

Life & death at William Head Station P. 11 BC Book Prizes P. 20

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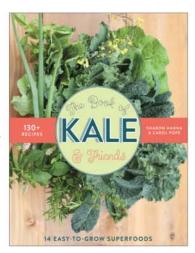
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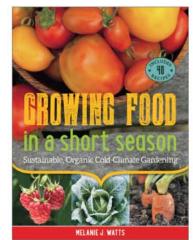
The BOOK of KALE & FRIENDS

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Featuring fourteen superfoods that are undeniably nutritious, easy-to-grow and beneficial to the environment, this followup to the national bestseller The Book of Kale contains gardening tips, nutritional information and 130+ all-new recipes, including great ideas for breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks-and even cocktails! COOKING/GARDENING | \$26.95 | PB 8"x 10" • 224pp • 150 colour photos ISBN 978-1-77162-014-7





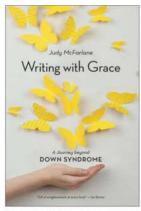
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Sustainable, Organic Cold-Climate Gardening

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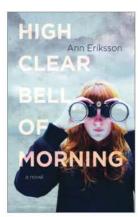
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With honest introspection and keen insight, McFarlane recounts her experiences with Grace, an aspiring writer with Down syndrome. This book reveals the often dark history of Down syndrome, while delving into what it takes to face one's own prejudice.

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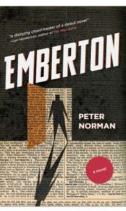


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ISBN 978-1-77162-023-9

Ann Eriksson

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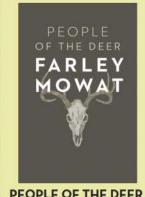
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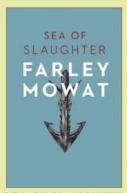
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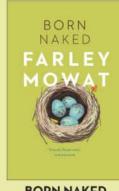
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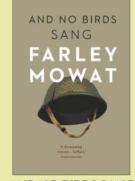
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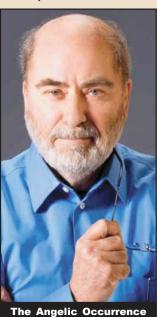
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by Lisa Anne Smith The Book of Kale & Friends

(D&M \$26.95) by Sharon Hanna & Carol Pope

Poachers, Polluters & Politics

(Harbour \$24.95) by Randy Nelson

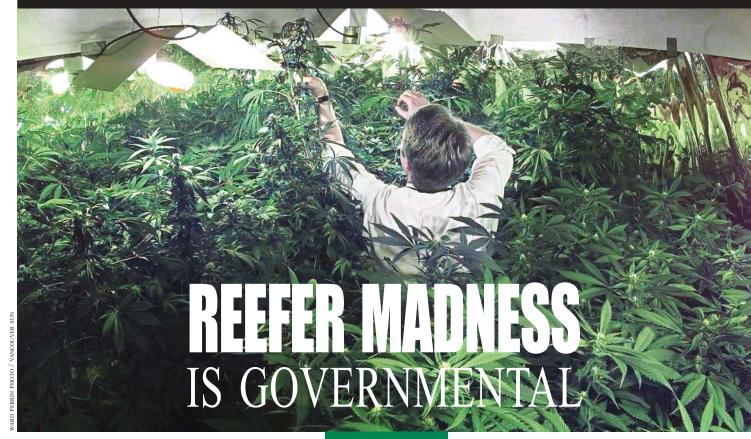
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(Touchwood Editions \$29.95) by Linda Whitworth & Pat Inglis

The World Afloat: Miniatures

(Talonbooks \$12.95) by M.A.C. Farrant

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EN YEARS AGO, CANADA'S PUBLIC SAFETY minister Anne McLellan an nounced that the federal government was committed to eradi-cating marijuana growing operations and that people who smoke marijuana are stupid.

"I see grow-ops as one of the single biggest problems we face in our communities," Anne McLellan declared.

That's hogwash, says **Susan Boyd**, a UVic academic, one of two researchers who have collected and analysed more than 2500 newspaper articles related to marijuana published in national, provincial and local newspapers in B.C. from 1995 to 2009 and she's concluded the widespread scare tactics are a government smokescreen for unwarranted invasions of civil liberties.

Co-written by Boyd and **Connie Carter**, a senior policy analyst for the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, Killer Weed: Marijuana Grow Ops, Media, and Justice (University of Toronto \$28.95) documents fifteen years of exaggeration and scare tactics about marijuana growing fueled by a few vocal spokespeople, the RCMP and media.

Specifically, on page 146, Killer Weed discusses the so-called smart meters that have been forced upon BC Hydro customers.

Boyd and Carter conclude in their final chapter that the public is being duped into compliance with draconian, anti-marijuana policies. They cite the findings of the federal government's justice department's own study on

Marijuana plants marijuana grow ops that challenges claims made by the RCMP in East Vancouver, and media regarding organized crime, violence and public safety. from Killer Weed: That justice department report is corroborated by scholarly Marijuana Grow Ops, research — but the justice department study was never re-Media and Justice leased. Boyd and Carter obtained a copy of the unreleased study from a reporter who received it following a Freedom of Infor-

mation request.

"The second important finding," says Boyd, "concerns civil initiatives and by-laws, municipal multi-partner initiatives that have sprung up all over B.C. and elsewhere since 2004. There is little oversight of these initiatives as they are outside criminal justice.

"BC Hydro, the city government, police, RCMP, firefighters and electrical inspectors all work to identify high electrical usage, and then enter homes without a warrant, and there is an assumption of guilt rather than innocence. These homeowners are fined regardless of whether or not evidence of marijuana growing is found."

According to the authors of Killer Weed, a fifteen-year drug scare about marijuana grow ops has helped to facilitate changes in federal law, mandatory minimum sentencing for some drug offences, including growing more than five plants (resulting in six-month jail sentences), as well as changes in the medical marijuana program (eliminating personal growing and designated growers), and changes to provincial legislation.

"We question these changes," says Boyd, "and the turn to law and order responses, many that contravene charter rights, and the impact on vulnerable populations such as youth, aboriginal people and the poor." 9781442612143

HELL NO, WE WILL GROW IN BC

"A 'No' uttered from the deepest conviction is better than a 'Yes' merely uttered to please or, worse, to avoid trouble." - Mahatma Gandhi

AVING INTERVIEWED FIFTY-TWO PEOPLE IN THE KOOTENAYS over the course of three summers for her academic study, Welcome to Resisterville: American Dissidents in British Columbia (UBC \$95), Kathleen Rodgers has documented the motives of American refuseniks who entered Canada between 1965 and 1975 in response to the Vietnam War.

"By believing in peace, justice and meaningful ways of living," she writes, "they showed subsequent generations that protest is not only waving a placard; it includes refusing to take part in something you don't believe in."

The subtitle is a tad misleading: Rodgers has studied a specific group in a specific place at a specific time.

"This book is about the endurance of idealism," she writes. Subjects includes Argenta Quakers, New Denver, Doukhobors, tree planting, environmentalism, reaction-



ary intimidation, the Castlegar-based paper The Arrow and the Goat Mountain School (the first alternative school to emerge within the West Kootenay counter-culture). Interviewees include American-born NDP cabinet minister Corky Evans, long-serving New Denver Mayor Gary Wright and American-born authors Ross Klatte, Irene Mock and Herb Hammond.

From Rodgers' sociological approach we learn:

- · Conscription during the Vietnam War may have driven 100,000 young Americans to leave their country.
- · Up to 14,000 Americans during the Vietnam War could have taken the 'underground railroad' to the Kootenays.
- · Fifty thousand Americans chose to stay in Canada after the U.S. government offered amnesty to draft resisters in 1976, and forty percent settled in B.C.
- · In 2006, American-born immigrants accounted for 25% of the foreign-born population of the West Kootenays. 9780774827331



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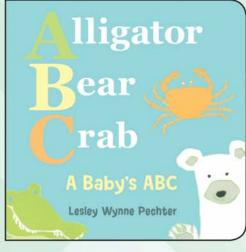
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...and BC Babies!

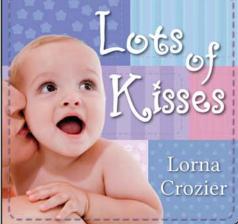
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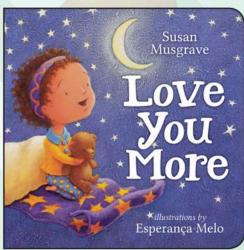
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Lorna Crozier 97814598О7457 • \$9.95 вв

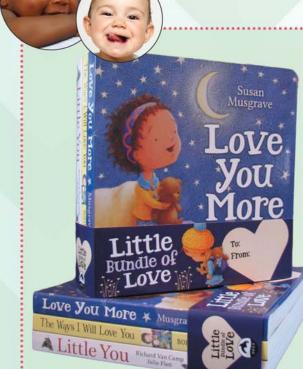




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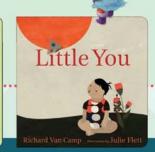
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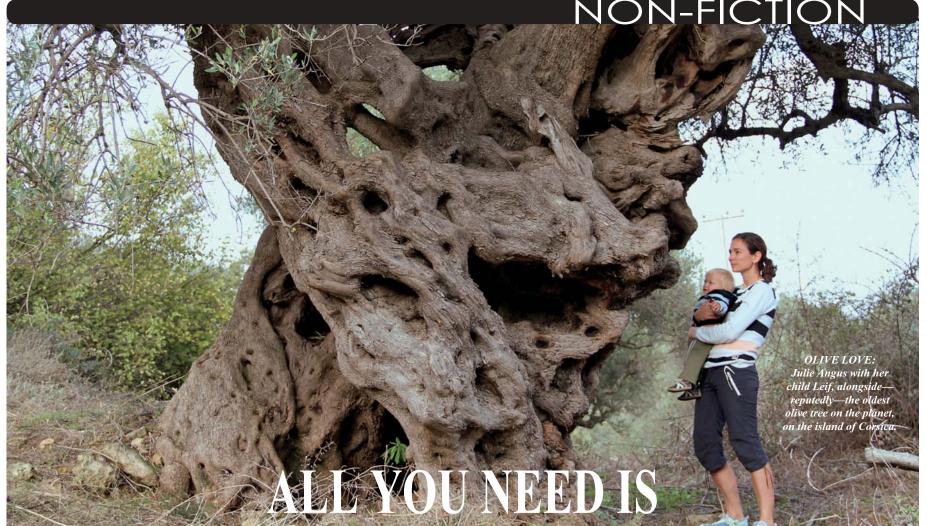






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review



HAVING CROSSED THE ATLANTIC Ocean in a rowboat for her first book, Rowboat in a Hurricane — earning herself the distinction of being National Geographic Explorer of the Year — Julie Angus gained the support of National Geographic for Olive Odyssey: Searching for the Secrets of the Fruit that Seduced the World, this time exploring the Mediterranean by sailboat. "I have to say," says Joan Givner, who reviewed Angus' first book for BCBW, "this is one of the most interesting books I have read in a long time."

BY **JOAN GIVNER**

Olive Odyssey: Searching for the Secrets of the Fruit that Seduced the World by Julie Angus (Greystone \$28.95)

Odyssey is to discover how the olive tree spread from the Middle East to the other side of the Mediterranean.

A Master's degree in molecular biology equips her for an in-depth study of olive trees, combined with her proven resourcefulness as an adventurer.

Since Phoenician sailors were probably responsible for its propagation, Angus and her husband follow their trading route, gathering samples from ancient trees along the way. The resulting account is part travelogue and part compendium of facts about olives and olive oil.

The couple's odyssey starts in Spain, where for \$11,000 they buy Isis, a 28-foot-long, second-hand sailboat. Their quest to find where the first olive tree originated takes them from Spain to the French Riviera and on to Corsica, where they tour the island by car and camp overnight. Eventually they arrive in Sardinia, make a side trip to Italy by ferry, and return to sell

Julie Angus weathers storms, civil war and a colicky baby in search of the origins of the olive.

the sailboat. From there they fly to Greece, explore Crete and finally end their journey in the Middle East. Along the way they befriend a series of lively characters as they visit olive growers and experts in olive oil factories, museums and laboratories.

En route, Angus extols the health benefits of consuming olive oil—fewer cases of Alzheimer's and certain types of cancer, as well as greater longevity in regions where its consumption is high. That said, likely few readers will care to follow one centenarian's recommendation for longevity: drinking a cup of olive oil daily.

Angus also provides good advice on choosing oil. Caution is essential because the olive oil business is one of the most corrupt in the world. Fraud has been rampant from the beginning. A fifth century Roman cookbook lists tricks for disguising rancid or fetid oil; a Greek book gives a remedy for restoring oil into which a mouse has drowned, spoiling the flavour. (Suspend a handful of coriander over it!)

In the 1980s adulterated oil sickened twenty-five thousand people in Spain and killed a thousand. In 2011 two Spanish olive businessmen were jailed for

selling thousands of litres of olive oil that was mostly sunflower oil. Others were arrested for selling a mix of avocado, palm, sunflower, and vegetable oil.

Place of origin for both olives and oil is often given incorrectly, since outside the European Union, laws for protecting origin and quality are unenforceable. Kalamata olives sold outside Europe have probably not even been grown in Greece. In order to remedy this situation, the Institute of Plant Genetics in Umbria is working to create markers that detect the source of the oil. Fortunately Canada, unlike the U.S., has an accredited government laboratory that tests olive oil. Even so, inferior oil on the supermarket shelves is commonly mislabelled. Adjectives such as "light," "pure" and "extra light" are applied to substandard oil that is refined using chemicals, a process that strips away both flavour and nutrients.

The highest grade of oil bears the label "extra virgin" and comes from the first pressing of the olives, done by mechanical means, without using heat or chemicals. The acidity level is crucial and should be less than 0.8%. It must also pass a vigorous test. If it

falls short, it drops to the next category—"virgin" olive oil, with an acidity level of up to 1.5%. Oil that is really unsatisfactory and not fit for human consumption (this includes 50% of Mediterranean oil) can be used for industrial purposes. Yet it is often chemically refined, sold as cheap oil in supermarkets, and used in restaurants and pizzerias.

*

ADVICE FOR ORDINARY CONSUMers and cooking experts on the hazards of selecting olive oil is perhaps the most practical aspect of the book, but Julie Angus also provides guidelines for hosting an olive oil tasting party (there are 250 types of olive oil flavours compared with wine's 450) and also appends a series of recipes. One is a Provencal recipe for cooking a chicken in a cup of olive oil with forty cloves of garlic.

For those who wish more background information on the food they ingest, Angus outlines the history and mythology of the olive tree and olive oil. Its uses have ranged from the medicinal and sacramental to the military. The Romans used it to lubricate their military machines. In the Middle Ages, boiling oil was poured from the battlements of

castles to scald unwelcome invaders. At the Trevi olive museum in Umbria, she finds a bizarre list of folk remedies that include boiling a lizard in oil to reduce baldness and ringworm and boiling rusty nails in it to cure eye pain.

The travelogue part of the book is no less engaging than the scientific research. The couple weathers storms and mechanical difficulties with the boat, and the fact that they bring along their 10-month-old son adds to the personal side of the story. Angus is still breastfeeding \boldsymbol{Leif} , who turns out to be colicky baby, causing his mother many disturbed nights. Nevertheless, along the way he develops a surprising taste for red pepper gratin and anchovies on toast. He even contributes to the research by testing the bitter olives from ancient trees. A historian notes that there is a similarity between the immature palates of babies and those of early humans.

*

ANGUS'S INITIAL INTEREST IN OLIVE oil was sparked years earlier by a visit to her Syrian relatives who served fruit and oil from their own olive groves. The greatest disappointment of the trip is that the civil war prevents her from concluding it in Aleppo where it began. Yet she feels triumphant when the bags of samples are examined for their genetic structure at the Institute of Plant Genetics. They are found to provide evidence that it was the Phoenicians who spread the olive tree throughout Europe. 978-1553655145

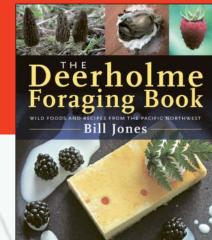
Since reading Olive Odyssey, Joan Givner says she has become very discriminating in her selection of olive oil. Her latest young adult novel is **The Hills Are Shadows** (Thistledown Press).

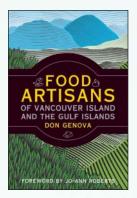
THE BEST OF SUMMER READING

The Deerholme Foraging Book

Wild Foods and Recipes from the Pacific Northwest

This ultimate guide to foraging in the Pacific Northwest features more than 110 recipes for local edible plants, sea vegetables, and shellfish, and includes techniques for harvesting, processing, and preserving foraged products. TouchWood Editions | \$29.95 pb | \$24.99 ebook

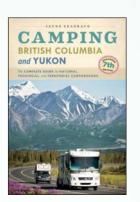




Food Artisans of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands

Don Genova

A guide to the best food and producers of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands compiled by beloved food writer Don Genova, based on his firsthand experiences with the featured products and producers. TouchWood Editions | \$19.95 pb | \$14.99 ebook

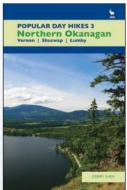


Camping British Columbia and Yukon

The Complete Guide to National, Provincial, and Territorial Campgrounds, **Expanded Seventh Edition**

Jayne Seagrave

In this revamped edition of a BC classic, author Jayne Seagrave has added an entire section on camping in Yukon. An essential guide for today's camper. Heritage House Publishing | \$19.95 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Northern Okanagan: Vernon - Shuswap - Lumby

Gerry Shea

from Grindrod in the north to Vernon in the south, between the Okanagan Valley and the Shuswap, this fully illustrated guidebook features colour maps and photographs, step-by-step directions, and 35 popular day hikes in stunning and open terrain.



Okanagan Slow Road Bernadette McDonald, with images by Karolina Born-Tschümperlin

Exploring the entire length of the Okanagan Valley, this guide to the region's best food, drink, and recreation reveals local culinary secrets, famous vintages, and favourite activities to be enjoyed by locals and tourists alike. TouchWood Editions | \$29.95 pb | \$24.99 ebook



Canoe Crossings

Understanding the Craft That Helped Shape British Colombia Sanford Osler

Canoe Crossings will appeal to anyone who has ever sought adventure, found solace, or seen beauty in a canoe. Sanford Osler weaves a fascinating account of the origins of the canoe in BC and its potential for bringing people together.

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The Cuckoo's Child

Margaret Thompson

Searching for her family, Livvy embarks

on a journey that takes her from small-town

British Columbia to the English countryside

and teaches her about loss and grief,

secrets and guilt, and the transcendent

importance of family and love.

