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Stephen Hren - US/Can $17.95

A joyous romp through the fringes of sustainability, this compelling book contrasts the actions and outlooks of pioneers on the cutting edge of sustainability with the antiquated laws and regulations that favor a big-business-obsessed, energy- and material-intensive approach.

THE URBAN FOOD REVOLUTION
Changing the Way We Feed Cities
Peter Landr - US/Can $18.95

From commercial micropatenting and community composting to rebuilding local food-processing, energy, and distribution systems, The Urban Food Revolution describes what individuals, neighborhoods, cities, and regions are doing to bring fresh local food back into their lives.

HOME SWEET ZERO ENERGY HOME
What it takes to develop great homes that won’t cost anything to heat, cool or light up, without going broke or crazy
Barry W. Nale - US/Can $19.95

Home Sweet Zero Energy Home will show you how to combine super-efficiency with renewable energy technologies to develop a better, more comfortable and environmentally friendly home that produces as much electricity as it uses, all without breaking your back or your bank account.

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Michael Hussenman, Ph.D
Joyce Hussenman, Ph.D - US/Can $14.95

The inherent limitations of modern technology can create unintended and unavoidable consequences, some of them irreversible. Science and technology must be redirected to ensure long-term sustainability.

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What you don’t know can hurt you
Donna Duke - US/Can $17.95

Mission impossible? One woman’s quest to reduce her toxic body burden. Follow author Donna Duke as she submits to extensive body burden testing—with some unavailing results—and attempts to reduce her body burden by limiting her exposure to a startling array of hazardous everyday substances.

THE END OF GROWTH
Adapting to Our New Economic Reality
Richard Heinberg - US/Can $17.95

The global economy has reached a fundamental turning point. The “recession” will not end in a “recovery,” yet in the coming years we can still thrive— if we maximize happiness rather than the futile pursuit of growth at any cost.

THE EMPOWERMENT MANUAL
A Guide for Collaborative Groups
Starhawk - US/Can $14.95

There are literally millions of collaborative, voluntary groups around the world, comprising a powerful force for social change—when they don’t get bogged down in conflict or challenging group dynamics. The Empowerment Manual is a comprehensive guide for groups seeking to organize with shared power and bottom-up leadership to foster vision, trust, accountability, and responsibility.

HOUSING RECLAIMED
Sustainable Homes for Next to Nothing
Jessica Reiler - US/Can $14.95

How to build community, reduce waste and create affordable, unique homes. Anyone interested in saving a buck, using the planet and in creating a regional, healthful and eco-friendly home should reach for this beautifully crafted, engaging and funny book. - Wanda Urbanska, co-author of Let’s Move: Embracing Dignity for a Healthy Planet, a Green Economy and Lasting Happiness.

AQUAPONIC GARDENING
A Step-by-Step Guide to Raising Vegetables and Fish Together
Sylvia Bernstein - US/Can $15.95

Aquaponic Gardening provides everything you need to know to create a complete home aquaponics system which will yield healthy, fresh, delicious food all year round.

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IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, poet and journalist Sylvain Maréchal wrote satirical, skeptical studies of the lives of female saints to discourage religion. Medievalist and political activist Sheila Delany has retrieved her audacious work from obscurity for Anti-Saints: The New Golden Legend of Sylvain Maréchal (U. of Alberta $34.95) due in October.

PRINCE GEORGE-RAISED BRIAN FAWCETT is taking the route of memoir, Human Happiness (Thomas Allen $24.95). Commenting on the genesis of his book, Fawcett says, “Like most people in North America during and just after the Second World War, I grew up without the faintest curiosity about the people who brought me into the world, and even less about the ancestors who had gotten them to our staging grounds. Toward the end of my parents’ lives I began to understand that this lack of curiosity was a serious mistake, and in part, this book is my attempt at restitution: this is about them, but it is also for them.”

HALF-BLOOD BLUES was slated to be published by Key Porter Books until the Ontario company shut down in 2011, but it was published on schedule in the UK by Serpent’s Tail. A Canadian edition will appear from Thomas Allen ($24.95), about a companion to forms for The Separation Guide (Self-Counsel $19.95) as a companion to forms for The Separation Agreement.

HIS LOVE FOR WRITING AMERICAN WOMAN was brought to light by a 1998 thesis. He avoided classic rock star burnout partly because he was a Mormon. He has hob-nobbed with pop music royalty but remains level-headed. Now veteran guitarist and Salt Spring Island Randy Bachman has gathered more of his musical memoirs for Randy Bachman’s Vinyl Tap Stories (Penguin $32), a spinoff from his CBC Radio program. His previous memoir was Takin’ Care of Business (McArthur 2000).
KWIAAHWAH JONES AND HEATHER Ramsay have compiled and edited Gina Waadluxan Tluu: The Everything Canoe (Haida Gwaii Museum Press $40), containing 80 pages of current and archival pictures, book excerpts, quotes and more.

The Everything Canoe 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. Expressions of welcome or agreement in the Haida language can be traced back to the time of canoes. Modern-day carvers discuss tips on design of vessels and paddles, and others talk of recent journeys undertaken by canoe.

Hiking The Gulf Islands of British Columbia (Harbour $24.95) by Charles Kahn is the expanded third edition of his guidebook first published in 2004. This edition includes details on walks, hikes and paddling for kayakers. Each Gulf Island has its own chapter, including the more obscure Texada, Lasqueti and Thetis islands.

Born in Montreal in 1945, Charles Kahn moved to Salt Spring Island in 1992. He is also a member of the Salt Spring Island Historical Society.

Commitment To Caring: Chilliwack Hospital’s Auxiliary’s 100 Years, 1911-2011 ($20). Commitment To Caring tells the story of determined women in a time before they were considered persons under the law, who fundraised, sewed, canned, and knitted to establish Chilliwack’s first hospital. The book can be bought at the Chilliwack Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shoppe.

Peter McMullan has conceived and co-authored a book about sport fishing on the Babine River, its history and challenges: Babine: A 50-Year celebration of a World-renowned Steelhead and Trout River (Amato Publications $49.95), with Pierce Clegg of Babine Norlakes Lodge.

In addition to writing and editing, McMullan was responsible for the organization and co-ordination of all contents and photography in the book, an assignment that extended over three years. A special limited edition version is also available for four times the regular hardcover price.

As a Vancouver-based community organizer who administers the Downtown Eastside Women’s Centre, Cecily Nicholson has written her first book of poetry, Triage (Talonbooks $16.95), that presents “a polyvocal narrative of human communities struggling at the brutal margins of the neoliberalized state,” and examines women’s creative resistance to both physical and systemic violence.

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YARN BOMBING: THE ART OF CROCHET & KNIT GRAFFITI by Mandy Moore and Leanne Prain

Yarn Bombing: the art of crochet & knit graffiti has its roots in the counter-culture of the 1960s and has evolved into a modern art form. In this book, Mandy Moore and Leanne Prain explore the history and evolution of yarn bombing, from its origins as a form of rebellion to its current status as an artistic expression.

The authors trace the development of yarn bombing from its origins as a form of political protest to its current status as an art form that is gaining popularity worldwide. They discuss the different techniques used in yarn bombing, including the use of yarn, fabric, and other materials to create intricate and colorful murals on public buildings.

The book also features interviews with a number of yarn bombing artists, who share their inspirations and techniques. It includes step-by-step instructions for creating your own yarn bomb, as well as tips for finding and creating the perfect location for your work.

Yarn Bombing: the art of crochet & knit graffiti is a must-read for anyone interested in the history and evolution of this unique art form, and for anyone who wants to create their own yarn bomb using a variety of techniques and materials.
Drews recounts her travels to research matrilineal society today. Toews-Andrews of Goddess worship, particularly and Prayers in Her Honour published, re-issued by University of Saskatchewan shipbuilder,ing his classic fictional account of a real-
to adult fiction for

BASED ON FIFTY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS, AGNES TOEWS-ANDREWS

Daphne Marlatt and Jimi Hendrix in a caption as the grandmother of arrived in Vancouver in 1911, is described

couver’s East End, Strathcona format version,

Daphne Marlatt & Jimi Hendrix, who ar-
described in a caption as the grandmother of JIMI HENDRIX who “became a noted musician in the 1960s.”

Nora Hendrix in 1977, at age 94 stories that was launched in Gimli, Manitoba, centre of all things Icelandic-Canadian. The stories capture the experiences of Icelandic settlers in Canada as W.P. Kinsella’s mentor at UVic, Bill Valgardson, presents new myths and legends in the old style of eddas and saga. Recently, he was the editor of Logbýrg Heimskringla, the Icelandic community newspaper in Canada.

