GEORGE WOODCOCK LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
for an outstanding literary career in British Columbia

WINNER CHUCK DAVIS’ BIBLIOGRAPHY:

History of Metro Vancouver (forthcoming) • Vancouver Then & Now (2001)
• The Greater Vancouver Appointment Book (1990) • Reflections, One Hundred Years: A Celebration of the District of
North Vancouver’s Centennial (1990) • Vancouver: An Illustrated Chronology (with Shirley Mooney & Henri Robideau) (1986)
• The Vancouver Book (General Editor) (1976) • Two Weeks in Vancouver (with John Ewing) (1976)
• Chuck Davis’ Guide to Vancouver (1973, 1975)

Since 1995, BC BookWorld and the Vancouver Public Library have proudly sponsored the Woodcock Award and the Writers Walk at 350 West Georgia Street in Vancouver.

FOR MORE INFO SEE WWW.GEORGEWOODCOCK.COM
Six years in the making. **Everything Was Good-bye** is the story of a young Indo-Canadian woman, Meena, who struggles to assert her independence within the Punjabi community of the Lower Mainland. "I was journaling about my own youth," Basran says, "and my experiences disappeared into fiction. Now I can say, yes, I did know I had to write it, because I was unable to abandon it."

Novelist **Karen X Tulchin** and **Kathy Page** short-listed manuscripts by Basran, **Gillean Chase**, **OC Reid**, **Kuya Minogue** and **Gillian Wigmore** from 64 entries. The final selection was made by novelist **Jack Hodgins**.

Harris refers to the various volcanoes featured in the book as Galleries. "With every drop of rain or snow flake, or with every freeze and thaw," he says, "the landscape changes."

"People like to escape overland, via Turkey, and reunite with their family in Vancouver in 1994. "The meaning of freedom is not known until it is lost," he writes, "and it is only then that we realize how precious it is."
Inspired Indian recipes for the family

Captivating wildlife art from far flung places
“I’ve lived and worked all over B.C.,” says Caroline Woodward, “from the Peace River and the Kootenays to Lillooet, the Gulf Islands, Vancouver, Haida Gwaii, Powell River, Tofino and all over Vancouver Island. So I can feel at home in lots of places.”

Now a relief assistant lighthouse based on the Lennard Island Lightstation near Tofino, Caroline Woodward also worked as a sales rep for publishers for Kate Walker & Co. “From Chemainus to Smithers” for seven years. She’s hitting the road again, this time she’s promoting two new titles of her own “springing (or glacially proceeding, more like it) from my Peace River roots.”

Her novel Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny (Oolichan $18.95) is a contemporary retelling of The Odyssey, an enduring love story between a resolute Peace River ranch wife and her good husband, adrift behind the wheel of his long-haul truck bound for the west coast and southern interior.

Singing Away the Dark (Simply Read $18.95), a children’s picture book illustrated by Julie Morstad, is based on Caroline’s coping skills learned during mid-winter one-mile walks to the Cecil Lake school bus stop in Grade One, through barbwire gates, a scary dark trail, past a cranky bull in a barnyard and finally, enduring a northern blizzard.

Woodward’s October book tour included over 25 events in 16 cities, towns and villages. “I love driving,” she says, “and I welcome the chance to organize my road maps and hit the road again.” Born in Fort St. John and raised on a homestead in the Kootenays, Caroline Woodward also worked as a sales rep for publishers for Kate Walker & Co. “from Chemainus to Smithers” for seven years. She’s hitting the road again, this time she’s promoting two new titles of her own “springing (or glacially proceeding, more like it) from my Peace River roots.”

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Edward Curtis Project
Talonbooks
www.talonbooks.com

Edward Curtis saw his job as that of creating a photographic record of “the
vanishing race of the North American Indian.” His work therefore became as
much a projection of colonial attitudes upon aboriginal peoples as it was an
authentic record of their lives. A two-year collaboration to take Curtis’s
photographs to heart and to see who and what might live inside them today,
resulted in a profoundly moving drama by playwright Marie Clements, and a spectacular contemporary photo exhibit by photo-
journalist Rita Leistner. Published together in this volume, they illustrate the
trauma the notion of a “vanishing race” has inflicted on an entire people, and
exposes the shadows below the surface of the author’s
First Nations heritage, and to celebrate its survivors. Can a person overcome
their past? Can a people survive their history? Ironically funny and brutally
honest, Where the Blood Mixes is a story about loss and redemption. Caught in
a shadowy pool of alcoholic pain and guilt, Floyd is a man who has lost everyone
he holds most dear. Now after more than two decades, his daughter Christine
returns home to confront her father. Set during the salmon run,
Where the Blood Mixes takes us to the confluence of the muddy Fraser and the brilliant blue
Thompson Rivers, to the bottom of that landscape, to the heart of a People.
Where the Blood Mixes won the 2009 Governor General’s Award for Drama.

The Edward Curtis Project:
A Modern Picture Story
Marie Clements & Rita Leistner

With breathtaking virtuosity, Garry Thomas Morse sets out to recover the
appropriated, stolen and scattered world of his ancestral people, retracing
Captain Vancouver’s original “voyage of discovery.” His continuous poetic
dialogue of “discovery” and “recovery” reaches as far as the Lenape, the original Native inhabitants of Mannahatta in what is now known as New York, and on
across the Atlantic in pursuit of the European roots of the “Voyages of
Discovery” in Frazer’s The Golden Bough. His family story “The Young Healer,”
and transformed passages from Whitman, Pound, Williams and Bowering, link
Kwakwaka’wakw traditions of the past with a modern poetic tradition in North
America that encompasses the entire scope of relations between oral and vocal
tradition, ancient ritual, historical contextuality and our continuing rites.

NEWS:
Postcards from the Four Directions
Drew Hayden Taylor

In this collection of short essays for the popular media, playwright, novelist and
screenwriter Drew Hayden Taylor sends his readers fascinating and exotic post-
cards from his globetrotting adventures, always on the lookout for the NEWS
about aboriginal peoples around the world. Organized around the thematics
suggested by the four cardinal directions central to the Ojibway peoples—East
for beginnings and youth; South for journeys both physical and spiritual; West
for maturity and responsibility; and North for contemplation and wisdom; these
communiqués are sent not so much to instruct as they are to delight. Never
without a healthy dose of irony, humour, and often unabashed laughter, these
“postcards” offer their readers unexpected and novel insights into the intense
and often hilarious complexities of our new multicultural reality.

Talonbooks www.talonbooks.com
FOUR MOTHER OF THE 20TH century, handmade Cowichan Indian sweaters—bulky, distinctly patterned, woolen sweaters that were cozy and repelled the rain—were handed down from generation to generation, preferably unwashed, worn for work and play, never for fashion.

We felt proud to own one because the Cowichan Indian sweater was as British Columbian as we could get. Our province gave them as gifts to British Columbians as we could get. Our Cowichan Indian sweater was as defined by the Cowichan sweaters' stylistic origins. Compensation for the indigenous industry would be nil. The settlement with The Bay was palpable. The Cowichan were accorded the right to sell their (relatively few) handmade sweaters alongside the mass-produced garments. The controversy, like the overall costs of the Olympics, disappeared from the media spotlight as soon as the events began.

But now Sylvia Olsen is getting the last word.

Her Working With Wool (Sono Nis $38.95) blends ancient coastal history: the stories of women who have made the sweaters, the memories of the people who marketed the sweaters, the families that wore them and some brief recollections of The Bay confrontation—from someone who can walk the walk, not just talk the talk.

At age seventeen, in 1972, Sylvia Olsen married Carl Olsen, a Cowichan. As a young mother, she learned how to knit Cowichan sweaters from her mother-in-law, Laura Olsen.