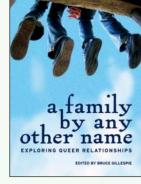
Brindle & Glass Publishing | \$19.95 pb | \$14.99 ebook

Haida Gwaii

Islands of the People, **Fourth Edition**

Dennis Horwood

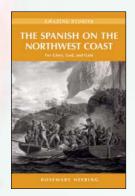
This updated guide, complete with maps, regional histories, wildlife descriptions, and recreation tips, will prepare travellers with everything they need for a successful visit to these glorious gems of the Pacific. Heritage House Publishing | \$19.95 pb | \$9.99 ebook



A Family by Any Other Name

Exploring Queer Relationships Edited by Bruce Gillespie

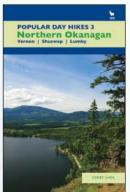
This collection features twenty-one reflective essays on relationships from lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered writers, and explores how they have reclaimed the word "family." TouchWood Editions | \$19.95 pb | \$14.99 ebook



The Spanish on the **Northwest Coast**

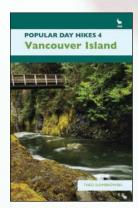
For Glory, God, and Gain **Rosemary Neering**

In her newest book, popular BC history writer Rosemary Neering has created a concise introduction to two centuries of Spanish maritime explorers on the BC coast. Great for readers of all ages. Heritage House Publishing | \$9.95 pb | \$7.99 ebook



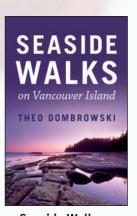
Popular Day Hikes 3

Covering the interior of British Columbia, RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15.00 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Popular Day Hikes 4 Vancouver Island Theo Dombrowski

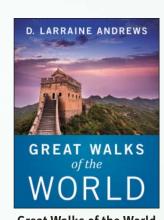
This unique and colourful guidebook sorts through the various possibilities and selects for the reader the very best day hikes on Vancouver Island. Ranging from 6 km to 25 km and from easy to challenging, each hike is accompanied by a clear map, step-bystep directions, and colour photographs. RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15.00 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Seaside Walks on Vancouver Island Theo Dombrowski

The perfect book for those who love to explore the seashore but also love walking through forests and seaside meadows. Whether discovering inviting stretches of sandy beach, hiking along rugged cliffs, or strolling through quiet estuaries, each walk is illustrated with

colour photos and step-by-step directions. RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15.00 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Great Walks of the World D. Larraine Andrews

An eclectic collection of 12 global walks, the book includes destinations on every continent but Antarctica. From one-day saunters to two-week odysseys, readers will find the story behind each trail, with detailed maps and colourful photos. The author has also included information on Internet resources, reading lists, food specialties, and unique customs. RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$30.00 pb | \$16.99 ebook









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This excerpt from Gender Failure by Ivan E. Coyote is reprinted with permission. The following is a candid account of preparing for surgery.

was so nervous, the secretary at the reception desk looked at me with softening eves and told me everything was going to be okay. I had barely spoken to her, but it was just that obvious, I guess.

First of all, it didn't feel like there was any possible way this could really be happening. Nineteen years of binding my breasts, even more years trying not to hate them, a psychologist's appointment, a psychiatrist's appointment, a psychological assessment, two doctor's appointments, several letters back and forth between doctors and shrinks and bureaucrats, phone calls, more phone calls, twenty months since I had actually cranked the whole machine into gear, and here I was. Meeting the surgeon. He was fourteen minutes late. But who was counting?

He was handsome and tanned in January, and his assistant was tall, blonde, and wearing grey leather stiletto boots. Looked pretty much like what I thought a cosmetic surgeon and his assistant would look like, not that I had ever spent much time wondering. I have to fill out forms, of course, no I don't smoke or have hemophilia, and no, my religion does not forbid me to have a blood transfusion. The letterhead on the forms is for a cosmetic surgery clinic. I am reminded that most people think that is what this is. Elective. Cosmetic. Unnecessary. My period is due today. My tits are at their biggest, and most tender. I can feel the binder pinching under my arms where

Turns out the doctor and I both studied music at a small community college together in the late eighties. I do not remember him, and he would not recognize me. I ask him if he studied jazz piano just in case this whole cosmetic surgeon thing didn't work out for him, you know, so he had something to fall back on. I make jokes like that sometimes when I am nervous.

He asks me a lot of questions. Why am

I not on testosterone? Do I intend to go on testosterone in the future? What do I want my chest to look like when he is done? Do I care more about what my chest looks like, or whether or not I will be able to feel my nipples afterwards? I tell him a little of both. This surprises him. He tells me it is mostly only women who care about nipple sensation after surgery, and that most trans men only care that they

have a masculine appearing chest after. He looks at his assistant, is she getting all of this down? And she nods back just a little, yes, she is.

Throughout this entire bureaucratic maze, I have wanted to not like the doctors, the psychiatrist, the surgeon. The gatekeepers. I have been waiting for one of them to be callous, or say something phobic or use the wrong pronoun, or write the wrong thing down on the wrong form. But everyone has been so ... nice. Even though I still care about whether or not I can feel my nipples afterwards. I never quite feel like they truly understand me, but that doesn't seem to get in the way of them completing the task at hand.

I have to strip my upper body and put on a blue gown. The surgeon measures my chest extensively. I haven't worn a typical woman's bra in my entire life, and I don't mean there is any such thing as a typical woman, let me be clear, what I mean is a bra-type article of clothing typically worn by a woman, anyway, I have never owned or worn one, ever since I was nineteen or so and they finally appeared on the scene uninvited, I have always tried to mash them down, disappear them, never lift and separate, so I actually have no idea how big they really are. Turns out I have a forty-two-inch chest, a number that seems surreal to me, nearly impossible. I explain to the surgeon that they didn't used to be this big, just since I hit my forties, my body is changing, and if he performed double hipectomies I would be signing up for that, too. He is calling out measurements and observations to his assistant. My breast tissue is dense and firm, he states. She scribbles on her notepad. My nipples are big and will have to be removed completely from my body and resized and grafted back onto me. He remarks that my breasts exhibit very little ptosis, which is a medical term for sagging. This makes me feel oddly proud, considering I am here to have them removed. Kind of like waxing up your car so you can take it to the wrecker, or petting a puppy before you leave it out in the cold. Which, for the record, I would never do. I love puppies. But even talking aloud about it all felt kind of like that for me, like I was closing a door on a room I really loved, only because it was the one

way I knew to keep going.

He pulls out a blue Sharpie and makes several marks on my chest, then stands back and surveys them. Like you would if you were trying to hang a picture level on a wall. Then he takes a camera out, snaps several pictures of me from the neck down, and then puts it away.

He explains to me that I will need a double incision/bi-lateral mastectomy, and that my nipples will be rendered insensate. He delivers this news deadpan, like he's had a lot of practice saying these words without any affectation or emotion whatsoever. Insensate. I looked it up after, later, when I got home. It has two meanings: 1: lacking physical sensation. And 2: lacking sympathy or compassion, unfeeling.

The surgeon narrows his eyes at my copious chest hair. "You have never taken testosterone?" he asks me again. I shake my head, no. "Well, there is something going on for you here, then," he tells me.

"Positive thinking," I tell him, and he smiles, like this can't be true, even though I am pretty sure it is.

He measures my nipples from tip to tip, lets out a low whistle. "Wow," he says, sounding impressed. "Thirteen inches." His assistant raises her head, looks over at us, writes it down. I have no idea what this means, whether this number is impressive because it is so small, or so big.

"Yep," I state. "That's right. Thirteen inches, uncut." We all crack up. My nipples are standing on their tiptoes now, maybe from the cool air in the examination room, maybe from brushing up against the measuring tape, maybe from fear. Hard to say.

I did and still do wonder why he wasn't using the metric system of measurement. Thirty-three point zero two centimeters sounds way more accurate somehow, even though the metric system is decidedly less sexy. Maybe that is why the United States stubbornly holds on to the standard system of measurement. Its undeniable erotic potential. Thirteen inches seems impressive, especially when it is a body part of any sort. And ninety miles an hour sounds so much hotter and faster than one hundred and fortyfour point eight four kilometers ever could.

The next morning, I looked long at myself in the mirror. Tried to imagine my new

chest. Touched my exquisitely sensi-

tive nipples. Imagined them small, and dull to touch, and stitched back on. I have done this a million times before. But this time there were two blue marks, in the soft crease there, dead centre below my nipples. I had scrubbed and scrubbed at them in the shower, but they wouldn't come off, they had hardly even faded. The ink the surgeon had used had been very, very permanent.

9781551525365

OF FAILURE

"Being a girl was something that never really happened for me," says Rae Spoon, co-author of Gender

Failure (Arsenal \$17.95), along with Ivan E. Coyote. It sounds like a clever thing to say to grab attention. But one

need only dip into any page of this mutual tell-all to understand how that statement has been true for both of these writer-performers

who have grappled with the limitations of traditional gender roles. Coyote's straight-forward, sometimes amusing, yet difficult-toshare account of having breasts surgically removed is a breakthrough in candour even for Coyote. This is clear, honest and wisely non-propagandist reportage from the front lines of an ongoing battle to bring transgenderism into mainstream



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review

Recently someone paid \$350,000 to kill a rare black rhino in Namibia. Reviewer Giles Slade views trophy-hunting as a perverted act by fools too dumb to operate a camera. But he recognizes that many Canadians can't get to a supermarket easily, and the tradition of finding and killing one's own food runs very deep in rural Canada. Here he responds to Miles Olson's "New Age" manual for conscious living, The Compassionate Hunter's Guidebook.

BY GILES SLADE

The Compassionate Hunter's Guidebook: Hunting from the Heart by Miles Olson (New Society Publishers \$19.95)

HE EXTERMINATION of the American Bison was made possible by an unholy trinity after the Civil War: the monomania of American greed, Spencer's flawless repeating rifles, and the miracle of transcontinental rail travel.

No one owned the limitless buffalo herds of the Great Plains. At the railhead, the bison's carcass was worth \$3. The single shell to kill one American Bison cost only 25 cents. This 11-fold profit abruptly ended all empathy for the beasts sparking a bloody gold rush that lasted until the plains were completely emptied.

At almost the same moment, owners of American slaughterhouses invented assembly lines to kill and butcher cattle in technologically efficient factories of death. It was the assembly line of the abattoir that Henry Ford copied when he first began to manufacture his model T.

So now, if we want to kill for food, can we step outside of the tyranny of our own history and economic structures long enough to experience real life and real living without falling into the Freemen's stereotype of a redneck

Miles Olson thinks so. He knows so. Having learned to hunt for game on Vancouver Island, as well as forage for other food, Olson has evolved a deeply felt "back-to-the-land" philosophy and practice, first explored in his groundbreaking Unlearn, Rewild: Earth Skills, Ideas and Inspiration for the Future Primitive (New Society 2012).

Now his The Compassionate Hunter's Guidebook takes us back to the connectedness of the craft of individualized hunting when it was still a vital nutritional strategy; it takes us back to the craft of hunting as it was before tech-



nologized, industrial slaughter.

In doing so, Olson doesn't pretend to be DeNiro in The Deerhunter. This book is not a nostalgic, romantic fantasy by Fenimore Cooper, or a terse ideology of masculinity by Hemingway. Olson is connected to his practice. He understands its meaningfulness and fulfillment. He knows why we need it, and he brings it to our attention with humility.

MILES OLSON WAS INITIALLY GOING to call this book The Ethical Hunter's Guidebook, "an exploration of and guide to hunting from a conscious, ethical perspective," but he changed his mind and altered the adjective. "Ethics are by definition products of the rational mind," he writes, "logical conclusions about the nature of reality from which we build our sense of right and wrong. They are matters of the intellect..."

What Olson is seeking in the woods in the vicinity of his home in Courtenay has little to do with intellect. It's more like Zen. He asks us to watch and engage with

our emotions and spirit:

"To adequately address the depth of the subject, [my manuscript] had to become a guidebook for compassionate hunting," he writes, "for those who hunt for any or all of the above ethical and economic reasons, but who also feel a sense of deep respect and reverence toward their prey, who are interested in approaching hunting (and all of life) as some-

The Compassionate Hunter's Guidebook is a book about the ideology, empathy and spirituality of craft, and craft is what technology replaces. According to Richard Sennet's wonderful book, The Craftsman, it is the one dimension of our modern world that is ignored and undernourished. Its absence leaves us considerably poorer than our predecessors. In Shop Class as Soul Craft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work, Matthew Crawford has explained why we become depressed without the demands of an interesting task. Unlike all other creatures, we are creatures of craft and culture. Craft is how hominids adapt to nature.

Olson understands such things, inherently, but he does not proselytize or preach. Instead he reports that to kill for one's own meat, consciously, can be a spiritual process by which we can "[get] to something ... through connecting with ... food. [You might understand] our separation from the living world.

"When you kill and eat a creature, you are very literally integrating its body into yours. You are also integrating the land ... [the] creature came from into your body, since their body was entirely a manifestation of that land. This is an amazing, dynamic that ... lies at the ... heart of ... people's desire to connect to the land ... through gardening, hiking, foraging, crafting or hunting:

"[It shatters] the boundary between self and other, human and nature; [and pierces] the illusion of separation that ... defines our culture."

Reading this passage we can see the how and the why of our au-

tochthonous connection to nature. We can see the obstructions to it that intrude from every aspect of contemporary urban life. We can see the long line of evolutionary and historical connection to our human past.

We can see that first starving herbivorous hominid desperately sampling carrion on the African Savanna. We can see his or her descendants accumulating an ever-expanding array of strategies connected to the stunning new ability to make-things-dead.

We can see how the craft of making-things-dead evolves into ritualized genres of public art whose controversial remnants are still among us in the forms of bullfighting and fox hunting.

And so some things that were obscene to us can now be viewed with new eyes.

An encounter with death is a very rare thing in our society. Some claim it is the constant reminder of mortality that enriches life and makes it poignant. This certainly seems to be the case in the developing countries in which I've lived. You are surrounded by death and people seem more alive.

Here, in North America's sterile absence of death, we use recreational drugs or the empty thrill-experiences of extreme sports to remind us that we are vibrant, mortal creatures, not replaceable cogs in an economic matrix. Nowadays children's burning ambition to live full-tilt lives is somehow quickly displaced into online avatars. No one actually runs away to join the Foreign Legion any more. Instead, they buy Halo.

Like an antidote, Miles Olson reminds us that even now... "Bucks are roaming the woods chasing the scent of fertile does with little regard for anything other than sex and establishing dominance. Does, likewise, are less cautious as they start to ovulate... their bodies fill with excitement... Their changing scent... bring[s]... potential lovers.

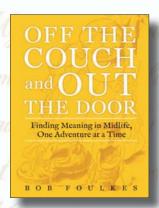
"For a time this annual dance of courtship... eclipses all else... [and] the deer are possessed by an insatiable urge. As I sit shiftlessly in the woods, the feeling is palpable... there is an overwhelming sense of activity, electricity and excitement... Even if I don't see any deer today, I'll still have harvested a deep feeling of groundedness."

The Compassionate Hunter's Guidebook does what any good book should do. It takes you into another world and makes you understand new people.

I am a writer, not a hunter. I enjoyed the book immensely. I did not think I would. 978-0865717701

Giles Slade's most recent book is American Exodus (New Society 2013)

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Off the Couch and Out the Door Finding Meaning in Midlife One Adventure at a Time **Bob Foulkes**

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What Was I Thinking? Adventures of a Woman Sailing Solo Pamela Roy Bendall

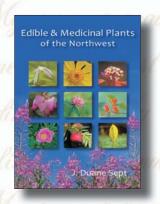
BC author Pamela Bendall has called the Pacific Ocean her home for the past five years. As Captain of a 46 foot custom-built sailboat, she recounts her adventures sailing from Alaska to Peru, from lightning strikes to misadventures with foreign port officials and more. This entertaining book will inspire readers to follow their dreams and passions. 9780992141301 \$19.95 pb P Bendall Ent.



A is for Aboriginal Joseph Maclean

This lyrical exploration of Indigenous people uses the alphabet to explore facets of Aboriginal history, culture and traditions. Each letter includes names of Indigenous nations to be read aloud as "poems of remembrance". The second half includes a comprehensive glossary citing nation names, locations and interesting facts making this a useful resource. Beautifully illustrated by Brendan Heard.

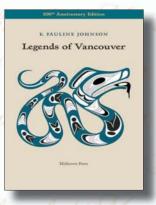
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Edible & Medicinal Plants of the Northwest J. Duane Sept

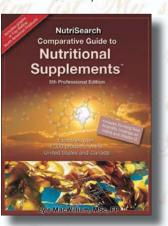
New in the Calypso nature series, biologist and nature photographer J. Duane Sept offers a comprehensive colour field guide to 66 plants in Canada's northwest that make nutritious edible foods or relieve health troubles. Chapters include information on trees, shrubs wildflowers, aquatic plants, horsetails, ferns and poisonous plants with lists of therapeutic uses and a medicinal glossary.

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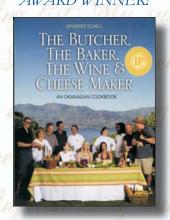
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INTERVIEW

ou've probably heard of Ellis Island in New York where millions of immigrants were processed as they arrived by sea.

But you might not have heard of two Canadian equivalents, Lawlor's Island in Halifax and Grosse Isle.

The latter was a quarantine station in Quebec that processed half a million Irish immigrants from 1832 to 1848. Five thousand never made it off the island. Many were detained to prevent the spread of typhus.

Almost nobody remembers there was an equivalent West Coast quarantine centre, William Head Station, southwest of Victoria, on William Head Peninsula.

Even most coastal history mavens don't know it grew to hold up to 1,000 people in 42 buildings on a 43-hectare site until maritime immigration diminished in the fifties and it was transformed into a minimum security prison.

As a follow-up to his *Voyages of Hope:* The Saga of the Bride-Ships (TouchWood, 2002), a bestseller on B.C. Ferries, **Peter Johnson** has collected the details of how West Coast officialdom prevented the spread of smallpox, cholera, typhus, and polio into the Canadian population from sea travelers in **Quarantined:** Life and Death at William Head Station, 1872-1959 (Heritage \$22.95).

The following interview with Peter Johnson was conducted by **Mark Forsythe**.

BC BookWorld: If you were detained at William Head Station, how could you expect to be treated?

Peter Johnson: Well, the quarantine system was arranged on the class system of the British Empire. You could be first class—aristocracy; second class—sons of aristocracy; third class—the middle class; or else the poor sods in steerage. The politics of privilege and the economics of indifference kept Ottawa from taking on much responsibility.

BCBW: How did it all come about?

PJ: Part of the contract of joining confederation was that the federal government would provide British Columbia with quarantine

services. Well it never did. In 1871 when B.C. joined Canada there wasn't even a federal quarantine office here.

It took almost another 20 years for Ottawa to get its act together — they were shamed into it by a little white girl that died without access to any

kind of station whatsoever. Meanwhile the Chinese were clobbered with a head tax, and in 1903 it doubled to 500 dollars. Often quarantine legislation was used to support policies of deportation or policies of racism. That's a common theme that runs throughout the book.

BCBW: But obviously there were times when quarantine was necessary.

