



Musqueam Chief
Qeyupulenuxw

THE MAN WHO MET **QEYUPULENUXW** P.13
HOW COPS BOTCHED **PICKTON CASE** P.21
TOM WAYMAN'S KOOTENAY TALES P.26



Caroline Woodward:
Lennard Island
lighthouse keeper

Two new
books reveal
life inside
(and outside)
of our
lighthouses.

See pages 7 & 9

SUNNY WAYS



PUBLICATION MAIL AGREEMENT
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LIGHT YEARS & HEAVY FOG

JIM WONG-CHU: THE MOSES OF ASIAN CANADIAN WRITING P.17



Jim Wong-Chu

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Where do babies come from?

What makes people different?

Why is our family changing?

What happens when we die?

When kids start asking tough questions.

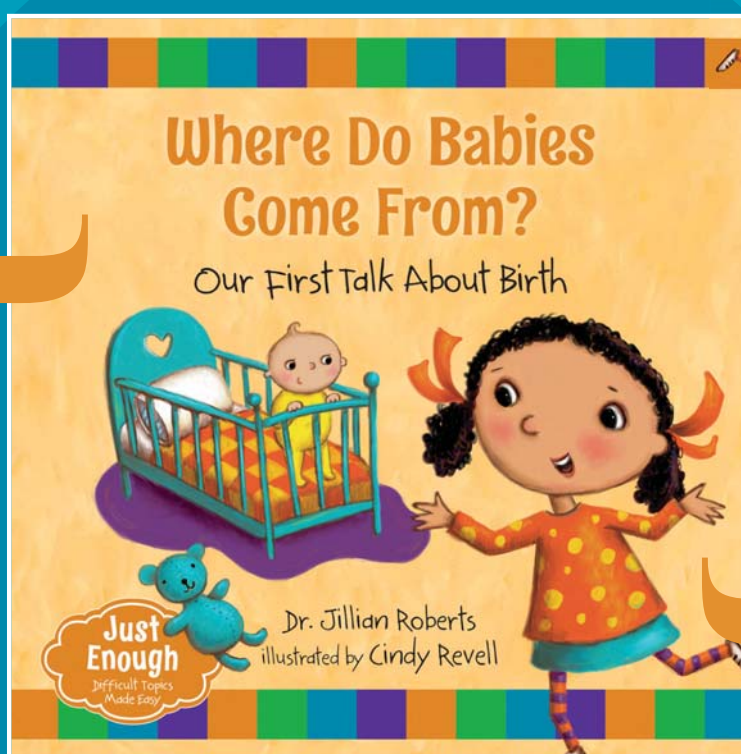
It's never too early to start talking with children about the facts of life, but it isn't easy either. Child psychologist Dr. Jillian Roberts created the Just Enough series as a tool to help caregivers broach challenging subjects with little ones.



Where Do Babies Come From? is the first book in the Just Enough series. Other topics will include death, cultural diversity, and separation or divorce.



For ages 3-6

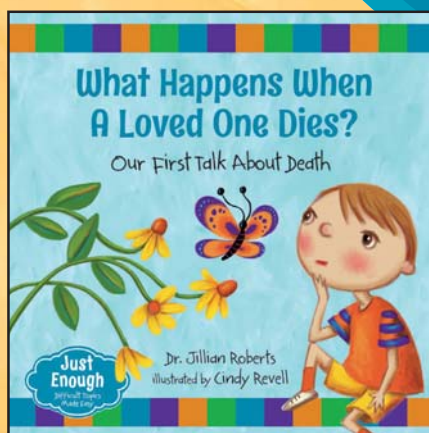


"Offers young children just the right amount of information for their age level...Highly Recommended."
—CM Magazine for *Where Do Babies Come From?*

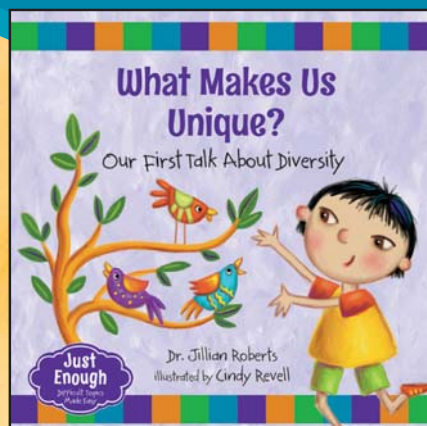


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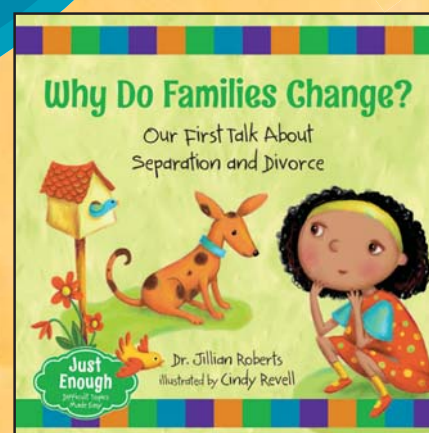
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Darren Groth

Are You Seeing Me?

(Orca Book Publishers \$19.95)

Andrew Struthers

Around the World on Minimum Wage

(New Star \$24)

**Serge Alternès &
Alec Wainman**

**Live Souls: Citizens and
Volunteers of Civil War Spain**

(Ronsdale \$24.95)

David R. Boyd

**Cleaner, Greener, Healthier:
A Prescription for Stronger
Canadian Environmental Laws
and Policies** (UBC \$34.95)

Paul Yee

A Superior Man

(Arsenal Pulp Press \$21.95)



Ethan Baron

Wedding Bliss on a Budget

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George Bowering

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(New Society Publishers \$19.95)

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and Cheese Maker by the Sea**

(Touchwood \$29.95)

Nelly Arcan

Breakneck (Anvil Press \$20)

Shelley Adams

Whitewater Cooks with Passion

(Sandhill Book Marketing \$34.95)

Sylvia Olsen

Knitting Stories (Sono Nis Press \$28.95)

**Helen McAllister &
Jennifer Heath**

Down to Earth (Oolichan Books \$29.95)

Caroline Woodward

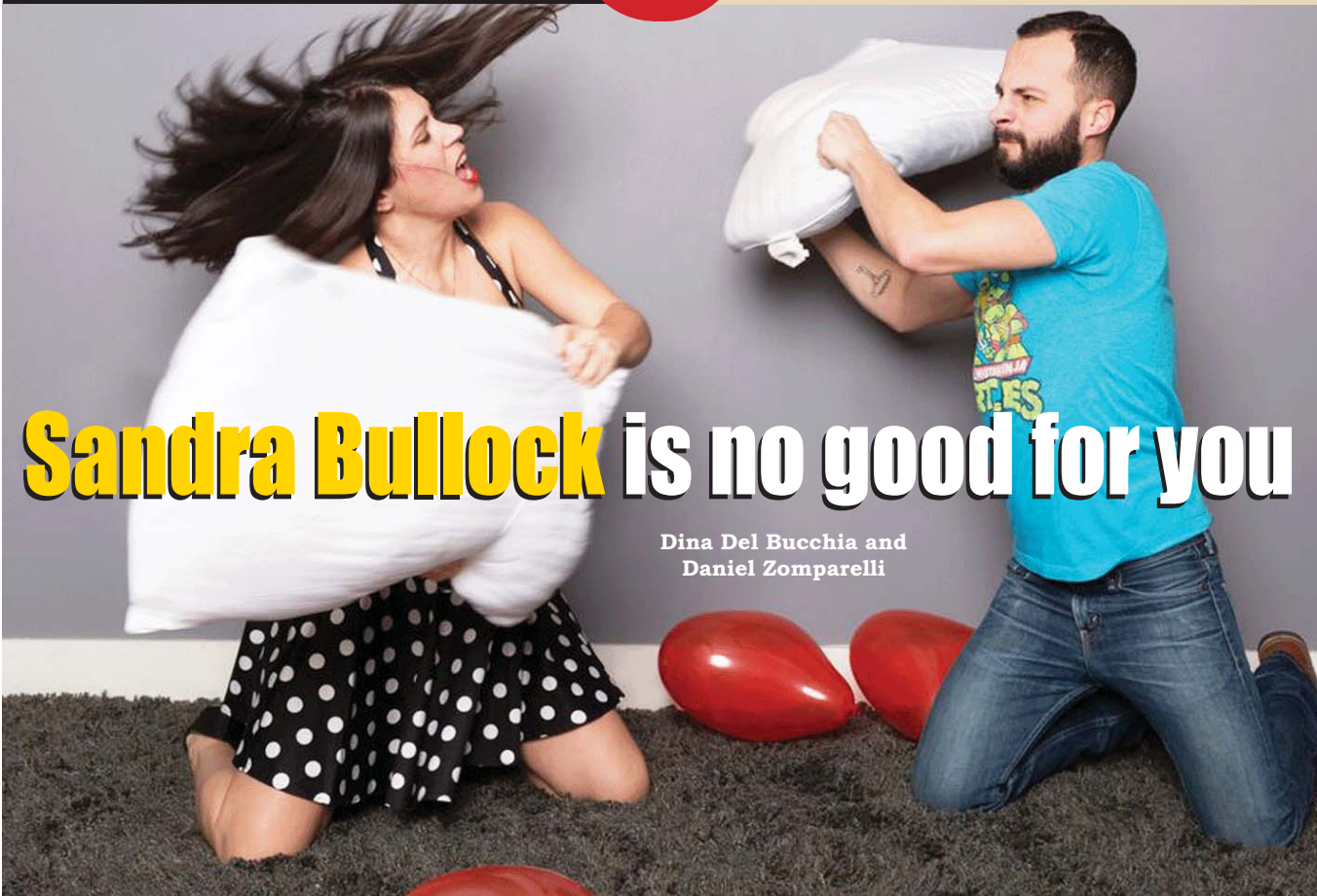
**Light Years: Memoir of a Modern
Lighthouse Keeper** (Harbour \$29.95)

Charles Demers

**The Horrors: An A to Z of Funny
Thoughts on Awful Things** (D&M \$24.95)

* The current topselling titles from major
BC publishing companies, in no particular order.