EDITED BY SHERI-D WILSON, THE SPOKEN-WORD WORKBOOK: inspiration from poets who teach (Banff Centre Press $20), is a resource for writers whose vision is to say their words/sounds out loud. The collection brings together twenty-seven poets, griots and bards working in jazz, hip hop, dub, story-telling and sound from across North America. Wilson and MONA FERTIG were headliners at the 2nd annual Hazeldown Herb Farm Writers Festival in Ladysmith in August. (Participating artists in the anthology include José Acquelin, bill bissett, Regie Gibson, George Elliott Clarke, Paul Dutton, Ian Ferrier, John Giorno, Louise Murphy and Eugene Stickland.


Bev Lambert, who was

in present-day cul-

around 1911, is described, in a caption as the grandmother of JIMI HENDRIX who “became a noted musician in the 1960s.”

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The Inverted Pyramid
Bertrand Sinclair
Here in a new edition for the first time since 1924 is Sinclair’s finest novel: an account of British Columbia at the time of WWI, with an array of unforgettable characters and a gripping account of the corruption of the new financial sector in Vancouver.
978-1-55380-128-3 290 pp $18.95

The Private Journal of Capt. G.H. Richards
The Vancouver Island Survey (1860–1862)
Linda Dorrcott & Desirée Callon, eds.
Published for the first time, this journal is an exciting addition to the history of BC with valuable insights into the native peoples and colonial society. With 40 b&w photos and maps.
978-1-55380-127-6 200 pp $21.95

Runaway Dreams
Richard Wagamese
Having gained an impressive reputation for his novels and nonfiction as a Native writer who explores contemporary First Nations life, Richard Wagamese now presents a debut collection of stunning poems, ranging over topics such as nature, love, jazz, spirituality and the residential school experience.
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Spit Delaney’s Island
Jack Hodgins
Back in print! — the collection of short stories that started Jack Hodgins off on his award-studded literary career. Winner of the Eaton’s Book Prize and finalist for the Governor General’s Award, it placed British Columbia definitively on the literary map of Canada.
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Ghosts of the Pacific
Philip Ray
In his fourth volume in the Submarine Outlaw series, Alfred travels through the Northwest Passage on the way to Saipan in the South Pacific, where he sees the results of the war in the Pacific and learns to come to terms with the dark side of human experience.
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Run Marco, Run
Norma Charles
When Marco witnesses his father being kidnapped in Buenaventura, Colombia, he stows away on a freighter to Vancouver to find help. Marco has to evade drug dealers, security guards and the “authorities” who would return him to Colombia — into the arms of his father’s kidnappers.
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In 1780, in the middle of the American Revolution, 13-year-old Broken Trail is caught between two ways of life. Or is there a third and better way?
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In this unusual rewriting of Homer’s Odyssey, Alexi, a young Trojan boy, is captured by the hated Greek, Odysseus. Forced to sail with him to Ithaca, Alexi must choose whether or not to help the Greeks when they encounter the Cyclops, the Lotus Eaters and the Sirens.
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Percy Williams, World’s Fastest Human
Samuel Hawley
The untold story of the Canadian who came out of nowhere to win double gold in the 100 and 200 metres at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics. It begins as the Cinderella story of an inexperienced young runner who seizes the title “World’s Fastest Human,” then takes us behind the headlines to reveal the personal struggle of this reluctant and enigmatic hero, a struggle to deal with fame and the harsh realities of elite amateur sport. When asked to explain the secret of his speed, Percy himself would only shrug and say: “I just ran.” This is the story he did not want to tell. With 45 b&w photos.
978-1-55380-126-9 332 pp $23.95

The Opening Act
Canadian Theatre History, 1945–1953
Susan McNicoll
Drawing on personal interviews with actors of the period, McNicoll explores such companies as Everyman in Vancouver, New Play Society in Toronto, and Théâtre du Nouveau Monde in Montreal — revealing what made Stratford’s opening in 1953 possible. With 50 b&w photos.
978-1-55380-110-8 7-1/2 x 10 280 pp $24.95

Beckett Soundings
Inge Israel
In her new collection of poems — her fourth with Ronsdale — Inge Israel slips into the mind of Samuel Beckett to explore his life and the sources of his novels, plays and poems, especially his belief that language (mis)informs all that we know.
978-1-55380112-2 100 pp $15.95

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FABULOUS FALL READS

Mulligan's Stew
My Life...So Far
Terry David Mulligan with Glen Schaefer
With their striking looks, keen vision and hunting prowess, birds of prey—eagles, hawks, falcons and owls—have long captured the human imagination. This book is a collection of some of the most remarkable, action-packed raptor photographs ever taken.
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Campie
Barbara Stewart
When it all goes south, you can always go north. Bark hum-u-r and swinging honestly go hand in hand in this compelling memoir, an insightful look at self-restoration amid the colourful characters making a living in the oil fields.
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Chariots and Horses
Life Lessons from an Olympic Power
Jason Dorland
In this insightful memoir, Jason shares his struggle to cultivate a healthier outlook toward competition after a devastating loss at the 1948 Olympics. An honest, intimate look at the reality of high-level sports, Jason's story shows how in sports and in life, it's all about the journey.
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The Pathfinder
A.C. Anderson's Journey in the West
Nancy Margarette Anderson
This thoroughly researched account of A.C. Anderson highlights his important career as a fur trader, explorer, fisheries officer, farmer, Indian Reserve Commissioner, cartographer and historian. "This engrossing biography of A.C. Anderson is what we've been waiting for."—Richard Somerset MacKee
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Raptors of the West
Captured in Photographs
Kate Davis
Kate Davis

The Insatiable Bark Beetle
In our ever-warming world, billions of bark beetles are decimating BC's water-starved forests. With both our environment and economy at stake, Dr. Renee O'Leary examines the beetles' impact on our trees and the role climate change is playing in the future.
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The Beaver Manifesto
Kevin Halsall
In the 1930's, referee William G. Earle and architect J.P. Harvey wrote the Manifesto for the Preservation of the Beaver in Canada. The Manifesto became known as the "Canadian Constitution of the Beaver", and influenced the development of the Wildlife Act of 1953. The_manifesto addresses the importance of the beaver to the continent's biodiversity and the economic potential of the beaver industry.
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Freedom Climbers
Benedicte McDonald
At a time when Polish citizens were locked behind the Iron Curtain, a few intrepid adventurers escaped the oppression and conquered the world's most formidable mountains. Renowned BC author Benedicte McDonald weaves a passionate tale of international adventure, politics, suffering, death and inspiration.
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Writting My Way from Ireland to Canada
Brian Brennan
John Wilson, who has a remarkable talent for capturing the spirit of a place, the people who live there, and the events that shape a culture. His work is often praised for its vivid descriptions and captivating storytelling.
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Frances Hume
Yip Sang and the First Chinese Canadians is a compelling story of resilience and survival in the face of adversity. The book details the experiences of Yip Sang and his family as they navigate the challenges of adapting to life in Canada.
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From Native Trappers to Chief Factors
Irene Teniers
From the days of the fur trade, the role of the fur traders and factors has been an integral part of the history of the Pacific Northwest. This book provides an in-depth look at the lives and contributions of these early pioneers.
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Heartwarming Tales of Remarkable Dogs
Baaske Wilmers Snapko
Animal lovers of all ages will treasure these inspiring tales that illustrate the love, dedication and intelligence of our canine companions and celebrate the bonds between dogs and their owners.
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Images from the Likeness House
Dan Savard
Winner of a 2015 BC Book Prize — the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize. Images from the Likeness House explores the relationship between First Peoples in BC and the photographers who recorded them and their cultures from 1850 to the 1920s.
978-1-57299-410-9 | $34.95

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Tensions with the larger community severely strained the Doukhobor pacifist creed. They resisted public education for their children and refused military conscription in keeping with the Christian-based philosophy of Adamite simplicity. Doukhobor means “spirit westering.” It was first a derogatory term applied to them by the Russian Orthodox Church. They embraced it. In mid-1920s, Doukhobor protests in Canada took the form of nude marches. The Canadian government responded by criminalizing public nudity. Mass arrests ensued, resulting in three-year jail sentences on Piers Island, situated off Sidney, B.C. Without exception, the Doukhobor movement between those adhering strictly to traditional values and “modern” Doukhobors open to change, new customs, and a radically fundamentalist splinter group, the Sons of Freedom, dynamited the post office in Crescent Valley. When the orthodox Doukhobor leader, Peter Verigin, was mysteriously killed by bomb blast in 1924, suspects included members of the Doukhobor community. The culprits were never found.

In the early 1940s, the Slocan Valley became the site of the Lemon Creek camp, one of the infamous internment camps in which, following the War Measures Act, thousands of Canadians of Japanese descent (among them David Suzuki), stripped of their homes and possessions, were held as “enemy aliens.”

Many pictures depict orchards, fields of produce, and baskets of fruit that testify to the abundance of the land; others give details of celebrations and occupations. A white sturgeon, caught during a blasting operation (the largest one ever caught in the area, it weighed 462 lbs) appears to be seven feet long. A rare First Nations picture shows three fishermen in a sturgeon-nosed canoe used by the Sinixt and Ktunaxa.