PJ: Yes. Think of the times. The germ theory had only been around for 10-15 years. Germs were thought to be caused by miasma, not bacteria. A doctor at the bottom of a gangplank checking a vaccination certificate would have to, within a second, say, "were you anywhere near or associated with this person who is ill?" Then take a temperature, look into the eyes and see that



GANGPLANK DIAGNOSIS

How William Head Station prevented disasters of epidemic proportions—at a great cost.

general influenza wasn't there, but in fact it was smallpox.

And so there were several missed cases of physicians who simply didn't have the diagnostic traditions we have today for catching infectious disease. I'm surprised that so many were held and it worked. Some of the ones that were missed of course went on to horrific outbreaks in Vancouver and other places, which brought

the whole quarantine station into some question.

BCBW: And this affected our international relationship with Seattle who said, "We won't accept ships from Vancouver because we can't be assured we not also importing disease."

PJ: We didn't have adequate quarantine legislation. We started from ground zero far too late to be of any real benefit in the last ten years of the 19th century. But, by the Twenties, by God, British Columbia had its act together. When the Albert Head station closed for letting too many people slip by with infectious diseases, William Head was rebuilt and it did a fine job.

BCBW: As you trace the history of quarantine in B.C., you also tell us about the Chinese Labour Corps. What was their role in World War I?

PJ: It's such a sad episode. It was mutually beneficial for China to send labourers to the European theatre of war and for Britain who needed these labourers. The new Chinese government thought that if they helped

Europe with their war, then perhaps Europe would help them rid them of the Japanese. Of course it never happened.

BCBW: What were the jobs of the Chinese Labour Corps?

PJ: They did everything from repairing tanks to working in steel and chemical plants, loading and unloading ships at port, shoring up the trenches, building huts, sandbagging, railway lines, the Chinese Labour Corps—96,000 of them they think—really enabled the front lines to keep going. It took a year to organize and the Brits didn't tell the Chinese what they were doing because China was neutral. China never entered the First World War until August of 1917, so all of this is happening two years before the outbreak of war.

BCBW: They were put into extremely dangerous situations weren't they?

PJ: It was actually horrific. The Chinese would come from three routes: from around Cape Town to the Western Front, through the Suez Canal and around the Horn to Vancouver and when they did get to France it was an absolute horror. They landed at Dunkirk and were fired upon. They were gassed as they moved along the line from the Somme to Ypres and were involved in whatever front line attacks were going on. They were a noncombatant force! They were called the Chinese Labour Corps, and that was Churchill's idea because if we recruit men in the regular army from the hinterlands of the Chinese Mongolian frontier that'll break Chinese neutrality, so let's pretend they are a volunteer force and call them a labour corps.

BCBW: Just providing a service...

PJ: Providing a service and we'll pay them 30 cents a day, whereas a regular soldier would make \$1.30 a day. I have to hand it to the British War office as they really organized this fast movement. Think of it: little Chinese villages on the northern frontier, they wouldn't be interested in fighting in Europe. Europe was a war-mad continent as far as the Chinese peasants were concerned, but somehow they would recruit thousands of Chinese peasants, many of them illiterate.

BCBW: When they arrived on B.C. shores some were quarantined, and essentially quarantined again as they travelled across the country in sealed railway cars?

PJ: That's how the Prime Minister waived the head tax... if we keep them in sealed trains there won't have to be a head tax. The other reason was not to let the Chinese community across the country know what they were doing because the Chinese communities, still embittered by the CPR not living up to the agreement of paying them properly after the building of the railway, would notify the Chinese Labour Corps on the trains and get them the hell out.

They were also afraid that the Germans might catch on to this. And so they came by ship, 50 to 60 days from China, another 10 days waiting in a sealed part of William Head Quarantine Station. There were just too many of them, a quarantine station was constructed to handle 1,000 people and many of those would be in tents.

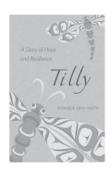
Suddenly by August of 1917 there were 30,000 Chinese labourers at William Head. It was a horror story... they filed out into the community of Metchosin and stole doors and fence posts to lie on, to keep them out of the rain, and raided the gardens for food. There were food riots.

PJ: Numbers vary, I would say a minimum of 84,000 went across Canada, probably 40,000 of those came back to William Head, where they got rid of them as fast as they could. It became a terrible footnote to the First World War.

978-1-92752-731-3

Mark Forsythe is host of B.C. Almanac on CBC Radio, weekdays, noon-1:00 pm.

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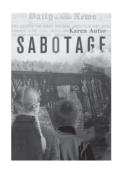
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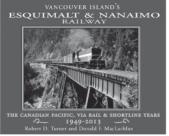
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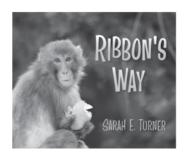


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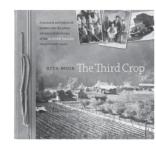
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A to Z

Foody criminologist

Cathy Ace of Maple Ridge is extending her mystery series, using a precious material in each title, with The Corpse With the Emerald Thumb (Touchwood \$14.95). This is the third novel featuring Cait Morgan, a bossy criminologist and gourmet who

turns up bodies and solves crimes in varied locations. This time it's Puerto Vallarta, where a local florist is the victim. Nothing is what it seems, and Cait has a personal stake in discovering the killer. Ace turned to crime writing after a communications career in the UK and Europe. Influenced by the Nancy Drew character of her girlhood reading as well as Agatha Christie, she says she strives to create "intricate plotting with a dash of danger." After dealing with silver and gold in earlier mysteries, Ace has let it be known that platinum will feature in her next Cait Morgan

Break-in silence

mystery, due this fall.

Tucker Sneaker Wave (Oolichan \$22.95), the debut Cross of novel by newspaper editor Jeff Beamish, Bermuda concerns the repercussions of violence after a popular resident confronts 17-year-old Brady Joseph and three friends who have broken into an abandoned house to have a party. The teens' code of silence keeps them out of jail, but at what price? 978-0-88982-278-8

Bermuda heist

B.R. Bentley's first novel, The Cross (Friesen

\$19.99) is about an emerald-studded, 22 karat gold **Book III** is currently in production. pectoral cross that was lost at sea in 1596 and Book I: 978-1938634307; Book II: 978-1938634314 salvaged from a sunken Spanish continued on page 15 galleon by Bermudian diver Teddy Tucker in 1955, then stolen from the Bermuda Maritime Gillian Wigmore

The

missing

Museum. Its theft, and the fact that a replica had been put in its place, was not discovered until an official visit by Queen Elizabeth II to the Maritime Museum in 1975. Bentley's novel weaves fact and fiction. Divers want the cross for financial reasons; the Bermuda government wants it as an historical

> artifact; but a group of cardinals known as the "Silenti" want it for a key that is hidden inside. Only one of the divers and the cardinals are aware of the key and its significance to the Papacy. So who made the forgery? And who has the key? An avid sailor and scuba diver, B.R. Bentley has lived in South Africa, Canada and Bermuda, chiefly employed as a banker and corporate executive.

Science fiction trilogy

Yes, there's a novelist living near 100 Mile House. Samuel Blondahl was born in Victoria, has lived in Vancouver and Kamloops, but has spent most of his life near 100 Mile House. He graduated from the Vancouver Institute of Media Arts with a diploma in game art and design in 2009. He still creates digital art and occasionally

builds 3D game models. The cover for his first sci-fi novel Mercury is his own design work. The first two novels of his projected trilogy were *Mercury*: The Anahita Chronicles Book I (Freedom of Speech 2012) and War: The Anahita Chronicles Book II (Freedom of Speech 2013). The third book in the trilogy Andromedae: The Anahita Chronicles

UNEASY RIDER ON THE DEASE

BY **CAROLINE WOODWARD**

Grayling by Gillian Wigmore (Mother Tongue \$16.95)

There is a longstanding Canadian practice that when things get too messy, painful and intensely complicated, we head for the bush. This rite of passage is evoked in Gillian Wigmore's new novella, Grayling, a runner-up in Mona Fertig's annual 'search for a great Canadian novel' contest, and reviewed here by Caroline Woodward.

O CLEAR THE HEAD, CLEANSE THE SOUL AND toughen our bodies, we Canadians often like to go north and add the element of water. As we are thoughtful Canadians in anguish, we typically choose one of the non-winter seasons to launch ourselves in our

We proceed to do battle with epic numbers of blackflies and mosquitoes, coping with clouds of no-see-ums, lost bait and blackened frying pans. Large mammals make their presence known but except for Marian Engel's novel Bear, most of us tend to leave other species discreetly alone.

A long list of our writers have made eloquent contributions to what might be called the Canadian Transformative Journey genre. In the case of Gillian Wigmore's novella Grayling, the protagonist named Jay heads north to Dease

Wigmore doesn't let us know how exactly he got there—or why. Prior to page one, having overcome a major health scare, Jay, a city veterinarian, has reached Terrace on Highway 16 and moved east to Kitwanga, turned and headed north on Highway 37, and found Dease Lake.

Why he wants to undertake a solo, two-week canoe and fishing journey into the Dease River (which empties into Liard River, which leads to the great Mackenzie and the Arctic) is also not made clear. He's been unwell, he's still unhappy and he's no Boy Scout. He only takes along a road map, not a topographical map. He plans to catch a grayling, he doesn't plan to snag a girl.

Enter a tall, competent woman on Day One who saves his hypothermic bacon. In fact, she offers bacon, coffee and tobacco and wants to join him. He's not thrilled but he owes her and off they go in the same canoe. Their intimacy grows—but for what purpose?

Grayling is a page-turner that wears its dense layers lightly. Wigmore's pitch-perfect language and brilliantlypaced unspooling of the plot (think fishing line, dancing here and there on the surface, then trying another lure for tugging through the depths for the eponymous prize, the Arctic grayling, then think of several tangled, strangled lines) makes for a deceptively slim book that packs a mighty wallop.

The cover is exceptional and worthy of commendation. The publisher has commissioned an evocative painting of the locale called Dease River, 2013 by Prince George-based Annerose Georgeson.

Caroline Woodward is the author of Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny (Oolichan 2010), a novel set in the Peace River.

FICTION

Loggers' Daughters by Maureen Brownlee (Oolichan \$19.95)

where north of Quesnel, deep in the inland rainforest of the Rocky Mountain trench, back in the early 40s, back when BC Rail was still called the PGE and everyone called it Please Go Easy.

Everything you know about your parents comes from snippets of conversation you weren't meant to hear. Your grandparents died in a collision with a train, and your mother inherited the farm that is your childhood home; your father was specifically excluded, a continuous source of acrimony between your parents. Then your father, injured in a bush accident, loses his source of income (and pride) and becomes a very heavy drinker.

You'll never know for certain, but maybe it is the bar bills at the local hotel that one day persuade your parents to give you up to the local hotel owners, a German couple, or maybe they are Austrian, and so you never get past the tenth grade.

Essentially you are traded, like chattel, forced to work as a permanent, live-in employee, working in the kitchen and cleaning the hotel rooms. You don't get paid. You wonder why your protective older brother Garth doesn't come to your rescue but, of course, by this time he has finished his grade twelve and is off working in the bush. You hate it. You run away twice.

The only thing unusual about you is your name, Adare.

"She wanted to go to the city," writes Maureen Brownlee, in her first novel, Loggers' Daughters. "Get a job in a bank. Or an office. Type. Smoke cigarettes in an ebony holder. Cigarettes lit by a gentleman in a black fedora."

Years go by. You marry a young construction worker, a decent guy who has been to university, who works in the lumber industry and you have two kids. You get to do all the traditional maternal stuff that goes along with being a mill wife in a mill town in the early 50s in one of those now abandoned logging towns out along CNR's east line. You are deeply enmeshed in a life of shared labour, brawls, dances that go on all night and then everyone decides to whip up pancakes. Nobody has much but there is enough to go around.

This all comes to a grinding halt when the mill that everyone relies on burns down one frosty night. Your country loving husband decides to gamble on an offer to take over your mother's farm, long neglected and falling to ruin. Over your objections you move, you, your kids, your mill house rolled on logs onto a lumber

A WOMAN NAMED A D A R

Maureen Brownlee's Loggers' Daughters sounds like a story that could have been set in the Ozarks, but it is a realistic and deeply-felt novel of central B.C.



Maureen Brownlee's book launches were at the Caribou Grill in Valemount, Dunster Hall and McBride Library.

truck. Into a life of unremitting labour: cattle, haying, kids, and a nasty, bitter mother living just across the gully.

But you thrive here, save the family farm, improve it. You can remember when you got indoor plumbing. While your husband, Dave, was off taking seasonal work for much of the year, you eke out a living on 160 acres of rock and pine and a triangle of sweet loam that touches upon the Fraser.

Then your mean-spirited mother goes squirrelly with dementia, and you get stuck with that too. Your brother Garth is a busy logging contractor, living well beyond his means. Your sister Nancy, who married early, and often, now lives safely distant in Kamloops.

When your cancer-ridden mother dies in 1983 – after three months in hospital – during which you take the brunt of enduring the dreary, pain-ridden, guilt-ridden vigil typical for so many families, nobody deeply acknowledges your sacrifice because, after all, by now, it is expected of you.

Then the worst thing happens. Even your wise and usually con-

siderate brother Garth thinks the family farm should be sold four ways. There is no will. Your siblings need and want a share. Everyone has delayed talking about this while your mother was alive.

Then the best thing happens. Your smarty-pants daughter, Brianne, who left town when she graduated from high school in 1972, is held overnight in jail in Vancouver for participating in some demonstration against American missiles. So you visit her for a few days. You accompany her to an eye-opening conference at UBC called Women and Words, June 30-July 3.

At this monumental gathering of a thousand women, you learn about the fire-bombings of pornographic video stories by a secret group called the Wimmins' Brigade. You also visit a women's shelter where Brianne volunteers, a refuge for countless women who invariably go back to violent and abusive households for the sake of their children.

More importantly, you learn about a Supreme Court decision made against a Canadian farmwife named **Irene Murdoch** in 1973 who tried to legally claim her fair share of the family ranch following a divorce. Listening to



A panel from Bus Griffith's Now You're Logging

inequity of the Murdoch case, decrying the court's paternalist legal decision as "bourgeois bullshit," it strengthens your resolve to stand up for what is owed to you.

That's just a glimmering of the

passionate women debating the

That's just a glimmering of the deep dignity of perseverance that permeates the text of *Loggers'* Daughters. Anyone who sticks with the narration that bounces back and forth between past and present will probably agree Maureen Brownlee's long-in-gestation, fully-fledged first novel deserves to be heralded as a triumph.

Quite likely this manuscript has endured previous incarnations. No matter. It is now a mature work. For those old enough to remember a Canadian writer named Margaret Laurence, it can be likened to an old fashioned Margaret Laurence novel. If you are not thirsty for mere cleverness, if you can appreciate instead how each anecdote has been forged from experience, you will never forget the protagonist, Adare Wilkins, in much the same way you will always recall the likes of Hagar Shipley in The Stone Angel or Rachel Cameron in A Jest of God.

The title *Logger's Daughters* and a cover image of a choker cable around a tree are far from beguiling, and likely few readers beyond rural B.C are going to be comfortable with a novel that doesn't explain what a skidder is, but Brownlee has wrangled and honed a family saga until it has finally emerged as a sublime testament to the strength of the women who maintain families within the timber, ranch and constructions industries of the province.

Maureen Brownlee grew up in Dunster and went to school in nearby McBride in the Robson Valley. She lived in Arrow Lakes and Prince George before moving to Valemount (also in the Robson Valley) where she founded and operated *The Valley Sentinel* from 1985 to 1994.



hometown of Prince George at age twenty-two, has recently written his own novel about central B.C. with a similarly prosaic title, *The Last of the Lumbermen* (Cormorant \$21.95), examining much of the same territory from a male perspective.

Peter Trower's trilogy of logging novels has also been largely overlooked. The earliest, classic B.C. logging novel that literary folks tend to acknowledge is M.A. Grainger's Woodsmen of the West (1908). Roderick Haig-Brown wrote logging novels, Timber (1942) and On the Highest Hill (1949). Arguably the first B.C. graphic novel ever is Bus Griffith's unparalleled Now You're Logging (1978; 2013).

Brownlee 978-0-88982-294-8; Fawcett 978-1-77086-287-6

FICATON

Brutal murder in London

Janet Brons of Vancouver Island draws on her background as a member of the Canadian foreign service, and later as a consultant for the Canadian government's foreign affairs department, for her



Janet Brons

mystery debut, A Quiet Kill (Touchwood \$14.95). Detective Chief Inspector Stephen Hay of Scotland Yard, and RCMP Inspector Liz Forsyth, assisted by Sergeant Gilles Ouellette, must work together when a Canadian trade commission officer in London is brutally murdered. Hay and

Forsyth are faced with many suspects, and a second death raises the stakes. Press materials note "The two investigators must overcome insecurities and suspicions as they find themselves wading into the murky waters of the diplomatic community, and navigating through a melee of international conspiracy, nationalism and murder." 9781771510608

Stalin world

Never one to shy away from the truth in his fiction, Grant Buday recalls Josef Stalin's systematic starving of two million people in the Ukraine in the 1930s—known as the Holodomor—in his novel about Cyril Andrachuk, a Canadian-born son of immigrant parents, set in Vancouver in 1962. In **The Delusionist** (Anvil \$20), Cyril struggles with menial labour jobs during the day but draws incessantly and longs to attend art school. His mother can't imagine why Cyril wants to draw his late-father's tools—saws, drills, hammers, wrenches—and questions his sanity when he begins a series of large, commemorative "Stalin stamps" amid growing family distress. For anyone puzzled about the current headlines involving Russia and Ukraine, this darkly comic novel is a potent reminder why few people can ever escape from history, even at the western edge of European migration. 978-1-927380-93-2



Killer mind games

First-time novelist **D.B. Carew** has hit the ground running with a fast-paced psychological thriller, **The Killer Trail** (NeWest \$14.95). It's about a Vancouver psychiatric social worker who is drawn into the mind

games of a former patient, now a kidnap and murder

suspect. Soon violence threatens the protagonist, his family and friends. *The Killer Trail* has been shortlisted for the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger Award. Originally from Newfoundland and Labrador, D.B. (Derrick) Carew came to B.C. with his family in 1996. He is a social worker at a forensic psychiatric hospital.

Afterlife entrance fee

The venerable UBC creative writing program will soon be getting an infusion of \$75,000 from Penguin Random House; meanwhile the SFU Writers Studio is the hotbed on the rise. Taiwanese-born Janie Chang is their latest SFU grad to make a major splash, drawing on 36 generations of her families' recorded genealogy for her debut novel Three Souls (HarperCollins \$19.99), inspired by her grandmother. The main character is the ghost of Leiyin who was captivated by a left-wing poet as a teenager during Chinese civil strife in the 1930s.