PEOPLE



Sandra Bullock is no good for you

Dina Del Bucchia and
Daniel Zomparelli

Featuring paper doll cutouts of each author on the book’s flaps, **Rom Com** (Talon \$19.95) by **Dina Del Bucchia** and **Daniel Zomparelli** skewers the universal appeal of romantic comedies. With 25 “humorous yet heartbreakingly honest” takes on modern romance, the flamboyant pair are alleging the romantic comedy movie genre has had a damaging influence on contemporary conceptions of love, “poking fun at our tendency to hold out for Mr. or Mrs. Right.” We await a follow-up volume that asserts the virtues of holding out instead for Mr. and Mrs. Not-So-Right. Meanwhile their playful poems are “steeped in nostalgia, sex, homoeroticism, race, consent, and popular culture—from irreverent verses exploring *All the Places to Meet the Love of Your Life* to **Matthew McConaughey**’s rock-hard abs.”

9780889229600

When your hometown is burning



Juliane Okot Bitek

AFTER LEARNING THAT TROOPS in her hometown of Gulu had opened fire on peaceful citizens protesting the high costs of fuel and food in 2011, Uganda-raised **Juliane Okot Bitek** has contributed ‘Stuff to do When Your Hometown is Burning’ to the anthology, **The Revolving City** (Anvil \$18).

“There it was,” she explains, “a national army firing protesters with live bullets and it seemed important but wasn’t—no local or international news channel available to me was carrying it. No one was talking about it.”

A Liu Scholar at UBC, Okot Bitek is one of 51 poets who have read at SFU’s downtown monthly Lunch Poems series and contributed to *The Revolving City*, edited by **Wayde Compton** and **Renée Sarojiji Saklikar**. Her poetry project to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1994 Rwanda genocide is slated for publication in the spring.

978-1-77214-032-3

HIGH SCHOOL TRAUMA

Ernest Hekkanen has waited until his 47th book, **False Memories and Other Likely Stories** (New Orphic \$18), to describe a grade seven event at Lynnwood Junior High that influenced the rest of his life.

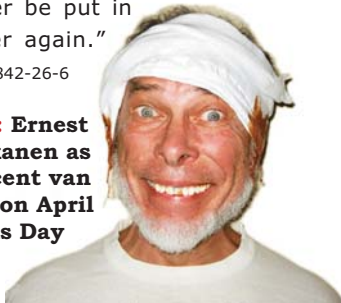
“I found myself in a class full of misfits, underachievers and emotionally disturbed children. When I surveyed my fellow classmates, I couldn’t fathom what I was doing among them. Our teacher, Tiny Thorton, ruled the class with an iron fist. He began the school year with an illustrated lecture, one that necessitated putting a ‘guinea pig’ on display. That year the role of ‘guinea pig’ fell to me.

“He strapped me into a straitjacket and proceeded to lecture us on how our bad attitudes had come to straitjacket our lives. He said most of us would end up failures if we were unable to shirk the attitudes that had come to confine us. My role was to demonstrate how difficult it would be to get out of the straitjacket each and every one of us had come to wear.

“Were I to get out of it I would be allowed to smoke in class all year, but were I to fail, the other kids were given permission to throw spit wads and crumpled balls of paper at me... Needless to say, I didn’t get out of the straitjacket. I swore I’d never be put in one ever again.”

978-1-894842-26-6

Earless: Ernest Hekkanen as Vincent van Gogh on April Fools Day



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**WINTER 2015-2016
Vol. 29 • No. 4**

Publisher/Writer: **Alan Twigg**
Editor/Production: **David Lester**

Publication Mail Agreement #40010086
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
BC BookWorld, 3516 W. 13th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6R 2S3

Produced with the sponsorship of
Pacific BookWorld News Society.
Publications Mail Registration No. 7800.
BC BookWorld ISSN: 1701-5405

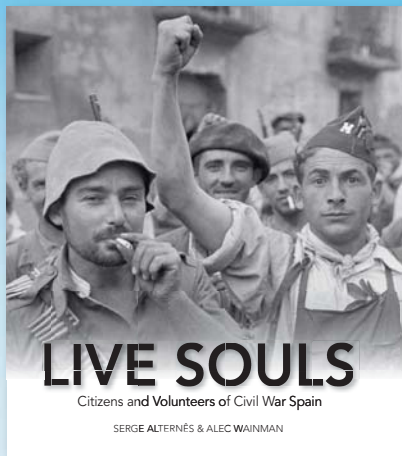
Advertising & editorial:
BC BookWorld, 3516 W. 13th Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6R 2S3
Tel/Fax: 604-736-4011
Email: bookworld@telus.net
Annual subscription: \$25

Contributors: Beverly Cramp, John Moore,
Joan Givner, Mark Forsythe, Alex Van Tol,
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Writing not otherwise credited is by staff.
Design: Get-to-the-Point Graphics

Consultants:
Christine Rondeau, Sharon Jackson
Photographers: Barry Peterson, Laura Sawchuk
Proofreaders: Wendy Atkinson, Tara Twigg
Deliveries: Ken Reid, Acculogix

All BC BookWorld reviews are posted at
www.abcbookworld.com



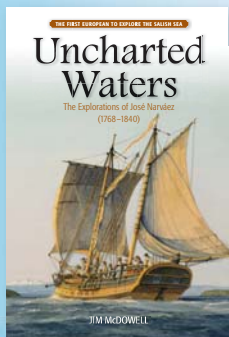
Live Souls

Citizens and Volunteers of Civil War Spain

Serge Alternès & Alec Wainman

Alec Wainman, a lifelong humanitarian and professor at UBC, was a young medical volunteer in the Spanish Civil War. His memoir, along with 210 of his striking b&w photos, long thought to be lost, offers a stirring account of the opening act of WWII. Serge Alternès puts the civil war into a global perspective with a preface and afterword.

978-1-55380-437-6 (PRINT) 978-1-55380-438-3 (EBOOK) 304 pp 7-3/4 X 8-7/8 \$24.95



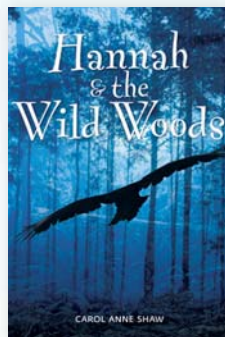
Uncharted Waters

The Explorations of José Narváez (1768-1840)

Jim McDowell

The first complete biography of the overlooked Spanish mariner who explored and mapped much of the Pacific Northwest Coast, including Vancouver harbour — before Captain Vancouver. With 40 b&w photos and maps.

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978-1-55380-435-2 (EBOOK) 322 pp \$24.95

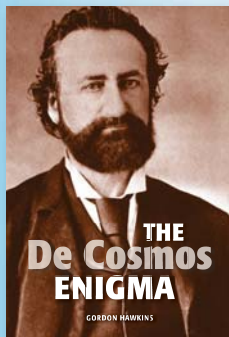


Hannah & the Wild Woods

Carol Anne Shaw

In the third novel in the series, Hannah is on the West Coast cleaning up refuse from the Japanese tsunami of 2011 when a mysterious Japanese girl with a secret past as a spirit fox appears, longing for mortality.

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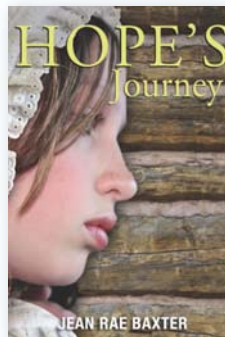


The De Cosmos Enigma

Gordon Hawkins

A fascinating account of B.C.'s second premier, the man who did much to unify the two Pacific colonies and bring B.C. into Confederation — but who is now largely forgotten.

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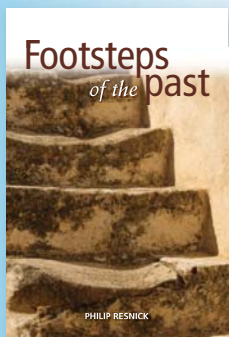


Hope's Journey

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The fifth novel in the “Forging a Nation” series sees Hope Cobman in 1791 searching for her father and brothers who fought for the British. Little does she know she must help them recover from the wounds of war.

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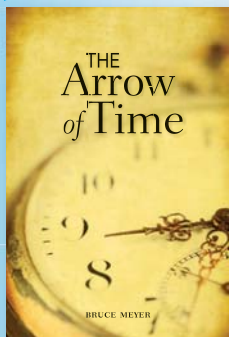


The Journal

Lois Donovan

Kami, a 13-year-old Japanese-Canadian girl, is thrown back in time to 1929 where she meets her hero, Emily Murphy of the “Famous Five,” and discovers racism even among those who are most progressive.

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Bruce Meyer

In these poems, Meyer explores how a random element — love, beauty or desire — changes the flow of events, allowing us to gain small victories in life's challenges.

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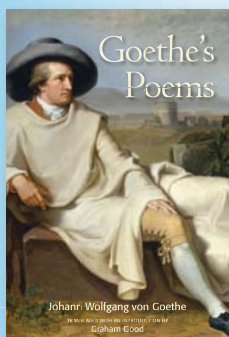


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Philip Roy

The seventh volume in the “Submarine Outlaw” series follows Alfred in his homemade submarine to the Southern Ocean where he joins Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Society in fighting off the Japanese whalers.

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Goethe's Poems

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Translated by Graham Good

Following on from his best-selling translation of Rilke's poems, Graham Good offers a splendid rendering into English of the poems of Germany's Shakespeare.

