection, **The Struggle for Happiness**. She's an incredible writer, and this collection, which has her always fabulous characters striving for love, belonging, home, and happiness, should be terrific. Yes, I know, I'm gushing, but I'm really looking forward to it! (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-25219-6, April.) The familiar topic of unearthing family secrets has an unusual jumping-off place in **Moving Lila** by Julie Fleming. Lila is a



For the current baby boom, there's **Everything Else You Need to Know When You're Expecting: The New Etiquette for the New Mom** by Paula Spencer. It has answers to such worries as "What if my water breaks in public?" and "How do I keep strangers from touching my belly?" (\$11.95 pb, 0-312-24337-5.) For those who suffer from postpartum depression, help and commiseration are provided by **Sleepless Days: One Woman's Journey Through Postpartum Depression** by Susan Kushner Resnick. She tells of her overwhelming fears, insomnia, hallucinations, hypersensitivity, and her difficult decision to stop breast feeding so that she could take the antidepressants that helped her through this scary time. (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-25336-2.)

Just in time for National Poetry Month in April is **The World in Us: Gay & Lesbian Poetry Enters the 21st Century** edited by Michael Lassell and Elena Georgiou. It features work by both established poets and "rising stars." Included are: Cheryl Clarke, Letta Neely, Achy Obejas, and Minnie Bruce Pratt. \$27.50 cl, 0-312-20943-6, April.  
—Suzanne Corson

Pricey, but may be of interest to academicians: **Women's Lives into Print: The Theory, Practice, and Writing of Feminist Auto/Biography** edited by Pauline Polkey. \$59.95 cl, 0-312-22352-8, 238 pp.

St. Martin's scholarly and reference division has introduced a series: Modern Novelists. In **Alice Walker**, Maria Lauret studies Walker's prose to discover her as writer, woman, and activist. She demonstrates how Walker's writing has explored theories of racial hybridity, spirituality, and goddess worship, as well as themes of child abuse, women's sexuality, and the exploration of African American history. \$35 cl, 0-312-22431-1.  
—TMR

## Scribner

Christin Lore Weber, a former nun and the author of several nonfiction books, has written her debut novel, **Altar Music**. Weber explores the power of passion through three generations of Northern Minnesota women and their struggle to battle personal longings with the discipline of the church. \$23 cl, 0-684-86866-0.  
—TMR

## Simon & Schuster

Ursula Hegi has written a companion novel to the megapopular Oprah pick *Stones from the River*, **The Vision of Emma Blau**. Throughout this multigenerational novel, Hegi considers the question, If you knew you were going to experience a significant love once in your life, would you want it at the beginning or the end of your life? Another absorbing, powerful book from this celebrated author. \$25 cl, 0-684-82997-5.

**Weird Like Us: My Bohemian America** by Ann Powers, pop music critic for the *New York Times* since 1992, reveals that Bohemia is far from disappeared — it's in cities all across the U.S., and it's still a powerful force in the country's shifting identity. She considers how the cultural fringe is changing ideas of kinship, identity, drug use, the consumer economy, and the meaning of adulthood. \$23 cl, 0-684-83808-7.

**Mummy's Legs** by Kate Bingham marks the fiction debut of a young but already accomplished British poet. When she was 27, Bingham's book of poetry *Cohabitation* earned her the Eric Gregory Poetry award. In her first novel, her troubled child heroine must try to make sense of her parents' loveless marriage and navigate through an adult world where nothing can be taken for granted. Bingham is an evocative, poetic, and extremely talented

writer. \$20 cl, 0-684-86470-3.

Hesper Anderson, author of *Children of a Lesser God*, has written a memoir, **South Mountain Road: A Daughter's Journey of Self-Discovery**. The book begins, "My mother killed herself on the first day of spring," and winds through Anderson's thoughts on memory, family secrets, and self-discovery. \$23 cl, 0-684-85901-7.

Joan Druett (*Hen Frigates*) has another book exploring women whose lives are defined by the sea: **She Captains: Heroines and Hellions of the Sea** is a catalog of some incredible female figures, from pirates to heroes to beauties. A thoroughly fascinating book and a must-stock. \$26 cl, 0-684-85690-5.

Another eating disorder memoir in the tradition of *Wasted* is on the market: Lori Gottlieb's **Stick Figure** is a mixture of the diary she kept when she was an eleven-year-old with anorexia nervosa and her





own present-day candor on her disease. After the success of *Girl, Interrupted*, Hollywood has already nibbled up film rights for this one. \$22 cl, 0-684-86358-8.

**Pure Poetry: A Novel** by Binnie Kirshenbaum is the story of a Jewish-American beauty with a huge appetite for sex and a propensity for messing up her life. Lila is used to attracting men, but she's unsettled by her inability to find true happiness. As she reflects on her failed marriage and her apathetic feelings for her boyfriend, she eventually comes to realize some truths about herself, her capacity for love, and the nature of true freedom. \$22 cl, 0-684-86471-1.