Denied entrance to the afterlife, she must reconcile her three souls: her scholarly *yang* soul, her romantic *yin* soul and her wise *hun* soul. 9781443423908

Bookselling bankrobber



Trevor Clark

Real life bank robber and author **Stephen Reid** has endorsed **Trevor Clark**'s novel containing an armed bank robbery and a drive-by shooting, **Hair-Trigger** (Now or Never \$17.95). It's about a struggling bookstore manager and bank robber in his forties, Derrick Rowe, who bails out a

friend, Jack Lofton, from jail After Lofton's bedding of a stripper proves highly problematic, Rowe enlists Lofton and a fellow bookstore employee for a bank heist that generates heat from both police and gangsters. Meanwhile Clark has had his latest story collection, *Escape and Other Stories*, from Vancouverbased Now or Never Publishing, recognized with a ReLit Prize nomination. The ReLit Prizes are for literary works from presses outside the (mostly Toronto-based) literary establishment. [Stephen Reid recently won Victoria's Butler Prize for his story collection, *A Crowbar in the Buddhist Garden: Writing From Prison*.]

Mystical breast milk

Set during the onset of the French Revolution, **Lissa M. Cowan**'s debut novel **Milk Fever** (Demeter \$19.95) explores early feminist roots and the rise of explicit, forbidden literature. It's a story of love and the magical power of books to transform lives. "In 1789, Armande, a wet nurse who



Lissa M. Cowan

is known for the mystical qualities of her breast milk, goes missing. Céleste, a cunning servant girl who Armande once saved from shame and starvation, sets out to find her. A snuffbox found in the snow, the unexpected arrival of a gentleman and the discovery of the wet nurse's diary, deepen the mystery. Using Armande's diary as a map to her secret past, Céleste fights to save her from those plotting to steal the wisdom of her milk."

978-192733520-8

continued on page 23

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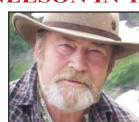
Douglas Gibson is possibly Canada's most distinguished book editor, assisting Alice Munro, Robertson Davies and dozens of others.



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review

ZACHARY HIDES AGAIN

Historical fiction about early B.C. receives a boost from Stan Krumm's undercover fugitive

Zachary's Horses by Stan Krumm (Touchwood Editions \$19.95)

EW BRITISH COLUMBIANS CAN tell you the first explorer to have reached B.C. waters, for certain, was Juan Pérez in 1774. Almost no one can tell you the first B.C. premier was John McCreight. The relative ignorance of our past explains why we have had so few historical novels about life in B.C. prior to 1900...

Back in 1971, Ian Mahood of Nanoose Bay self-published a fictional life and times of Nuuchah-nuth Chief Maquinna and the arrival of **Captain Cook**, *The* Land of Maquinna, circa 1778.

George Bowering's Burning Water (General, 1980) offers a fanciful depiction of Captain George Vancouver feuding with his insubordinate botanist Archibald Menzies, circa 1792.

A blend of fact and fiction, Maureen Duffas' A Most Unusual Colony: Vancouver Island (Sandhill, 1996) is the story of the colony of Vancouver Island as told by fictional Kate Murray and the fictional letters of Mary Yates. It covers a period from the first Scots immigrant in 1849 to the demolition of Fort Victoria's buildings in 1860.

David Corcoran's The West-Coasters (Macmillan, 1986) is a Michener-styled saga that begins in 1857, published to coincide with Vancouver's Centennial, duplicated somewhat by David Cruise and Alison Griffiths' 750-page, generational novel called Vancouver (HarperCollins, 2003).

Jane Austen-like, Vanessa Winn's The Chief Factor's Daughter (Touchwood, 2010) recalls the daughter-laden family of Hudson Bay Company Chief Factor John Work in Fort Victoria around 1858.

Donald Hauka's McGowan's War (New Star, 2003) was a fine attempt to document greed and corruption in 1859 when the British Crown could barely control 30,000 politically divided American miners camped the length of the Fraser River.

Lee Henderson's The Man Game (Penguin, 2008) melded historical characters with fictional, feuding and fighting loggers in the aftermath of the Great Vancouver Fire of 1886.

By comparison, the literary process of integrating First Nations characters and culture into West Coast fiction has a long history, starting with B.A. McKelvie's melodramatic Huldowget: A Story of the North Pacific Coast (Dent, 1926) and A.M. Stephen's The Kingdom of the Sun (Dent, 1927)—an historical romance about a gentleman adventurer named Richard Anson who sailed aboard Sir Francis Drake's Golden Hind, only to be cast away and live with the Haida.

 \star

SO STAN KRUMM DOESN'T HAVE A lot of competition.

To popularize pre-Confederation-based B.C. fiction, Quesnelbased Krumm has invented a character, Zachary Beddoes, whose name appears in the titles



Stan Krumm grew up about fifty miles from Barkerville.

of two novels published twenty years apart, Zachary's Gold (Oolichan, 1994) and now Zachary's Horses.

"I want people to enjoy the fact that we have a wonderful history that's full of fantastic stories in British Columbia," says Krumm, "We don't have to go to the American Old West to find entertainment."

In the first novel, Zachary Beddoes, an ex-Pinkerton agent from the U.S., arrives in Barkerville in the 1860s, seeking his fortune. He is stymied until he kills a man in self-defence. Dead Ned's cache of stolen gold suddenly makes Zachary a rich man but also a desperado before he is able to explain what happened.

Wounded, Zachary needs help from a Chinese prospector, 'Rosh,' a fellow outsider, to survive. Instead of being the hero who triumphs against adversity in the end, Zachary remains a cold and frightened victim of circumstance, unable to clear his name.

Above the 49th parallel, in Krumm's fiction, the outlaw is not glorified or mythologized like train robber Bill Miner who was mythologized as a "gentleman bandit" in the movie The Grey Fox. Zachary is a tight-lipped drinker and gambler, prone to shrewd philosophy, who receives no sympathy whatsoever as a fugitive from frontier justice by the end of Zachary's Gold.

In the new novel, Zachary's Horses, at age 34, our ex-lawman and narrator resurfaces in Victoria in 1870. Using a less-than-clever alias, Lincoln Zachary, he has assumed majority ownership of the Chinese-run Celestial Hotel, erected by his Chinese business partner on the south side of the Johnson Street Ravine, "where the Jews and Americans were building."

FICTION

Zachary has drawn attention to himself with a bi-racial marriage to his partner's daughter, Sue, and his gold reserves are running thin. "I was approaching the age when a man is simply incapable of learning how to make an honest living," he confides to the reader.

Intrigues include a possible scandal involving their child's governess, Sarah Green, who had a different name when she was living in Olympia, Washington, and a much-ballyhooed horse race involving skullduggery and unsavoury characters, including the nefarious Mr. Roselle who recognizes Zachary from Barkerville and tries to blackmail him.

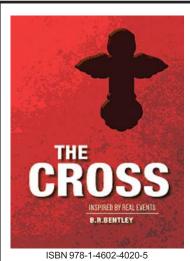
"I was haunted by visions of Roselle, and visions of myself and my family running from angry crowds, creeping fearfully across the wilderness," Zachary

Although Zachary's Horses involves crime and deception, it's not a page-turner; rather it's Krumm's highly credible depiction of manners and customs from the protagonist's retracted personality that proves alluring.

"The thought occurred to me that no one had extended an invitation to me that would include my wife... It was disagreeable and illogical. James Douglas had, up until very recently, been governor of this colony, while married to a woman who was half Cree Indian, but a man with a Chinese wife was still expected to leave her at home. Good enough. Sue would not have wanted to be here, where her beauty and grace would have embarrassed these colonial crones."

Anyone who reads either of these novels will wish it won't take Krumm another twenty years to deliver a third installment.

Zachary's Horses 978-1-771510-042-4



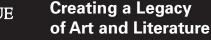
ISBN 978-1-4602-4021-2 ISBN 978-1-4602-4022-9 After nearly 400 years an emerald-encrusted gold pectoral cross is discovered by two divers off the coast of Bermuda. The divers want it for the money. The Bermuda government wants it for its historical value. A group of cardinals known as the "Silenti" want it for the key hidden inside. Only one of the divers and the cardinals are aware of the key. Only the cardinals know of its significance to the Papacy. Displayed in a Bermuda museum since its discovery, it is not until nine years later that the cross in the museum is found to be a fake.

Inspired by real events, the crime on which The Cross is based remains one of Bermuda's greatest unsolved mysteries. Fact and fiction are skilfully woven together throughout this debut novel from author B.R. Bentley as the characters conspire to achieve their aims.

www.brbentley.com

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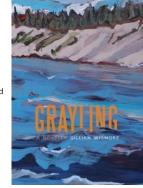




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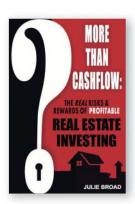


Running From Cancer

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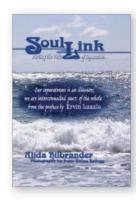


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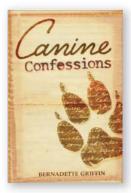


Adventures Over Sixty

Gail Boulanger

This book offers encouragement for living and aging wholeheartedly, with our full attention, and greeting each new challenge as an adventure. The captivating stories are drawn from the author's personal experience, and others, all carefully woven together with her own practical philosophy.

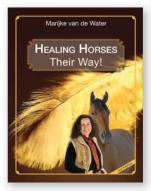
> Notch Hill Books ISBN 978-0-9730802-3-0 **\$18.95** www.gailboulanger.com



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review

BY JULIAN ROSS

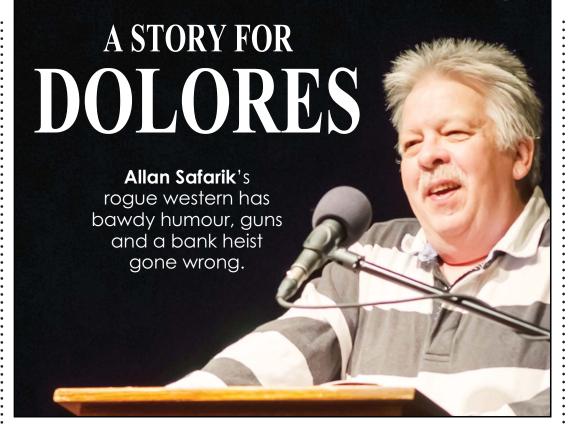
Swede's Ferry by Allan Safarik (Coteau Books \$19.95)

years of planning and research. Others rise to the surface, unbidden, like a geyser.

Allan Safarik never anticipated Swede's Ferry. But so much of life that matters, love and death, is unexpected.

Having shifted his life from the West Coast to Saskatchewan, Allan Safarik co-wrote a book about his father's sixty years in the fishing industry, *Bluebacks and Silver Brights* (ECW 2012). After seventeen books of poetry and non-fiction since 1975, he never imagined he would suddenly write a "rogue western" with enough bawdy humour, .44 calibre Colts, Appaloosas and pots of cowboy coffee to make you want to saddle up and go for a ride.

Set in 1894, in the porous borderlands between Manitoba and North Dakota, *Swede's Ferry* is a cracker of a first novel about a bank heist gone wrong—all thanks to four words from Safarik's ailing wife, poet and editor **Dolores Reimer**: "Tell me a story."



Specifically, she asked for a story about the prairies.

"He came into the country on a stolen horse," he replied.

"That's a good start," she said.
"Now go and write me a first chapter."

As a boy growing up in Burnaby, Safarik had devoured pulp westerns and recently he had edited collections of western stories. It also didn't hurt that he and Reimer lived in an historic house on

the Louis Riel Trail in Dundurn. Safarik poured his heart into the new work, sometimes working 12 to 15 hours a day, enjoying the rollicking ride.

"It was such a joyful experience writing this book," he said.

While the writing has the freshness of a tall tale, Safarik also focuses his poet's eye on quirky details in his fictional world of travelling preachers who are actually conmen, and prostitutes who

double as undercover detectives.

Well-drawn characters include historical figures like financial mogul **James J. Hill**, founder of the Great Northern Railway, and **William Pinkerton** of the notorious Pinkerton Detective Agency. These are mixed with memorable creations like the horse traders Bud Quigley, Alphonse Pointed Stick, and Les Simpson, the conflicted protagonist who is forced to lead a double life.

Here's Jiggs Dubois, the sleazy Pinkerton agent, sizing up the horse trader Bud Quigley: "Dubois stroked his chin whiskers and his shark eyes seemed to glow, staring into Bud's face as if he was trying to empty the old man's brain of its content."

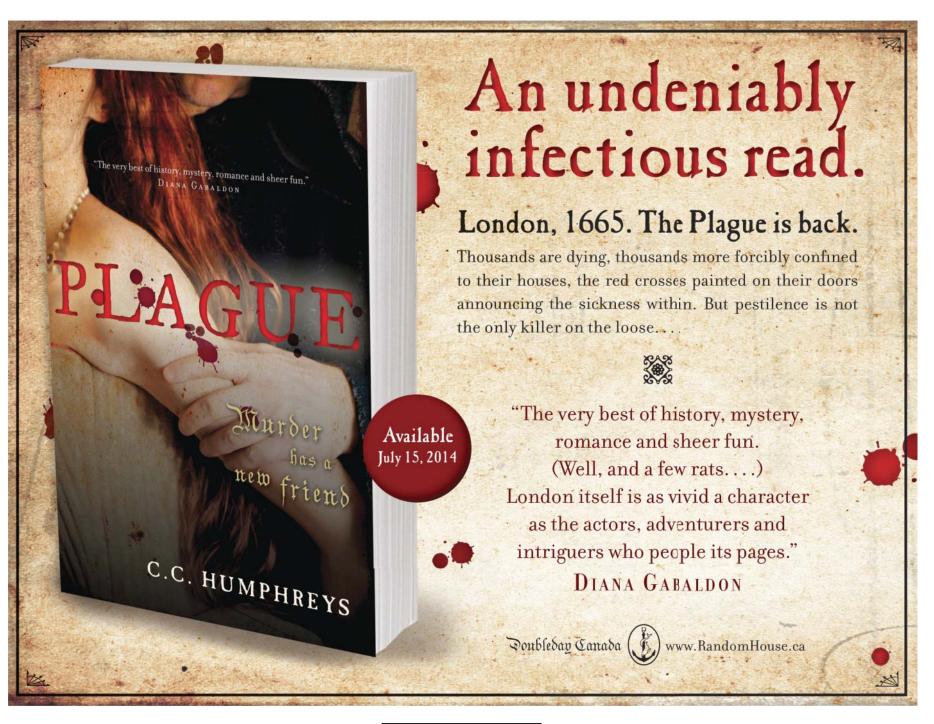
FICTION

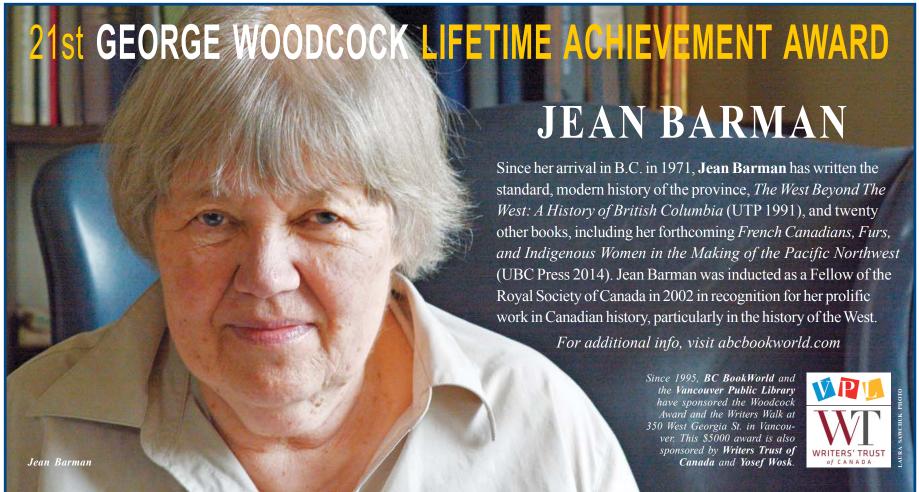
It's all a far cry from *Blackfish* magazine which Safarik and **Brian Brett** founded in the 1970s, a thoroughly West Coast mag that evolved into Blackfish Press. Based in White Rock, they published beautiful, limited-edition books and trade paperbacks in a list that included poets **Pat Lowther**, **Al Purdy**, and **Jim Green**.

Safarik's place in B.C. literature is assured. Now he has made his mark on the prairies, following in the not-always-wild west fiction path of **Guy Vanderhaege**. It's a double life: Safarik's next novel will be set in gritty 1950s Vancouver, inside the corrupt police department headed by **Walter Mulligan**. He's also contemplating a sequel to *Swede's Ferry*.

Dolores Reimer died of cancer in April of 2013; *Swede's Ferry* was published in October of 2014.

Julian Ross founded Polestar Press and Bluefield Books. He works at Polestar Calendars in Winlaw.





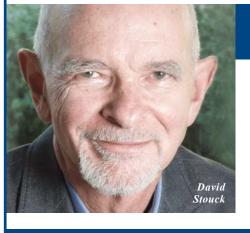
RYGA AWARD FOR SOCIAL AWARENESS IN LITERATURE

BEV SELLARS

Bev Sellars is the 2014 recipient of the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature for her powerful memoir *They Called Me Number One: Secrets and Survival at an Indian Residential School* (Talonbooks). Other finalists were **Adrienne Fitzpatrick**'s *The Earth Remembers Everything* (Caitlin) and **Gillian Wigmore**'s *Dirt of Ages* (Nightwood Editions). INFO: bcbookawards.ca

Since 2004, BC BookWorld has co-sponsored this award with Okanagan College (Norah Bowman-Broz, coordinator).





THE BASIL STUART-STUBBS PRIZE for Outstanding Scholarly Book on British Columbia

DAVID STOUCK

David Stouck's *Arthur Erickson: An Architect's Life* (Douglas & McIntyre) reveals a man of international reputation who was touted as "Canada's national treasure as a designer" but who, at the height of his career, went bankrupt. The award ceremony is hosted by UBC Library. INFO: about.library.ubc.ca/awards/basil-stuart-stubbs-prize

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GRAY CAMPBELL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

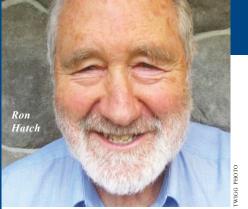
LITTLE SISTER'S BOOK & ART EMPORIUM

The Gray Campbell Distinguished Service Award is presented annually for a significant contribution to the book publishing industry in B.C. In 2014, the award went to **Jim Deva** and **Janine Fuller** whose **Little Sister's Book & Art Emporium** fought sigificant battles versus Canada Customs and prevailed in a Supreme Count decision in 2000 to safeguard freedom of expression and equality rights for literary materials.

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JIM DOUGLAS PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

RONSDALE PRESS

The Jim Douglas Publisher of the Year Award is presented annually to a BC book publishing company that has earned the respect of the province's community of publishers. It is named after Jim Douglas, founder of J. J. Douglas Publishers, and was presented in April, 2014, by the Association of Book Publishers of B.C. to **Ron Hatch** and his **Ronsdale Press**.

The Association of Book Publishers of BC is grateful for the sponsorship of Friesen Printers, International Web Express, Rhino Print Solutions and BC BookWorld.



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BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL FEDERATION

Winner of Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Historical Writing: Ralph Drew Forest & Fjord, the History of Belcarra.