In those days, knitters were paid $55 for a sweater which they would later see on the dealer’s rack with a tag for $270. Since the wool, itself, cost $45, for all their labour the knitters only made $10.

Olsen says every Coast Salish family on southern Vancouver Island has at least one story of selling a Cowichan sweater to a non-First Nations customer so they could buy food for supper or shoes for the kids.

“In 1978 we started buying Indian sweaters from our family and a few neighbours,” she recalls. “We mailed a sign on a tree at the end of our driveway—Indian Sweaters for Sale—and placed a five-dollar advertisement in the newspaper. Soon a steady trail of customers found their way to our place.”

In 1981, Carl built a log “sweater shop” behind their house. His father, Ernie Olsen, named it Mount Newton Indian Sweaters after the sacred mountain that they could see from the backyard.

Sales flourished. The Olsons were able to pay 15 percent more to the knitters than they could get in Victoria. Everyone was happy until the cost of wool increased and the price of sweaters did not.

“By the 1980s the market was being driven by skyrocketing wholesale exports to Japan and Europe, which drove the price to the knitters down rather than up. They had to mass-produce thousands of sweaters for foreign markets, while the local demand all but disappeared.”

By the early 1990s, knock-off imitations were flooding the market. Having closed her business, Olsen went to university and at age 35 gained a Master’s degree in history, specializing in Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal relations.

Her 1996 thesis on Coast Salish knitters served as the basis for the National Film Board documentary, The Story of the Coast Salish Sweaters, made by Christine Welsh.

Sylvia Olsen’s picture book Yesteryear! £ 1.50. lange was introduced to the art of making the sweater to younger readers.

The provincial government has presented sweaters to Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Philip, Prime Ministers John Diefenbaker and Pierre Trudeau (who wore a Cowichan sweater for one of his Christmas cards) and the characters who drew Olsen to tell the story of the Cowichan sweater in Working with Wool while the knitters such as Cecelia Ethel, Sarah, May, Yvonne, Elizabeth, Madeleine and Laura.

“Washing wool outside and knitting all night was Cecelia’s favourite thing to do,” says Olsen. “In the early days, before the 1950s, before hydro wires were strung through the reserve, she had a coal oil lamp for light. If she was out of oil she used candles.”

“Late at night it was quiet—no radio, no TV, no kids, just the clicking of her knitting needles. The repetitive movement of her hands uncluttered her mind and gave her time to reflect.

“Most nights she stayed up until three or four in the morning, and sometimes later if she needed to finish her sweater. She’d sleep for a few hours and then get up and wash and block the sweater for sale later in the day. That way the kids would have something for supper.”

Continued on next page.
Coors is for Boors

TWO MUCH BEER, TOO LITTLE INFORMATION. That was the impetus for Dutch-born Leo Buijs’ Beers of British Columbia: A Guide to Micro and Brewpubs and their Beers (Seawave/Sandhill $19.95). “I realized how difficult it must be for any beer consumer, an aficionado or a novice beer drinker,” says Buijs, “to wrestle oneself through the many different types and tastes of beer without some guidance.”

So Buijs has evaluated more than 300 B.C. beers, including Steam Donkey Lager (Comox), Crooked Tooth Pumpkin Ale (Victoria), Anarchist Amber Ale (Penticton), Fog Fighter Ale (Victoria), Sasquatch Stout (Chilliwack), Hangdog Hefeweizen (Squamish), Winter Gale Strong Ale (Victoria), Pompos Pompador Porter (Nanaimo) and WhaleTail Ale (Salt Spring). His guidebook includes a glossary of beer terms, information on how to perform a proper tasting and descriptions of 55 breweries and brewpubs in three regions: the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and the south central Interior. Much of the artwork on the beer labels is stunning, worthy of an art gallery exhibit.

For Boors

Bill Wotherspoon on Babine Lake.

THE LITERARY BUZZ AT BABINE LAKE

“The living on the shores of a wilderness lake,” Carroll Simpson says, “I ask my maker all the time, why are there mosquitoes?”

A reader of Cowichan sweaters as artists. Each knitter brings unique traits to their designs and spining techniques.

When she was once called to act as a witness in a break and enter case, Olsen was able to identify who had knit a particular sweater for the court. From the stitch, tension and size, and the rounded collar with strips of black and white, and a raised join at the shoulders, she knew the sweater could have only been made by Cecelia. May’s sweaters were bulky and heavy. Yvonne’s sweaters were dense and tightly knit on small needles. Elizabeth’s sweaters were rough, as each stitch did not exactly line up with the previous stitch. Laura was an artist. Each sweater was a new creation. She tried different collars, sleeve inserts, buttons, ties, belts, hoods, pouches, or slash pockets. If she saw a knitted garment on the street, she would feel you get when you wear a Cowichan? Or is it the feeling you get when you wear an owner of Ookie Wilderness Lodge on Babine Lake, Carroll Simpson spends part of her winters in a fishing cabin built in the 1930s, and the rest of the year running her adjacent fishing lodge that was built in 1979. Her love affair with the wilderness has lasted seventeen years.

The closest neighbourhood is the Lake Babine Nation village of Old Fort, population 20 during the spring, summer and fall. It is ten kilometers away by water. Winter access to Ookiek Wilderness Lodge is by helicopter or snowshoe only.

“I usually park my truck in the village of Granisle, population 300,” she says. “For groceries and propane, I travel one hour by water and two hours by road to Burns Lake.”

From this locale, Simpson wrote and illustrated her storybook, The First Receiver (Heitage $24.95), about an aboriginal girl born with brown hair—instead of black—who becomes strong in spite of her difference from others. Similarly for ages 6-11, Simpson’s The First Mosquito (Heritage $24.95) imagines the origins of the mosquito.

“We have all been looking for a reason for the annoying mosquito,” she says. “In my studies, I have read numerous stories about the mosquito from the Innuqiu, Tlingit, Tuctacara, Haudenaunee, Noocta and many others.

“There is a theme that runs through most of the stories about mosquitoes: a bloodsucking giant that killed people in the forest and people who pushed it into a fire where it became ash and then mosquitoes.”

Simpson’s story about a young boy who wanders alone into the forest before European contact introduces young readers to Lightning Snakes, Woodworm, Creek Woman, Mouse Woman, Two-Headed Serpents, the Wild Man of the Forest and a Bloodsucking Monster. A glossary of these mythical creatures describes their traits and identifying physical details.

“My hope is to stimulate the curiosity of children of all ethnicities to reach further into the study of the First People,” Simpson says. “In doing so they will gain understanding and respect for this art and culture here on this land, before European contact, that is renowned worldwide.”

Yvonne’s sweaters were dense and tightly knit. So Sylvia spinach. Yvonne’s sweaters were dense and tightly knit. So Sylvia wanted the skills to be preserved.

Sylvia Olsen died, age 91, hoping her grandchildren would not have to subsist on knitting income as she did, but wanting the skills to be preserved.

COWICHAN SWEATERS

continued from previous page

“When she was finished telling me her story, she looked up to the ceiling and wrinkled her brow. After a few moments of silence she turned back to me with a thoughtful look on her face and said, ‘We Indians are sure hard workers.’”

It was that statement, accompanied by a chuckle, that convinced Olsen she must one day write a book on the subject of Cowichan sweaters. Olsen and Cecelia agreed that few people knew much about how First Nations people lived, and stereotypes of First Nations people did not reflect that they were hard workers.

OLSEN TAKES PAINS TO IMPART THE KNITTERS OF Cowichan sweaters as artists. Each knitter brings unique traits to their designs and spining techniques.