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978-1-55380-357-7 (EBOOK) 186 pp \$18.95



Mouse Pet

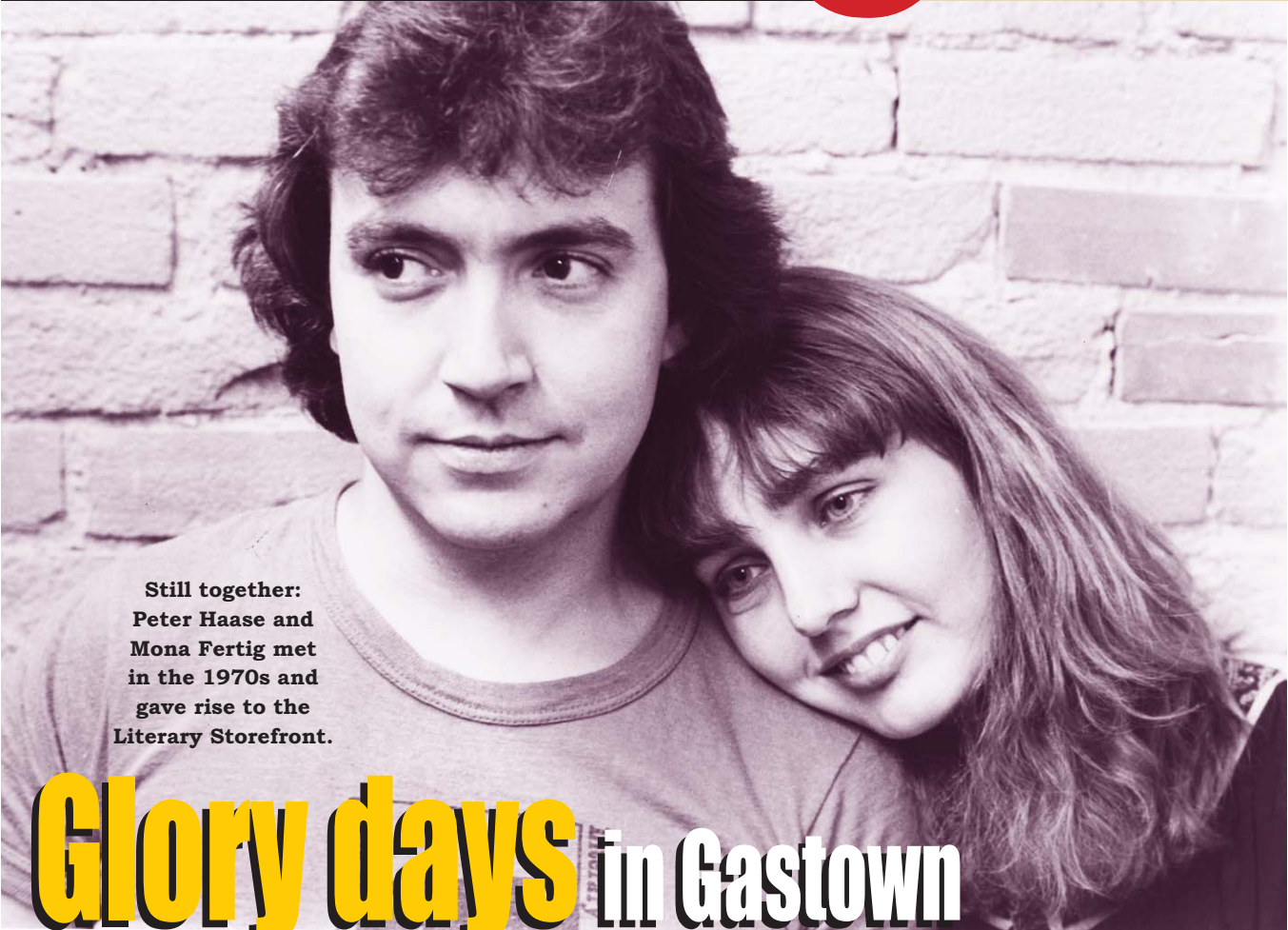
Story: Philip Roy / Art: Andrea Torrey Balsara

The third volume in the “Happy the Pocket Mouse” series tells how Happy informs John that he wants a most unusual pet, and then decides that the pet needs a pet. What or who will it be?

978-1-55380-443-7 (HC)
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Still together: Peter Haase and Mona Fertig met in the 1970s and gave rise to the Literary Storefront.

Glory days in Gastown

Way back when, **Milton Acorn** orchestrated readings at the legendary Advance Mattress on Alma street in Vancouver. **Renee Rodin**’s reading series at her R2B2 Bookstore in Kitsilano continued for about a dozen years.

Janice Douglas managed readings for decades at Vancouver Public Library. **Michael Turner** spearheaded Burnaby readings at the Malcolm Lowry Room.

By comparison, **Mona Fertig**’s Literary Storefront in Gastown was a relative comet. But **Trevor Carolan** has proven Fertig’s instinct for publishing a book about her literary community centre was a good one.

As outlined in **The Literary Storefront, The Glory Years: Vancouver’s Literary Centre 1978-1985** (Mother Tongue \$29.95), Mona’s venue sparked the rise of the ever-struggling but vital Federation of B.C. Writers.

Carolan, a University of the Fraser Valley professor, has placed the Literary Storefront within the social context of its times. Well-illustrated and rife with details about countless personalities, *The Glory Years* documents the rise of a new, non-elitist literary culture in B.C. beyond academe.

9781896949529



Jillian Deri

Comperision is not just fooling around

If you want to really upset most people, try defending polyamorists.

They are the razor thin segment of society that practice consensual non-monogamy. In the Sixties and Seventies, the term for it was usually an ‘open marriage’ and such experiments rarely endured.

Times have changed. There are growing numbers of people seeking ways to manage jealousy, inside and outside of formal marriage. Some strive to take pleasure in a lover’s other sexual encounters.

Jillian Deri has interviewed lesbian and bisexual polyamorous women for **Love’s Refraction: Jealousy and Comperision in Queer Women’s Polyamorous Relationships** (UTP \$21.95). She focusses on the concept of “comperision”—taking pleasure in a lover’s other romantic relations—while exploring why “polyamory” challenges social norms.

Jillian Deri received her Ph.D in sociology from SFU.

9781442628694

Twelfth night

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL \$5,000 CITY OF VICTORIA Butler Book Prize has been won by **Ju-lie Paul**’s collection of twelve stories in **The Pull of the Moon** (Brindle & Glass \$19.95).

“I’m so grateful, I’m pinching myself,” she said, after receiving the prize from City of Victoria acting mayor **Chris Coleman** and sponsor **Brian Butler** at the Union Club.

More than half of Paul’s stories delve into dark territory, but she read one story with a happy ending at the gala.

“That can be considered verboten in CanLit,” she said, “So I gave a spoiler alert to the audience.

“But I neglected to mention that my characters end up in an art gallery, looking at a penis sculpture sporting a handlebar moustache.”

On the same night, having won the inaugural Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize at the Union Club in 2008, **Chris Tougas** took home the prize for the second time in seven years for **Dojo Daycare** (Owlkids \$16.95), presented to him by **Samantha Holmes** of Bolen Books.

Moon 9781927366325
Daycare 978-1-77147-057-5

From CLARK to CLARK

WITH THE NEXT B.C. ELECTION about eighteen months away, former Okanagan MLA **Judi Tyabji** will follow her book on former Premier **Glen Clark** with the first biography of British Columbia’s 35th premier, **Christina Joan (Christy) Clark**.

Due to be released in May of 2016, Tyabji’s portrait of the province’s first elected female premier will remind the electorate that as an education minister for Premier **Gordon Campbell**, Christy Clark “introduced changes to the K–12 system in 2001 that continue to reverberate fifteen years on.”

Tyabji will recall that Clark, as Campbell’s deputy premier, was implicated in the scandal arising from the sale of BC Rail in 2003. She then



Judi Tyabji

opted not to run in the 2005 election.

After Clark’s three-year stint as a talk-show host at CKNW in Vancouver, Clark became leader of the B.C. Liberal Party in 2011 and scored a remarkable election upset over the much-favoured but ultimately feckless NDP in 2013.

Judi Tyabji herself had a meteoric rise to political prominence. Born in Calcutta, India, she immigrated to Canada with her family as a young child. In 1991, at the age of twenty-six, she became the youngest B.C. MLA on record (at the time) and the first to give birth while serving as an MLA.

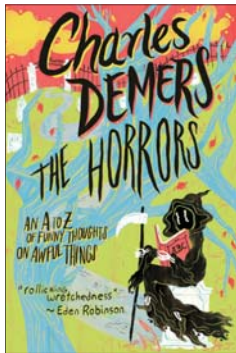


Julie Paul at the City of Victoria Butler Book Prizes



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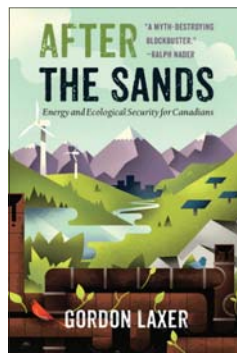


THE HORRORS

An A to Z of Funny Thoughts
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Comedian **Charles Demers** takes a darkly mirthful approach to some very bad things, from adolescence to the end of the world.

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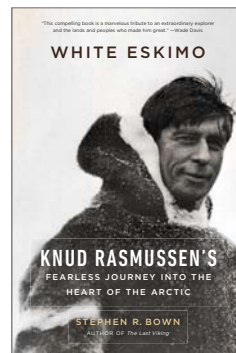


AFTER THE SANDS

Energy and Ecological
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Political economist **Gordon Laxer** puts forward a bold plan to address climate change and provide energy security for Canadians.

ENVIRONMENT / POLITICS
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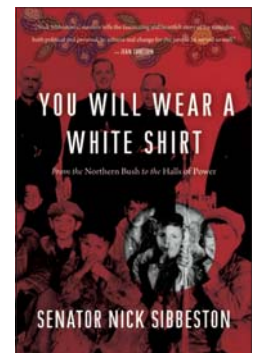


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Knud Rasmussen's Fearless Journey
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Historian **Stephen R. Bown** presents the first full-scale biography of the Danish explorer who immersed himself in the culture and lives of the Inuit.

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YOU WILL WEAR A WHITE SHIRT

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to the Halls of Power

Senator **Nick Sibbeston's** autobiography details his life both as a residential school survivor and one of the North's most influential leaders.

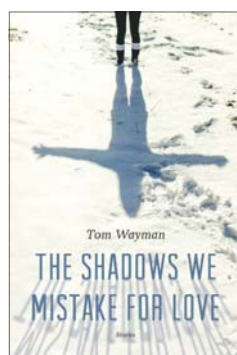
BIOGRAPHY \$32.95 HC 6"x9"
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Mark Bulgutch emphasizes the importance of quality news media in this compendium of career highlights from prominent Canadian journalists.

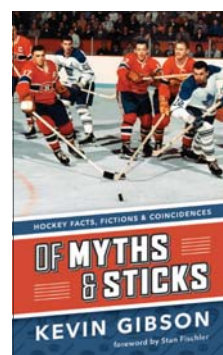
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**THE SHADOWS WE
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Stories

Dark and humorous short stories set in BC's West Kootenays from multiple award-winning author and poet **Tom Wayman**.

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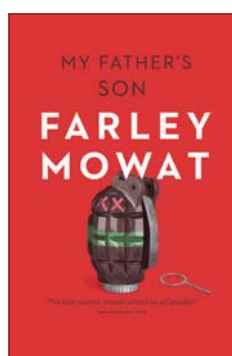
SPORTS \$19.95 PB 5"x8"
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Signe Langford advocates for the backyard flock with simple recipes, anecdotes and advice on keeping hens in the kitchen garden.