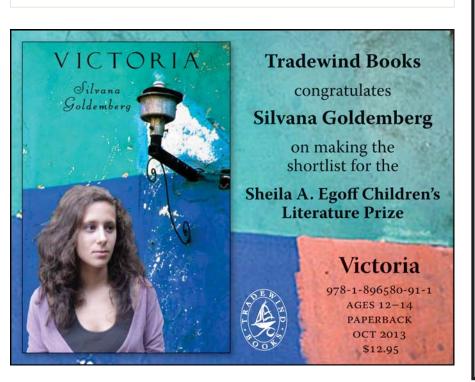
Other prize winners:

Michael Layland The Land of Heart's Delight: Early Maps and Charts of Vancouver Island Peter Johnson for Quarantined: Life and Death at William Head Station, 1872-1959

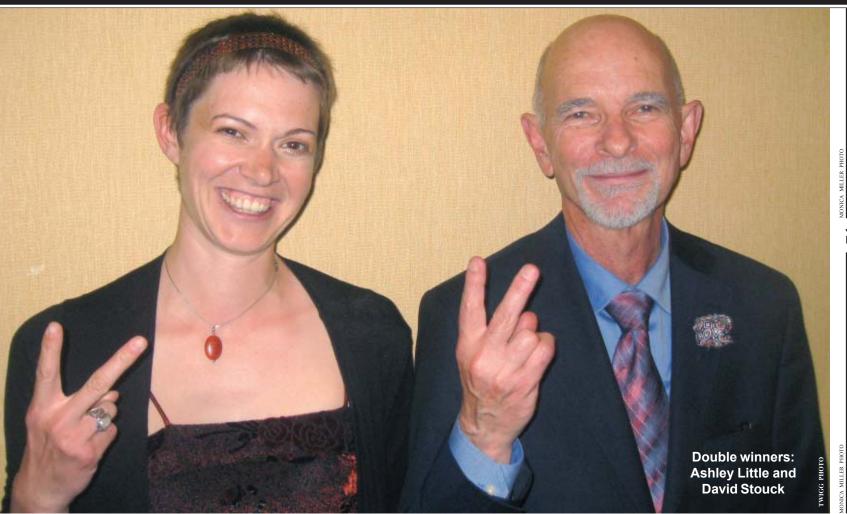
Honourable mentions:

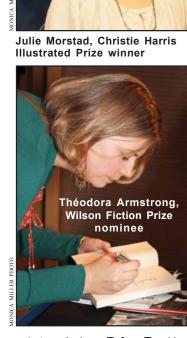
Ruth Derksen Siemens Daughters in the City: Mennonite Maids in Vancouver 1931-61 Sean Kheraj Inventing Stanley Park: An Environmental History Daphne Sleigh The Artist In The Cloister: The Life and Works of Father Dunstan Massey

For information on BCHF awards visit www.bchistory.ca



BC BOOK PRIZES





Christie

Harris

ILLUST CHILD

LITERA

The 30th annual gala marked the first time two authors took home two prizes each.

2 It marked the first time one author won two prizes for two

3 Best of all, it was the first time all seven prizes went to books published by B.C. publishers.

It was the first time police cordoned off the venue for two blocks in all directions (for 5,000 runners to participate in the Vancouver Marathon on the following morning).

5 It was the first time perennially dominant Harbour Publishing and Douglas & McIntyre had one publisher, Howard White, who hosted the after-party for Harbour's 40th anniversary

shley Little won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize for Anatomy of a Girl Gang (Arsenal Pulp Press) and the Shelia A. Egoff Children's Prize for her young adult novel, The New Normal (Orca Book Publishers). In thirty years, nobody else has ever had this 'double-double,' winning with two different titles in the same year.

Tofino-raised Little acknowledged David Chariandy for encouraging her to write Anatomy of a Girl Gang and Lynn Coady for encouraging her to turn a short story into a novel for The New

David Stouck won the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize and the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize for his biography, Arthur Erickson: An Architect's Life (Douglas & McIntyre). This book was also shortlisted for the Charles Taylor Prize and has also won the Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Book on B.C (presented June 9 at UBC Library).

White, for suggesting he should write the biography of her friend, Erickson, editor Barbara Pulling for reducing the original manuscript by 40,000 words, and his wife.

"The biography was published because of two venerable figures in this province's publishing industry," he said. "Scott McIntyre responded enthusiastically to the manuscript when I submitted it in 2011 and, after Douglas and McIntyre closed, **Howard White** in 2013 made it possible that the book go forward. I thank them both. I would also like to pay tribute to Roderick Haig-**Brown** for whom this prize is named, by quoting something that Ethel Wilson wrote. 'A man writes about a river,' she says, but 'Roderick Haig-Brown writes about a river that never sleeps. That is to say, there is truth and there is creation; the outward

ANNIVERSARY

eye and the inward eye. And that is one of the mysteries that make

HAS 5 FIRSTS

Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize presenter Billeh Nickerson glided each nominee's book through the air as his cell phone played the original TV theme to Star Trek before he announced the winner was first-time, First Nations author Jordan Abel for his critical investigation of the legacy of early-twentieth-century ethnographer, **Marius Barbeau**, for *The Place of Scraps* (Talonbooks).

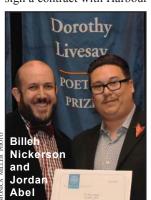
Small press publisher **Dimiter Savoff** once again saw the high quality of his children's list recognized when **Julie Morstad** took home the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize for How To (Simply Read Books), her second win in this category for a Simply Read title. Savoff's imprint has had the winning entry in this category for three of the past four years.





After 2012 Lieutenant Governor's Award winner **Brian Brett** publicly criticized the paucity of female recipients for the annual Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence since 2004, this year **Kit Pearson** received the \$5,000 honour. It was split last year between **Sarah Ellis** and **Lorna Crozier**. Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Honourable Judith Guichon, was in attendance for the second time. If Brett and others are keeping score, that's nine men and four women.

Last year's emcee, **Grant Lawrence**, made the best and worst joke of the evening as a co-recipient of the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award for The Lonely End of the Rink: Confessions of a Reluctant Goalie (Douglas & McIntyre). Having won this same prize for his first book in 2012, with Harbour Publishing, the smoothtalking rock 'n' roller turned CBC broadcaster Lawrence opted to sign a contract with Harbour's main rival, Douglas & McIntyre.



After D&M went horrendously belly-up and the firm's inventory and imprint was bought by Harbour, Lawrence found himself back where he started from, with Howard White. No other author has won the Booksellers' Choice Award twice, with only two books-with two imprints—and the same publisher.

Adding a welcome dose of candour after some less than inspired speeches, Howard White told the

audience about Lawrence's career-building. Unfazed, Lawrence referred to his winning book in reference to two recent hockey books by Bobby Orr and Prime Minister Stephen Harper. He said they were a team of sorts. He was the goalie. Orr was the defenceman. Harper was the right winger.

After thirty years of prize-giving, some analysis might be in order. The Duthie Booksellers Choice Award has been won by titles from either the Douglas & McIntyre/Greystone imprint or the Harbour Publishing imprint 22 times out of 30.

In terms of individual publishers since 1985, here are the cumulative totals for B.C. Book Prizes won: Howard White

27, Scott McIntyre (D&M) 26, Patsy Aldana (Groundwood) 13; **Rob Sanders** (Greystone) 9.

If one includes the Roderick Haig-Brown Prize for best book about B.C.— always won by a B.C. published title — and if one excludes the Bill Duthie Booksellers Choice Award — which must be published by a B.C. publishing house — the breakdown since 1985 for winners published from B.C. versus winners not published from B.C. is almost fifty-fifty. To be exact,

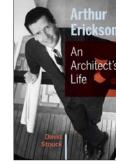
The winning fiction title has been published from within B.C. only one-sixth of the time. Women win the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize two-thirds of the time.

CONGRATULATIONS

WELT TO THE GOVERNOOM TO THE

2014 BC BOOK PRIZES WINNERS & NOMINEES

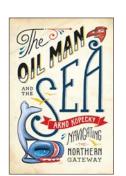
Douglas & McIntyre



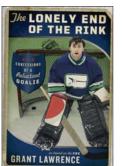
ARTHUR ERICKSON An Architect's Life

bu David Stouck

winner of the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize & Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize



nominated for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize



THE LONELY END OF THE RINK Confessions of a Reluctant Goalie

by Grant Lawrence

winner of the
Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award



THE OIL MAN AND THE SEA Navigating the Northern Gateway

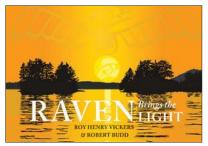
by Arno Kopecky

THE COUGAR Beautiful, Wild and Dangerous

6y Paula Wild

nominated for the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award

HARBOUR PUBLISHING



RAVEN BRINGS THE LIGHT by Roy Henry Vickers

& Robert Budd

nominated for the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award



BIRDS, METALS, STONES & RAIN

by Russell Thornton

nominated for the





For more information about books from Douglas & McIntyre, Harbour Publishing and Nightwood editions, go to:

www.douglas-mcintyre.com www.harbourpublishing.com www.nightwoodeditions.com CHILDREN OF AIR INDIA

un/authorized exhibits and interjections

by Renée Sarojini Saklikar nominated for the

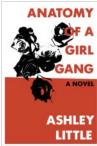
Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize

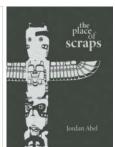
20 BC BOOKWORLD • LOOKOUT • SUMMER • 2014

Stouck thanked Ethel Wilson's niece, Mary Buckerfield



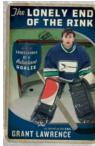












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RODERICK HAIG-BROWN REGIONAL PRIZE

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Arthur Erickson: An Architect's

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ETHEL WILSON FICTION PRIZE

Ashley Little

Anatomy of a Girl Gang Arsenal Pulp Press

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How To

Simply Read Books

SHEILA A. EGOFF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PRIZE

Ashley Little

The New Normal

Orca Book Publishers

BILL DUTHIE BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE AWARD

Grant Lawrence

Douglas & McIntyre

The Lonely End of the Rink: Confessions of a Reluctant Goalie Kit Pearson recipient of the 2014 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARD

FOR LITERARY EXCELLENCE Established in 2003 by the Honourable Iona Campagnolo to recognize British Columbia writers who have contributed

to the development of literary excellence in the province.

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Finalists, Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize

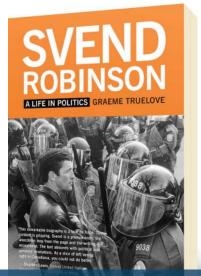
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> -Stephen Lewis, former UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa



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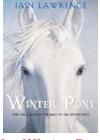
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GABRIOLA ISLAND **AUTHORS**

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by lain Lawrence

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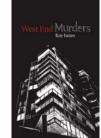




The Winter Pony

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West End Murders by Roy Innes

Award-winning murder

mystery authors Louise Penny and Barbara Fradkin on West End Murders: "Bravo! A wonderful addition to crime fiction," and "A winning blend of mystery and suspense."

> 978-1-897126-27-1 • \$12.95 NeWest Press



We Are Born with the Songs Inside Us **Lives and Stories of**

First Nations People in B.C. by Katherine Palmer Gordon

With a foreword by National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, this inspirational title shatters stereotypes by featuring candid stories of young Aboriginal people in the 21st century.

> 978-1-55017-618-6 • \$24 95 Harbour Publishing

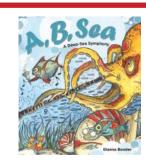


Bog Tender Coming Home to Nature and Memory

by George Szanto

While closely observing a nearby bog's seasonal transformations, Szanto explores his parents' escape from Hitler's Vienna, meeting his future wife and becoming a parent, as well as adventures in Mexico.

978-192736-609-7 • \$24.95 (pb) \$14.99 (e-book) Brindle & Glass



A. B. Sea A Deep-Sea Symphony

by Dianna Bonder

A.B.Sea moves and grooves as it brings a whole underwater orchestra to life. A medley of colour, sound and rhythm!

9781770500433 • \$19.95 Whitecap Books



Zombies in the Okanagan

Peaceful little Peachland in the Okanagan might strike most people as an unlikely locale for undead havoc, but local resident and travel writer Jim Couper has imagined otherwise in his first horror novel, Zombie Angst (Severed Press \$14.75). A bundle of rags washes ashore. On wobbly legs it rises and wakes to a second life. Death by drowning has preserved some brain function: it slurs a few words, then heads home to wife and kids. The reunion goes sour as the zombie eats his wife's new boyfriend. Electromagnetic waves wake other dead, who slouch to a trailer park for a meal. Police chief Jane Dougherty and her partner are called upon to investigate the town's first homicides in a century. Was it a drug deal gone bad? A motorcycle gang vendetta? Mafia revenge? Meanwhile, barkeeping vampires feel compelled to create a blood bank with their drunken customers as donors. School kids get taken hostage. The ensuing battle sets RCMP versus zombies versus army versus vampires versus posse. The locale of

Couper's publisher is equally unexpected: Tasmania. 9781925047257



Feminist modern

Her eyes have been described as unflinching. Her "gothic, peculiar, domestic and strange" stories have been lauded as elegant and crystal sharp. Cynthia Flood's

fourth collection of short stories, Red Girl Rat Boy (Biblioasis \$18.95) once more focuses on the lives of women with a feminist clarity that is modern, shrewd and sophisticated. 978-1-927428-41-2

The coroner and the killer

After eight novels, Nicola Furlong has re-released her first mystery Teed Off! (Dark Oak \$15.95) in which a chocoholic golf club pro discovers that not all bad lies are on the golf course... Coroner Riley Quinn is forced to unravel her own past when she investigates the suspicious death of her boss and brother-in-law in order to catch a cunning killer. The protagonist finds herself "sandwedged" by a villainous environmental group, a mysterious Japanese consortium and her estranged sister. There are no penalty strokes for golf puns.

978-1610091091

Alcoholic crime reporter



Film poster for 8:17 pm, rue Darling

Jazz aficionado John Gilmore of Victoria has provided the English translation for **8:17 pm, rue** Darling (Guernica \$20), a first novel by Quebec film-maker Bernard Émond that served as the basis of Émond's second feature film. Trained as an anthropologist, Émond has written and directed six feature films since 2000, several of which have been selected for Cannes and other festivals. The film and book recount how the life of an alcoholic, former crime reporter named Gérard is mysteriously spared because he delays his return to his apartment one night by stopping to tie his shoelace, thereby avoiding a tragic fire that consumes his apartment building, resulting in the death of six neighbours and the inexplicable disappearance of others. Why was his life spared? Born in Montreal in 1951, Gilmore knows the city intimately, having written Swinging in Paradise: The Story of Jazz in Montreal (also available in French as *Une histoire du jazz à*

Montréal) and Who's Who of Jazz in Montreal: Ragtime to 1970.

9781550718461

Harold Lloyd fix

Margaret Gunning's third novel, The Glass Character (Thistledown \$19.95), revisits the silent film era of the 1920s through the

eyes of a sixteen-year-old girl, Jane, who is sexually fixated on the much-adored but diffident comedian Harold Lloyd. Although lesser-known today than Buster Keaton or Charlie Chaplin, the talented Lloyd had as many female admirers as the likes of Douglas Fairbanks Jr. or Rudolph Valentino. Jane's naive obsession with her screen hero is sympathetically portrayed. 978-1-927068-88-5

Margaret Gunning



Kayaking thriller

Born in Örnsköldsvik, Sweden in 1941, Ulla Hakanson of Nanoose Bay came to British Columbia in 1996. She is already planning a sequel to her first thriller that was inspired by a kayaking trip, The Price of Silence (BroadPen \$15), about a woman who is stalked by her criminal husband. He's on the run from drug gangs and desperately wants to get his hands on the cash that the heroine



Ulla Hakanson

Amy has saved for her expanding hair-salon business. She is captured by the criminals chasing her husband. 978-1481063210

Missing women

First Nations leaders have suggested that as many as fifty women have gone missing or been

murdered on the 500-mile stretch of highway connecting Prince Rupert and Prince George between 1969 and 2011, but the official number of missing women is eighteen. Regardless of the numbers, the social trauma of the missing women from the Highway of Tears is reflected in Adrianne Harun's debut novel, A Man Came Out of a Door (Penguin \$17). Harun's first book, The King of Limbo, was a Washington State Book Award finalist, and her second collection of fiction, Lost in the War of the Beautiful Lads, was a Grace Paley Award finalist. Harun teaches at the Rainier Writing Workshops at Pacific Lutheran University.

Experimental noir

Michael Hetherington's third fiction release, The Playing Card (Passfield \$19.95), is described as a suspenseful experimental novel in which a deck of playing cards is discovered, each card inscribed with a fragment of a story. The



M. Hetherington

character of S has kept one playing card face down for 26 years without looking at it. Playing Card is being followed by the almost-as-strange-sounding Halving the Orange (Passfield \$19.95), a tale of a young woman named Isabella Allenbeigh who has been confined within the walls of a Vancouver college that her medievalist father founded, in

> keeping with an agreement made with him at age nine. Orange 978-0-9879618-0-8;

Card 978-0-9879618-5-3

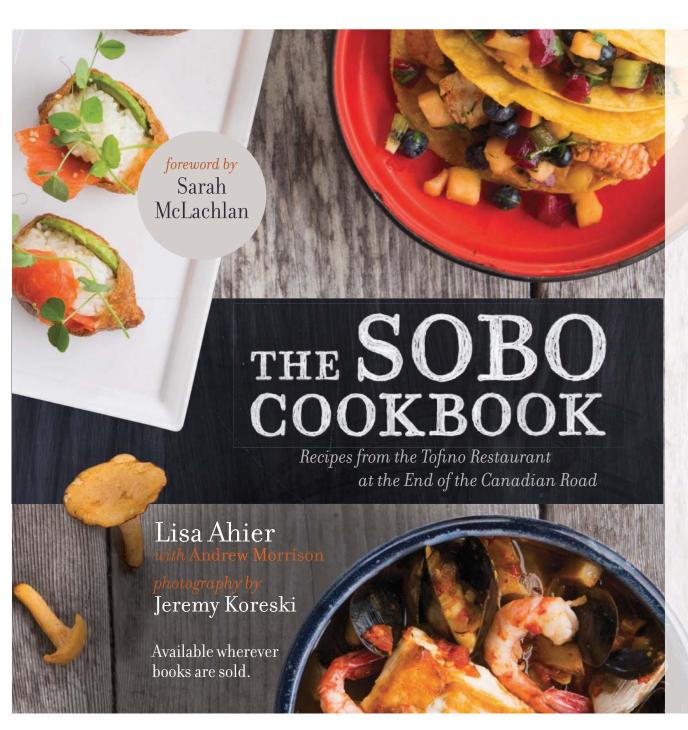
Stalked in Alabama

Twice winner of the Surrey International Writer's Conference Storyteller's Award, Michael Hiebert has been published in The Best American Mystery Series, edited by Joyce Carol Oates. In his second novel, In Close to the Broken Hearted (Kensington \$16.95), a killer's release from prison prompts revelations in an Alabama town. As the only detective in Alvin, Alabama, Leah

Teal, mother of two, investigates the fears of a young mother who believes she is being stalked by the released murderer named Preacher Eli.