There is one photo that illustrates the third crop of the title. In order to preserve their fish, the farm family cut down hundreds of small trees, planted them in potholes, cut off most of the branches and hung the green hay on the remaining onesto dry. The family recorded their feat in winter when their handwork was covered by several inches of snow. 98-1-55039-184-8

Doukhobor workers display bricks they have made from the clay of the Slocan River banks at Kirpichnoye, north of Winlaw, in 1914. The bricks were used in Doukhobor villages in the Slocan Valley.
As a neophyte Gulf Islander, Grant Buday describes his evolution from urban wordslinger to humble recycle depot attendant.

Buday learned a lot about his fellow islanders from how they separated their plastics, and the number of scotch bottles they left behind. He also learns the mysterious ways of the B.C. Ferry service (a classic love-hate relationship, but necessary to cross the "watery divide"), how to earn the trust of quirky and eccentric island neighbours, and how to understand where one fits into the island's social hierarchy. "Only newly-arrived ourselves, we were rated slightly higher than the weekender." Tourists occupy the bottom rung, mocked because they tend to, "drive along at one-and-a-half kilometers an hour, wander the road three and four abreast, or halt in the middle of the street to snap photos of deer."

Mayne Island life includes the intricacies of what Buday calls non-verbal communication. When encountering another driver on the road one can simply nod or flash a peace sign. That's just for starters. "Some people thrust their entire arm out the window and flip it around, the equivalent of a slap on the back and a bellowed: "How are you?" Sometimes this communication smacks of show biz. "Some do what I call the Wayne Newton: this is a four-part greeting that consists of a point, a wink, then a cluck of the tongue, finishing with a rakish, Vegas-style smile. And they warn us cell phones are distracting."

Island etiquette also frowns upon walking past a person without acknowledging them. City dwellers may find this awkward, being more accustomed to ignoring people. There are diversions into the joy of stacking and burning firewood (fir is best), how to tame a chainsaw and a mesmerizing whale watching excursion with his young son Sam.

Buday's funny bone reverberates throughout this slim volume, and sometimes he wears into fictional waters. H M S Pliumper charted the region in the 1850s, attaching crew members' nautical names to islands, channels and coves at places like Bedwell, Pender and Mayne. At one point Buday fashions a tale that weaves together the exploits of Lieutenant R.C. Mayne—the island's namesake—and a pompous ship's surgeon named Billings, and a cocky island raven.

Leave a novelist on an island long enough, and he'll find his ground.

Mark Forsythe is the host of CBC radio's BC Almanac.

"You go to the city to seek your fortune; you go to the country to find yourself, or run away from it."

GRANT BUDAY
The Third Crop
A personal and historical journey into the photo albums and shoeboxes of the Slocan Valley 1800s to early 1940s
Rita Moir

The Third Crop serves a visual feast to lovers of the province’s history, with more than 160 historic photographs beautifully juxtaposed with contemporary images of the valley. Moir’s insights into the history of a place she deeply loves and respects, and her reflections on her experiences living there, are a significant contribution to understanding this vibrant part of British Columbia.

1-55039-184-4 • 9.25 x 8.5 • 175 pages • 180 photos • paper $28.95

Working with Wool
A Coast Salish Legacy & the Cowichan Sweater
Sylvia Olsen

Cowichan sweaters, with their distinctive bands of design and untreated, handspun wool, have been a British Columbia icon since the early years of the twentieth century, but few people know the full story behind the garment. Sylvia Olsen tells the tale, drawing on her own experience, academic research, and her four-decade friendship with some of the Coast Salish women who have each knitted hundreds of sweaters.

Winner of the Lieutenant-Governor’s Medal for Historical Writing

1-55039-177-1 • 8.5 x 9.25 • 328 pages • 165 photos • cloth $53.95

All That Glitters
A Climber’s Journey Through Addiction and Recovery
Margo Talbot

Margo Talbot’s unflinchingly honest account of a childhood characterized by abuse and neglect, her descent into depression, addiction, and criminal activity is both heartbreaking and, ultimately, inspiring. Finding redemption and healing through her passion for the outdoors and, in particular, ice climbing, this memoir is a stirring testament to the power of the human spirit and the healing force of nature.

“This inspiring real-life story shows us that our lives’ biggest challenges can also be our greatest opportunities for personal growth, transformation, and enlightenment. Margo is magnificent!”
—Bill Phillips, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller, Body-for-LIFE.

1-55039-182-8 • 6 x 9 • 192 pages • photos • paper $19.95

The Riddle of the Raven
A Sailing Ship Possessed by a Ghost
Jan deGroot

When Jan de Groot decided to purchase Raven, a 140-foot gaff-rigged ketch, in order to provide sailing adventures for underprivileged children in BC, he had no idea of the bizarre adventure that lay ahead. His voyage began with a crew of thirty-one who set sail in the Bahamas to bring the ship to her new home in Vancouver. Almost immediately, strange events began to rattle the crew and all were affected by the presence of the ghost who haunted the ship and cursed the voyage with its paranormal skullduggery.

The Riddle of the Raven is a fascinating read for all those who love tales about ships and the sea, and for those who are intrigued by the paranormal.

1-55039-183-6 • 6 x 9 • 200 pp • photos • paper $35.95

More English than the English
A Very Social History of Victoria
Terry Reksten, foreword and revisions by Rosemary Neering

Twenty-five years ago, Terry Reksten, who died in 2001, wrote More English than the English “for those who might not usually find pleasure in reading about the past,” and strove to create a social history that portrayed the spirit of the times from the mid-nineteenth century into the 1930s. Deliberately selective and anecdotal, this is a delightful collection of stories and sagas of the people who fashioned a fort, a town, and finally, a city on the rocks and meadows of southern Vancouver Island.

1-55039-186-0 • 6 x 9 • 232 pp • 100+ photos • paper $19.95
I read, therefore I am going. October 18–23, 2011

One hundred writers from around the world.

THE LIBRARY BOOK:
A History of Service to British Columbians
by Dave Obee • Foreword by Sarah Ellis
Introduction by Iona Campagnolo

Written by Times-Colonist journalist and Friend-of-BC-Libraries Dave Obee, this handsome book marks the 100th anniversary of the British Columbia Library Association. A library retrospective, documented in anecdotes and many beautiful photographs, The Library Book starts with the circulating libraries maintained by the North-West Company in the years of the fur trade and progresses to the present day. Obee’s research brings to life some of the library world’s more memorable predecessors and the events that shaped library development in BC.

“In The Library Book author Dave Obee, a brilliant and articulate chronicler, captures succinctly the exciting story of a century of library service to British Columbians. It is an incredible work of historical significance and indeed is an excellent read. A copy should be on everyone’s coffee table.”

— Ray Culos, Former head of the Library Development Commission

Order online: www.bcla.bc.ca/book

Also available at: Munro’s Books (Victoria) and book/mark, The Library Store (Vancouver Public Library’s Central Branch)

Profits from the sale of The Library Book will support the British Columbia Library Association

$50 (Bulk orders: $40) 11"x12" hard cover, 264 pages, 300 photos, Adrian Raaside cartoons, extensive timeline and index; ISBN 978-0-9662614-9-0
NUMEROUS LITERARY AND television accounts have been devoted to the glitz and squalor of urban police work. In Canada, television accounts of wandering drunks adopt, but it may be simply a mocking reference to the old BC Provincial Police. "During my police experience, I found that the smaller and more isolated a community was, the more colourful were the local characters," he notes. His stories abound with the kind of marginal characters who might fade into the wallpaper in an urban setting, but in a small town, they have the stature of titans, for good or ill.

Scheideman served in Williams Lake, where the local vagabond drinking fraternity was known as the Troopers. A friend of mine served in a similar unit, called the Iron Creek Cavalry in another Interior town. No one has satisfactorily explained the cavalry nicknames these groups of wandering drunks adopt, but it may be simply a mocking reference to the Mounties, a.k.a. the Horsesmen, who are the opposition to be outwitted. Familiarity with the cast of characters in a small town beat has advantages—when a case of whisky mysteriously disappears from the back of a truck, you know where to look for the Troopers, the embers— and sometimes the bodies.

One of the funniest stories is recounted in "Clinton 1, Bikers 0," an event I recall from the newspapers in 1968 when a bunch of Hell's Angels wannabes calling themselves Satan's Angels tried to imitate the move The Wild One by taking over a small Interior town. Unfortunately for them, being urban scum proved to be poorly prepared for intimidating a cowboy town like Clinton, B.C., where a rifle rack in the pickup is an essential accessory, not a decorative one.

After gang-beating a couple of cowboys in the tap-room of the old Clinton Hotel, the bikers soon found themselves surrounded by a large posse of cowboys, mostly Native and mostly heavily armed. They required an RCMP escort all the way down the Fraser Canyon. You could hear the laughter in Montreal. Satan's Angels disbanded soon after. Surviving members are probably still pushing brooms at the local Sunday school, glad just to be alive.