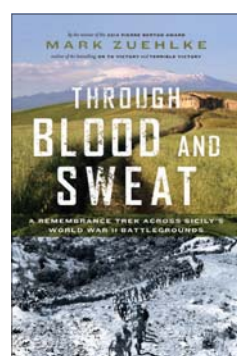
HOME & GARDEN \$22.95 PB 8"x10"
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MY FATHER'S SON

A classic wartime memoir from **Farley Mowat**, one of Canada's most treasured writers.

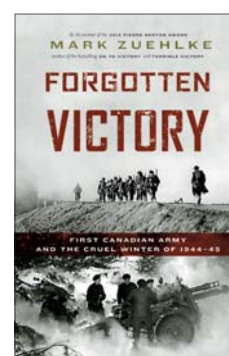
MEMOIR / CANADIANA
\$19.95 PB 5"x7 1/4" 432PP
ISBN 978-1-77100-087-1



THROUGH BLOOD AND SWEAT
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World War II Battlegrounds

Popular historian **Mark Zuehlke** recounts a touching march conducted in remembrance of Operation Husky in World War II.

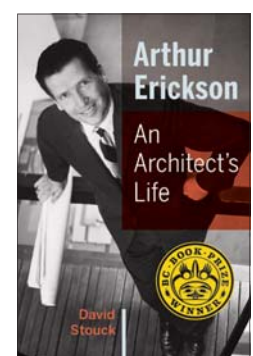
MEMOIR / HISTORY \$36.95
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BIOGRAPHY \$24.95 PB 6"x9"
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MADEIRA PARK OFFICE PO Box 219, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0
 FOR TRADE All Douglas & McIntyre titles are available from University of Toronto Press

In 1993, **Caroline Woodward**, with her partner **Jeff George**, renovated a circa-1900 building on the main street of New Denver, B.C., population 700, and opened the Motherlode Bookstore.

Also an author of three books, Woodward later worked as a publishers' sales representative for Kate Walker & Company, based in Comox, starting in 2001.

But the literary life can be a hard slog.

At the outset of her new book, *Light Years: Memoir of a Modern Lighthouse Keeper*, she describes how a pivotal meeting with a middle-aged man on the Alert Bay ferry changed her life. He was on his way to a new job as a relief lightkeeper, enabling him to escape from a dull civil service career in B.C.'s interior.

Woodward was struck by "how his face lit up when he said how he felt truly, deeply alive upon arriving in Port Hardy... And wasn't that exactly how I missed feeling?"



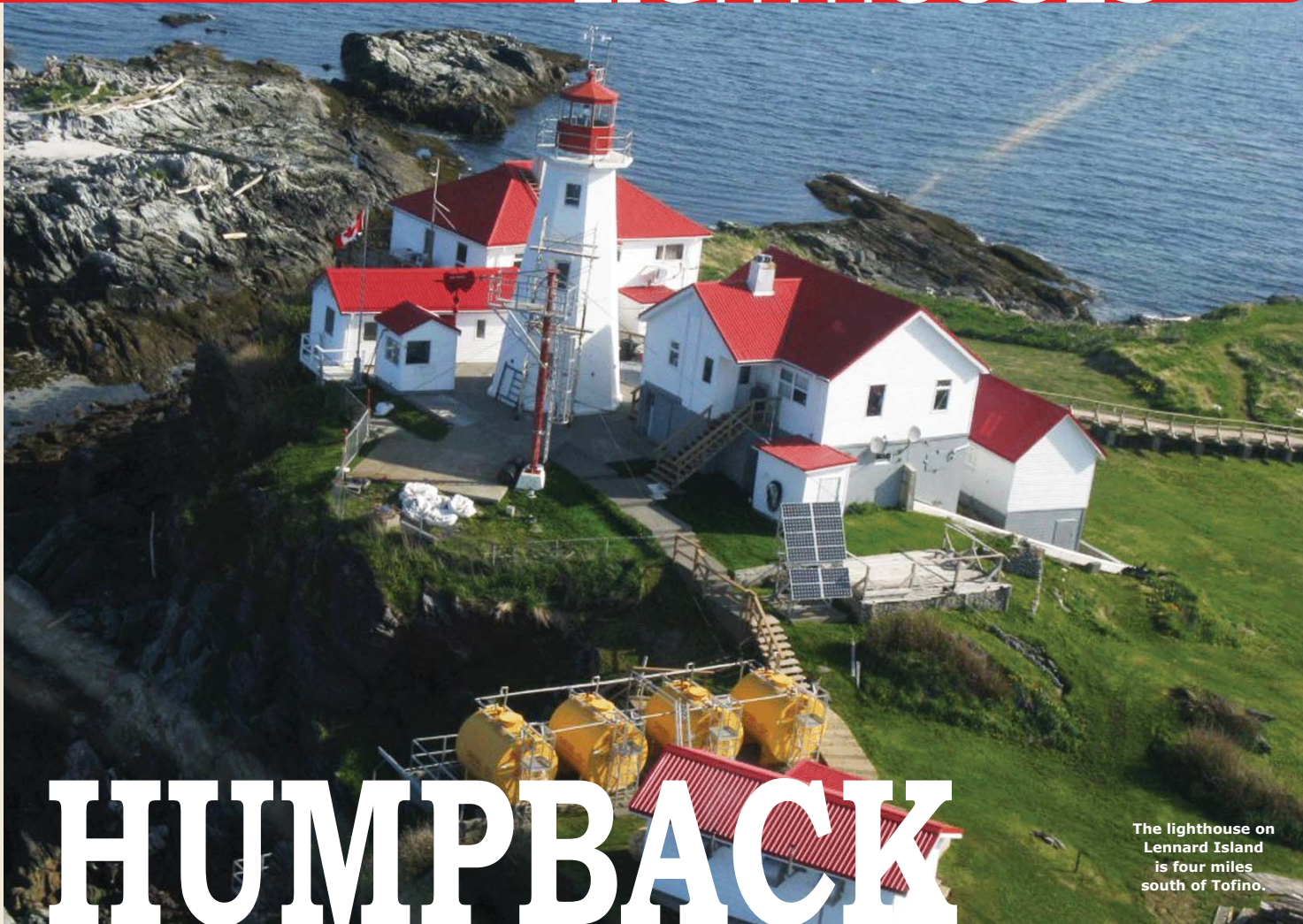
Caroline Woodward has written a follow-up to Donald Graham's two classics, *Keepers of the Light* (1985) and *Lights of the Inside Passage* (1986).

"And wasn't that even more the case for my husband, who had dutifully worked at all kinds of low-paying, part-time jobs with awful hours for years on end?"

"Here we were, in our late middle-aged phase of life when most people are at the pinnacle of their chosen careers. We, on the other hand, were feeling trapped and powerless."

After Jeff George first gave lighthouse keeping a try, and liked it, Caroline Woodward packed in her job as a publishers' sales rep and joined her partner on hard-to-approach Lennard Island, offshore from Tofino, where she subsequently gained her credentials as a keeper of the light.

Here **Sheila Peters** outlines how Woodward's irrepressible curiosity and enthusiasm turned a chance encounter on a B.C. Ferry into a life line.



The lighthouse on Lennard Island is four miles south of Tofino.

HUMPBACK LULLABIES & DAUNTING ISOLATION

Welcome to the wet, wild, cold and literary world of **Caroline Woodward**

Light Years: Memoir of a Modern Lighthouse Keeper by **Caroline Woodward** (Harbour Publishing \$29.95)

BY **SHEILA PETERS**

LIKE ANY GOOD STORYTELLER, **Caroline Woodward** runs many threads through her rich storybook quilt of history and memoir.

On the personal side, she takes us back to her childhood on a farm in B.C.'s northeast and her breakthrough writing year at David Thompson University where she met her husband, **Jeff George**.

On the historical side, we travel back to the early days of lighthouse keeping in B.C. and forward to the heated battle to keep at least some of those lighthouses staffed.

As these storylines are connected, Woodward's determination to reclaim her and her partner's creative life amounts to a powerful story.

"The lightkeeping life was going to be our next Great Adventure," she writes. "...It was time for me to climb the rope ladder, get on the ship and head out to the lighthouse."

Woodward's narrative mentions the dozens of jobs she had previously, from her child-

hood on her parent's homestead in remote Cecil Lake, B.C. in the North Peace River region to her teenage days writing for **Ma Murray's** *Alaska Highway News* to planting tea in Sri Lanka and running a bookstore (to mention only a few). As well as providing fodder for her writing, she says, these varied experiences made her a good fit for the varied tasks of a relief lighthouse keeper.

Although she does admit the lawnmower once backed her into the blackberry thorns, the sixty-something, five-foot-two Woodward stands tall for female equality. "...when anyone has the colossal nerve, as one lightkeeper's prissy wife did, to tell me that lightkeeping is really Man's Work—well, I've been far too polite to such presumptuous, sexist individuals to date. But I will state here that I had likely done more hours of hard labour by the time I reached fourteen years of age than most contemporary adult Canadian males have done in their lives."

Woodward sticks up for B.C.'s always-endangered lighthouses just as strongly as she sticks up for herself. *Light Years* is full of stories of lives saved, disasters averted and comfort brought to people

caught out by wind and waves. Excerpts from keepers' letters reveal some of the challenges they faced as tsunamis destroyed their homes or supply ships couldn't get to increasingly hungry families.

And if you've ever wondered exactly how visibility, the height of the waves, or the wind speed are determined, Woodward reveals the tricks used to compile the weather reports keepers file daily, beginning at 4:40 a.m. and finishing at 10:30 p.m. The lighthouse keeper's life can be a hard slog...

Along the way, Woodward rarely misses an opportunity to throw in arcane facts. It was **Robert Louis Stevenson's** engineering father who invented the Stevenson screen, a slatted box still used to house maximum/minimum thermometers.

"The Stevensons and their crews of skilled tradesmen," writes Woodward, "achieved feats of engineering in North Sea conditions that would be utterly forbidding, even today, using no cordless DEWALT power tools whatsoever."

As exuberant as any wild coastal landscape, *Light Years* has sections on gardening that include how-to cope with extreme coastal climates or soil contaminated with die-

sel spills, babying seedlings shared with other keepers and pruning a beloved David Austin tea rose.

In spite of the complications of shipping food to such remote locations, celebrations of good eating are epic (if Woodward ever invites you to dinner, accept!). Best of all, she slips her sense of wonder into every chapter. Photos are by Jeff George. And, yes, some of the romanticism most of us automatically associate with lighthouses is in evidence.

"I slept and slept on Egg Island," she writes, describing one of her numerous relief stints at other lighthouses, "with only the sounds of the wind in the evergreens, the cries of the sea birds and the comforting push and pull of the ocean swells."