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Olsen claims that Coast Salish women were making sweaters from goat’s fleece prior to the advent of European settlers. Others have suggested the garments can be traced to the introduction of knitting techniques by early British settlers. Either way, the debate continues over appropriation and what constitutes cultural property that should be protected.

Is it the designs, the style, the wool or a particular configuration of all of the elements that make up a Cowichan? Or is it the feeling you get when you wear one? Fewer and fewer British Columbians are going to know. These days, only May and Yvonne still knit. So Sylvia Olsen has recorded the story of handmade Cowichan sweaters in the knits of time. Just as Olsen’s mother-in-law had taught her sons and daughters to knit, Sylvia Olsen has taught the knitting skills to her daughters and grandchildren.

Laura Olsen died, age 91, hoping her grandchildren would not have to subsist on knitting income as she did, but wanting the skills to be preserved.

A Cowichan sweater might be so fiercely coveted that the recipient must be named in the owner’s will.”

— SYLVIA OLSEN

WINTER GALE STRONG ALE

Label design from Victoria’s Canoe Brewpub

CANOE

oxing, worthy of an art gallery exhibit.
THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF BC

AUNTIE VIE
A LIFE OF PICKLES AND PEARLS
as told to Cathy Converse

One woman's infectious sparkle has captured imaginations. This biography shares her life story, favourite recipes, advice on fashion and the power of dance, and the philosophy of life that has made Auntie VIE famous.

TRUE HOME
LIFE ON A HERITAGE FARM
Ammy Scoones

In this third installment of stories from the oldest heritage farm on Vancouver Island, Ammy leads us on a light yet thoughtful journey on time, aging, the environment, and the meaning of home.

GO NUTS
RECIPES THAT REALLY SHELL OUT
Debbie Harding

Nuts can make the most mundane foods extraordinary. This recipe collection features not as the main ingredient or unique garnish in each mouthwatering dish. Try Pumpkin Pancakes or Honey Almond Spread.

FISH ON
SEAFOOD DISHES THAT MAKE A SPLASH
Ingri Baer

"Tasty" and "complicated" don't have to be in the kitchen. This seafood cookbook makes even the most intimidating seafood easy, quick, and tasty. Salmon, mussels, crab, prawns, halibut, and more.

NORTHERN KIDS
Kids experience Canada’s north in a different way than adults. These true stories celebrate the independent spirit of young northerners—their courage, wilderness skills, and love of fun.

BROKEN CIRCLE
THE DARK LEGACY OF INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
A MEMOIR
Theodore Fontaine

"I haven’t forgotten, but I have forgiven. This is what makes his voyage of self-discovery so compelling. This memoir is a life lesson about hope, healing and happiness."
—Hana Garmire, CBC

BAD MEDICINE
A JUDGE’S STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE IN A FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY
John Reilly

"Judge John Belits demonstrates an uncommon understanding of the complex issues and problems confronting Canada’s Aboriginal peoples.”—The Honourable Pat Carstairs

NORTHERN BC CANOE TRIPS
VOLUME 2
Laurel Anchor

This volume describes spectacular paddling routes over 11 phenomenal rivers and is designed to provide canoeists with all the information they require to plan a trip appropriate to their skill level and special interests.

A THAMES MOMENT
Gordon Cape

From pounding back Pimm’s at the exclusive Ladner Club to exploring secret Spittie lightplane factories, Gordon Cape takes you on a charming and disarming adventure through the world of John Bull. You’ll be mad as a hatter not to enjoy this trip to Jolly Old England.

POLAR BEARS
THE ARCTIC FAMILY'S GREAT ADVENTURES
Anthony Dalton

Learn about polar bears’ single-minded approach to life and acquiring food, read of hair-raising encounters between polar bears and humans, and marvel at the majesty of this mighty animal.

A LONG, DANGEROUS COASTLINE
SHIPWRECKS TAKEN FROM ALASKA TO CALIFORNIA
Anthony Dalton

The west coast of North America has some of the world’s most beautiful scenery, but it’s often subjected to ferocious storms. Here are stories of ships that met tragic ends and the passengers and crews who found themselves in extreme danger.

A BOOK OF TRICKSTERS
TALES FROM MANY LANDS
Retold by Jon C. Stott

People around the world have always told stories about tricksters—characters who solve problems by using their wits to fool others. All ages will enjoy these re-tellings of 55 tales from 14 countries.

MASKEPEETOA
LEADER, WARRIOR, PEACEKEEPER
Hugh A. Dempsey

Chief during the turbulent mid-1800s, Maskpeetoon, guided by ideals of peace and fairness, radically transformed the Rocky Mountain Cree from woodland trappers to plains-dwelling buffalo hunters. With insights from contemporary Cree people, including Maskpeetoon’s descendants.
people
IN PRAISE OF
WHALE MEAT

According to an 1885 treaty, the Makah had been granted whaling rights as consideration for giving up tribal land. Frustrated by public and governmental responses to the revival of Makah whaling in 1999, five “rogue” Makah whalers killed a second gray whale on September 9, 2007 but they were denounced by the Makah Tribal Council for acting without the approval of the Makah Whaling Commission.

Coté’s bias in favour of indigenous whaling—yet to be undertaken by modern Nuu-chah-nulth in Canada—is unapologetic throughout.

She concludes Spirits of our Ancestors by recalling her attendance at a World Council of Whalers meeting for indigenous peoples in 1996, initiated by Nuu-chah-nulth chief Tom Mepsis Happynook. All participants received a cookbook from the owner of a whale cuisine restaurant in Osaka, Japan.

“I laughed when I received the book,” Coté writes, “thinking how funny it was to receive a book about how to cook whale meat. At that time, I never thought that I would have the chance to eat whale, or that I would ever witness a hunt by my people.

“Now, after my Makah relatives successfully harvested a whale, I am optimistic that I will witness a Nuu-chah-nulth hunt. I now cherish this book that sits on my bookshelf with all my other cookbooks, and I look forward to the day that I can try out Mrs. Ohnishi’s recipes.

“When I do, I will know that our philosophy of hishuk’ishy tsawalk—everything is one—has been fulfilled and that our whaling tradition is whole once again. And when that day comes, when we harvest a whale, we will not only restore the missing link in our tradition but we will truly be honouring the spirits of our whaling ancestors.”

978-0-7748-2053-0
As an English-trained schoolteacher, she stepped off a freighter named Canadian Star at age 25, in 1967, and had no idea she would find lasting companionship with the late Dick Hammond, reclusive author of three books of coastal lore, Tales from Hidden Basin (1996), Haunted Waters (1999) and A Touch of Strange (2001).

Jo Hammond's Sunshine Coast memoir is comparable to Edith Iglauer's coastal classic Fishing with John in which an American-trained journalist remembers her live-aboard romance with Pender Harbour fisherman John Daly.

Daly and Hammond were both staunchly independent men, with high IQs, a low tolerance for fools and a love of classical music. Both Edge of the Sound and Fishing with John are love stories—the gruff Spencer Tracy meets the urbanite Katherine Hepburn—with humour and tales of adventure.

Whereas Iglauer and Daly could listen to music on the water in their cramped and toilet-less 41-foot troller, Morekelp, the Hammonds preferred their concerts in bed. "It was impossible to hear anything while driving that open boat with its 351 Ford HO engine," says Jo Hammond. "Dick didn't even have a radio."

Iglauer's Fishing with John became the basis for a made-for-tv Hallmark film Navigating the Heart starring one of "Charlie's Angels," Jaclyn Smith. The CBC television series The Beachcombers could have been about the likes of Jo and Dick Hammond, except that long-running program was a fanciful and often silly depiction of west coast salvaging. Before the CBC started filming The Beachcombers series, the producer wanted to use Dick Hammond's jet boat and his partner Alan's tug Styx for the series. "They said they would paint the tug white," says Jo Hammond, "But I don't think Dick and his partner Alan treated them with much respect down on our dock, so the next thing we heard was they had found what they were looking for with Harry and Johnny Smith's operation. They owned buildings, marina and a gas dock."