978-0-7582-9426-3

continued on page 25 Michael Hiebert



"I could eat there every day."

Vancouver Sun

MORE THAN 100 of the restaurant's all-time favourite recipes—recipes that have fed surfers, hungry locals,

surfers, hungry locals, curious visitors and die-hard foodies alike.

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Calgary Herald

appetite
by RANDOM HOUSE



Reconciling the past

Thomas Wolfe famously wrote You Can't Go Home Again, but professor Sidonie Von Taler makes the attempt in After Alice (NeWest \$19.95) a first novel



by Karen Hofmann. After a career in Montreal, the character retires to her Okanagan hometown, still in the shadow of her late sister Alice. There is unfinished business. Sidonie must both reconcile the past and try to re-connect with people she left behind. Hofmann, who was raised

in the Okanagan Valley, teaches English and creative writing at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops.

Lost child and a Victorian asylum

Due in the fall, Aislinn Hunter's second novel is disturbing even when condensed into one paragraph. When she was fifteen, Jane Standen, the protagonist of The World Between Us (Doubleday \$29.95) lost track of a five-year-old girl she was looking after during a walk in the woods. The child has never been found. As an adult, working in the archives of a cashstrapped London museum, she is researching the mysterious disappearance of a woman who went missing from a Victorian asylum in the north of England 125 years ago. The two losses converge in a dilapidated country house. 9780385680646



Steven Hunter

Shuswap murder

Having worked for thirty years as a social worker and supervisor with Aboriginal communities, and resided in the Cariboo for twenty years, **Steven Hunter** of Big Lake Ranch has self-published his first novel The Cameron Ridge

Conspiracy (\$17) about a young Shuswap (Secwepemc) girl who witnesses the murder of her brother and sister at the hands of three miners in 1859 during the Cariboo Gold Rush. He acknowledges the assistance of the Secwepemc Museum in Kamloops. 978-0-9917071-0-2

Climate fiction

Coquitlam-based Moon Willow Press has released a novel, Back to the Garden (\$15.95), by Clara Hume (a pen name), that is part of a new genre dubbed Cli-Fi by Wired magazine. Climate fiction is described as "dystopian fiction set in the near future, in which climate change wreaks havoc on an otherwise familiar planet, cli-fi has attracted literary authors like Ian McEwan and Barbara Kingsolver." In the near future, on a warmer, ecologically degraded Earth, post-apocalypse survivors leave their mountain refuge in Idaho to traverse much of the U.S. in

order to find family in Georgia and South Carolina. Back to the Garden is told as a series of first person narratives by different characters. 978-0-9877813-1-4

War, spying and love

an aerial photographic

interpreter who views the war

Elinor Florence of Invermere is slated to publish her first novel in October. Set during the Second World War, Bird's Eye View (Dundurn \$24.99) will follow an idealistic young Canadian woman, Rose Jolliffe, as she joins the air force and becomes



through a microscope. As part of an intelligence system that spies on the enemy from the sky from a converted mansion in England, she is also on the lookout for love. Located north of London, the mansion was requisitioned by the Royal Air Force and renamed RAF Medmenham. Nowadays it's a luxury hotel called Danesfield House.



Sean Johnston

Shane rides again

Long after Jack Schaefer's 1949 Western novel Shane was made into a famous 1953 movie starring Alan Ladd and Jean Arthur, and the boy Joey was heard shouting, "Shane! Come back!" as the wounded man rides away from

Cemetery Hill, *Shane* has come back—sort of. Sean Johnston has picked up the story and imagined its continuance through the life of a young boy named Billy on a North Dakota ranch with his lonely mother and wheelchair-ridden father in Listen All You Bullets (Gaspereau \$27.95). We meet a traveling bookseller one year after the gunslinger's disappearance, and 9781554471294 a Métis girl from Saskatchewan.

Stonehenge, Freud and Nobel

After his first novel The Evolution of Inanimate Objects: The Life and Collected Works of Thomas Darwin (1857-1879) was republished in hardcover (2012) and paperback (2013) by HarperCollins UK,



Harry Karlinsky, a Winnipeg-born professor of psychiatry at UBC, has published an equally audacious novel, The Stonehenge Letters (Coach House \$17.95) about, among other things, why the world's most renowned psychiatrist, Sigmund Freud, never received the Nobel Prize even though he was nominated 33 times. Weaving fact and fiction, Karlinsky also describes a secret competition created by Alfred Nobel to solve the mystery of Stonehenge.

Shanghai, Nazis and resistance

Vancouver physician Daniel Kalla continues his trilogy about German Jews in Shanghai with his eighth novel Rising Sun, Falling Shadow (HarperCollins \$24.99) with the story of Dr. Franz and Soon Yi



Daniel Kalla

(Sunny) Adler through 1943, the bleakest year of the war in Shanghai, when Allied citizens were interned and tens of thousands of German Jews were crammed into a ghetto already teeming with impoverished locals. The Adlers risk their lives to support the cause of the Chinese

9781552452943

Resistance while staring down a threat from local Nazis. The story delves into both heroism and the treachery that can result when ordinary people find themselves facing extraordinary dangers. 9781443404686

Vancouver's underbelly

In the debut crime novel by West Vancouver's Dietrich Kalteis, Ride the Lightning (ECW \$24.95), a disbarred Seattle bounty hunter named Karl Morgen comes to Vancouver to work as a process server. Impressed by a city in which "people settle things with middle fingers instead of guns," Morgen nonetheless finds himself immersed in the city's underbelly when he crosses paths with the scumbag from Seattle who had his license revoked, Miro Knotts, a dope dealer. 978-1-77041-150-0

1984 Vancouver

Nancy Lee's highly-charged debut novel The Age (M&S \$22.95) is about a troubled teenaged girl, Gerry, who takes refuge in a gang of misfits in response to an absent father and a mother who is distracted by a new relationship. As Gerry becomes embroiled in the gang's plot to violently disrupt a peace march, she becomes enthralled with the group's leader. Increasingly divided by her fantasizing and reality, Gerry's need to be loved leads her towards tragedy. The Age is "set amidst nuclear tension in 1984 Vancouver." 978-0-7710-5252-1

Recovering a marriage

Narrated by a former realtor, **Donna Milner's** highly credible Somewhere In-Between (Caitlin \$21.95) follows the efforts of a couple to purchase an idyllic but remote ranch in the Chilcotin. We gradually learn they are attempting to recover their marriage after a tragic family loss. Julie O'Dale tries to support her husband Ian's dream to escape from the big city in favour of a team of draft horses, four cow ponies, and range cattle. Trouble is, their six-hundred-acre ranch includes one very problematic, long-time tenant, Virgil Blue, who doggedly occupies an old trapper's cabin. This novel was slated to be published by McArthur

belly-up.

continued on page 27

978-1-927575-38-3

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"one of the country's most enduring venues for audacious writing."—BC BOOKWORLD

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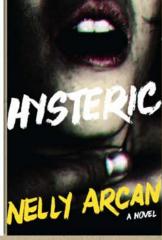
I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU OR ANYTHING Stories by Jon Paul Fiorentino

Illustrations by Maryanna Hardy This collection of comedic short stories and exploratory texts features invigilators, fake martial arts experts, buskers, competitive pillow fighters, drug runners, and, of course, grad students.

"I'm sure something scares Jon Paul Fiorentino, and maybe it drives him toward the deadpan magic he wields so masterfully in these pages. This is a daring and funny collection." -SAM LIPSYTE

"This book is one of my favourite reads in ages." -CHIP ZDARSKY

\$20 • 176 pages • Colour Illus. \$20 • 168 pages 978-1-927380-94-9



HYSTERIC

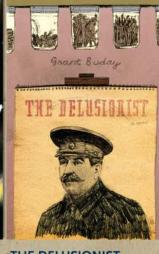
a novel by Nelly Arcan

Translated by David & Jacob Homel In this daring act of self-examination and confession, the late novelist Nelly Arcan explores the tortured end of a love affair. Told in the same voice that made her first novel Whore an international success. Hysteric chronicles life among the twenty- and thirty-somethings, a life structured by text messages, missed cell phone calls, the latest DJs, and Internet porn.

"A tremendously strong current runs through this story. A music of breath, and the desire to reach down to the bone and discover the truth about relationships between men and women.'

-JOCELYNE LEPAGE, La Presse

978-1-927380-96-3



THE DELUSIONIST a novel by Grant Buday

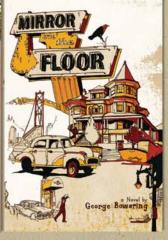
Vancouver, summer 1962. Cyril Andrachuk and Connie Chow are both seventeen and they're both falling in love. The Delusionist is a funny, sad, and heart-warming novel about love, loss, creativity, and coming to terms with the horrors of history.

Reviewers on Grant Buday's writing: "Buday's writing is lean, crisp, thoroughly engaging, and incisive...an exceptional talent." -QUILL & QUIRE

"...a great storyteller." -DANFORTH REVIEW

Dragonflies is "Deeply imagined and exquisitely written." -GOODREADS

\$20 • 256 pages 978-1-927380-93-2



MIRROR ON THE FLOOR

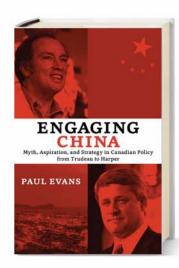
a novel by George Bowering Originally published in 1967 by McClelland and Stewart, and out of print for many years, Mirror on the Floor was the debut novel from an emerging young writer named George Bowering. Now with over 100 publications to his credit, we are proud to be reissuing Bowering's first novel.

"Vancouver, the smell and feel of its fog, the beaches, the bridges, Stanley Park, the sleazy bars of the dock area are all absolutely there in a way that has been curiously difficult for other novelists to capture."

-PHYLLIS GROSSKURTH, Saturday Night

\$18 • 160 pages 978-1-927380-95-6

New from University of Toronto Press



Engaging China

Myth, Aspiration, and Strategy in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper

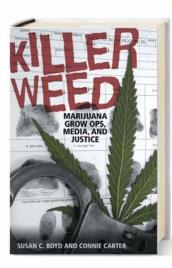
For more than four decades, engagement has been the bedrock of Canada's policy toward China. Author Paul Evans provides a concise account of the evolution and state of the Canadian approach to China, its achievements, disappointments, and current dilemmas.



On Being Here to Stay Treaties and Aboriginal Rights in Canada

by Michael Asch

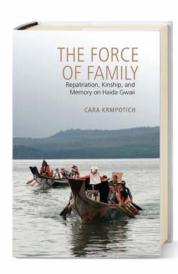
Why should Canada's original inhabitants have to ask for rights to what was their land when non-Aboriginal people first arrived? Addressing this question, Michael Asch proposes a way through which First Nations and settlers can establish an ethical way for both communities to be



Killer Weed

Marijuana Grow Ops, Media, and Justice by Susan C. Boyd and Connie Carter

Marijuana cultivation has been identified by the media and others as a dangerous criminal activity of 'epidemic' proportions. Killer Weed examines how this anti-drug campaign has troubling consequences for a shrinking Canadian civil society.



The Force of Family

Repatriation, Kinship, and Memory on Haida

by Cara Krmpotich

The Force of Family is an ethnography of the Haida Nation's efforts to repatriate ancestral remains from museums around the world and explores how memory. objects, and kinship connect and form a cultural archive.



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS

Advancing Knowledge

FIGURION

West Coast mystery

As a Summerland business owner and freelance magazine writer who has sailed for years in the Inside



R.I. McMillen

Passage, R.J. McMillen has created a new B.C. mystery detective, Dan Connor, a former cop who explores the mid-West Coast by boat. In the debut novel, Dark Moon Walking (TouchWood \$14.95), Connor works alongside a First Nations man he once busted in order to

track down a missing biologist—while encountering a wide range of eccentric coastal characters. A sequel will be published next spring.

9781771510660



Peter Norman

Literary gothic romp

Peter Norman's first novel, **Emberton** (Douglas & McIntyre \$19.95), takes its title from a fictional dictionary publisher, Emberton Publishing, and manages to combine lexicography and etymology—along with an

illiterate protagonist named Lance Blunt and a malevolent entity that is bent on draining the world of human language. It adds up to a comic, literary, Gothic romp.

978-1-55365-554-1

Murdering the Condo King

Having taught himself to paint while teaching law in Newcastle-under-Lyme, England, lawyer **Christopher Nowlin** now lists his painterly influences as "Surrealism, shadows and the Spaghetti Western long shot." He launched his latest exhibit in March along with **Tough Tiddlywinks** (A Picture's Worth \$29.95), a hybrid between a graphic novel and a traditionally illustrated adult novel. *Tough Tiddlywinks* is a whodunit about the murder of a sleazeball Vancouver real estate developer named "Condo King" Donald

Dickerson in the wake of the 2008 U.S. stock market crisis. Even though many people would have liked to see this philanderer off the planet, police arrest a First Nations man, Ryan Ghostkeeper, who is found with the murder weapon, a knife. A hung jury prompts Vancouver Police Sergeant Sandra Wolychenski to reevaluate the case and investigate Slim Jimmy, a member of an anti-development group called The Resistance, a cadre of hard-core bicyclists. Two

wheels good; four wheels bad. Nowlin's background in law permeates the story. 9780987726841

Irish rebellion

Ron Duffv

Only seven years of the life of Irish highwayman **Redmond O'Hanlon** are documented: from 1674, when he was proclaimed an outlaw, to

1681, when he died. According to **Ron Duffy**, "This gives the novelist free rein to indulge his imagination." In his novel **O'Hanlon** (CreateSpace \$21.91), Duffy has created a figure, who, at twenty, is swept up in the Irish Rebellion of 1641. "The aim of the Rebellion is to win religious freedom and the return of lands confiscated from traditional chieftains, including the O'Hanlons. They go down to defeat by the disciplined forces of Oliver Cromwell. O'Hanlon flees to France and serves with distinction in both the French and Spanish armies at war in Flanders. O'Hanlon returns to Ireland. Expecting no restitution of his family's lands under the restored Charles II, O'Hanlon takes to the hills and woods of southern Ulster, the leader of a band of outlaws, famed as far as France for his daring exploits and his bold flaunting of attempts by the government in Ireland to capture him and rid the country of this most cunning and notorious challenge to their authority." All in accordance with Duffy's imagination and research.

1492320455

Message in a bottle

Ruth Ozeki, who divides her time between Cortes Island, B.C. and New York City, was one of six authors shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize for her novel, **A Tale for the Time Being** (Viking Canada), about the relationship between two people who never meet,



Ruth Ozeki

but who are connected by the proverbial message in a bottle. One is a middle-aged writer in Desolation Sound, B.C. who is struggling to write a memoir just as she discovers the secret diary of a 16-year-old Tokyo girl, Nao, which is washed ashore after the 2011 tsunami.

A woman of mystery

Andrew Parkin's 24th book, Private Dancers or Responsible Women, a Novel of Intrigue (Strategic Book Publishing \$21.95) is a rare B.C. novel for two reasons: it unabashedly includes sex and it shows that, hey, things can turn out well. Laced with food,



Andrew Parkin

drink, sex, costumes, and exotic interiors, it's a tale of eros and espionage as a journalist named Paul Wills tries to track down a mystery woman he encountered in Hong Kong, Paris and London, the beautiful Kalitza. *Private Dancers* involves counterterrorism and identity puzzles.

Parkin describes his magnetic and alluring character of Kalitza (aka Kim, aka Alissa) as "compulsively bizarre—like **Jung**'s Anima who seems to arise from the male unconscious, yet clearly has independent existence." The overriding themes are freedom and metamorphosis. Andrew Parkin did some of his military service for Britain as a Russian linguist in Berlin during the Cold War.

978-1-62857-431-9

continued on page 31

R E V I E W

SINGLE BLADE RUNNER

BY **CHERIE THIESSEN**

How does a single blade of grass thank the sun? by Doretta Lau (Nightwood Editions \$19.95)

FTER AN UPBEAT, INTRIGUING, FUturistic, opening story called 'God Damn, How Real Is This?,' the stories in **Doretta Lau**'s svelte, debut collection, **How does a single blade of grass thank the sun?**, seem to build on the one before, reducing the need for excessive illumination. She is shining a narrow floodlight in the dark.

Mostly about young, Asian Canadians coming of age in the 1990s, these stories are frequently as much about pictures or images as they are about characters. Cigarettes, alcohol, loneliness, adoption, depression and poverty; these are common leitmotifs.

The title story is the last one, shortlisted for the 2013 Journey Prize. Its title is de-



With an MFA in writing from Columbia University, Doretta Lau lives in both Vancouver and Hong Kong, while contributing to Artform, South China Morning Post, and The Wall Street Journal (Asia). Her stories have appeared in Grain, Event and subTerrain. She is currently writing a screenplay and a novel.

rived from an interview with Chinese-born basketball star, **Yao Ming**, who, when asked about how his formative years with a team called the Shanghai Sharks had shaped his pro career, replied: "How does a single blade of grass thank the sun?"

But it's got precious little to do with basketball as Lau explores the teenage perspective of a sorry Asian Canadian gang leader who has the hots for one of his girl members as well as a penchant for beating up his small coterie of four for the purposes of 're-education.' Lau describes how these 'losers' roam through the ramshackle parts of the city.

Other stories are also full of dark corners. In 'Two-Part Invention,' the narrator decides to date dead men and decides on **Glenn Gould** as her perfect match. In 'Rerun,' the narrator, a past TV star with breast implants, loses her adoptive mother. In 'O, Woe Is Me,' a young man's tragic accident in his teens sends him into a career dodging paintballs and rotten vegetables in a "Whoop the Freak" business.

One of the narrators in Doretta Lau's collection reminds us photography is a Greek word meaning writing in light, but in this collection Lau is mostly writing out of the shadows, investigating dark corners. I loved these selections and ended up wondering why it is that depressing stories often seem to be the most engaging? I was quickly immersed in the life of a narrator who sounds very much like the author herself, a sensitive Asian Canadian writing a screenplay for her MFA, living in Vancouver and impressively knowledgeable in music and photography.

Cherie Thiessen reviews fiction from Pender Island.

27 BC BOOKWORLD SUMMER 2014

HISTORIES NOT FORGOTTEN

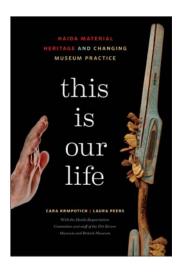
This is Our Life

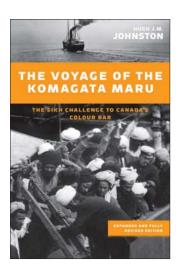
Haida Material Heritage and Changing Museum Practice

Cara Krmpotich and Laura Peers, with the Haida Repatriation Committee and staff of the Pitt Rivers Museum and British Museum

This is the story of a transformative visit by members of the Haida Nation to the museums housing their cultural treasures.