"One night humpback whales circled the island, singing their eerie whale songs, some basso profundo, others swooping up into the helden-tenor range. I had to pinch myself. Imagine falling asleep to whales singing deep sea lullabies."

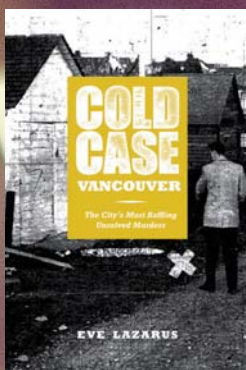
Woodward's need for solitude combined with her powerful sense of connection to people and place has stood her well in her work on the lights and as a writer. *Light Years* is a passionate and generous celebration of both endeavours and the people who do them.

And any writer looking for ways to re-start a stalled career would do well to consider her example: *Light Years* is Caroline Woodward's third book since moving to keeping the lights in 2008.

978-1-55017-727-5

Sheila Peters writes and publishes from Smithers.

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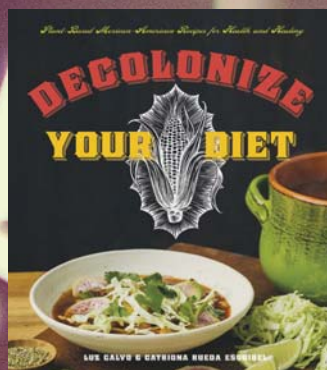


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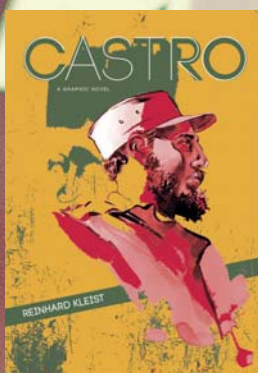


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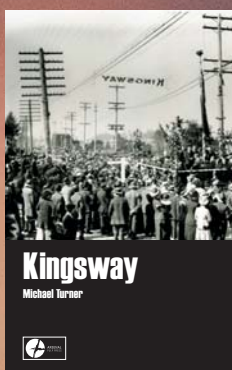


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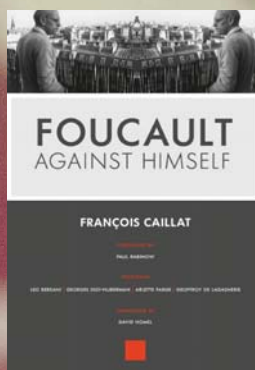


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To The Lighthouse
by Peter Johnson & John Walls
(Heritage House \$19.95)

Egyptians built one at the mouth of the Nile. Romans had one at Dover. In Genoa, Christopher Columbus’ uncle tended one; Robert Louis Stevenson’s grandfather and father managed them in Scotland. As lighthouses evolved with technological innovations from Swedish mathematician Jonas Norberg, Swiss-French chemist Francois Argand, French aristocrat Antoine

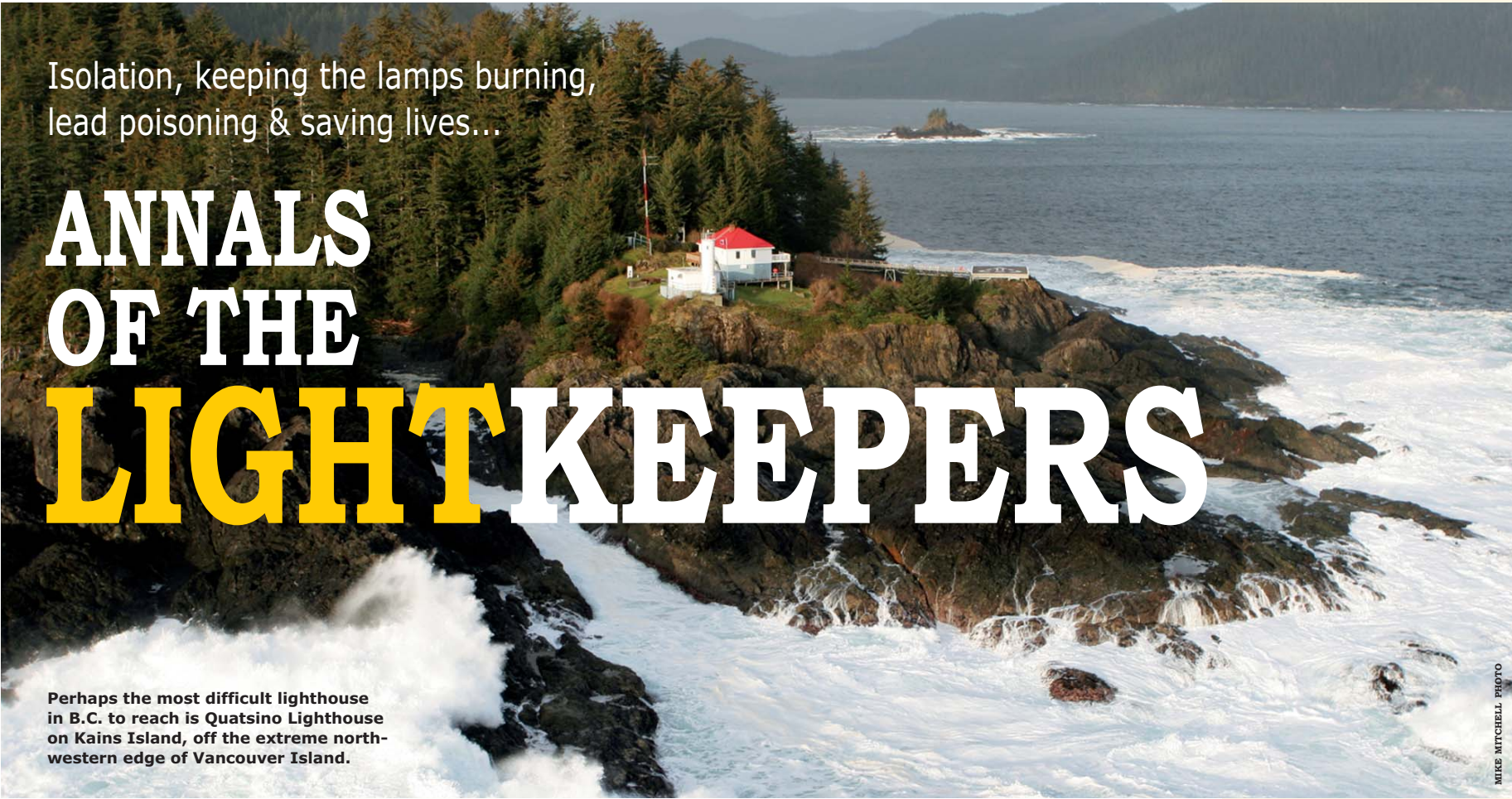
proach. Visitors to lighthouses are not necessarily welcomed by their keepers. With original photos by Richard Paddle, combined with anecdotes and condensed histories culled from previous books, this smartly-written compendium might have more accurately been entitled *Lights of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands*. The attractive directory is history as entertainment in the format of a guidebook. We learn: After lightkeeper Alexander Dingwall rowed his wife Eve to their lonely perch on Green Island, circa 1916, she frequently tied her young chil-

• Trial Islands at the southeast-ern tip of Vancouver Island, the first keeper worked with a pegleg for twenty-five years because he’d lost it when a cable he was towing snapped and recoiled, shattering his shin. The keeper in 1944 saved the lives of five people whose yacht was smashed to bits. The keeper in 1997 saved two more lives when two kayakers went into the drink, caught in riptides. In June of 2009, the keeper saved four more kayakers from drowning by alerting the coast guard of their plight. That same year, Ottawa decreed Trial Islands Lighthouse would be de-staffed.

• The sea and isolation were not the only hazards. Keepers were obliged to paint their light stations every two years with lead-based paint until the danger of lead poisoning was finally acknowledged. Liquid mercury was used to float the Fresnel-lamp apparatus that was commonly used from 1900 to 1980. “During those years,” write Johnson and Walls, “an untold number of keepers may have developed Minamata disease... Ottawa did not encourage light keepers who were ill to take time off to seek medical attention. Without records or a physician tracking an illness, the government escaped respon-

The Estevan Controversy

At “really, really hard” to reach Estevan Point, midway up the west coast of Vancouver Island, light keeper Robert Lally and his radio operator reported being attacked by twenty shells from a visible warship about five kilometres offshore on June 20, 1942. Two nine-year-olds at Estevan Point corroborated this story but their views were soon discounted by officials. Lally’s logbook in which he recorded the incident was



Isolation, keeping the lamps burning,
lead poisoning & saving lives...

ANNALS OF THE LIGHTKEEPERS

Perhaps the most difficult lighthouse in B.C. to reach is Quatsino Lighthouse on Kains Island, off the extreme north-western edge of Vancouver Island.

Lavoisier, French physicist Augustin-Jean Fresnel and the Chance brothers of Birmingham, England, they became more than just practical structures to prevent maritime tragedy. Lighthouses are recognized everywhere as poetic symbols of civilization and hope. ★ CAPE BRETON ISLAND HAD CANADA’S first, pre-Confederation lighthouse in 1734. By the 1860s, the B.C. coastline had two of them—at Fisgard and Race Rocks. When government cut-backs threatened to eliminate most lighthouses in B.C., historian and lighthouse activist Donald Graham wrote two classic bestsellers in the mid-1980s, *Keepers of the Light* and *Lights of the Inside Passage*. Now Peter Johnson and John Walls have crafted To The Lighthouse, an ‘explorer’s guidebook’ to twenty-five lighthouses in southwestern B.C. Boaters and armchair adventurers will likely benefit most from this well-designed anthology as many sites are remote and dangerous to ap-

dren to the clothesline to keep the fierce winds from blowing them into the sea. At the “really, really hard” to approach Quatsino lighthouse on Kains Island, Catherine Sadler give birth to her third child at the site because her light keeper husband was not permitted to leave his post. When she learned her younger brother died in World War I, she “snapped.” Desperate for help, her husband James flew the station’s ensign upside down for eight days before the family was rescued. Catherine was committed to an insane asylum and never recovered. At the “hard” to approach

• Described as “dead easy” to reach from nearby Victoria, Fisgard was Canada’s first lighthouse on the West Coast, from 1860. Its third keeper, William Bevis, died on duty. For the next four months, his wife and niece kept the lamp burning every night, all night long, but Ottawa mandarins found out and declared, “It is against the rules of the Dept. to place women in charge of lighthouses.” In 1898, light keeper Joseph Dare drowned while rowing his skiff to work. William Cormack, his replacement, set the record for the shortest stint on the job. He resigned after twelve days.

sibility and ultimately the payment of any compensation for keepers’ untimely deaths.” Recently, when Ottawa planned to de-staff the “hard” to access Entrance Island station, a four-hectare outcropping one kilometre off Gabriola Island, hundreds of kayakers formed a chain around the island, claiming the cost-cutting would only cost lives. Ottawa reneged. It’s still manned. In August of 2014, keeper Tony Greenall saved the lives of nine people from drowning, rushing to their sinking vessel in his own boat.