"Maybe if Dick and Alan had been more polite to them, I wouldn't have to defer the property taxes. Dick used to hate their filming presence over at our booming grounds. They'd come over to him and order him to stop work, and he'd refuse, and understandably so."

Jo Hammond has recalled how she learned to handle an open, 19-foot salvage boat, tie knots, sing arias to the sea lions, "expect the unexpected" and suckle her child while chasing rogue logs in Edge of the Sound: Memoirs of a West Coast Log Salvager (Caitlin $24.95).

**Salvaging with Dick**

**The Beachcombers for real: Jo Hammond and Dick Hammond**

Manage Your Online Reputation
Don’t let angry clients, jealous lovers, or ruthless competitors ruin your image
By Tony Wilson, Lawyer

- What to do if someone slanders you, your company, or your child on the Internet
- Best practices for Facebook and other social sites
- How to be proactive and manage your online legacy going forward
$19.95 / book

The Entrepreneurial Mom’s Guide to Running Your Own Business
By Kathryn Bechtold

- Practical guide to help moms start successful businesses
- Reclaim motherhood as a right in the professional world
- Learn how to spend your time wisely and make money
$23.95 / book + CD-ROM

Caregiver’s Guide for Canadians
By Rick Lauber

- Learn how to be a caregiver
- Discover your options and where to go for help
- Balance caregiving and your other responsibilities
$17.95 / book

Start & Run a Personal History Business
Get paid to research family ancestry and write memoirs
By Jennifer Campbell

- Help individuals, businesses, and/or communities preserve their heritage
- Research stories, write memoirs, and create unique historical projects
- Includes resources and guidelines for a first project
$23.95 / book + CD-ROM

Canadian Business Contracts Handbook
By Nishan Swails, Lawyer

- Understand standard contract jargon and clauses
- Write your own legally sound contracts
- Perfect reference guide for small-business owners
$24.95 / book + CD-ROM

Winning Proposals
By Hans Tammemagi, PhD

- Learn the fundamentals of creating proposals
- Understand the importance of meetings and interviews to the process
- Use psychology to give your proposal that winning edge
$16.95 / book

www.self-counsel.com
1-800-663-3007
Recipes from Andrew George, chef at the 2010 Winter Olympics Aboriginal Pavilion.

**A Feast For All Seasons**
Andrew George Jr. with Robert Cains 978-1-55152-368-2; $24.95

An olive oil cookbook by the proprietors of Basil Olive Oil Products.

**From the Olive Grove**
Helen & Anastasia Koutalianos 978-1-55152-367-5; $24.95

Vegans can keep “up to date” with Sarah’s latest calendar.

**Go Vegan! 2011 Wall Calendar**
Sarah Kramer 978-1-55152-342-2; $14.95

How Canada treated suspected Bolsheviks in 1918-19: the nation’s first war on terror.

**Seeing Reds**
Daniel Francis 978-1-55152-374-0; $22.95

A novel about Polish pyromaniacs, set to the smell of smoke.

**KraKow Melt**
Daniel Allen Cox 978-1-55152-372-9; $17.95

A Queer Film Classic on the acclaimed 1992 Chen Kaige film.

**Farewell My Concubine**
Helen Hok-Sze Leung 978-1-55152-362-0; $14.95

A reissue of S. Bear Bergman’s acclaimed first book, on what it means to be a butch.

**Butch Is A Noun**
S. Bear Bergman 978-1-55152-369-9; $19.95

A visually history of female bodybuilders and other muscular women.

**Venus With Biceps**
David L. Chapman & Patricia Vertinsky 978-1-55152-370-5; $29.95

“*A universally approachable story of self-discovery.*” —Quill & Quire

**Girl Unwrapped**
Gabriella Goliger 978-1-55152-375-0; $22.95

“An indispensable study.” —Kirkus Reviews

**The Last Genet**
Hadrien Laroche, trans. by David Homel 978-1-55152-371-2; $18.95

A stunning, large-format book on Attila Richard Lukacs’ Polaroid images.

**Polaroids**
Attila Richard Lukacs & Michael Morris 978-1-55152-195-1; $60.00

Jenn Farrell’s second story collection is first-rate, if you have the stomach for reality.

Some stories, such as Jenn Farrell’s “Day of the Dead,” grab you by the lapel and don’t let go. Doesn’t matter where you are. You can be stuck in traffic, on a hot afternoon, trying to get onto the Lions Gate Bridge.

“Sam found the car keys on the hook by the front door and drove her mother’s rusty Accord straight to the hospital. She gave her name at the reception desk and waited for a social worker named Elise to take her down to the morgue.”

By the time you’ve reached Lost Lagoon, Sam (Samantha), the good-looking but single Vancouver hairdresser — whose flight to Toronto didn’t get her to the deathbed in time — has to identify her mother’s emaciated, cancerous carcass.

“For the first time, Sam could see the resemblance between her mother and her grandmother.”

Your seat belt is fastened. You’re not using your cell. There’s no by-law against reading, is there? Yet. Rubnecking and reading are both acts of curiosity. You can’t not slow down and peek. Jenn Farrell’s opening story in The Devil You Know is like a roadside accident scene.

The fastidiously polite Funeral Services Director, Michael, who addresses Sam as Miss Black, explains some bloodless protocols.

“To assert herself, Sam asks how do clients know for certain that a $600 urn for ashes isn’t replaced by a cardboard box, then re-sold again and again?”

Our Miss Black is not a nice girl. She has inherited some of her mother’s nastiness. And anger. And when Michael produces the pamphlet with suitable phrases for tombstones, she inwardly composes her own alternate epitaphs. Thin at last.

Or, even better, I told you I was sick.

When Michael produces the pamphlet with suitable phrases for tombstones, she inwardly composes her own alternate epitaphs. Thin at last.

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Jenn Farrell writes, “Her loneliness felt like a garment around her.”

Sam can’t bring herself to sleep in her mother’s bed. She drinks a cherry whiskey that tastes like cough syrup and wakes on the sofa. She eats a bag of ketchup chips for breakfast. She calls Michael to make some bloodless protocols.

“The undertaker surprises her by reciting four lines of the stanza from which the line has been taken.”

Michael leads her on a stroll of the grounds. It’s not exactly romantic, but it’s something.

She selects a spot for her mother’s remains in the shade of a maple.

“Sam’s second story collection is first-rate, if you have the stomach for reality.”

Most hype is just that. But book reviewer Jennifer Croll was bang on when she announced in The Gargoyle Straight that Jenn Farrell is a bad-ass version of Alice Munro. It sounds like hokum, but Munro’s short stories are similarly ambivalent about conventional morality.

“When Michael produces the pamphlet with suitable phrases for tombstones, she inwardly composes her own alternate epitaphs. Thin at last.

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Or, even better, I told you I was sick.
Murder in the Chilcotin by Roy Innes

OY INNES' THIRD INSPECTOR COSWELL MYSTERY, MURDER IN THE CHILCOTIN, INVESTIGATES THE MURDER OF A YOUNG MOUNTIE, THE SON OF A LOCAL RANCHER IN THE WEST CARIBOO. ITS GENESIS WAS MULTIFACETED.

"FOR YEARS NOW," SAYS INNES, A GABRIOLA ISLANDER, "I'VE BEEN PART OF A SENIOR CITIZEN FOUR SOME OF MOOSE HUNTERS CAMPING OUT IN THE CHILCOTIN BACK COUNTRY AND SINCE I WANTED A SHARP CONTRAST TO THE URBAN SETTING OF WEST END MURDERS, THIS MAGNIFICENT, WILD PART OF OUR PROVINCE WAS IDEAL.