Sy Montgomery, NPR commentator and columnist for the *Boston Globe*, has recorded her quest to study the little-known pink dolphins in **Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest**. The locals say that these dolphins, the most ancient species of toothed whale, are magical, that they can claim one's soul and take it to an enchanted world beneath the river. Montgomery's quest is a mixture of animal science, natural history, and myth. \$26 cl, 0-684-84558-X.

The S&S people are comparing Sarah Vowell's stories on the American experience to Mark Twain and Dorothy Parker. In her new collection of essays, **Take the Cannoli: Stories from the New World**, this contributing editor to "This American Life" on Public Radio International reveals why she has such a following among both print and radio audiences. These autobiographical essays are a wry, caustic portrait of a woman born an Okie and turned a radio storyteller and pop music aficionado. \$23 cl, 0-684-86797-4, April.

The author of the Midwestern bestseller *The Quilter's Apprentice* has written a new novel, again using quilting as the metaphor for how women stitch their lives together, **Round Robin**. \$20 cl, 0-684-86892-X, April. —TMR

### Sounds True

**Your Body Is Your Subconscious Mind** by Candace Pert, Ph.D. Adventures in spiritual science from this neuroscientist, lecturer, and author. Her decoding of information molecules has led to a new understanding of how our emotions literally transform our bodies. \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-56455-736-1.

**Long Quiet Highway** by Natalie Goldberg. Here Goldberg reads aloud a favorite of her fans, a memoir

in unabridged form. Subtitled **A Memoir on Zen in America and the Writing Life**, this is a sure to sell as well as rent. \$29.95, 6 cassettes, 9 hours, 1-56455-708-1.

**A Conversation on the Writing Life: Ideas and Inspiration for Anyone Who Wants to Write** by Natalie Goldberg and Julia Cameron. Available now. Two high priestesses of writing and the creative life in conversation. Delicious listening for even the nonwriters among us. \$18.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 1-56455-725-1.

**The Choker System: A Complete Course in Self-Diagnosis and Healing** by Judith Anodea. Expensive, yes. Excellent, yes. From a pioneer in the field of energy medicine; her title *Wheels of Life*, recently reissued from Llewellyn, is a classic. Here she has mapped a curriculum for tapping into the hidden energy matrix of the body. \$59.95, 6 cassettes, 9 hours, 1-56455-744-8, April.

**Emotional Genius: How Your Emotions Can Save Your Life** by Karla McLaren. Her message here is that all of our feelings, even our most challenging, are messengers, carriers of energy for change with the power to protect and heal us. This nine-hour training program is a course in understanding, using, and releasing emotional patterns. \$59.95, 6 cassettes, 9.5 hours, 1-56455-745-6. —Donna Niles



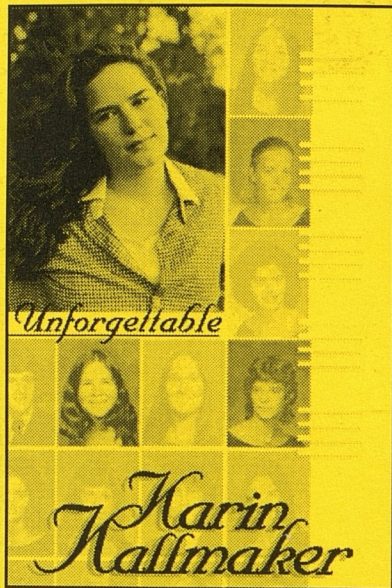
### Warner

Warner seems to be doing a lot of publicity on a debut novel that they say will appeal to the readers of *The Deep End of the Ocean* and *One True Thing*. **Travelling Light** by Katrina Kittle focuses on a dancer, Summer, who ended her career because of an injury. Indeed, many things are going wrong for Summer, and the book focuses on the most significant tragedy — her dying brother. "Watching her brother share both his struggle and joy with his partner, Summer will witness love in its most perfect, truest form, and learn how it can transcend all illness, distrust, even the cruelty of time." \$18.95 cl, 0-446-52480-8, April.

Margaret Maron, whose popular mystery series features North Carolinian Deborah Knott, has a new book due in April, **Storm Track**. \$22.95 cl, 0-8929-6656-4. —Trudy Mills ○

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## UNFORGETTABLE

by Karin Kallmaker

Is true love hidden in the moments we can't stop remembering . . . or in those we chose to forget?

There is nothing like a high school reunion to bring the old times flooding back . . .

Old Passions . . . Handsome singer Loretta "Rett" Jamison has built herself a successful career and a repertoire filled with romantic ballads and hot jazz. But her failing relationship with lover/manager Trisha York has left a growing emptiness in her heart. Trisha seems to have found what she needs in the arms of younger women. Can Rett find it on the lips of the classmate who gave her the first taste of real passion?

Old Secrets . . . Former head cheerleader Cinny Keilor is an all-American girl . . . with an all-consuming secret. Still blond and beautiful, leggy Cinny is looking forward to reliving those idyllic days of proms and pep rallies. But has she forgotten those steamy nights in the back seat of another girl's car?