Scheideman's story "The Gunpowder Cure" recounts his harrowing visit to the local Sunday school, glad just to be alive.

"Tip-toeing through a gruesome death scene, the young Mounties are started by a resurrection— as miraculous, and a lot messier, than that of Lazarus." — CHARLES SCHEIDEMAN

Enfield army rifle. Tip-toeing through a gruesome death scene, the young Mounties are started by a resurrection as miraculous, and a lot messier, than that of Lazarus.

After extensive reconstructive surgery, "he never attempted to lie down in the street, but went straight."

Scheideman's story "Inferno" recounts the number of people they probably did save from tragic fates brought on by stupidity.

"...and how emotionally difficult it is to watch them go down without being able to save them."

"What RCMP officers of Scheideman's generation will never get credit for is the number of people they probably did save from tragic fates brought on by stupidity."

"Back in Scheideman's rookie years, when I was in my teens, I muffed up at a six-foot constable who just laughed as he tapped me lightly behind the ear with a flashlight packed with four D-cell batteries. When I woke up, I informed him about the friendly way that I was treated in the street, he'd have to arrest me for vagrancy. I never mistook a police officer for a legitimate target of my existential angst again."

"They're just ordinary human beings doing a very extraordinary job."
WE BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER OF 1984: not so easily forget.

...always as distant as we may think

...that our connections are not

...WWII.

...from the horrific events of

"a brave one." They remark that

Etienne as "a little miracle, and

..uncle in Belgium," they refer to

"I am so sorry Etienne.'

...letter? . . . It will help you,' she

...story yet to be uncovered.

...now had died giving birth to

...grand-mère to recount a sketch

...only remaining family

...years. His grand-mère, appar-

...Pemberton where he grew up.

...Woefield 

...IS IN THE 

...the Woefield Poultry Collective

...benefit of someone else's hindsight.

...genre boundary and make the recollections of a very adult

...the most important thing about the memoir was to cross the

...the Top 100 of 2010 by the

...NaomiBUCKETLIST

...Susan Juby

...Getting the Girl

...Amanda Hale’s

...Susan Juby has released her first adult novel

...As a follow-up to her TV series, Alice, I Think,

...Susan Juby has released her first adult novel

...Woefield is a multi-perspective novel about a young

...urbanite name Prudence who inherits her uncle’s decrepit

...Vancouver Island farm.

... Peripheral characters are sparkling with life and serve as

...a reminder of Judy’s wonderful and elastic imagination. We

...meet Sara, a precocious young girl with a group of clucking

...show chickens, and Seth, an alcoholic and selectively agor-

...phobic celebrity blogger. Earl, the grizzled farm foreman tee-

...show chickens, and Seth, an alcoholic and selectively agora-

...Louis (Oolichan, 2004), and

...A Perfectly Beautiful Place

...by content and language restrictions imposed by the Young

...Young Adult fiction. Judy’s writing is too strong to be hindered

...by Earl Suter, and a former non-fiction editor at the Globe &

...Irwin. She is a graduate of the Writing

...with a B.A. and

...earning along the way a B.A. and

...M.Ed at the University of Victo-

...regional headquarters of the SD

...police).

...One of the many horrific

...events of WWII is about to take

...place in the villages of Grune and

...Bande.

...To tell any more is to say too

...much. Michael Elcock has used

...onset research, including first

...historical accounts of the key histori-

...cal events, to create a heartbreakingly beautiful

...* 

...Michael Elcock was born in Dorset, England, and grew up in

...Edin-

...Scotland, and grew up in Edin-

...by Susan Juby.
when your secret is too dangerous to keep...

TELL IT to the TREES

Watch the video trailer at www.anitaraubadami.ca

Visit www.RandomHouse.ca to read from the book

A NEW NOVEL FROM THE AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR OF
Tamarind Mem and The Hero’s Walk

ANITA RAU BADAMI

Elusive Destiny
The Political Vocation of John Napier Turner
Paul Litt

A political biography extraordinary. Elusive Destiny reveals the inner workings of Liberal Party politics in their heyday as charted through the meteoric rise and fall of John Napier Turner. Turner was his party’s star apprentice, but in 1968 Canadians opted instead for a celebrity figurehead to lead an imagined nation. Universally acknowledged as the heir apparent, Turner rocked the Liberal Party by resigning in 1975. How did the Liberal Party’s star apprentice of the 1970s become its also-ran of the 1980s? This is the engrossing story of a political leader and his role during a fascinating time in Canada’s history.

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Patricia A. McCormack
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NEW FROM UBC PRESS

Available from fine bookstores near you. Order online at www.ubcpress.ca. Order by phone 1.800.565.9523 (UTP Distribution).
In What Is Real, Dex returns to his hometown to care for his father who has given up defending marijuana growers in his law practice—to become one himself.

By Laurie Neale

What is Real by Karen Rivers (Orca $12.95)

Reality is hard enough to find and understand when you’re a teenager, but 17-year-old Dexter Pratt’s life is more complicated than most. His parents divorced when he was young, his father attempted suicide, and his beloved stepbrother died of a heroin overdose—or did he?

Dex has been a star basketball player, but now he is addicted to the pot that he and his wheelchair-bound father, an ex-lawyer, grow in their farmhouse basement. Suspended in limbo created by his drug use, Dex tries to navigate his way toward reality in Karen Rivers’ YA novel, What is Real.

One of the most compelling aspects of this novel is that, just like Dex, the reader cannot fully decipher what is real. The book is written from Dex’s point of view, and since Dex cannot grasp reality, the reader cannot either.

What is real? Can you really trust your memory’s account of the past? Can the nerve impulses that bombard your brain with raw sensory data be trusted, and can your brain be trusted to properly interpret these signals?

And most of all, do you want it to?

Rivers’ prose is splintered and abrupt, just like human thoughts can be, and her writing style creates a sense of immediacy and confusion by throwing the reader into the middle of the action, submerged in Dex’s thought patterns, as clueless as Dex in his search for reality.

Dex’s character is layered and convoluted. At the beginning of the book, you believe what he’s telling you about his life. You meet him in the middle of a movie about his life in which he is the director. His only problem is that he has forgotten what the script is about. Halfway through the story, you are no longer sure Dex can be trusted. He knows stuff that he can’t—or won’t—admit. You discover Dex has been withholding information from both you and his conscious self. He simultaneously searches for reality and obscures it, editing and reediting his history like a filmmaker editing the final cut.

It’s difficult to put down What is Real—literally—because we want Dex to discover the truth so we can, too. We search and question with him. We want to find out if Oli is real, if aliens did create those crop circles, if Our Joe is really a pedophile, or if it’s all part of Dex’s suppressed, drug-induced imagination.

Ultimately, What is Real deals with the challenges of being a teenager and the difficulty of sorting through emotions, grappling with truth, and losing your innocent views of the world.

Karen Rivers has capably illuminated the teenage struggle to cope with life’s challenges: losing loved ones, being neglected, realizing you may not achieve your dreams and dealing with failure. And, disturbingly, she effectively reveals how sometimes living in reality isn’t actually as desirable as living a lie.

Karen Rivers is with the Print Futures program at Douglas College.
It is a different mind that can
within its compass stands within the
simplest tree that bears the air alone
stopped / but it is God that is the
rare in contemplative
poem includes a tree.
in which almost every
entity, eternity, silence, unsayability,
peated motifs that include infin-
seventy-eight parts—with re-
of the bird, or the star, will be
looking for specificity, the name
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rangements. It’s a legitimate way
poem out of their different ar-
words in his hand, scattered
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edged, gentle ruminations that
mal as in traditional sonnets but
lapping at our skin.”
clouds the only waves, and all that
our of the air is the colour

B

By Contrast, the song col-
dishes is a highly readable
and accessible collection in
which Calvin Wharton has
a flair for the felicitous phrase.
“The humming bird busy sewing up
them in light, birds lift out into
the open sky, the jitterbug of insect
wings, the subtraction that is
summer.”
Wharton is a complete con-
trast to Blodgett. His work is
humorous, mostly local and
embodied whereas Blodgett is uni-
versal and ethereal. Wharton
writes of real food (Chinese,
with onions and black
bean sauce), whereas
Blodgett’s se-

A Tree

Poetry is an elusive
door in E.D. Blodgett’s Sleep, You, A Tree

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The Whaling People of the West Coast of Vancouver Island and Cape Flattery
Eugene Arima & Alan Hoover

An intimate account of the traditional ways of the Nuu-chah-nulth (Nootka), Dididaht, Pacheedaht and Makah peoples, who enjoyed a highly organized culture for centuries before Europeans arrived. It also describes the drastic changes after contact with Europeans. Illustrated with more than 200 photographs. Reading the Family gives readers a glimpse of what it was like to live, work, eat and drink in a west-coast frontier town.