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The Voyage of the Komagata Maru The Sikh Challenge to Canada's Colour Bar, Expanded and Fully Revised Edition

Hugh J.M. Johnston

A sweeping revision and reconsideration of the Komogata Maru incident as a defining moment in Canadian, British Empire, and Indian History.

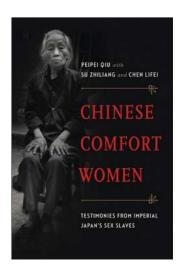
April 2014 | paperback | 978-0-7748-2548-1

Chinese Comfort Women

Testimonies from Imperial Japan's Sex Slaves Peipei Qiu, with Su Zhiliang and Chen Lifei

Through personal narratives from twelve survivors, this book reveals the unfathomable atrocities committed against Chinese women, abducted and enslaved as "comfort women" by the Japanese military, during the Asia-Pacific war.

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PROFILE

SHAKESPEAREAN JOUSTS & LONDON PLAGUE

"For me, historical fiction is always a trip in a time machine, a fantasy lived." — C.C. Humphreys

nyone who thinks writers are withdrawn, stay-at-home types who think up a bunch of stuff in the safety of their pajamas might want to meet C.C. Humphreys—he would change their way of thinking.

Prior to turning his hand to historical novels, Humphreys, during 35 years as an actor, has played Hamlet, Clive Parnell in *Coronation Street* and Jack Absolute in **Richard Brinsley Sheridan**'s *The Rivals*.

And let's not overlook Caleb the Gladiator. For his gladiator gig in

the 1980s NBC/BBC mini-series, *AD—Anno Domini*, C.C. Humphreys spent ten months filming in Tunisia, playing Metellus, Gladiator (aka Caleb the Zealot), flexing his pecs like **Russell Crowe** and using a variety of weaponry.

"For a swordsman, historical nut and all-round fantasist time traveller," Humphreys says, "it didn't get much better." He also got to hang out with Susan Saradon and Ian MacShane.

☆

BORN IN TORONTO, C.C. HUMPHREYS GREW up in Los Angeles until age seven, then lived in London and the U.K. A third-generation actor and writer on both sides of his family, he was a schoolboy fencing champion before he became a fight choreographer for actors. All of which has led to **Shakespeare's Rebel** (Orion \$34.99).

C.C. Humphreys has integrated his knowledge of Hamlet and **Shake-speare**, along with his experiences with swordplay, to craft a novel that could have been called *Shakespeare in Joust*, except Shakespeare is not the hero, only a supporting character.

Overly fond of whiskey and women, John Lawley, England's finest swordsman, just wants to cool his Elizabethan jets and help his old pal, Will Shakespeare, put on a new tragedy about a Danish prince down at the new Globe Theatre. But, no, there is much rotten in the state of England. John's main rival for being the best jouster in the queendom is also **Queen Elizabeth**'s lover, the dashing and somewhat demented **Robert Deveraux**, Earl of Essex. Meanwhile John must evade the equally deadly machinations of **Robert Cecil**, another of Queen Elizabeth's favourites.

Ultimately, in *Shakespeare's Rebel*, our hero must not only choreograph the fight scenes for *The Tragedy of Hamlet*, he is called upon, by fate and honour, to choreograph the rescue of the realm itself.

*

HUMPHREYS' FIRST NOVEL, THE FRENCH Executioner (Orion 2002), is about the man who killed **Anne Boleyn**. It was shortlisted for the CWA Steel Dagger for Thrillers in 2002. Its sequel was *Blood Ties* (Orion 2003). More recently *A Place Called Armageddon* (Orion 2011) recalls the fall of Constantinople in 1453.

He has also written a trilogy of fanciful, "rip-roaring" historical novels featuring Jack Absolute as the "007 of the 1770s," adopting the hero's name from the aforementioned Sheridan play. The third in this series, *Absolute Honour* (McArthur 2006) typically follows the swashbuckling British soldier, Jack Absolute, as he cavorts from battlefields to bedrooms. Along the way he becomes a spy at the Jacobite Court in Rome.

In Humphreys' young adult fantasy novel, *The Hunt of the Unicorn* (Knopf, 2011), a girl falls into a tapestry at a New York City museum, and finds herself taken prisoner by a tyrant king. His earlier trilogy for young adults, *The Runestone Saga*, combines Norse myths, runic magic, time travel and horror. The trilogy consisting of *The Fetch* (Knopf 2006), *Vendetta* (Knopf 2007) and *Possession* (Knopf 2008) has been published in Russia, Greece, Turkey and Indonesia.

Humphreys' historical novels have been translated into a dozen languages.

*

STICKING TO ENGLISH HISTORY, THE FORTH-coming novels, **Plague** (Random House \$24.95) and **Fire** (Random House 2015), are thrillers set in London, in 1665 and 1666. Humphreys describes *Plague* as essentially: a religious fundamentalist serial killer story set during the Great Plague of London.

"I grew up with the Plague," he says. "Every English schoolboy hears the lurid tales—the red crosses on the doors, the cries of 'Bring out yer dead!' The buboes! But it was not a period I'd especially studied. Then, as with most of my ideas, I became suddenly intrigued when I started to delve into the Restoration world.

"The ghastly effects of disease became a vivid backdrop to another story—this time, of highwaymen and thief takers, actresses and royalty—and serial killers. It was a world reeling from the horrors of civil war. Men and women were trying to cope with that legacy, and they were doing it with a new freedom of conscience that until then had been ruthlessly suppressed.

"As well, it was a time when sober puritans were suddenly ruled by a thoroughly debauched king.

"So London 1665 was a marvelous place to visit. I just thank all my stars that I do not have to live there!"

Shakespeare: 9781409114895; Plague: 9780385679923





C.C. Humphreys as
Caleb the Gladiator in
the 1980s mini-series,
AD—Anno Domini.

C.C. Humphreys



C.C. Humphreys as Jack Absolute in Richard Brinsley Sheridan's *The Rivals*. Humphreys returned to Canada in the 1990s, began writing in Vancouver, lived in London for twelve years, then returned to Saltspring Island in 2006.



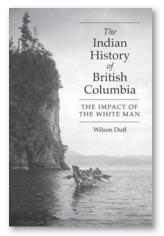
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DONNA MILNER

A Royal BC Museum Classic

The Indian History of British Columbia The Impact of the White Man

Wilson Duff



\$15.95 978-0-7718-9483-1 First published in 1964, The Indian History of British Columbia celebrates 50 years in print!

It has sold more than 20,000 copies in three editions and a dozen printings. Wilson Duff's seminal work is a classic summary of the effects of immigrant settlement on the populations, cultures, economies and religions of First Nations in British Columbia.

"In the 50 years since Duff's classic study was first published there have been many changes in the way interactions between First Nations and colonial cultures are conceptualized and discussed. The Indian History of British Columbia is now a historical record in itself: a benchmark for the profound changes that have taken place in our understanding of the topic over half a century. At the same time, it remains a useful source of information for researchers, students and the general public."

- Martha Black, from her Foreword

Published by

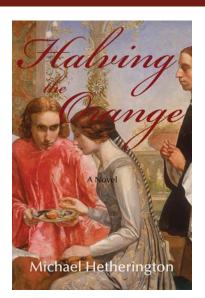


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30 BC BOOKWORLD SUMMER 2014

FI (A to Z)

Depression-era Prairies

Set largely in Stettler, Alberta, and echoing some of the bleakness of **Sinclair Ross**' view of the Prairies, **Meredith Quartermain**'s Depression-era first novel, **Rupert's Land** (NeWest \$20.95), unites two,



Meredith Quartermain

young and restless spirits. Growing up in the agrarian dustbowl, Cora Wagoner wants to study science rather than pig-sty procreation; Hunter George is a Cree who prefers his grandmother's stories of the legendary Wisahkecahk to the demeaning policies of the Indian Agent. On

page 233, they ride her horse Arrow past the Nuisance Grounds to share the challenging freedom of scrubland wilderness for the final fifth of the story.

978-1-927063-36-1

Grief, lust, infidelity, madness

farmhouse. The novel received advance

attention due to its selection for the Barnes

& Noble Discover Great New Writers

program. It was published by Oneworld

in the UK and other Commonwealth

countries in 2013, the same year in

which it was shortlisted for the Ethel

Wilson Fiction Prize awarded for the

best work of fiction by a B.C. writer.

Ex-realtor Chevy Stevens' fourth

A murderer returns

novel, That Night (St. Martin's

\$19.95) is not about

the fictional

realtor

Having emigrated from Dublin to Canada in 1999, **Anakana Schofield** won the 2013 Amazon.ca First



Anakana Schofield

Novel Award for her novel, Malarky (Biblioasis \$19.95). Structured as a series of 20 episodes, Schofield's darkly comic first novel is mainly narrated by an Irish mother who is coping with grief, lust, infidelity and madness while scrubbing the floors of her country

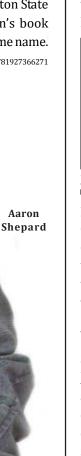


Annie O'Sullivan, the protagonist in her earlier thrillers. Instead it's about Toni Murphy who, at eighteen, was wrongly convicted of the murder of her younger sister. Her boyfriend at the time was also convicted. Out of prison by age thirty-four, Toni returns to her hometown on Vancouver Island, very anxious not to violate any terms of her parole. While her former boyfriend, Ryan, is convinced he can unravel the murder case, her own mother is less sure about her innocence. In order to clear her name, Toni must re-engage with a nasty cabal of women who once made her life miserable in high school 9781250057518

Life after prostate cancer

Aaron Shepard of Victoria has used his Shuswap childhood, his experiences as a wildlife technician

and his outdoor knowledge to create a fictional valley in the B.C. Interior for his debut novel, When is a Man (Brindle & Glass \$19.95). It details Paul Rasmussen, an ethnographer, who attempts to restart his life after surviving prostate cancer. Rasmussen's interviews with locals stir up bitter memories about long-ago flooding for a hydroelectric dam. Aaron Shepard is not to be confused with a Washington State storyteller and children's book author with the same name. 9781927366271



The mystery of a false identity

A former president of the Federation of BC Writers, Margaret Thompson has published her first novel for adults, The Cuckoo's Child (Brindle & Glass \$19.95), about middle-aged Livvy Alvarsson who, in trying to save her brother, discovers her own identity is false. *The Cuckoo's Child* follows Livvy on her travels to the U.K. to uncover her actual heritage. Thompson has written six other books, including collections of essays and short stories. A former English teacher, she immigrated to B.C. in 1967, and taught in small communities before settling in Victoria.

From B.C. to Dachau

A DNA test in **Danny Unrau**'s first novel entitled **You are the Boy** (Friesens \$19.86) sends the protagonist Ben Ruhe on a search for his roots. He discovers that a Jewish infant was mysteriously left on a Mennonite doorstep in the Ukraine nearly eighty years before he was born. It turns out this child was his maternal grandmother who was adopted secretly into a Mennonite family in the 1870s. He explores Mennonite and Jewish history, from southern Manitoba to British Columbia, from the Ukraine to Siberia, from Jerusalem to Dachau. As the author of previous collections *Saints, Sinners & Angels* and *Rogues, Rascals & Rare Gems*, Unrau has a BA in sociology, English and religious studies, and an MA and Ph.D in Jewish studies.

Rescuing an Ojibway father

In **Richard Wagamese**'s **Medicine Walk** (M&S \$29.95) we meet 16-year-old Franklin Starlight as he saddles up to ride into town, feeling compelled to rescue his dissolute father, Eldon, someone he doesn't even know very well. Eldon is a drunk, dying of liver cancer in a flophouse. Frank dutifully accedes to his father's request to be taken into the mountains, so he can be buried in a traditional Ojibway way. As they ride into the backcountry, Eldon's past comes to light his poverty-stricken childhood, and his service in the Korean War. Frank finally gets to know the father he hardly ever saw.



Joanna Wiebe

Teen fantasy island

Joanna Wiebe's teen fantasysuspense novel The Unseemly Education of Anne Merchant (BenBella \$19.95) is set on a small mysterious island that houses a boarding school for some of the world's wealthiest teenagers. The

protagonist, a gifted art student named Anne Merchant can't understand how her father, a poor funeral parlour director, could have possibly paid for her to attend the exclusive school called Cania Christy. No one will tell Anne why a line is painted across the island or why she is forbidden to cross it.

978-1-939529-32-9

Women and small towns

Sunshine Coast-based UBC creative writing student **Janine Alyson Young** was born to backpacking ski bums during the 1980s. As a child, she read every book she could in her local library. Her debut collection of fiction **Hideout Hotel** (Caitlin \$18.95) contains several stories of small-town women taking refuge in unusual places, set in coastal BC, the Yukon and Western Australia. Young is young—at 28—married, with a son, and works as a Generation Y taco stand operator. 978-1-927575-46-8



North of California St

Selected Poems

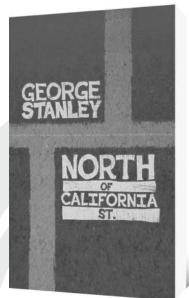
George Stanley

"George Stanley demonstrates that [poetry] can still be a powerful, moving experience for the reader and exercise for both the mind and the heart. [He writes with] lapidary precision, crafting poems that give a shapely, utterly distinctive voice to the workings of a remarkable mind and sensibility."

—Vancouver Sun



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Vladimir Keremidschieff

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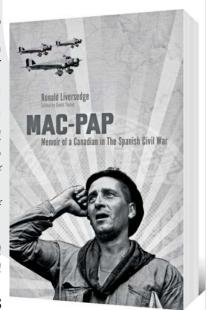
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review

Mantis Dreams: The Journal of Dr. Dexter Ripley by Adam Pottle (Caitlin Press \$21 95)

N FRANZ KAFKA'S Metamorphosis, a traveling salesman named Gregor Samsa wakes to find himself inexplicably transformed into a huge, monstrous bug.

Ninety-nine years later, in Adam Pottle's Mantis Dreams, the narrator of a private journal has been having a recurring dream in which he has been transformed into a gigantic 'King Kong' Mantis, stomping on buildings and people who appear to be smiling and waving at him. In fact, their attack upon him is imminent

Confined to a wheelchair, Pottle's protagonist, Dr. Dexter Ripley (believe it or not) could be likened to Kafka's bedridden protagonist if it weren't for his stoicism and wit... And if it weren't for the double tragedies in his impressionable years that yanked both his parents out of his life... and if weren't for the emotional trauma he suffered when his sister held a red-hot branding iron over his face... And if it weren't for his scientifically explainable disability.

In his mid-40s, Ripley has been hammered by Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT), an inherited and incurable disorder of the peripheral nervous system characterized by a progressive loss of muscle tissue and touch sensation. He's wracked by pain and tremors and confined to a wheelchair.

But Ripley, our narrator, has made a choice to refuse the medication that would slow his deterioration, relieve some of his pain, and even allow him to walk again. Dexter could be independent but he chooses instead to take one of the much-needed beds in a care home, gloating over the fact that it frees him to devote himself totally to his work with no distractions, great meals, massage therapy as needed, 24-hour help, and even a driver who takes him to the university where he teaches English literature.

His doctor calls his decision unprecedented. Ripley's reasons for refusing treatment are complicated. The professor claims that his illness has enabled him to see himself in a deliriously wonderful way; that is, it has opened the door to a privileged perspective: the more disabled he becomes, the clearer he sees the world.

Schopenhauer might approve, but we don't buy that. What we see instead is someone who is using his illness to get power and privilege, to roll over whoever

VITRIOLIC FROLIC

The narrator of **Mantis Dreams** is a brilliant, vindictive, handicapped professor—nasty to everyone.

stands in his way and to insult, hurt, and humiliate others without reprisal.

Dexter simply doesn't care what other people think. He has a deeper understanding of our

inherent human despair (the way Stephen Hawking has a deeper understanding of the universe). His rancor is the triumphant voice of enlightenment. His disability has provided a means of dealing with and understanding the insignificance of human life.



"MANTIS DREAMS STARTED WITH Dexter's voice," Pottle says. "He :



political correctness: too far, and it often exposes itself to hvpocrisy."

HAVING A STRANGE DISease is not hurting **essen** Dexter's academic reputation. His body

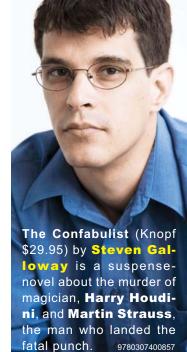
isn't twisted with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) like Hawking's, but Dexter is understandably talked-about in his field and he is receiving invitations to sit on panels and give papers and keynote speeches at conferences.

In contrast, his sister Maggie is a saint. Still consumed with guilt over the branding iron episode, a guilt that her abusive brother time and again, and betrays her confidence, obviously thinking she'll always be there for him.

Dexter berates students in his English literature class, knowing he risks censure from the department head, partly because he believes his growing academic reputation will keep him immune.

The professor knows that getting drunk, assaulting a handicapped beggar, insulting the home care staff and abusing the residents could well lead to his eviction, but he does it anyway, assuming his disability will enable him to be excused. It's one way of putting his disability to use.

"Mantis Dreams grew out of



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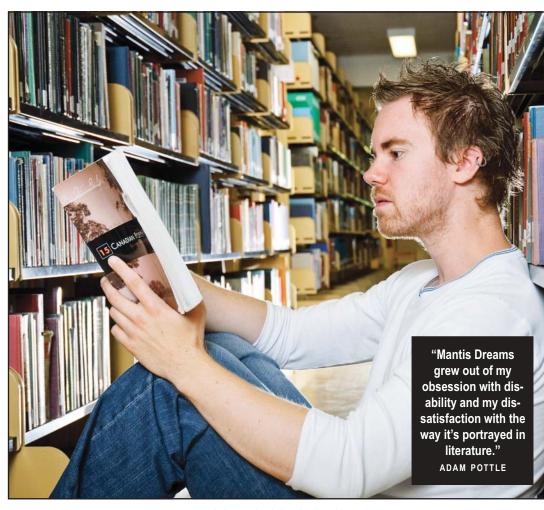


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began yammering in my head one : day and he just wouldn't shut up. He said some interesting things though, so I wrote them down, and within a few months I had a novel."

Pottle is tired of political correctness when it comes to physical challenges. "I know from experience that disability discomforts people," he says. "I personally have no problem discussing my hearing impairment, but I know other people who are reluctant to discuss their condition.

"Disability is one of the last sacred subjects, a final taboo, which makes it even more interesting to write about. Dexter and I both share a suspicion of inflated political correctness, particularly within the academy. It can push

trying to convince Dexter to leave the home to live with her and her son, 15-year-old Randall, the only one Dexter does not bait. Conversely, Randall admires and loves Dexter as the lone male figure in his family and the feeling is covertly returned.

Dexter loves teaching, he loves living in the care home, and he needs Maggie and Randall especially, and yet his behavior threatens to ruin all three things.

Maggie is overwrought at the things her brother is teaching her son, attitudes that will not make the teenager's life any easier. Randall has become another barb that Dexter can use to twist in his sister's skin. He goads his sister

exploits to the hilt, she has been : my obsession with disability and my dissatisfaction with the way it's portrayed in literature," says Adam Pottle, currently pursuing a doctoral degree in English literature and teaching at the University of Saskatchewan.