Old Pain . . . National Science Award winner Dr. Angelica Martinetta is being honored by the reunion committee for her victories in the war against ovarian cancer. But the former outsider has returned to face a different challenge — can she win the heart of the one woman she has pined for all these years?

ISBN: 1-56280-260-7 \$11.95

## UNDER SUSPICION

A Detective Inspector Carol Ashton Mystery

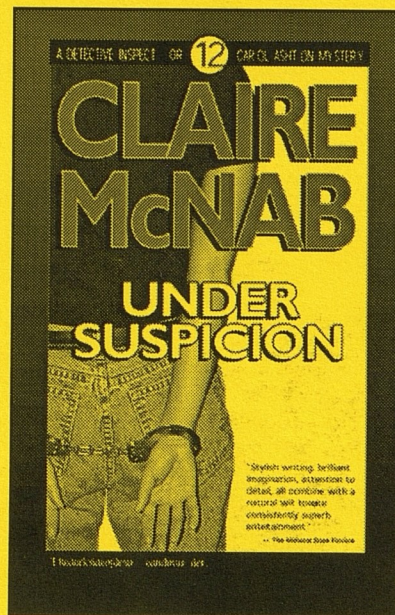
by Claire McNab

When a law enforcement officer dies under highly suspicious circumstances, it sounds like a perfect case for Australian Detective Inspector Carol Ashton . . . Too bad she's the suspect.

Attending a rigorous F.B.I. training course in the United States, Aussie top cop Carol Ashton feels a little out of her element, but is she out of her league as well? After a bitter argument with an instructor, Carol is shocked to find herself accused of murder. Framed, friendless, and far from home, Carol soon discovers that her only ally is a female F.B.I. agent with a not-so-hidden agenda. But will there be time to find the real killer as the evidence against Carol mounts and the clock ticks down on her career, her freedom . . . and her life?

Internationally acclaimed writer Claire McNab is the author of the phenomenal Carol Ashton mysteries: *Set Up*, *Past Due*, *Chain Letter*, *Lessons in Murder*, *Fatal Reunion*, *Death Down Under*, *Cop Out*, *Dead Certain*, *Body Guard*, *Double Bluff*, and *Inner Circle*. Her recently published work, *Murder Undercover*, is the debut novel in a gripping new crime series featuring Australian Intelligence Agent Denise Cleever.

ISBN: 1-56280-261-5 \$11.95



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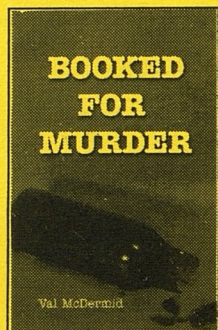
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# Women Writing a Feminist Future!



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## Booked for Murder

by Val McDermid

ISBN 1-883523-37-0 \$12.00 (Pub. date: May 2000)

Originally published by The Women's Press, Ltd., England

"It's the fifth Lindsay Gordon novel, a jolly romp through the world of London publishing.... Lindsay is tough, prepared to take chances and, as she uncovers the facts, ludicrously apt to put two and two together and make five."

— *The Independent* (U.K.)

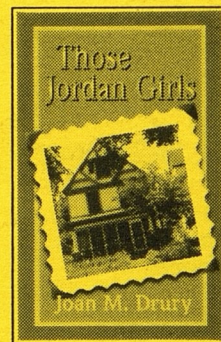
"The characterisation is convincing and the plot moves forward with great style. The story is extremely witty but the victim finds nothing amusing in the killer's weapon—an exploding beer bottle." — *Gay Times* (England)

## Those Jordan Girls

By Joan M. Drury

ISBN 1-883523-36-2 \$12.00 (Pub. date: June 2000)

By the critically-acclaimed author of the award-winning Tyler Jones mystery series. A splendid epic novel about four generations of women living together in small-town Minnesota, narrated against a historical backdrop of some of the most dramatic events and major social movements of the modern era, from the farmer/labor activism of the early part of the century, to the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery March and its incredible aftermath.



## They Wrote the Book:

### Thirteen Women Mystery Writers Tell All

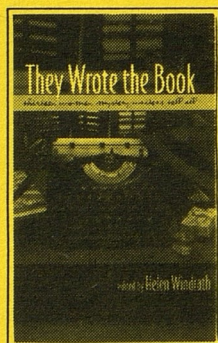
Edited by Helen Windrath

ISBN 1-883523-35-4 \$12.00 (Pub. date: June 2000)

Originally published by The Women's Press, Ltd., England

This collection of essays, by thirteen acclaimed British and North American women mystery writers, paints an intimate portrait of contemporary writers at work. Essential reading and reference for all writers, from novices to seasoned pros, as well as for all readers with an interest in the professional lives and creative techniques of successful published authors.

Contributors include: Jean Bedford, Sarah Dreher, Joan Drury, Stella Duffy, Ellen Hart, Gillian Linscott, Val McDermid, Marcia Muller, Chris Niles, Abigail Padgett, Barbara Paul, Penny Sumner, and Anne Wilson.



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