October 2011
$29.95
978-0-7726-6342-9
9 x 9, pb, 176 pages
225 b/w and colour photos

Feeding the Family
100 Years of Food and Drink in Victoria
Nancy Oke & Robert Griffin

This richly illustrated book focuses on the bakers, butchers, grocers, brewers and other suppliers of food and beverages in Victoria’s early years. It includes stories about the many colourful characters, the businesses that succeeded or failed, the innovators and the crooks. Illustrated with more than 200 photographs. Reading the Family gives readers a glimpse of what it was like to live, work, eat and drink in a west-coast frontier town.

October 2011
$19.95
978-0-7726-6491-4
6 x 9, pb, 256 pages
50 b/w photos and drawings

Branch Out.
Discover an extraordinary new novel from Frances Greenslade

“Unforgettable. I was glued to every page.”
—Eden Robinson, author of Monkey Beach

“This book casts a strong spell.”
—Jamie Zeppa, author of Every Time We Say Goodbye

START READING AT FRANCESGREENSLADE.COM
Growing up in Vancouver, I had always wanted to make books but had no idea how I'd go about it. How would I find the authors and good manuscripts? And how in hell would I finance the endeavour?

In 1991, I ran into a friend, Rachel Mines, who was pursuing her Masters in linguistics. She told me about her dissertation and wondered if it might be appealing to a general readership. I told her I'd give it a read. It was titled A Toilet Paper: A Treatise On Four Fundamental Words. Referring to Gaseous & Solid Wastes Together with Their Point of Origin. This was a literary and scholarly work, and—most importantly—it was funny. So this odd little title became Anvil’s first “book” even though it was only forty pages and didn’t fulfill the UNESCO official definition of a “book” (i.e. having at least 48 pages).

A Toilet Paper was more of a pamphlet, saddle-stitched with historical illustrations provided by the wonderful world of the Public Domain, but we managed to break even on our printing and mailing costs.

Around this time Dark Horse Theatre had a call out for one-act plays to receive a staged reading at mailing costs.

I met another playwright in the competition, Dennis E. Bolen, who had a novel that he’d been pitching around publishers without much luck. I told him I’d have a look. I also showed Dennis subTerrain magazine; he loved it and became involved immediately. That’s how Issue #3 featured an excerpt from Stupid Crimes, his excellent novel-in-waiting.

We needed a real office and found it in the ‘hood at 2414 Main Street (the pie-wedge building at the intersection of Kingsway and Main). We paid $300 a month and three of us—myself, Dennis and Lawrence McCarthy—pitched in a hundred bucks each. We hung out our shingle: Anvil Press Publishers: Desktop and Graphic Design.

During this time, the late Bud Osborn was making some noise. The cover: an evening shot in front of Uptown Barbers (that’s me and Dennis) suggesting a drug deal or a parolee and evening shot in front of Uptown Barbers (that’s me and Dennis) suggesting a drug deal or a parolee and parole officer trying to guide his hapless charges toward a hard-drinking, hopelessly romantic, over-worked parole officer. All noir and urban grit (photo by J. Lawrence), the design employed black, white, and a slash of red.

Thank god we didn’t think we could afford a full-colour cover. The image was perfect for the content: a hard-drinking, hopelessly romantic, over-worked parole officer trying to guide his hapless charges toward a life without crime.

We worked with our first small distributor (Marginal Distribution) and waited. Now what? Would the stores order more copies as the ones they had flew off the shelves? Would the big cheques start rolling in? Well, not quite. But Stupid Crimes did do well. It received positive reviews across the country and we even managed to land a rave in the Globe & Mail. We noticed a spike in orders and a spike in sales.

An upbeat start from B.C. was making some noise. It felt good; it made us think that publishing was easy. Ha! We basked in our naivete, but that wouldn’t last for long. I couldn’t have started a publishing company at a worse time (unless I was starting the Canada Council’s “Support for Emerging Publishers Program” didn’t yet exist (I was told later that this program came into being due to cases like Anvil—we were putting out good books but there just wasn’t any money to help.)

The recession of the early ’90s was in full swing. We published for six years before receiving our first BC Arts Council grant for Mark Leiren-Young’s Stupid Crimes. We started our ongoing series on the history of B.C. publishing. So the tales they tell tend to be more immediate, pulsing and expectant than residing up the shelves? Would the big cheques start rolling in?

We had to do a good deal of commercial work (posters, brochures, programs, publications) to bankroll our first trade paperback edition, Dennis’ perfect-bound novel, Stupid Crimes. The cover: an evening shot in front of Uptown Barbers (that’s me and Dennis) suggesting a drug deal or a parolee and parole officer. All noir and urban grit (photo by J. Lawrence), the design employed black, white, and a slash of red.

Thank god we didn’t think we could afford a full-colour cover. The image was perfect for the content: a hard-drinking, hopelessly romantic, over-worked parole officer trying to guide his hapless charges toward a life without crime.

Collectively, they make me proud to have been given the privilege to find a vocation in the world of literary publishing.

The early history of subTerrain can be found under Brian Kaufman’s entry on abcbookworld.com.

Karen Green and Brian Kaufman of Anvil Press

Brian Kaufman describes how his Anvil Press imprint evolved into one of the country’s most enduring venues for audacious writing.

from the late ’80s to the mid-1990s.

Michael Barnholden’s history of Vancouver vice, Reading the Riot Act. Eve Lazarus’ At Home with History (finalist in the Vancouver Books Awards), Signs of the Times, a print and poetry collaboration between Bud Osborn and Strathcona printmaker and muralist Richard Tetraut.

Gabor Gazstoy’s A Room in the City, a collection of intimate and emotionally stirring portraits of residents of five DTES single-room occupancy hotels.

I think these titles stand to exemplify what Anvil came to be known as—a publisher not so much from the academy but from the street.

The writers we tend to publish write out of life experience and not so much from schools of thought or theory (less dogma and more of the real meal deal). So the tales they tell tend to be more immediate, palatable, more pulsing and expectant than rising up in your head.

I’m thinking of titles such as Salvoing King. Yet by Mark Anthony Jarman, Solos by Annette Lapointe (Giller nominees) and Animal stories, by Alexandra Leggat (Trillium Prize Finalist)—and many, many others that I can’t list here.

Collectively, they make me proud to have been given the privilege to find a vocation in the world of literary publishing.

The Anvil Press imprint was preceded by Brian Kaufman’s subTerrain imprint. Issue #1 of subTerrain appeared twenty-three years ago this August. The early history of subTerrain can be found under Brian Kaufman’s entry on abcbookworld.com.

This is the seventh installment in BC BookWorld’s ongoing series on the history of B.C. publishing.
Mildred Valley Thornton & Emily Carr

BY DAVID STOUCK

Although Emily Carr and Mildred Valley Thornton played different roles in the development of the art of B.C. during the 1940s and 50s, the technical innovations they developed are of equal importance.

**Thornton's Work**

Thornton was a skilled painter who worked in a variety of media, including oil, watercolor, and pastel. Her work was characterized by a strong sense of color and composition. She was particularly skilled at capturing the dynamic energy of people and landscapes, and her paintings often featured vibrant colors and bold brushstrokes. Thornton's work was not limited to the landscapes and subjects of Emily Carr, but also included portraits and genre scenes.

**Carr's Work**

Emily Carr was a visionary artist who was celebrated for her unique approach to art. Her work was characterized by a strong sense of the supernatural and the natural world. She was particularly skilled at capturing the essence of the Pacific Northwest Coast culture, and her paintings often featured a strong sense of movement and energy. Carr's work was not limited to the landscapes and subjects of Thornton, but also included portraits and genre scenes.

**Comparing Thornton and Carr**

While Thornton and Carr were both artists who were important to the development of the art of B.C., their styles and techniques were different. Thornton was more focused on the technical aspects of her work, while Carr was more focused on the expressive aspects. Despite these differences, both artists were celebrated for their unique approach to art, and their work continues to be studied and admired by art historians and collectors.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, Thornton and Carr were both important artists who made significant contributions to the development of the art of B.C. Their work was characterized by a strong sense of color, composition, and movement, and their paintings continue to be studied and admired by art historians and collectors. While their styles and techniques were different, both artists were celebrated for their unique approach to art, and their work continues to be studied and admired by art historians and collectors.
Taking My Life
JANE RULE

Afterword by Linda M. Morra

Discovered in her papers in 2008, Jane Rule’s autobiography is a rich and culturally significant document that follows the first twenty-one years of her life: the complexities of her relationships with family, friends, and early lovers, and how her sensibilities were fashioned by mentors or impeded by the socio-cultural practices and educational politics of the day.