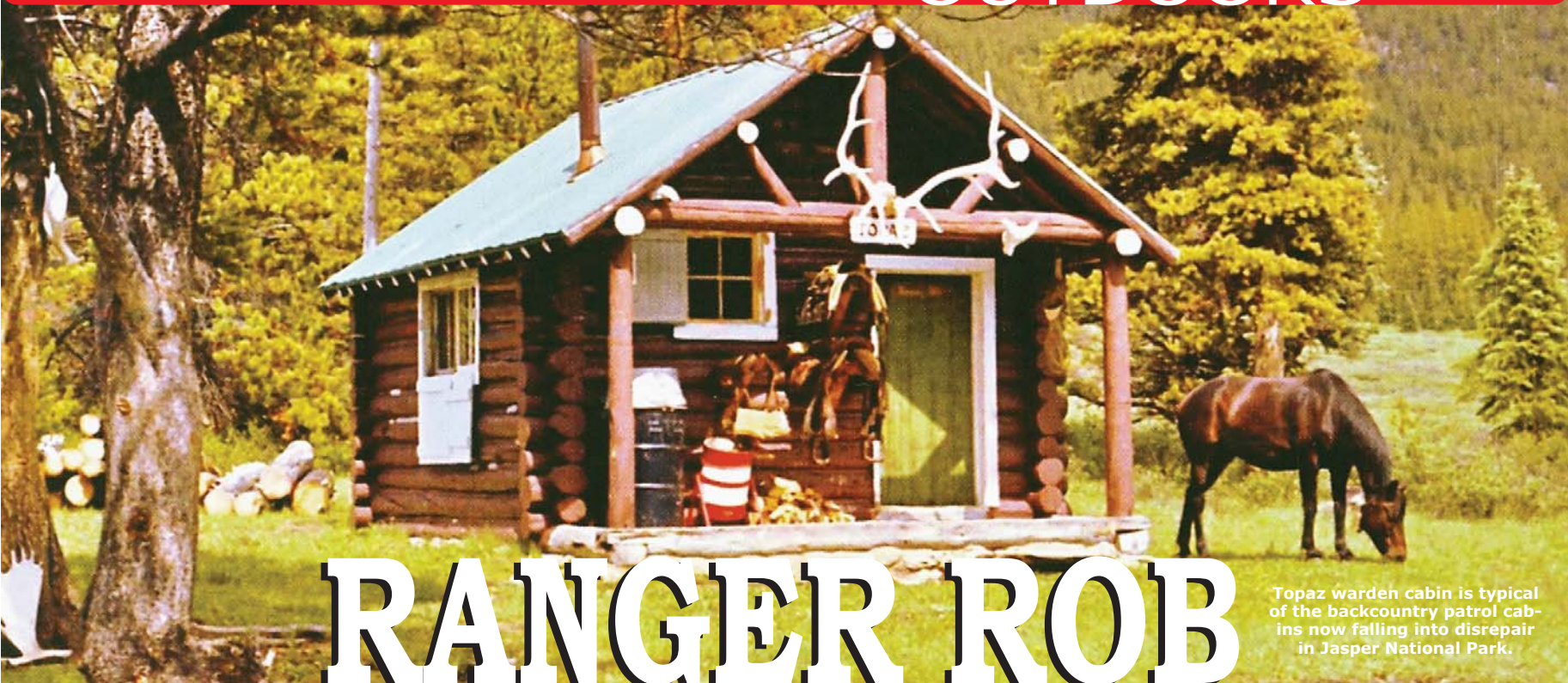


seized and has never resurfaced. Ottawa discredited Lally as someone “under stress.” His assistant and the two children denied Lally was off his rocker, but nobody listened. The official government version of this story sent shockwaves worldwide: A Canadian lighthouse had been attacked by a Japanese submarine. The Canadian government could more easily justify the incarceration and relocation of 22,000 Japanese Canadians en masse, by November of 1942, as well as the seizure of their fishing boats and properties. Historian Donald Graham publicly declared on national television that the alleged enemy attack at Estevan Point was bogus. Many now agree.



THE COVER PHOTO

To The Lighthouse was kickstarted by the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society, an organization founded in 2003 to restore the lighthouse and its outbuildings, hoping to give rise to a community park in Shirley, B.C., also home to co-author John Walls, a director of the society. Photographer Richard Paddle’s partner is Sharon Kerrigan-Bruton, daughter of James Bruton who served for twenty years as the light keeper at Sheringham Point. Strictly against regulations, Sharon Kerrigan-Bruton was married atop the lighthouse on December 4, 1976. Sixteen family members and a preacher climbed to the lamp room where Bruton had broken another rule by painting the inside of the tower a “matrimonial royal blue” instead of the regulation grey for the nuptials. In classic West Coast do-it-yourself style, they also hooked up a citizens’ band radio with speakers at ground level so that other members of the wedding party could hear the couple say I do.



Topaz warden cabin is typical of the backcountry patrol cabins now falling into disrepair in Jasper National Park.

RANGER ROB BLOWS THE WHISTLE

Speaking up for Canadian Parks over commercial interests.

Born to the Wild: Journals of a National Park Warden in the Canadian Rockies by Rob Kaye (Grey Wolf / Sandhill \$21.95)

IT'S HARD NOT TO THINK of those goofy Kokanee beer commercials when one thinks of park rangers.

So how does a Dudley Do-Right Parks Canada warden—complete with '80s-style, quasi-cop moustache—end up with a self-published memoir on the BC Bestsellers List from August to October?

Rob Kaye's **Born to the Wild: Journals of a National Park Warden in the Canadian Rockies** makes it obvious that park wardens are akin to another endangered species—lighthouse keepers.

After telling his requisite grizzly stories—and his elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, avalanche, beaver, glacier, wolf and horse stories—Kaye tells us that in the late 1960s, eight of the 13 districts of Jasper National Park were phased out “as a result of centralization.” Wardens were no longer assigned to a specific district but instead were required to work throughout the park.

As of 2013, wardens were no longer assigned to backcountry postings.

“Very few now have the skill set and training to manage the park’s expansive backcountry postings,” he writes. “Many warden cabins in Jasper and other Canadian Rocky Mountain national parks are now in a state of disrepair and slowly fading into the past, much like the traditional role of the backcountry warden.”



AS A TYKE WHO WAS BORN IN THE Rockies and grew up in Jasper, Rob Kaye knew he had to become a park ranger when a senior park horseman, who was wooing his wife-to-be, Rob’s older sister, hitched his horse to a tree in the yard.

“I wanted a horse,” he says, “just like his.”

After his 33 years as a park ranger, Kaye retired in 2010 and now lives in Qualicum. He worked mostly in Jasper National Park, straddling the B.C./Alberta border, with a one-year sojourn to work in Australia.

In the old days, a dedicated parks official could



Atypical visitor Marilyn Monroe filmed *River of No Return* at Jasper National Park in 1953.

make a difference. When Kaye transferred to the 194-square-kilometre Elk Island National Park, one hour’s drive east of Edmonton, back in 1989, it was one of the few protected areas representing the last ten percent of Canada’s aspen parkland ecosystem—a bird watcher’s paradise.

For sixteen years Kaye coordinated an elk management system. There were similar programs for the protection

and propagation of wood bison and plains bison. By 2014, Elk Island had provided 885 wood bison, 1088 plains bison and 4690 elk to conservation initiatives in Western Canada, Alaska and the Republic of Sakha in Russia.

This is what a park ranger can do.

But in 2012, Canada eliminated 638 jobs from Parks Canada and 1,038 seasonal employees were cut back to shorter terms. Kaye claims biologists, historians, social scientists and archaeologists working out of Parks Canada offices were also affected. Hiring freezes prevented meaningful recruitment. Morale fell.

“Employees, frustrated with having to squeeze funds out of shoestring budgets,” he writes, “mourned the loss of their peers. They were left looking over their shoulders, wondering who would be next.”

Kaye believes Parks Canada desperately needs to re-evaluate its support of com-

mercial and private interests that contradicts its own policies. He gives specifics about the degradation of services.

He claims only three part-time resource management specialists now cover Jasper’s 10,860 square kilometres of area zoned as wilderness that comprises 97 percent of the park’s total area. The horse herd has been cut from 65 to 30, with more downsizing imminent. Backcountry trails will soon become impassable without maintenance; untended warden cabins are aging beyond repair.

“Successive governments—of which the Harper government has been by far the worst offender—have largely ignored the value of the environment, placing national parks in peril.

“Prime Minister Harper has declared war on science, particularly studies related to nature and the impacts of human activities.

“In a society structured around economic growth with minimal consideration towards environmental responsibility,” Kaye writes, “our governments continue to value commercial interests over the long-term ecological, social and economic benefits of protecting wilderness.”