"IT WAS AFTER READING RICH HOBSON'S GRASS BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS AND SEEING THE ACTUAL HOMEDEATHS DESCRIBED IN THE BOOK, THAT THE PLOT DEVELOPED IN MY MIND. I WAS ALREADY FAMILIACED WITH RICMP AND FIRST NATIONS' HISTORY. SO IT ALL CAME TOGETHER."

ENTERING A RACIALLY CHARGED WORLD OF CATTLE, LOGGING AND MARIJUANA CROPS, INSPECTOR COSWELL AND NEWLY PROMOTED SERGEANT BALELL T plans to build a faster route to the urban setting of Cariboo when he died at age 71—fittingly, of smallpox—in Ottawa in 1877.

Roy Innes evokes the Chilcotin War of 1864

As in his previous novels, Innes also writes short stories and one, Shila Pritchard, was shortlisted for the John Kenneth Galbraith Literary Award 2009.

The main storyline takes place in 1962 when the theatre tickets of three children and the wife of a Japanese POW survivor, Howard Coulter, mysteriously die. The story is told through the eyes of the youngest child, eleven-year-old daughter, Ethie. Interspersed are chapters depicting the drama, anguish and adventures of Howard’s wartime experiences and the suffering and hardship he and fellow POWs endured during their four years of captivity.

One of the main characters in the novel is Ethie’s older brother, Kipper, a fifteen-year-old with Down’s syndrome. The author does a masterful job of humanizing an individual with this chromosomal anomaly, explaining how this condition is caused by an extra, twenty-first chromosome in a person’s cellular make up. Innes shows with sensitivity and caring how a Down’s syndrome person can be meaningfully included into the family mosaic.

Innes credits former Williams Lake city councillor and seniors’ advocate, Hazel Muckvale, for inspiring her to write the novel. She is also grateful to surviving Hong Kong veterans Aubrey Flegg, Dick Wilson, Robert (Flash) Clayton, and Jan Solecki, having sought help from the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association. The Promise of Rain was launched at the Open Book Store in Micah’s hometown of Williams Lake.

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Welcome to Coyote Country

Ivan E. Coyote has a perfect-pitch ear for dialogue, especially kitchen and coffee-counter talk.

Missed Her is the fifth round-up of Coyote's quirky provocative short stories. Normally, you'd think a writer whose short works are almost exclusively autobiographical would get repetitive, even boring, but normal isn't a word that gets much work in Coyote country. Neither is boring. The stories in Missed Her are as fresh and poignant as those in her previous four collections.⭐

Growing Up Queer in the Canadian North was probably less fun than Coyote has made it seem in her early stories, but a strong sense of being different in some way is usually a big part of the core-programming of any artist. Many of these new stories are about resisting the north, no longer the young tomboy branded with a question mark like an amateur tattoo, but as an established author, only to discover, among other family secrets, that for all those years, in all those photographs of that little tomboy, there was only one member of my family wondering about me. And that was me.

As always, she has a perfect-pitch ear for dialogue, especially the kitchen and coffee-counter talk that is humankind's update of primate social grooming. While academic creative writing teachers solemnly instruct students about the importance of "finding your voice," Coyote has learned that the real secret of good writing is to forget your voice, try to fit in and listen to all the other voices around you.

At the family kitchen table, Uncle Rob’s clock in on the subject of her now published sexuality with unexpected and authentic flannel-shirt aplomb: Uncle Rob’s “Sorry, kiddo, but can’t identify the moment we realized you’d gone to the dark side. We were just glad you weren’t stupid.” Leads up to Uncle Rob’s “...you can see why we wouldn’t have thought much about it. There’s lots of hetero, butch chicks out there. Especially up here. Maybe a guy should have twiddled due to your aversion to wearing a dress, but who cares anyway? I’ve always said, it’s your soap and your dick, and you can wash it as fast as you want.”

On the surface, most Coyote stories are riffs on the politics and perils of sexual diversity, but at a deeper level they are about the nature of difference itself and the inherent ironies of living in a culture that pays lip-service to individuality as a concept while persecuting the genuine individual in practice: “A little gesture, something about my voice, or my hips, that makes them take that second, longer, closer look. Some people don’t care at all. Some ask if I am in a band, and some playing in town this weekend. Some just don’t like me all that much. And then there are those very few that want to kill me. Whether that is for being an effeminate or homosexual man, or a masculine or queer woman, I am never quite sure.”⭐

What is sure is that she makes her readers aware of living being different, sometimes dangerously so, part of the essential tool-kit for a writer. The above quotes come from a very short story, “Straighten Up,” in which a chance meeting at a highway diner between a butch girl and a fortyish guy who was “probably handsome a few years ago” talking about their un-butch little lapses, souvenirs of failed relationships, turns a talk that is sad as it is sinister: “He smiles, looks down at my crutch, slowly drums his eyes up over my chaps, and back to my eyes. It begins to dawn on me just what he wants to show me back at the rig. It probably isn’t this Cockapoo.”

The misunderstandings and mixed signals of human communication aren’t always threatening. Oftentimes they’re just laugh-out-loud funny. In “Talking to Strangers,” coming off a tour, exhausted, she starts getting cross-examined by a Pakistani immigrant cab driver about morality and family responsibilities and goes into defensive mode, only to find at the end of the ride that what he means by you people isn’t quite what she assumed.

Coyote jokes about getting “dumped in with the poets” on readings tours, particularly withadian-poets, who also rehearse their work like actors, performing from memory instead of reading. While this makes her unique enough among contemporary storytellers to qualify for some kind of environmental award for saving paper, its more important effect has been to compel her to adopt an easily memorable, executable but always clear and simple writing style, stripped of the tedious narrative pretensions of writers accustomed to finding their voices in the presumed silence of print.

So the next time you meet a clean-cut butch young fellow in a coffee shop or bar, check your presumptions and prejudices at the door, buy a round, put your boots up and swap lies for awhile. You might be talking to Ivan E. Coyote and you wouldn’t want to miss her.

Also a novelist, John Moore has contributed book reviews to various publications for more than twenty years.

Ivan E. Coyote
It is possible to have a good heart but be arrogant. It is possible to be ill with regret and longing. It is possible to hide oneself away from others, to take refuge in the past. It is possible to view oneself as heroically self-sacrificing but be seen as selfish. It is possible to keep cherished secrets that fester into wounds.

A Canadian literature professor named David learns all these things—second hand—as well as a good deal more about his own identity, when he accompanies his mother, a recently retired opera diva, back to southern Italy for a family reunion in Genni Gunn’s novel *Solitaria*.

The body of David’s mysterious uncle, Vito Santoro, has been unearthed on the grounds of a seaside villa near Rome. Forensic evidence shows Vito died of a seaside villa near Rome. For each crew for a reality TV show is delving into the mystery, as are Vito’s siblings, from three continents.

The clan’s formidable, four-foot-tall matriarch, Piera, refuses to explain why she has lied to them all for decades, pretending to have been receiving letters from the devilishly handsome Vito, written from Argentina.

Everyone in the town of Belisolano refers to Piera as La Solitaria. It falls to David, a bachelor, to serve as the reluctant siphon for his aunt’s confidences, to keep cherished secrets that fester into wounds.

In Gunn’s narrative, we switch channels back and forth between the tempestuous reunion in 2002 and the Santoro family’s hardships from Mussolini’s era onwards. In the latter, we are vividly introduced to southern Italy in a perpetual cycle of poverty, in Piera’s words, “abandoned by Rome, by the country of the backwoods, and rural, superstitious and alien.”