In writing about her formative years, Rule is indeed “taking” the measure of her life, assessing its contours of pleasure and pain, accounting for how it evolved as it did. Yet not allowing the manuscript to be published in her lifetime was an act of discretion: she was considering those who might have been affected by being represented in her work not as confidently emancipated as she had always been. She must also have appreciated the ambiguity of the title she chose, with all its implications of suicide: at the end of her writing life, she was submitting herself to critical scrutiny, allowing herself to be vulnerable as a person to the critique of her readers.

Deeply moving and elegantly witty, Taking My Life probes in emotional and intellectual terms the larger philosophical questions that were to preoccupy Jane Rule throughout her literary career, and showcases the origins and contexts that gave shape to her rich intellectual life. Avid followers of her work will be especially delighted to discover another of her books that has, until now, remained unpublished.

Autobiography · 288 pages
$19.95 · 978-0-88922-679-9

Filled with deeply personal revelations, Taking My Life conveys the confusion, poignancy, defiant rebellions and historical realities of Jane’s first footsteps toward womanhood, toward becoming a lesbian, toward her destiny as one of our great writers.

—Katherine V. Forrest

With her signature wit, intellect, and insight, Jane Rule recounts her childhood, youth, and coming of age as a young lesbian in 1950s America, as it was on its crest toward the civil rights, gay, and women’s movements. The seeds of Rule’s passion for writing and for social justice resonate in this thoughtful, textured, honest memoir.

—Karen X. Tichiynsky

The Strange Truth About Us
M.A.C. FARRANT

This tell-all book by self-proclaimed “anthropologist of the absurd” M.A.C. Farrant offers readers nothing less than The Strange Truth About Us.

A three-part novel-length work of prose fragments, snippets, questions, speculations, and meditations, it is by turns philosophical, dark, comedic, and lyrical in its attempts to imagine a multitude of possible futures for the world we’ve all made such a mess of.

Short Fiction · 208 pages
$21.95 · 978-0-88922-668-5

textual vishyuns: image and text in the work of bill bissett
CARL PETERS

Bill Bissett is recognized internationally as a pioneer of visual, concrete, sound, and performance poetry, yet very little critical work exists on his poetry, and almost no critical discourse exists on his visual work.

Drawing primarily from manifestoes of aesthetic theory, textual vishyuns locates bissett’s textual and visual artistic praxis within the larger context of the history, theory, and practice of art.

Non-fiction / Literary Criticism / Art Criticism · 224 pages
$24.95 · 978-0-88922-661-6

Rebuild
SACHIKO MURAKAMI

Sachiko Murakami approaches the urban centre through its inhabitants’ greatest passion: real estate, where the drive to own engages the practice of tearing down and rebuilding. The poems of Rebuild engrave themselves on the absence at the city’s centre, its bulldozed public spaces. These poems crumble in the long cycle of both “Sacred” and “Ordinary” time.

Poetry · 96 pages
$16.95 · 978-0-88922-670-8

Ordinary Time
GIL McELROY

This collection of poems sets out to give shape to time. Opening with childhood memories of impending Cold War armageddon, the book’s second section, counted out on the Julian calendar, discovers that it is our movement through space that lends time its dimensionality. Its third section works within the Anglican lectionary to make manifest the arc of a year-long cycle of both “Sacred” and “Ordinary” time.

Poetry · 128 pages
$17.95 · 978-0-88922-671-5

Vancouver Anthology
Second Edition
EDITED BY STAN DOUGLAS

Featuring a newly designed hardcover format and a new afterward by Stan Douglas, the second edition of Vancouver Anthology coincides with a renewal of the Or Gallery’s mandate to promote critical discourse both within and outside of the Vancouver art scene. Essays by Keith Wallace, Sarah Diamond, Nancy Shaw, Maria Insell, William Wood, Carol Williams, Robin Peck, Robert Linsley, Scott Watson, and Marcia Crosby.

Non-fiction / Art Criticism · 320 pages
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Canada is dismal. Just this summer, one while the climate for new bookstores in its demographic composition. Mean-which proves the rule, aided in part by having to deal with moving physical objects around. But the most vulnerable by eBook-only publishers not encumbered conventional trade book publishers will be increasingly vulnerable with more agile eBooks. It's less pronounced in Canada, but it's early days yet. I worry that con-ventional trade book publishers will be increasingly vulnerable with more agile eBooks-only publishers not encumbered by having to deal with moving physical objects around. But the most vulnerable sector in the short term is the brick and mortar bookstore. I deeply regret that I can't foresee a happy ending to this story.

BCBW: French president Nicolas Sarkozy has pledged 750 million euros for the digitization of France's "cultural patrimony."

"Many commentators have compared eBooks today to the early days of the automobile. With the Model T, no one could have predicted the societal impacts which would play out in the ensuing decades."

—Paul Whitney

Paul Whitney has completed a new report for Canada Council on the potential impact of eBooks.
PW: The French always have valued their culture.

BCBW: And the Dutch are now digitizing every Dutch book, pamphlet, and newspaper produced from 1470 to the present. The Japanese Diet has voted for a two-year, 12.6 billion yen crash program to digitize their entire national library. Are Canadians lagging behind Europe in your view? Or are we right to be cautious?

PW: It’s not really cautious, it’s respecting the law. Right now, we can’t digitize a local newspaper that ceased publication in the 1950s because of copyright. The Dutch negotiated an agreement with their publishers to enable the digitization of “orphan works” [books still under copyright protection but not commercially available and the copyright owner can’t be traced]. When you have a relatively small group of publishers publishing in a language not widely spoken, such agreements are much easier.

BCBW: Many individual writers feel the emergence of eBooks is a juggernaut and they are losing control of their work. Who is looking after their interests?

PW: Every sector is nervous about loss of control and what the digital future will mean for their survival. For instance, with digital content, libraries can now effectively be denied the right to add content to their collections which is otherwise commercially available. Authors and publishers can dictate what digital works are sold to libraries and under what terms and conditions the work be made available to our users. If they think availability of their work in libraries is detrimental to their economic interests, through licences they can dictate that the work must be sold for individual private use only and not for lending by libraries.

BCBW: Digitization has thus far most radically affected university libraries, has it not?

PW: Digital collections are now dominant in university and college library collections. That change reflects both the nature of academic publishing and the computer savvy user population. There are now discussions taking place which refer to “heritage print collections” of books to be stored in collaboratively-run, remote, storage centres. Libraries could concentrate on digital collections to be selected and licence-negotiated by a consortia of libraries, often national in scope.

BCBW: Are they planting the seeds of their own destruction?

PW: The worry is that this approach is a pragmatic response to changes in publishing and the needs of students and faculty who often prefer the convenience of digital content in a “learning commons” approach to physical space in post-secondary libraries.

BCBW: Currently the library in Prince George has to pay the same amount for a book as the library system in Toronto that serves 2.5 million people. Can eBooks introduce a more equitable price model?

PW: The concept of licensing digital content using per capita service population to set the price is well established with electronic magazine and newspaper databases. Libraries could have a menu of purchase options for eBooks with the price determined by a range of variables: how long do you have the book in your collection? how many people can read it simultaneously? how many total “loans” are permitted? what is the size of your user population? We are still in the very early days of coming to terms with how to deal with this to address the needs of all parties.

BCBW: Should libraries pay more for an eBook than for a regular book? And what is the situation with publisher profits and author royalties?

PW: These are important issues. Clearly there are advantages to libraries with eBooks; they don’t wear out or get lost, they don’t have to be moved around, labeled, emptied from the night return box etc. This could be a justification for libraries paying more. Publishers have lower costs due to no need for physical warehousing and shipping but they have been challenged by the insistence of monopoly distributors such as Amazon and Apple that retail prices are low. Authors appear to be receiving lower royalties in dollars from eBook sales, in part due to the lower list price. This is all a work in progress but it will get sorted out.

BCBW: Even though Amazon now sells more eBooks than print books, public libraries remain fairly conventional.

PW: True. While eBook use is growing quickly in society, it is still very small compared with the borrowing of print books. The spring survey we carried out for the Public Lending Right Commission in large urban public libraries indicated that in January and February of 2011 eBook circulation in those libraries was less than 2% of print book circulation.

BCBW: Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451 imagined a hedonistic, anti-intellectual America, around now, when books were being burned. The antiquarian bookseller Don Stewart believes we are undergoing a 21st century equivalent of Fahrenheit 451—and libraries are complicit.

PW: I would say there is a big difference between seeking to suppress writing, as in Fahrenheit 451, and in seeking to increase access to writing through digitization. The impetus behind many of the digitization projects underway is fundamentally democratic. The contentious issue is how libraries deal with the overwhelming book glut confronting us all. The harsh reality is that there are too many books in the world and they keep coming in unsustainable waves. Libraries have always discarded low-use titles in order to make room. We have to ensure that the right decisions are made when this is happening. Don has no doubt seen situations where libraries are getting rid of titles which he thinks are worthwhile.

BCBW: Margaret Atwood says “The librarian is the key person you don’t want to remove from a school.” What is the future of the teacher librarian?