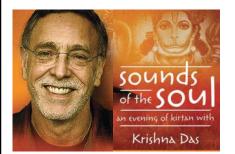
> "To me, disability is so complex an idea that it's impossible to say exactly what it means in Canadian fiction; rather, it's a disruptive presence. It undermines conventional narratives, and makes literature fresh again."

After an award-winning chapbook, Bereft, and a book of poetry, Beautiful Mutants, this is Adam Pottle's first novel. 978-1-927575-25-3

Cherie Thiessen reviews fiction from Pender Island.



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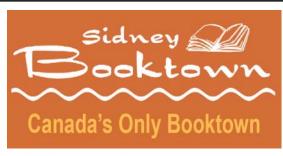
KRISHNA DAS

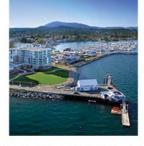
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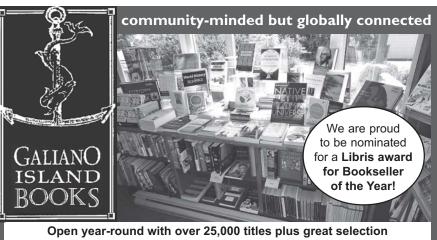








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Tanya Lloyd Kyi's launch for Anywhere But Here at Vancouver Kidsbooks was shared with Gabrielle Prendergast (left) for her novel, Capricious (Orca 2014), a follow-up to Audacious (Orca 2013).

WORK HARD, BE GOOD TANYA

Anywhere But Here by Tanya Lloyd Kyi (Simon Pulse \$11.99)

elf-Merchandizing is the way of the world these days. Writers are increasingly expected to be go-getters who enjoy Facebooking and Tweeting. Often they form power couples or write reviews that lavish praise on writers who are inclined to return the favour.

But some authors still prefer to be discreetly prolific. Maybe they're shy, maybe they're naïve. Or maybe they're nostalgic for the days when publishers were supposed to do the job of making a book public.

Then again, maybe they prefer to stay home and become better writers by reading a lot of books. **Tanya Lloyd Kyi** read 65 books in 2013. She's hoping to read 75 in 2014. She got ahead the old fashioned way—by paying her dues.

After 22 books with three Canadian publishers, Tanya Lloyd Kyi now has a YA novel, **Anywhere But Here**, with Simon & Schuster, based on her upbringing in the Kootenays. It combines her memories of "the good and the bad that comes with small town life."

Sixteen-year-old Cole Owens wants to escape his small-town life and pursue his passion for filmmaking, but instead of spending time behind the lens, Cole finds himself cooking for his drunken dad, giving the local stripper a safe ride home and acting as a dating service for his best friend. Everything seems to be conspiring to hold Cole in his hometown forever, including a wounded deer, the wacky ex-girlfriend, the pushy school counsellor. Are his relationships a spider web, waiting to trap him, or a net, ready to save him?



BORN IN VANCOUVER IN 1973, TANYA LLOYD Kyi was raised mainly in Creston in eastern British Columbia after her parents opted to escape from the big city. They also lived in a nearby community on the eastern shore of Kootenay Lake called Crawford Bay (pop. 350)

Her parents taught her how to find her away around a vegetable garden and a restaurant that was opened when she was ten. "I can balance a lot of cokes on a tray," she says, "and translate 2 e s/s, wh into two eggs, sunny-side up, white toast."

The limitations of small town life led her to skedaddle to Vancouver where, by age 21, she became one of the province's bestselling authors by ghostwriting and assembling travel and photography books for Whitecap Books, "raving about the beauty of places that I had never actually visited." Her main uncredited accomplishment was *Canada: A Visual Journey*.

After a stint as a staff writer for the Commonwealth Games in 1994, Kyi attended the University of Victoria.

Kyi's first book not dominated by photographs was an inspirational anthology entitled *Canadian Girls Who Rocked the World* (Whitecap, 2001), illustrated by **Joanna Clark**. It profiles more than 25 unusual, creative and courageous women born in Canada.

Promotional material notes she was an avid Ultimate player who married "the world's only Burmese occupational therapist." In the 21st century she bumped her surname Lloyd in favour of her Burmese married name when she published her first young adult novel, *Truth* (Orca, 2003) as Tanya Lloyd Kyi.

Anywhere But Here was written as Kyi was preparing to send her youngest child to kindergarten. "I knew I wanted to spend more time writing fiction," she says, "so I shipped a draft off to **Patricia Ocampo** in Toronto. She was my cross-my-fingers-and-pray-hard agent choice because she had great publishing know-how, experience in marketing and editing, and she just looked so darned friendly in her photo. She's the one who arranged to have Anywhere But Here published by Simon Pulse [an imprint of Simon & Shuster]."

[For more on Tanya Lloyd Kyi, visit abcbookword.com]

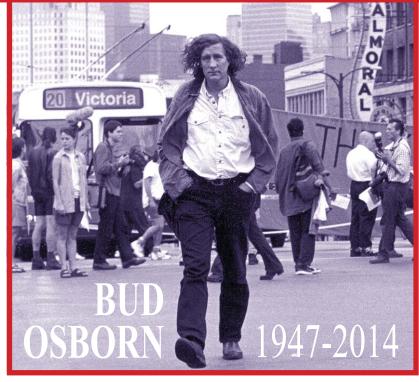
poetry

ANCOUVER POET and Downtown Eastside activist Bud Osborn, the unofficial archivist of Canada's poorest neighbourhood and its most eloquent and forceful author and spokesman, died on May 6, 2014, at age 66, after being diagnosed with pneumonia.

Vancouver East MP Libby Davies, a longtime friend, said Osborn was a hero to the people of the DTES who understood that harm reduction and safe injection sites are important health measures and a fundamental human right. "I credit him with being able to change the way people perceive drug users," Davies said.

Osborn's poetry worked in tandem with his activism for people living on the street and against poverty.

His first publisher, Brian **Kaufman** of Anvil Press, recalls: "In 1994, Bud delivered his typewritten manuscript, Lonesome Monsters, to the Anvil offices on the second floor of the Lee Building at Main and Broadway. And what I saw in Bud's work then was the same thing I see now when I open one of his books: raw, brave, human, unadorned depictions of people



caught in the meat-grinder life of poverty, homelessness, addiction, and violence."

A chapbook by Bud Osborn called Keys to Kingdoms (Get To The Point Publishing 1998) received the City of Vancouver Book Award.

"Bud was an eloquent and passionate spokesperson for the dispossessed," said publisher Brian Lam of Arsenal Pulp Press. "As a recovering addict, he knew all too well the struggles of those who live with poverty and addiction, and dedicated his life to documenting their experiences, including his own, using the

medium of poetry to move and educate others."

Bud Osborn was born in Battle Creek, Michigan and raised in Toledo, Ohio. His father, a reporter for the Toledo Blade, was a Second World War bomber pilot whose plane was shot down and he became a prisoner of war. He received his father's exact name, Walton Homer Osborn. His father committed suicide in jail, as a traumatized alcoholic, when Bud Osborn was three. Osborn himself tried to commit suicide with 200 Aspirins when he was 15.

"Amid our peregrinations through poverty neighborhoods,

I was so afraid of my name that when a tough alley urchin gang leader in another new location asked my name, I said my name was Raymond or something, but this raggedy kid replied, 'No, it isn't. It's Bud!' And I have insisted on being called 'Bud' ever since."

Osborn began to consider himself as a perpetual bud on a tree, never to bloom or come to life. He briefly attended Ohio Northern University and took a job with VISTA in Harlem as a counselor. He became a drug addict,

married and had a son. His family accompanied him to Toronto, but then his wife and son left him to go to Oregon.

Osborn lived on the mean streets of Toronto, Toledo and New York until he moved to the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver where he eventually entered detox. "I stopped running and tried to face myself," he says.

As a former addict who was 'seven years clean,' Osborn became a board member of the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board, the Carnegie Centre Association Board and VANDU (Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users). In the process he began working closely with Libby Davies and advocating for the introduction of free injection sites.

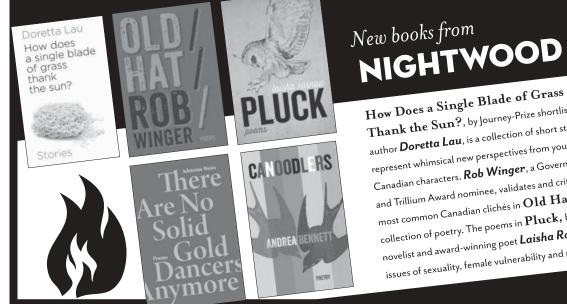
"I realize there are not many people who can advocate from the bottom, who have lived at the bottom," he said. As a city council candidate for COPE in 1999, Osborn became a fierce adversary of Mayor Philip Owen and met with federal Health Minister Allan Rock. He did remarkably well at the polls for someone who could have been dismissed as a former alcoholic and drug addict.

Although Osborn didn't win election, Mayor Owen reversed his stance and accepted most of the policies that Osborn and Davies had been advocating.

His collection of poetry from Arsenal Pulp and a CD of songs, both called Hundred Block Rock, were released to coincide with his performance at the Vancouver Folk Music Festival with bassist Wendy Atkinson and guitarist David Lester, followed by a cross-country tour.

See abcbookworld.com for more info, including a Bud Osborn interview. A commemorative video is in the works.

"He could communicate with people," Libby Davies told the Georgia Straight, "and get them to understand what was going on, and he always spoke the truth, always. He never shied away from it."

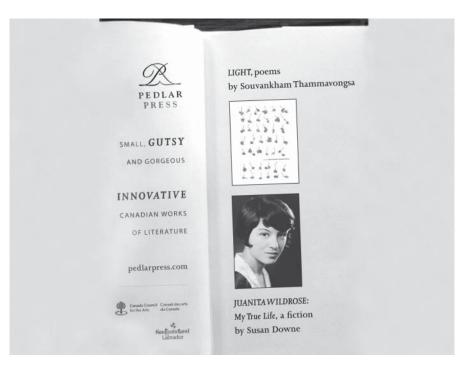


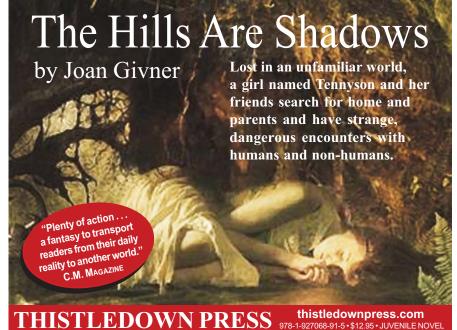
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Adrienne Weiss, a member of Toronto's first all-female sketch comedy troupe, explores the nature of performance, identity, self-mythology and the desire to find a happy ending in There are No Solid Gold Dancers Anymore. Meanwhile **andrea bennett**, former editor at Adbusters and This Magazine, and contributing editor at Geist, is releasing her debut collection, Canoodlers, which offers a hilarious, yet harrowing, study of contemporary consumerism and how relationships with families, friends and lovers function within it.

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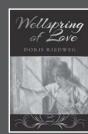
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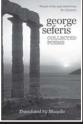


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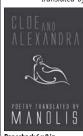
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LETTERS

CTVeeee & Mike

THE ARTICLE ON ME WAS SUPER AND I'VE got good comments on it. But I hasten to add that the Global TV network and I sepa-

rated in August of 2013. Thirty-seven years ended in three minutes. No warning, no compensation. I am now very happy doing stories for CTV. The article failed to mention I



am with CTV. Other than that, the story and exposure was wonderful.

Mike McCardell

Vancouver

Viz is a wiz

I WAS PLEASED TO SEE STEPHEN VIZINCZEY'S letter in the Spring 2014 issue of BCBW. I recall reading a few reviews and essays by Mr. Vizinczey in BC BookWorld over the years, and I hope he writes more for your pages. He is best known as a novelist, especially for In Praise of Older Women, but is also a brilliant essayist, as can be seen in his books The Rules of Chaos and Truth and Lies in Literature. Let's hope another book of essays is on the way. By the way, wasn't that portrait in the photo of Stendhal, not Balzac?

Carl Rosenberg

Vancouver, BC

[Vizinczey has pictures of Stendhal and Balzac in his writing room. Photos were taken in front of both. Photos misnamed.—Ed.]

Gift of the Gabriola

THE LATEST BCBW SENT ME TO VOLUME ONE in Duncan to purchase: 2 copies of the Corky Williams book, one copy of the Jack Hodgins novel, one copy of a YA book called Victoria, 2 copies of the 7th edition of Jayne Seagrave's camping book and one more I forget because I'm in an internet cafe and I don't have my bag of books in front of me. But there you go, just because of BCBW, I purchased 5 books.

I read BCBW cover-to-cover, including the ads because I often buy books from those publishers' blurbs, which tend to be attractive and appealing. Also, I picked up ten copies of BCBW specifically to distribute to strategic readers between here and Duncan. When I hand out each copy I point out how important it is to consider a \$25 subscription.

Susan Yates Gabriola Island

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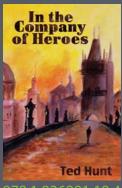
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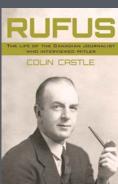
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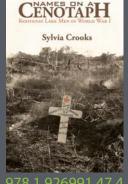
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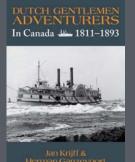


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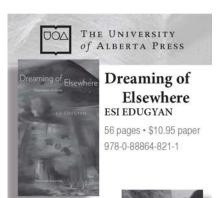


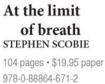
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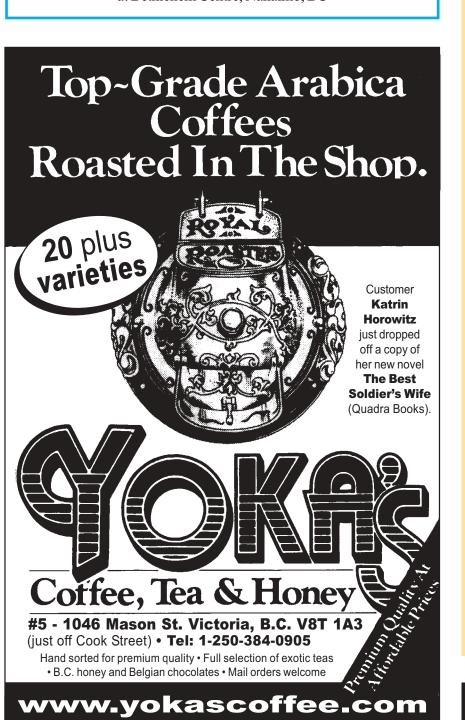
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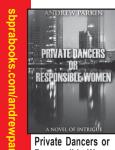




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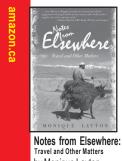
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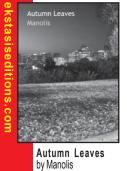
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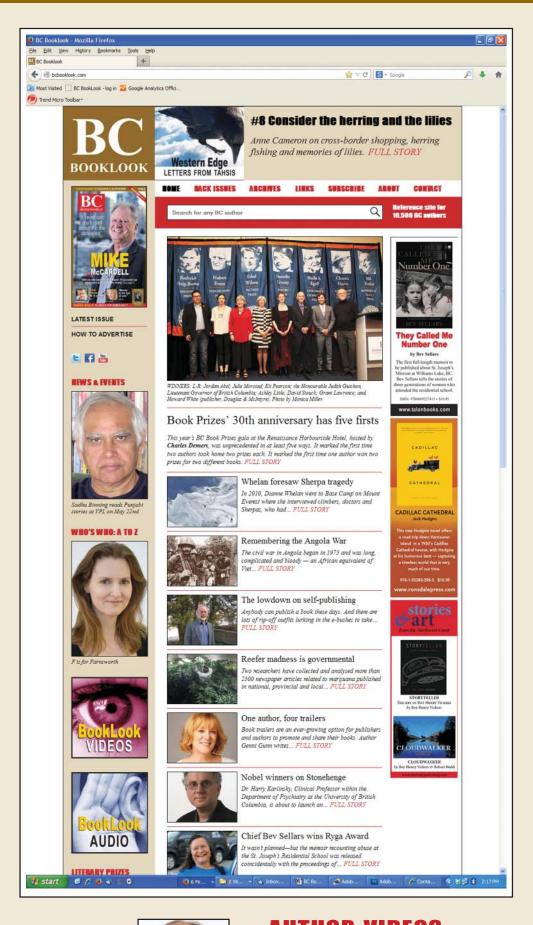
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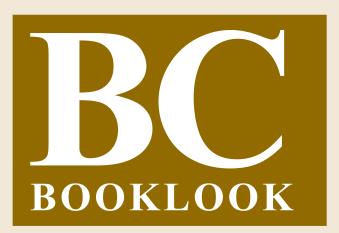
Angela Caravan / editor

CBC interviews by Sheryl MacKay



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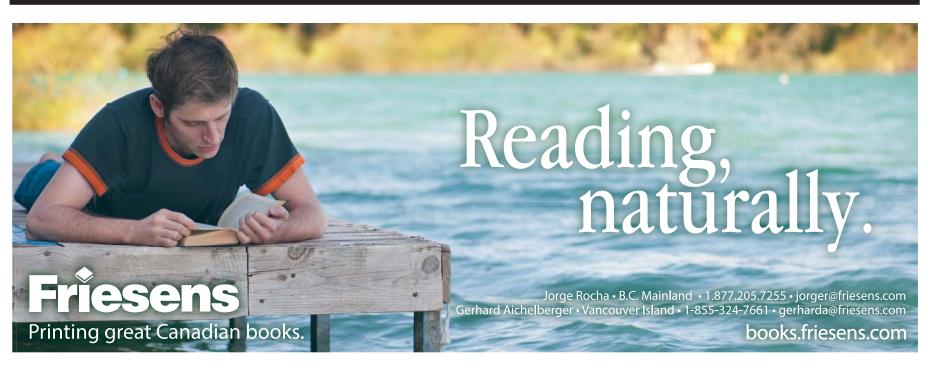


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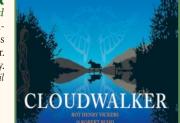
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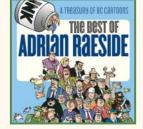
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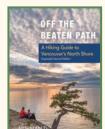
A born naturalist, Ian McTaggart-Cowan grew up exploring the woods around his North Vancouver home and went on to embrace his passion and energize others with his enthusiasm and knowledge. As a gifted and caring professor of zoology at UBC he motivated his students to dedicate themselves to expanding our biological knowledge. With over three hundred photographs and testimonials from those he mentored, this book is an invaluable resource for anyone interested in Ian McTaggart-Cowan's life and the evolution of conservation in the province. 978-1-55017-623-0 \cdot 8½" x 11", 320 pages, cloth \cdot 300+ colour photographs \cdot \$49.95 \cdot August



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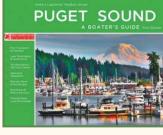
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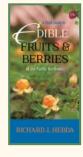
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