Is Piera destructive and cunning? Or is she a tragic figure, bereft of love? “It’s my nature to worry,” she claims, “especially about my loved ones. All my life, I’ve looked over their shoulders like a guardian angel; have tried to simplify everything for them. Why have they all turned against me?”

But Gunn also writes, “In her own mind, Piera had supplanted her mother. In her own mind, Piera erected a large apartment building, so that all her siblings could live near her and adore her for the rest of their lives.”

Gunn’s depiction of David as the bedeviled confidante and reluctant siphon for his aunt’s tale of woe is perfectly drawn. He doubles as a cultural translator for the novel itself, unexpectedly immersed in passionate Italian intrigues as a polite, trustworthy, respectful and somewhat aloof Canadian.

Gunn succeeds in making us curious; and she succeeds in making us care about the characters. Solitaria is a deeply moving, intellectually stimulating, complex and fully realized novel. Genuinely Shakespearean, it couldn’t have been written wrong. For some, it is better to have never loved at all.

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Joan Givner’s young adult novel is forged by memories of pastoral England, the intrusion of World War II and her inability to speak teenage tech-talk.

A fantasy quest in the British tradition, A Girl Called Tennyson has an overtly literary heroine whose middle name is Tennyson. Like Givner in her own girlhood, Anne Tennyson Miller loves poetry, stories and rhyme. Transported during a ferry ride to the fantasy land of Greensward, “Tenn” must rescue her friend Una from evil forces—and uses her knowledge of great writers to do so.

“If I have to explain the source of it,” says Givner, “I’m tempted to invoke my early years as a lonely only child growing up during the war in a small Lancashire village amid black-out, gas-masks, and air-raid shelters. The movie theaters were closed, of course, and this was before television.

“That situation was more likely than most childhoods to cause flight into a world of make-believe—dressing up, play-acting, and hours of absorption in books. And I’ve enjoyed dressing up ever since.”

Before she sets out on her dangerous mission, Tenn is trained by the wise woman, Bethan. She discovers that there are many other children who must also be saved and returned to Greensward. But the origins of the story are not all in the past.

“I must come clean,” says Givner. “I must admit that my late-in-life turn to fantasy was inspired less by early habits of fantasizing than by incompetence. I am ill-equipped to reproduce the idiom of today’s youth, or to depict their high tech games and skills. Creating a fictional world of my own from whole cloth allowed me to circumvent these difficulties. And it was wonderful to escape the confines of realism.”

Givner believes anyone who writes fiction for young people must reconnect with their own childhoods. With A Girl Called Tennyson, she is reconnecting to a pastoral world that was disrupted by World War II.

“I have peopled the story with characters from my village, even recalling long-forgotten place-names—Eastlea, Cross Hillock, Gin Pits. These I yoked on to my present life on Vancouver Island—the deep dark forests, the mushroom hunts of the fall, the Mill Bay-Brentwood ferry, and the magical geodesic dome, the home of a friend.

“It was so much fun to write that I don’t wonder why I produced a fantasy novel, but what took me so long to do it.
Smoke on the Water

by Grant Lawrence

P
er would be the keyword to Aldo’s potluck invitation.

Much to their consternation, my parents were aghast to discover the spectacle of innocent, pot-smoking, naked bodies cavorting everywhere in the adjoining bay.

Over the sun-drenched shoreline, smoking, drinking, laughing, singing, making out and making love. Seemingly wild, long-haired children ran over the sun-drenched shoreline, smoking, drinking, laughing, singing, making out and making love. Seemingly wild, long-haired children ran among the cavorting adults, leaping off the rocks into the warm, green water below. And there would be no “Grin and bear it” anywhere. The combined cavorting of a party in full swing dancing across the open water like war审计. As we drew closer, my innocent young eyes widened upon seeing a scene of total hubbub.

Various brooders lay entwined all over the sun-drenched shoreline, smoking, drinking, laughing, singing, making out and making love. Seemingly wild, long-haired children ran among the cavorting adults, leaping off the rocks into the warm, green water below. The aesthetic that unified the party was a reveling one: every single, man, woman and child was totally and utterly naked.

It was like the moment Charles Bukowski discovers the humans at the same in Flower of the Ape. Just add a stark-emptied Deep Purple cassette and matching purple being smoke that hung low across the bay. “Smoke on the Water,” just like in the movie. And we were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck. We were greeted by a beaming Aldo, wearing a turtleneck.
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A drifter takes a job at a hunting lodge in Northern Ontario, with the expectation of a big payday for the summer’s work. But when the eccentric owner decides to renage on her promises, things get out of hand. “The grisly conclusion to this tense thriller brings a satisfying conclusion...With rare voices and taut suspense, these titles provide accessible choices for struggling and strong readers alike.” Booklist

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24 BC BOOKWORLD WINTER 2010-2011

As former scribes for Vancouver dailies, Joan Givner, born in Vancouver in 1930, and Ian Macdonald, born in Glasgow in 1928, each wrote their own biographies and lives in Mill Bay.

“Mary Cridge: nine children in twelve years” from the Quint Reviews section highlights an important figure in the early history of Victoria.

Mary Cridge, a constant of the “bright light” district, was known for her love of education and the arts. She was a frequent contributor to the local press, and her work and gravedato Victoria’s “bright light” district.

Cridge and another clergyman were ridiculed for shielding the women from the ribald “breeches-wearing bipeds” who were unprepared for domestic work. Cridge disliked the elaborate Church ideals of Bishop Hills. The discrepancy between the Church and Cridge’s ideals had been a running commentary on events from the Colonist, founded by the flamboyant Amor de Cosmos.

The editor’s pseudonym (he was born William Alexander Smith) may have indicated love of the world, but he had plenty of contempt for its individual members, especially for James Douglas and his associates. These he called “vain, puffed-up, tyrannical, corrupt, short-sighted men, and I would not have them on our continent.”

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The importance of being earnest in early Victoria

The best of Cridge

The Church of England for the newly organized Reformed Episcopal Church. Cridge’s congregation followed as a body, and the construction of a new church began in 1857. The church was dedicated to St. Peter, and the bells were cast in England for the newly organized Reformed Episcopal Church. Cridge’s congregation followed as a body, and the construction of a new church began in 1857. The church was dedicated to St. Peter, and the bells were cast in England for the newly organized Reformed Episcopal Church.

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Canada’s Homeless World Cup team from Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside played in the September 2010 tourney held at Copacabana Beach, Rio de Janeiro, bringing home the tournament’s Fair Play Award for men’s sportsmanship.

Grant Shilling is at work on Surfing with the Devil: In Search of Waves and Peace in the Middle East. Donations to Street Soccer Canada can be made by going to canadahelps.org.

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Porcupines and China Dolls

By Robert Arthur Alexie

"To understand this story, it is important to know the People and where they came from and what they went through."

So begins a haunting story that explores with frank and honest words the dark legacy of the residential school system and its impact on individuals, families and communities.

James Nathan and Jake Noland have been best friends for life. After finishing mission school, they return to their Gitxan community in the Northwest Territories. Their lives revolve around bootleggers, the bar, drug abuse and meaningless sex. James and Jake try to dull their painful memories of the school. Each hides a dark secret that fuels his nightmares.

“A terrific book that deals with present day concerns. Its narrative strategy is one that North American readers aren’t going to be used to. But for native readers, what they’ll hear is some of the overtones of oral literature and oral story telling.”

—Thomas King, Governor General’s Award nominee for Green Grass, Running Water and author of Medicine River and The Truth About Stories: A Native Narrative

Christmas La Pouchinn

By Deborah Delaronde
Illustrated by Virginia McCoy

This vividly enchanting poem takes the reader through the traditional Métis upbringing of a boy living with his grandparents through seasons and their activities. The book concludes with the important year-end Christmas and New Year’s celebrations and explains their significance. The book also includes a Michif “vocabulary guide” and three recipes.