PW: I agree with her, but I am not optimistic when it comes to the future of the well-staffed school library. The only way this can change is from political leadership at the provincial level which makes school libraries a priority in labour negotiations. We’ll see how things play out this fall with the BCTF contract negotiations. The necessity of an appropriately staffed and stocked school library should be raised with your local MLA. The Internet alone is not an acceptable replacement.

BCBW: Orca Books in Victoria now sells more than 400 of their own titles in digital format. Readers can purchase a “multi-user digital subscription” for children’s books. But their level of adoption to the digital environment is abnormal in Canada, is it not?

PW: Yes. Oerca and several other publishers are to be applauded for wading in from 2011, or 1970, for that matter. The U.S. market has been with mass-market paperbacks—down 41% in April in the U.S. in 2010, romance and historical sagas comprised 14% of the global eBook market, 7 times their share of the print market. Science fiction and fantasy is a greater share of the e-Book market than the print market.

BCBW: So what will our libraries look like ten years from now? And will there be fewer librarians?

PW: Fewer librarians will still be thriving in 2021. They will still be recognizable as librarians to anyone walking in from 2011, or 1970, for that matter. There will still be staff but the focus of some work will change. While the normal contact between staff and library user will remain important, I anticipate our users will be more self-sufficient. The staff number question will be subject to both operational changes—some adopted willingly and some possibly imposed—and at the end of the day the outcome will be determined by political will at the local level and global economic forces.

As we are currently seeing in the UK and California, if the money runs out, librarians will suffer. The political musings currently taking place in Toronto on closing library branches and outsourcing library services should serve as a warning that complacency regarding the libraries is not cool.

While we are seeing unprecedented change, I believe that writers will continue to read and writers will continue to read. The intermediaries, publishers, retailers and libraries, will experience greater change, some of which will be wrenching, but they will still have a role to play.

BCBW: And what do you think is the future for B.C. BookWorld?

PW: Irreplaceable!
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COMMISSIONED WORKS don’t always engage a wider audience. The Library Book: A History of Service to British Columbia (BC Library Association $50) is a welcome exception.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the B.C. Library Association, Dave Obee has told a fascinating tale of banned books, anti-communist witch hunts, skirmishes between libraries and dedicated souls who have served the province’s book-lovers.

This is a large format book by and for book people, with plenty of illustrations, including incendiary cartoons by Adrian Raeside.

Better still, *The Library Book* has pictures of bookmobiles. Lots of ‘em.

There are bookmobiles wheezing up dirt roads in the Fraser Valley, edging along a snowy John Hart Highway (between Prince George and Dawson Creek), and stopped in the middle of nowhere, flagged down by eager readers.

When the Okanagan Regional Library retired its mobile unit in 1992, the North Shuswap hamlet of Celista took off the tires, put a flower box on the hood and made it a permanent branch.

As a boy I loved books and I loved trucks, so the bookmobile was second only to the ice cream truck in the pantheon of wheeled heroes.

Maybe Obee and book designer Roger Handling felt the same way.

Along with 2,500 other communities in the English-speaking world, Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster launched their first true public libraries with seed money from U.S. tycoon Andrew Carnegie, who spent the last years of his life giving away some of the fortune he had amassed by paying steelworkers $10 for an 84-hour week.

The PLC’s decision in late 1929 to launch the world’s first regional library network in the Fraser Valley angered municipalities for use of its library, Saanich and Esquimalt balked, and their residents were cut off. Monitors were posted to make sure interlopers from the suburbs didn’t slip into the reading room.

The B.C. Library Association was launched at a meeting in his office.

He died in 1919, the year the Public Library Commission was created. It soon heard from book-hungry library trustees in Nanaimo, Duncan, Alberni and Sidney. All borrowed books from the Victoria library, to be exchanged four times a year, for a charge of $65 for every 100 books.

When Victoria’s city council demanded more money from neighbouring municipalities for use of its library, Saanich and Esquimalt balked, and their residents were cut off. Monitors were posted to make sure interlopers from the suburbs didn’t slip into the reading room.

Such internecine sniping dogged the fitful growth of library networks for decades. The PLC’s decision in late 1929 to launch the world’s first regional library network in the Fraser Valley angered other regions, especially the Okanagan and Vancouver Island.

The 1960s saw turf wars between the Greater Victoria board, which claimed dominion over all lands south of the Malahat, and the Nanaimo-based Vancouver Island Regional Library, which planned its flag as far southwest as Colwood.

Richmond was the biggest contributor to the Fraser Valley system until it pulled out in 1975, sparking a feud that took six months, a court action and a $100,000 payment to settle. Surrey soon withdrew as well, though with less rancour.

But infighting among libraries has often been overshadowed by conflicts with municipal politicians. The most notorious example of this was the firing of John Marshall, to which Obee devotes an entire chapter.

In 1954, with red-baiting at a fever pitch, the Victoria Public Library Board fired Marshall two months after he had been hired to launch a mobile book service.

No reason was given, but it soon emerged that some “public spirited citizens” told the board that Marshall had heard of him either. But supposedly this guy has a personal library of 300,000 books. So, of course, Paper Passion will be marketed inside a hollowed book. Get out your Kindle, fondle your iPad. Sniff your partner. In the Dark Ages, a book was an exotic item. Welcome to the New Dark Ages.

In 1955, after the Burns Lake library moved to a new home, the original library still had its sign above the door.

**THE FUTURE IS ALREADY HAPPENING**

Honey, you smell like Shakespeare

According to the hype, the eccentric designer Karl Lagerfeld, as creative director for Chanel and Fendi, has announced a fragrance called Paper Passion. No, it won’t smell like a musty, mouldy old paperback. The goal is to replicate the odour of a freshly printed hardcover. Here at *BC BookWorld*, we’ve never heard of him either. But supposedly this guy has a personal library of 300,000 books. So, of course, Paper Passion will be marketed inside a hollowed book. Get out your Kindle, fondle your iPad. Sniff your partner. In the Dark Ages, a book was an exotic item. Welcome to the New Dark Ages.

Karl Lagerfeld: Ooo-la-la, books are sexy.
Continued from page 27

Brown suit — prompting a resolution condemning Marshall's firing.

Harrison and attended a Toronto peace conference.

Victoria Mayor Claude Harrison said he would happily burn any "subversive literature" found on library shelves.

Author Roderick Haig-Brown called him a dimwit.

The B.C. Library Association passed a resolution condemning Marshall's firing, and its federal counterpart followed suit — prompting a Vancouver Sun editorial headlined: "No place for Reds in our public libraries."

Half of the library's full-time employees resigned and for years the library had trouble attracting qualified staff.

Dramatic cuts to the TPL within weeks. Local branches could be closed and some or all of the library's operations could be privatized, unless we act now.

Meanwhile financial duress in Toronto residents disagree with the idea of closing local library branches as a way of solving the city's deficit.

If you love the Toronto Public Library, you need to come to her defense right now! The cost cutting agenda of Toronto City Council could target the TPL within weeks. Local branches could be closed and some or all of the library's operations could be privatized, unless we act now.

A Forum Research poll conducted on July 4, 2011 found that 74 per cent of Toronto residents disagree with the idea of closing local library branches as a way of solving the city's deficit.

The poll was commissioned by the Toronto Public Library Workers Union (TPLUWU), Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 4948 representing 2400 Toronto Public Library workers.

The union gave Toronto's Mayor Rob Ford an oversized ceremonial library card to remind him that 1.25 million Torontonians have a library card and use it regularly.

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"I have more libraries in my area than I have Tim Hortons," exaggerated Toronto City Councillor Doug Ford on July 14th. Shortly afterward, his brother, Mayor Rob, launched his plan to dramatically cut funding to the Toronto Public Library.

Meanwhile Calgary has just allocated $35 million for a new central library and Surrey has just opened a "spectacular temple to books" (according to Mackay), the Bing Thom-designed, $36-million, City Centre Library.

The future is already happening

Heads are Rowling

J.K. Rowling is now making all her Harry Potter books available electronically, via her Pottermore website—effectively cutting book sellers out of the profit picture.

After helping Rowling to become the richest woman in England, richer than the Queen, some book sellers say they are being blocked from selling digital versions of the series.

"It's another madness of the digital publishing world," said Tom Hunt of the Norfolk Children's Book Centre in England, "that doesn't support the book sellers that have sold the books and supported them. It's just another step on the path to death by 1,000 cuts."

A spokesman for JK Rowling declined to comment.