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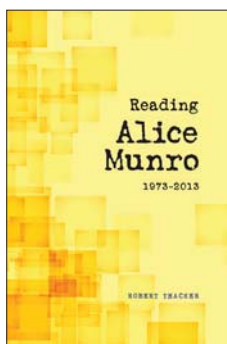


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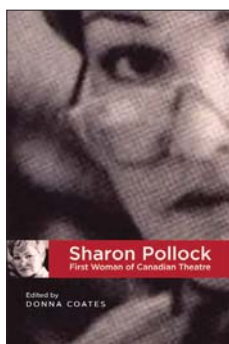
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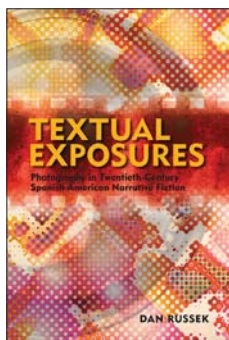
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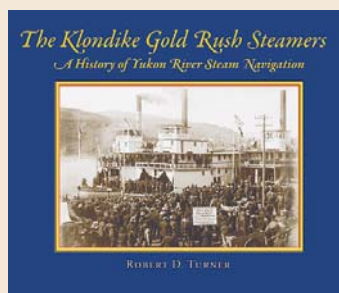
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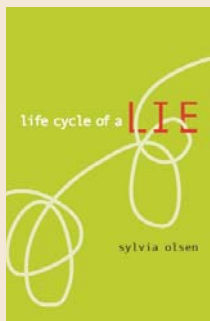
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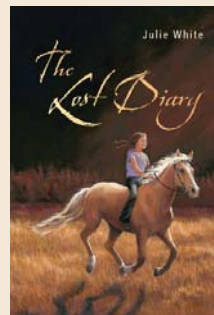
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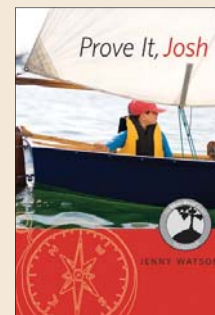
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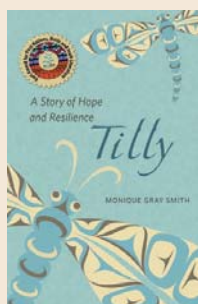
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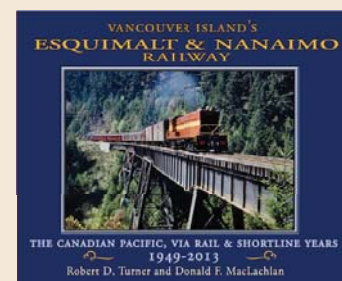
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Uncharted Waters: The Explorations of José Narváez (1768-1840) by Jim McDowell (Ronsdale \$24.95)

BY CAROLINE WOODWARD

JOSÉ NARVÁEZ, WAS born in Cadiz, the great port city of Spain, in 1768. Much like Captain **James Cook** and explorer/mapmaker **David Thompson**, Narváez was an exceptionally intelligent boy and so he was accepted into the Spanish Royal Naval Academy for Midshipmen at the age of fourteen.

By the ripe old age of twenty-three, Narváez had served on a battleship during prolonged battles with the English Navy for control of Gibraltar; spent three years based in Havana, serving on supply vessels bound for Spanish military outposts like New Orleans, Campeche, Mexico and Trujillo, Honduras; and exchanged “a barrel of wine, some chocolate and other things to get them to tell us more” with Russian traders on Kodiak Island, Alaska.

According to biographer **Jim McDowell** in **Uncharted Waters: The Explorations of José Narváez (1768-1840)**, Narváez was the first Spaniard to engage in face-to-face contact with the feared, furtrading Russians in the Alaskan Northwest. He was also a crucial contributor on a Spanish team which explored and mapped Clayoquot Sound, Barkley Sound and the Southern Gulf Islands, all for the first time.

Narváez was then directed to venture into fog-shrouded Juan de Fuca Strait to map its entirety and, most particularly, to ascertain whether any great river flowing from the east into a fabled inland sea could be claimed by Spain in its quest for the Northwest Passage. So it was that José Narváez became the first European to reconnoitre the interior of Juan de Fuca Strait in 1789 and, two years later, he was the first European to sail across the northern inland gulf of what we now know as the Salish Sea—as well as the first to map it.

In doing so, José Narváez was indisput-

ably the first European to set eyes upon the site of the present day city of Vancouver.

The description of the first contact between the Musqueam and Narváez near Chitchulayuk aka Punta de Langara—now known as Point Grey—is emblematic of our colonial history.

Armed not with bows and arrows, the Musqueam brought the pale strangers “several kinds of fish” including freshly caught salmon, deer and elk meat, edible wild plants, berries and fruits, fresh water and firewood.

In exchange, they “received

THE MAN WHO MET

QEYUPULENUXW

Musqueam leader Qeyupulenuxw whose people met Narváez at Punta de Langara, now Point Grey, in 1791 (drawn by José Cardero, 1792). In 2008, the government of Spain presented the City of Vancouver and Musqueam leaders with reproductions of what is believed to be the oldest surviving image of an indigenous person who lived in what is now Greater Vancouver. The name Qeyupulenuxw eventually evolved into the word Capilano. Shortly before Narváez made first contact at this location, this famous Musqueam leader united tribal warriors to defend Musqueam territory, and they repelled a large Kwakwaka’wakw raiding party from the north.

Vancouver won’t be renamed Narváez anytime soon—but it was Spaniard **José Narváez**, the most overlooked significant explorer of the Pacific Northwest, who was the first European to set eyes on the site of the city, meeting the Musqueam leader **Qeyupulenuxw** (above) in the process.

scraps of copper, pieces of iron and barrel hoops.” Not to mention having their home renamed and claimed out from under them, it almost goes without saying.

The artist aboard, **José Cardero**, would make preparations for his subsequent portrait of Musqueam leader **Qeyupulenuxw**.

Captain **George Vancouver** would arrive a full year later and declare himself “mortified” to discover Narváez had already mapped the region.

★ SKILLED CARTOGRAPHERS AND HARDY navigators/pilots like Narváez

were highly valued by the Viceroy for New Spain, based in Mexico City, because Spain had competitors.

Spanish navigators and their largely Mexican crews were conducting explorations and making maps of the West Coast as far north as 60 degrees 18’ North latitude and as far east as 152 degrees 39’ West longitude, well before the British arrived. But we all know that history is written by the victorious.

Fortunately for Jim McDowell—and now us—his- tory is also remembered and documented by the survivors, including a direct descendant of Narváez living in California. **Luis Marmolejo-Meillon** gave the author generous access to Narváez family history and genealogy, including maps and charts, as did UBC’s Rare Books and Special Collections, a treasure trove of early B.C. exploration history, among many other archives in Mexico, America and Spain.

In this lively yet painstakingly researched book, McDowell offers a seemingly effortless synthesis of facts, political context and biographical particulars to present the first fully realized biography of the achievements of José Narváez. The generous number of illustrations, including hand-drawn maps and early drawings of First Nations leaders, enhance the narrative as do the appendices and footnotes, many of which are fascinating reading by themselves.

For example, Appendix E is a translation by one of three Spanish translators McDowell worked with while researching Narváez. It is the ‘Manifest of the Santa Saturnina,’ showing the numbers and ranks of the people on board, accounting for every sail, anchor, cannon and firearm (130 bags of grapeshot, fyi), 24 barrels of water and the dimensions of the schooner itself.

The only element missing from this ship’s manifest is the supply of foodstuffs, which this reviewer was keen to learn about, knowing of the Spanish fondness for red wine and chocolate. (Had I been disguised as the single servant

continued on page 14

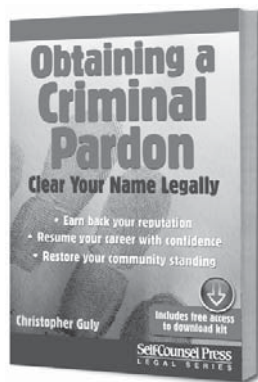
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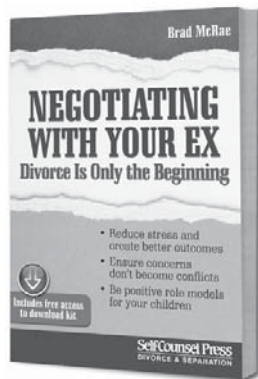


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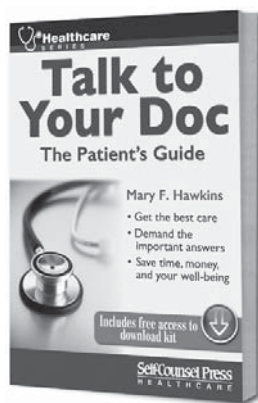


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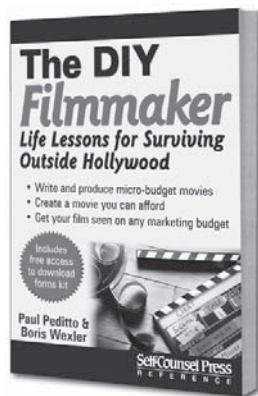


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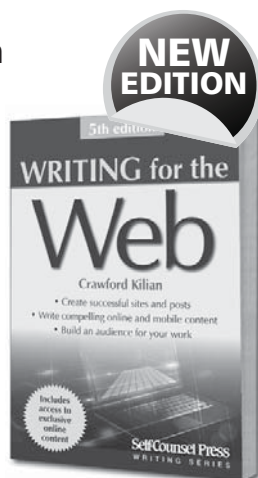


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review EXPLORERS



Jim McDowell at the memorial anchor at Spanish Banks commissioned by the Spanish government to recognize the early Spanish presence in B.C.

Narváez

continued from page 13

or as one of the two boys on board, I would certainly have gravitated to the galley.) The manifest declared that the *Santa Saturnina* was commanded by “Second Piloto Don José Narváez, when he sailed from this Port of the Holy Cross of Nootka.”

Once again, the anchorage known as Cala de Los Amigos (aka Friendly Cove) on Nootka Island was at the centre of the action as the Europeans jostled for trading and religious supremacy and claim-staking territory for their respective thrones.

Historians and other writers about New World history must be relentless detectives with access to a bevy of translators, adept at Latin, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, Russian and English, rendered in medieval dialects. For any maritime book, it also helps immensely to have actual experience or good advice from sailors in the challenging conditions of the north Pacific. Handwriting analysis is a critical skill as well.

McDowell has been able to distinguish when Narváez had made a map and when another person had copied it. He alerts us to ambitious skullduggery or short-sighted navigational decisions by discreetly inserting the word “inexplicably” before recounting the act of

another piloto bolting from the rest of the team prematurely in order to present maps to an impatient commander or the latter making a particularly stunned navigational error, all with a scholarly straight face.



AMONG JIM MCDOWELL'S SIX BOOKS IS A BRIEFER 1998 book on Narváez that was published by Arthur H. Clark Co., based in Spokane, WA. There were obviously too many tantalizing questions raised by researching and writing the earlier book which led to this fully-documented biography that should give Narváez his rightful place among **Malaspina, Quadra, Galiano, Valdes** and **Vancouver**.

The book is dedicated to the memory of **John Crosse**, sailor, researcher, writer and friend of the author, whose own unpublished manuscript on Narváez is held in UBC's Special Collections.

Once the British had gained ascendancy in the Pacific Northwest, hundreds of Spanish and First Nations place names were erased. McDowell's biography is an eloquent and informed contribution to cultural diversity and accurate colonial history in what is now British Columbia and will appeal to sailors, scholars, and armchair historical detectives alike.