Métis author Deborah L. Delaronde was born in St. Boniface, Manitoba, in 1958. She grew up in the Métis community of Duck Bay, Manitoba, and has worked in Duck Bay School as a children’s librarian for the past 20 years. As a result of writing and promoting literacy, Deborah was awarded the Lieutenant-Governor’s Medal for Literacy.

Illustrator Virginia McCoy is a woman of Ojibway, French and English ancestry. McCoy explores the lines and forms of the Eastern Woodland Legend school of painting. Her work appears in exhibits in Nova Scotia and in private collections throughout North America and Europe.

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Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny

By Caroline Woodward

“Woodward’s crisp, earthy writing cuts to the chase of what it is to be human in this finely crafted novel about hard times, love, and the best of intentions. Wade and Penny will live on in my imagination for a long time.”

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By Peggy Herring

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—Amy Reiswig – Focus Magazine

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Congratulations to Kristi Bridgeman!

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Join us for the launch of
Spaz by Bonnie Bowman
A skewed spin on the tale of Cinderella, Spaz is a humorous novel about ostracism, the quest for perfection, and the human need for acceptance.
Sara Cassidy: a former human rights witness in Guatemala monitors an oily character in Slick.

When Liza's mom finds out, she says, "I can't keep this a secret from Robert." So is Liza's hard work going to be for naught? Is her own mother going to betray her?

How exactly Sara Cassidy cleans up this domestic mess shall remain a mystery.

We can reveal that in a future Orca Currents (ages ten and up) book, Liza will travel to see the Peten- Izabal pipeline in Guatemala. As well, GRRR! will respond to real-life activist Lynne Hill's vision of a symbolic protest against oil tanker traffic in the form of a four-kilometre crocheted chain stretching across the coastal channel.

A mother of three in Victoria, Sara Cassidy has been a human rights witness in Guatemala and won a Gold National Magazine Award.

Death Benefits
By Sarah N. Harvey

BOOKWORLD WINTER 2010-2011

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Two Victoria storytellers delve deep into youthful dilemmas amid oil & death

TODAY AS BLUNT AS THE MAIN CHARACTER in Death Benefits, the new young adult novel by Victoria editor Sarah N. Harvey, here is how Roys Peterson sums up his mother's 95-year-old, dementia- added father: celebrated cellist, legendary ladies' man, abnormal parent, shitty grandfather.

Roys is temporarily off school, on the mend from a bout of mono, so he reluctantly agrees to look after four- mouthed and egotistical Arthur Jenkins in return for fifteen bucks an hour. It's better than working at McDonald's. He figures the money will get him a car and out of Victoria, back to Nova Scotia where he belongs. His grandfather, funny-smelling and "skin and bones under a fuzzy baby," is holed up in a genuine Art Deco house with the curtains drawn tight, TV blaring CNN and MTV, and dirty dishes and garbage piling up in the kitchen. But out in the garage there's a minter condition 1956 black T-bird. "Car like this," his grandfather says, you get laid all the time. Roys, who's only got his "L" license and needs a licensed driver to accompany him, ferrets out his grandfather's driver's license (confiscated by his mother) and soon they're off to a barber shop where the tall and delectable Kim shaves both their heads.

Bald, his grandfather brings the phrase don't let your mind but, even scarier to Roys, is the familial resemblance. Identical noses, same-shaped heads, matching bumps at the base of their skulls.

A monotonous yet comforting routine develops. Roys sneaks open the curtains another inch, makes his grandfather coffee and takes him on a weekly outing in the T-bird like a "fuzzy baby."

From Arthur's off-hand stories and the photos and other artifacts unearthed during Roys' casual searches of the old house, he slowly pieces together his grandfather's life, and therefore begins to better understand his mother. Arthur suffers a serious stroke. Then another. And another. "Kill me," he croaks to Roys, even going so far as managing to peck out the descriptive plea on his laptop.

Roys remembers that during one of the ongoing strokes he'd put off calling 911, figuring he could do the hourly checks just as well as ER. He had a bike date with a girl that could lead to a real date, and he didn't want to blow it.

Roys, reeling with guilt and remorse, remains silent as they want to blow it. He earns will erase the stigma want to blow it. He earns will erase the stigma they lead to a real date, and he didn't want to blow it. He earns will erase the stigma.
John Hemmingsen chronicles his adventures in China as a metallurgical engineer, adapting to new customs and helping to establish a business in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, from 1998 to 2009. While deeply appreciative of Chinese history, Hemmingsen frankly describes "the massive problems that continue to plague China in that country's incredible race to a permanent status as a dominant industrial power." For more information, visit www.2000daysinchina.com

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Mary, certificate alumna

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ASHCROFT-BOHN, APRYL LEAF, raised in Falkland, B.C., worked in small towns as a journalist before moving to the Sunshine Coast where she has published her first book of poetry, Grass Widow (Libros $17), from the imprint for which she works as an editor.

A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE HUMANIST Association of Canada, Gary Bauslaugh of Duncan was instrumental in helping the Saskatchewan farmer Robert Latimer gain parole after seven years of imprisonment for the murder of his desperately ill daughter. The story of that mercy killing and its judicial and social aftermath is retold in Bauslaugh’s Robert Latimer: A Story of Justice and Mercy (Formac $29.95), endorsed by the Honourable Kim Campbell and lawyer/novelist William Deverell.

DOUGLAS & McINTYRE WILL PUBLISH John Furlong’s memoir of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The as-yet-untitled book will be published on February 12, 2011, a year to the day after Canada welcomed the world with a spectacular opening ceremony. Furlong’s co-author will be Globe & Mail columnist Gary Mason.

T.C. Clark’s second novel, Love on the Killing Floor (Now or Never Publishing $19.95), is about a down-and-out photographer in Toronto who has an unexpected love affair with a black woman who is not-too-keen on white folks.

Gary Geddes’ The Terracotta Army has been republished to coincide with the Canadian tour of The Warrior Emperor and China’s Terracotta Army, which opened at the Royal Ontario Museum in June of 2010 and will come to the Royal B.C. Museum in Victoria in 2011.

IN CHINA IN 1981, GARY GEDDES SAW AN archaeological site outside X’ian, in the Wei River Valley, where an underground army of approximately 8,000 terracotta soldiers and horses was discovered when farm workers were sinking a well in 1974. “A structure resembling an airplane hangar had been built,” he recalls, “to protect the pottery figures while they were carefully unearthed and reconstructed.” Geddes’ The Terracotta Army (Goose Lane $14.95) pairs his poems with photographs of the pottery soldiers, forming a history of the Ch’in dynasty. Twenty-four representatives of the terracotta army share their thoughts on Ch’In, the emperor, and Lao Bi, the artist, all filtered through Geddes’ imagination.

Geddes has simultaneously released Swimming Ginger (Goose Lane $17.95), based on the Qingming Shanghe Tu scroll, sometimes called “Spring Festival by the River” or “Going Upriver on a Bright, Clear Day.” A copy of this ancient scroll came into Geddes’ possession along the banks of the Yangtze shortly after the events of September 11, 2001. The scroll is thought to have been painted by Zhang Zeduan before 1127.

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WHO’S BRITISH COLUMBIA

Andy Sibbald (left) in an igloo at Holman (pop. 450), northeast of Inuvik, located north of the 70th parallel on Victoria Island.

steamed to obtain their final shape, were once essential to Haida culture. The book discusses how the Haida were first taught to make canoes by supernaturals and how the bodies of supernatural beings, like SGaana or Killer Whale, can transform into canoes. The Haida language has also been influenced by the remarkable dug-out vessels. Expressions of welcome or agreement can be traced back to the time of canoes. Modern-day carvers also discuss tips on design of vessels and paddles, and others talk of recent journeys undertaken by canoe.