Pretty much every library in the country has Internet access, and many lend eBook download devices such as the Kobo. But it may be that the library's traditional charms—kindred souls in a relaxed sanctuary—will be valued even more in an age of impersonal gadgets.
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“Our future as a public library is far from certain,” Sandra Singh told B.C. BookWorld, “and we need to fight for public libraries as cornerstone institutions in democratic society. The commercial sector would be more than willing to take over what we do for a fee, and that would have detrimental ramifications for society. We are doing a number of things now to position ourselves for the future, such as working with Canadian publishers on eBook licensing models, connecting with our equivalents in the US to see how our work can support theirs, and working hard to position VPL as a centre for learning and knowledge exchange, including physical books and more. We want to give the community a greater sense of ownership through community engagement... I don’t think most people understand that if we continue the way we have always operated, we will be in dire straits and that many of the changes we are implementing are about positioning the library so that we will be here and in full force in the future.”
The concept of the “book” is expanding beyond its traditional format, and does not automatically lead to the demise of libraries. Print will continue to be the most popular and significant format for some time.

We will continue to purchase and maintain collections important for our local history and memory and interests, while at the same time innovating and experimenting to ensure our ongoing relevance to our patrons and our communities.

Prior to her new position at Douglas College, Debbie Schachter was Director of Collection Management for the Vancouver Public Library.
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I
of like

found the horses and they found me, sort

forty years, and including this week, I

issue. I called it Profile of Death.

animals, I wrote a poem about this very

Prince, two beautiful Clydesdale wild

out with a team of horses, Andy and

lost and I have lost them as old friends.

short-form communication. They are

lost by replacing writing with instant,

ation from some computerized gadget at-

will lay it all out on the face of existence

and you will discover something

F—k it; just spend a day pulling some-

direction where only technology exists.

will be well protected and

ital form will be well protected and

will not be shared, traded, or sold

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by the contract shall replace the tradi-

tional ‘out of print’ clause that triggers a rights reversion with a sales

volume clause (e.g. less than a specified quantity of eBooks sold in a

specified number of royalty periods) and/or a finite term of license (e.g. five

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I

really do not wish to ascribe to the fu-
ture. For the better part of the last
forty years, and including this week, I
have been logging with my horses. I
found the horses and they found me, sort
of like Andre Segovia being discovered
by the guitar, all the magic and the mu-
sic just waiting to be released forever.

My direction is cherishering the past
while we move into the future. I see how
the machinery is taking over the planet,
how technology is slowly heading into the
direction where only technology exists.

F—k it; just spend a day pulling some-
thing like twenty logs out of the bush with
a team and you will discover something
no one else can discover unless they, too,
will lay it all out on the face of existence
and let the dice roll where they will.

By all that is held holy and spiritual,
you will never discover the same revela-
tion from some computerized gadget at-
ttempting to direct our thoughts and our
lives. Writing and publishing, and the
very fact that books are simply wonder-
lives. Writing and publishing, and the
very fact that books are simply wonder-
lives. Writing and publishing, and the
very fact that books are simply wonder-
lives.

view my relationship with my new
publisher Randal Macnaur of
Oolichan Books as a partnerhsip... My
contract gives the e-rights to Oolichan,
but they cannot exercise those rights
without my express permission. I think
that’s because Randal agrees with me
that every eBook distributor (or seller)
is different. Some have good security,
monitoring and reporting systems, and
a good many of them don’t.

None of my books—hard copy or e-
versions—can go to libraries unless we
have a guarantee that they will not be
digitised elsewhere. And, in terms of
bookstores, I’d be perfectly happy if my
books just went to the independents. I
know I won’t get rich, or make much
more than enough money to be able to
write off, say, an annual research trip to
the Feshops of Europe. But that’s fine
by me. That’s pretty well what my writ-
ing income does for me. It all keeps my
brain from turning to porridge.

Lorne Dufour is a horse-logger
near McLeese Lake who has written
three poetry books, Ivan E. Coyote
has written seven memoirs of
herself, how to make money.” I believe this is
the stage at which e-publishing is at now.

Nothing makes me
more depressed than walking into a uni-
versity library and seeing computers
instead of the lovely oak card catalogues full of
3 by 5 cards and the
bank of newspapers
and magazines along the
walls.”

According to Paul Whitney’s new report for the Public Lending
Right Commission in Canada, “Authors report greater difficulties
in negotiating royalty rates on eBooks than on print equivalents...”

The U.S.-based Authors Guild, in their study ‘E-Book Royalty
Math: The House Always Wins’, reports that on bestseller

TWUC’s Ten Commandments

The Writers Union of Canada [TWUC] has issued a new Bill of Rights
“To Respect the Rights of the Creators of Literary Works in Canada.”
After extensive consultation with their membership, TWUC’s list of twelve
recommendations for the digital age includes what could be described as
’ten Commandments’ from the ‘creators’ of books—including a pro-
viso that writers receive 50% of eBook net sales.

1. The publisher shall split the net proceeds of eBook sales equally
with the author.

2. The author shall retain all electronic rights not specifically
granted to the publisher or producer and shall have approval of any
modifications made to the work.

3. The publisher shall not exercise or sublicense eBook publish-
ing rights without the express authorization of the author.

4. When a book is out of print in print form, continuing sales
in electronic form shall not prevent a rights reversion to the author.

5. For eBooks, in its contract shall replace the tradi-
tional “out of print” clause that triggers a rights reversion with a sales
volume clause (e.g. less than a specified quantity of eBooks sold in a
specified number of royalty periods) and/or a finite term of license (e.g. five
years).

6. When rights revert, the publisher shall provide the author with the
digital file of the book.

7. The Public Lending Right Commission shall provide author
payments for eBooks and allot additional monies to this end.

8. Libraries shall acquire digital copies of works in their collec-
tions only from rightsholders or their licensing agencies.

9. eBook retailers shall require the rightsholder’s permission for
any free preview or download of an electronic work, and the rightsholder
shall specify the maximum amount to be made available.

10. Agents, publishers, aggregators, retailers, and libraries
shall ensure that works in digital form will be well protected and
will not be shared, traded, or sold

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THE FUTURE IS HAPPENING

What Writers Are Saying

Mark Twain was a major interna-
tional celebrity when he took a
ruise round the world, guiding a bunch of
well-off tourists. Wherever the ship
called, he was tendered banquets and in-
troduced to all the local achievers. In
South Africa, where the original dia-
mond rush had been supplanted by a
gold rush, he was feted by Cecil Rhodes,
barney Barnato and the other plutocrats.
I had been a gold miner myself,” he
wrote, recalling his early days in Califor-
nia a half-century earlier, “and I knew
substantially everything these people knew about it, except
how to make money.” I believe this is
the stage at which e-publishing is at now.

The Future is Happening

eBook sales compared with hardcover sales, publishers uniformly
earn greater revenues and authors consistently earn lower royal-
alties on eBook sales. As Margaret Atwood has noted, “Fair
pricing is a work in progress,” as is, apparently, consensus on
eBook author royalties.”

E-Book Royalty

BY CHOICE, I have published my last
two books without any contract. I have
a gentlemanly agreement with Ron
Hatch of Ronsdale. Ten years from now,
who knows, it’s easy to imagine I will be
my own publisher and printer, and all
books will be marketed electronically. I
want to control my e-rights like I want to
control my body. I have a body of work.
City of Love and Revolution
(New Star Books $24) by Lawrence Aronsen

All that Glitters: A Climber’s Journey Through Addiction and Depression
(Sono Nis $19.95) by Margo Talbot

Alligator, Bear, Crab: A Baby’s ABC
(Orca $9.95) by Lesley Wynne Pechter

Retail Nation:
Department Stores and the Making of Modern Canada
(UBC Press $32.95) by Donica Belisle

Yarn Bombing: The Art of Crochet & Knit Graffiti
(Arsenal Pulp Press $21.95) by Jeremy Twigg

A Thrilling Ride: The Vancouver Canucks’ Fortieth Anniversary Season
(Graystone $19.95) by Paul Chapman & Bev Wake.

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BC BOOKWORLD AUTUMN 2011
Gary Geddes’ Drink the Bitter Root: A Writer’s Search for Justice and Redemption in Africa (D&M $32.95) describes his forays, at age 68, into one of the world’s most troubled areas: Rwanda, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Somaliland. In a world of child soldiers, refugees and poets-turned-freedom fighters, Geddes is particularly impressed by Somali culture in which poetry is a popular activity viewed as “a healing and a subversive art.”

Gary Geddes (right) and a friend in Uganda

Most of the 44 remarkable people profiled in Front Lines: Portraits of Caregivers in Northern British Columbia (Creekstone/Sandhill $32) work as physicians and nurses. One of the exceptions is Stoney Creek social worker Barbie Everett, inspired to care for others by her maternal grandmother Celena John, who raised more than 15 children in the Saik’uz reserve outside Vanderhoof. “My grandmother taught me that without education,” she says, “we really have nothing.”

All the caregivers express positive attitudes about the privilege of helping others in a challenging environment that requires improvisation and travelling great distances north of the 54th parallel—from Haida Gwaii to Dawson Creek; and from Vanderhoof to Dease Lake. Front Lines is a sophisticated coffee table book that celebrates innovation, cooperation and the restoration of pride. Text is by Sarah de Leeuw, photos by Tim Swanky, both raised in the North.

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Calvin Verxon

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