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From Mohammad to mouse: Laura Marks in Syria, at the Ummayyad Mosque, also known as the Grand Mosque of Damascus.

**P** is for Page

REPOSITIONED IN Fernie, Oolichan Books retains some of its coastal connections with titles such as *Uirapurú* (Oolichan $19.95), a haunting children’s story by the late P.K. Page, illustrated by Kristi Bridgeman, and based on a Brazilian legend. Page lived in Brazil during the late 1950s when her husband W. Arthur Irwin was Canada’s ambassador to that country.

**Q** is for Queer

WHILE DANISH-BORN METTE BACH’s COLUMN for Xtra West magazine is cleverly called Queer to Eternity, she has opted for a much more sedate title for her examination of her hometown in the Fraser delta, *Off the Highway: Growing up in North Delta* (New Star $19), originally a UBC MFA project that was encouraged by Daphne Marlatt. Having grown up on Scott Road, Bach has produced an historical memoir that offers insight into the preservation of Burns Bog and the effects of building the Alex Fraser Bridge for Expo 1986 and the Deas Island Tunnel. “Starbucks and Chapters and Cactus Club do not a city makes,” she writes.

**M** is for Marks

“CONTEMPORARY ART HAS ISLAMIC ROOTS and usually doesn’t know it,” says Laura Marks, SFU’s Dena Wosk University Professor for the Contemporary Arts. Having travelled for eight years throughout the Muslim world, studying classical and contemporary art, Marks explores the relationship between contemporary media art and classical Islamic art in *Enfoldment and Infinity: An Islamic Genealogy of New Media Art* (MIT Press $37.95). She draws connections between the imageless, text and calligraphy-inspired work of traditional Islamic art, and the modern works of new-media and contemporary artists, suggesting that the pixel-based abstraction, artificial life and virtual worlds we find in computer media already existed in Islamic art 800 to 1100 years ago.

**N** is for Newsworthy

AT THE VICTORIA BOOK PRIZES, Sylvia Olsen received the third annual $5,000 Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize from Bolen’s co-owner Samantha Holmes for Olsen’s young adult novel *Counting on Hope* (Sono Nis). Children of the Klondike (Whitecap) by Frances Backhouse won the seventh annual $5,000 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize.

**O** is for Olson

AT 496 PAGES, YOU GOTTA STOP AND MARVEL at Ralph Maud’s revised edition of *Muthologies* (Talonbooks $39.95), poet Charles Olson’s collected lectures and interviews. There are five new pieces that were not included in the original 1978 edition, so Muthologies is the motherlode of Olson talk. As one of the founding English professors at Simon Fraser University in 1965, Ralph Maud got to know Olson during a two-year stint at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

In 1949, engineer George Massey (with pointer), shows the location for the Deas Island Tunnel that opened in 1959. It was later renamed after Massey.
Spider Robinson, writer in residence, at the Vancouver Public Library: “Many have noted its physical resemblance to a Star Trek set, making it a natural home for cutting-edge experiments like turning a writer’s workshop into a pod ask.”

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THE B.C. OCCASIONALLY A B.C. AUTHOR GETS PUBLISHED AND THEN GOES ON TO WIN A BIG EASTERN CANADIAN LITERARY AWARD. THIS YEAR THAT AUTHOR IS NANCY STIBBARD.


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Born in 1938, Bradley became director of Television Engineering at a new media centre at the University of Saskatchewan in 1969, where he remained until taking early retirement in 1994.

Alan Bradley recently moved from Kelowna to Malta.

---

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**Who’s Not**
Gillian Jerome has won the 2010 ReLit Award for her debut poetry collection, Red Neck (Nightwood $17.95) for which she received the ReLit ring comprised of four moveable dials marked with the alphabet, for spelling words. The ReLit Awards (Ideas, Not Money) were founded in 2000 and celebrate new work released by independent Canadian literary publishers. ReLit is short for Regarding Literature, Reinventing Literature, Relighting Literature.

Masako Fukawa, principal writer and managing editor, and her husband Stanley Fukawa, translator and contributing writer, have won a $10,000 Canada-Japan Literary Award for their work on Spirit of the Nikkei Fleet: BC’s Japanese Canadian Fishermen (Harbour $39.95). 978-1-55017-436-6

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**Lasqueti genius**

**THE EXTRAORDINARILY GIFTED AND chronically underpaid Georgia Straight illustrator, cartoonist and comic book artist Rand Holmes of Lasqueti Island died at age 60 in 2002. His Harold Hold comics are collectors’ items and he was respected across North America in the sixties and seventies as a peer of cartoonists: Robert Crumb (Mr Natural) and Gilbert Shelton (Furry Freak Brothers). Cannabis Culture magazine ran a profile on Holmes and his art exhibition on Lasqueti Island in March of 2007.**


**Stiff upper Brits**

**Retired history professor John Bosher of North Saanich spent ten years writing an A-to-Z volume of 769 biographies for his 839-page Imperial Vancouver Island: Who was Who 1850-1950 (Xlibris, 2010).**

Bosher says if the twenty-first century did not find rambling Victorian titles intolerable, it could have been called Some Imperial Campaigners and their Friends on Vancouver Island from the Cariboo Goldrush and the Indian Mutiny to the Invaion from Main-land Canada after the Second World War, 1850-1950.

Most of the 769 people in Imperial Vancouver Island were born in Britain or in British India or elsewhere in the Empire at a time when Canada was part of it. There are entries for Sir Charles Bell, world expert on Tibet and a friend of the Dalai Lama, Sir Frederic Maze, ex-director of the Chinese Maritime Customs, and several other exotic knighted Imperials, as well as Lady Mary Emily Swettenham, widow of a governor of Jamaica.

Bosher sent his manuscript to one of the do-it-yourself publishers in the U.S. The author will be glad to supply soft-cover copies at $45, postage paid. Write to jfbosher@primus.ca

**Lasqueti genius**

**Y**ou’ve heard of 1001 Arabian Nights, now there’s 1001 Lunch Bags.

For years, Don Sawyer, of Salmon Arm, added jokes and pictures to the lunch bags that he sent to school with his two daughters. Fanish and Melissa liked them so much, they brought them home to complement the family photo albums.

New Sawyer’s The Lunch Bag Chronicles (Playport $19.95) traces events in their lives—from volleyball tournaments to Halloween trick-or-treating—accompanied by classic jokes for children. Eighty lunch bags were selected to comprise the contents.

“I always got a smile out of it myself,” Sawyer says, “I’d think about them opening their lunch, laughing— or groaning—at the joke, and sharing them with their friends.”

“I’m no illustrator, but I had a lot of fun coming up with pictures to go along with the jokes. Most people are very cytantable and insist they are at least charming.

“But this practice, for me, was also a kind of meditation on them. The whole process made me think about who they were, and how their lives were unfolding.”

**Lasqueti genius**

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This year’s George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in BC Publishing has been awarded to *A Thousand Dreams: Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside and the Fight for its Future*, published by Greystone Books, and written by Larry Campbell, Neil Boyd and Lori Culbert.

It captures the volatile human and political dynamics at play in an incredibly rich and vibrant community, and reveals the pitfalls in government policy that threaten such a community and the instinctive goodwill and hope that rises up from that community regardless.

**2010 Short-Listed Finalists**

- *god of missed connections*  
  by Elizabeth Bachinsky, Nightwood Editions

- *Where The Blood Mixes*  
  by Kevin Loring, Talonbooks

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