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*Lennard Island lighthouse keeper
Caroline Woodward has a new book
this fall, reviewed on page 7.*

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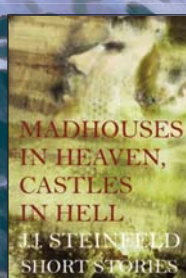
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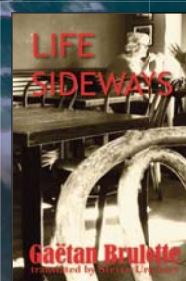


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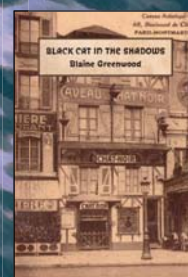
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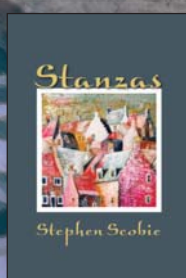


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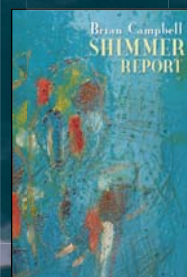
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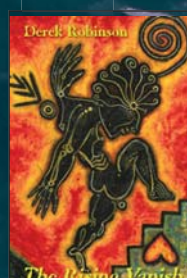


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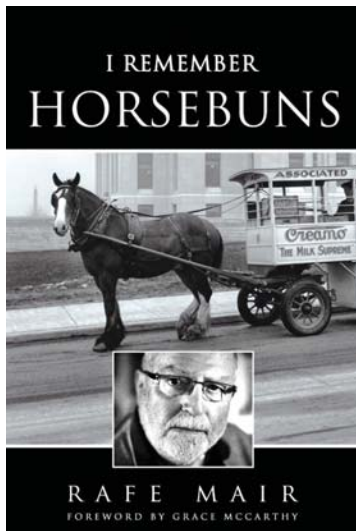
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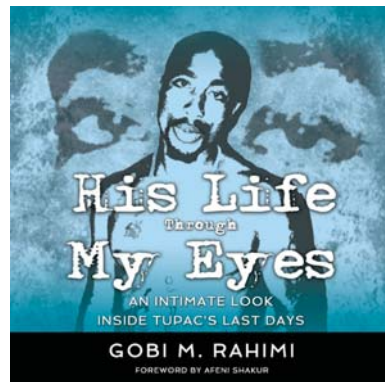
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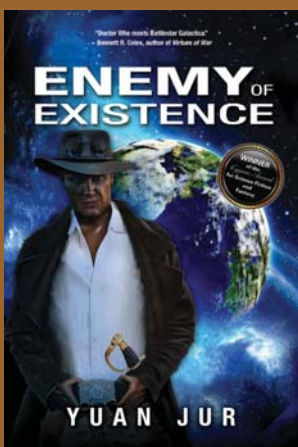
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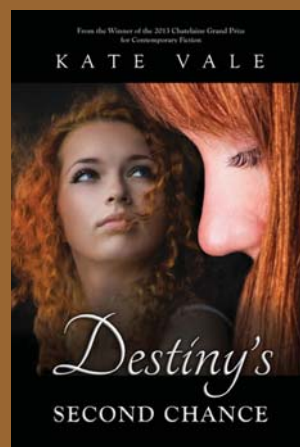
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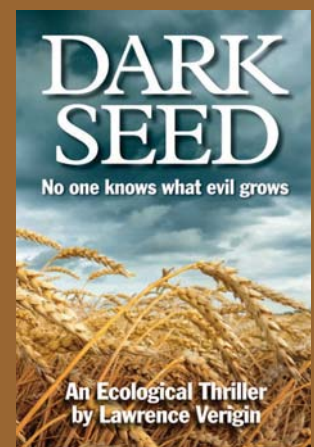
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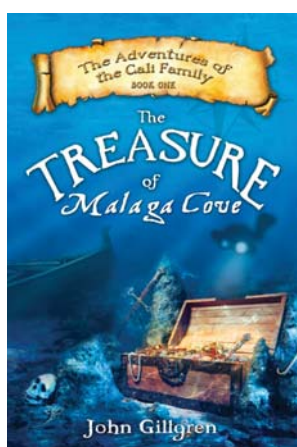
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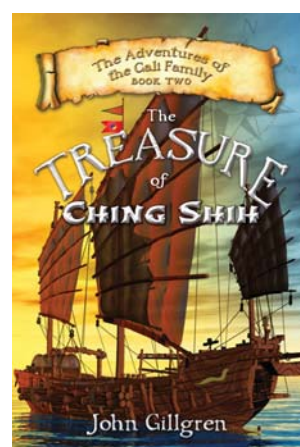


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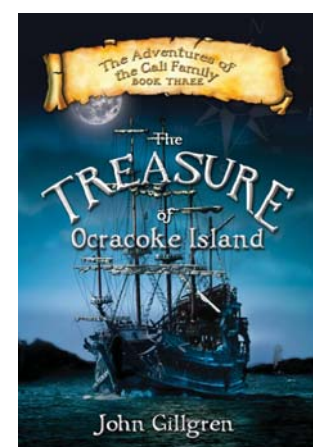


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Pender Guy

BY **JIM WONG-CHU**

MOST OF THE EARLY pioneers of the Asian Canadian literary canon didn't start off with aspirations of writing. They were community activists who grew up with racial discrimination and wanted change. They were compelled to write.

People like SKY Lee and Paul Yee worked full-time jobs, but they needed to get their stories out there. Paul Yee was an archivist who knew a lot about Chinatown. But he wasn't a writer. One day, Lorimer Books commissioned **Rick Shiomi**, a Japanese Canadian playwright, to craft a children's book with an Asian Canadian theme. Rick ran out of time and rather than letting the project fall through, Paul stepped up and tried his hand at writing.

That book, *Teach Me to Fly, Skyfighter!*, in 1983, is seminal because it was one of the first to depict life growing up in Chinatown. It was the first Canadian book that touched on that topic. It was a turning point when we realized that someone outside of the so-called literary establishment could publish, too.

★
MY BOOK, *CHINATOWN GHOSTS*, HAPPENED very much by serendipity. I trained in photography but I entered the creative

How **Jim Wong-Chu** became the Moses of Asian Canadian Writing

CHINESE CANADIANS WEREN'T GRANTED THE FEDERAL vote in Canada until 1947. They first voted provincially in 1949—the year **Jim Wong-Chu** was born in Hong Kong.

Brought to Canada in 1953, Wong-Chu was raised by aunts and uncles as a 'paper son'. His 62-page *Chinatown Ghosts* (Pulp Press, 1986) was the first solo collection of poetry by a Chinese Canadian writer.

With Vancouver lawyer **Bennett Lee**, a third-generation Chinese Canadian from Victoria, Wong-Chu also co-edited the first collective volume of contemporary writing by Chinese Canadians, *Many-Mouthed Birds* (D&M, 1991).

With **Allan Cho** and **Julia Lin**, Wong-Chu has now co-edited a West Coast-centric anthology, **AlliterAsian**, to mark the 20th anniversary of *Ricepaper*, a literary publication

founded in B.C. by the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop (ACWW).

AlliterAsian includes interviews with **David Suzuki, Tobias Wong, Ruth Ozeki, Evelyn Lau, Denise Chong** and **Madeleine Thien**;

plus excerpts from works-in-progress by **Joy Kogawa, Yasuko Thanh** and **SKY Lee**; and poetry from **Fred Wah,**

Rita Wong, Souvanhkahm Thammavongsa and **Michael Prior**. Other contributors are **Kim Fu, Doretta Lau, Corinna Chong, Terry Watada, Derwin Mak, Eric Choi** and **C.E. Catchalian**. AsianLit trailblazers **Wayson Choy, Paul Yee** and **Lily Chow** are absent from this anthology.

Here Jim Wong-Chu comments on the early evolution of Asian Canadian writing.

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writing program at UBC and tried my hand at poetry. I realized after two years that no one understood my writing which mainly revolved around Chinatown. I eventually realized writers of Asian descent needed some sort of organization that could get together to workshop and be comfortable in sharing stories that spoke about themselves.

Chinatown Ghosts was a culmination of those two years of creative writing classes at UBC. I never intended to publish it. I hung out at **Alvin Jang's** place one day. He was a visual artist who happened to be close friends with **J. Michael Yates**, a renowned

Canadian author. After Alvin showed my poems to Yates, he came to me one day and said, "Give me everything you have. I'm going to be your editor."

It turned out that Arsenal Pulp Press needed one more book to fulfill its Canada Council grant and Yates was asked to search for manuscripts. With Yates as editor, *Chinatown Ghosts* immediately had legitimacy. It was published within five months.

★
WAYSON CHOY IS A CASE OF HIDDEN talent waiting to be discovered. It only took thirty years. **Scott McIntyre** came to me and asked if Bennett Lee and I could put together an anthol-

ogy of Asian Canadian writers. In those days, there weren't that many, so I scoured the UBC Library stacks searching for anything published by Asian Canadian writers in literary magazines. That's where we found Wayson Choy.

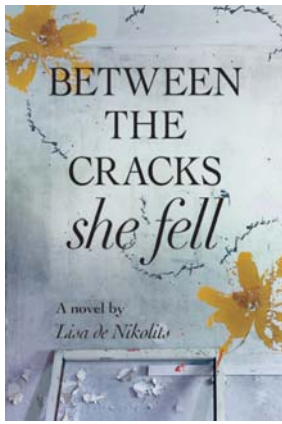
Although Wayson's short story called *Jade Peony* had already been published in other anthologies, its inclusion in *Many-Mouthed Birds: Contemporary Writing by Chinese Canadians*, brought it into the spotlight as an Asian Canadian story. There were actually three stories by Wayson Choy that we shortlisted and *Jade Peony* wasn't Wayson's first choice. However, Douglas

& McIntyre liked the story so much that it not only accepted it, but gave Wayson a contract to develop it into a novel.

★
THE ASIAN CANADIAN LITERARY SCENE began mainly with Chinese and Japanese writers because historically they have been in Canada the longest. But times have changed. Other groups are emerging with recent immigration, from places such as Korea, Laos, Vietnam, the Philippines, etc. We've seen excellent writing from the likes of **Madeleine Thien, Vincent Lam** and **Kim Thuy**, just to name a few.

The hyphenation of Asian Canadian is a residue of historical circumstances. I've noticed that not all of them define themselves as Asian Canadian and prefer to drop the hyphen. And that's fine. We're all Canadian writers first and foremost. It's more important to continue to find the hidden talents in our communities, people who aren't used to having their voices heard, rather than become sidetracked by identity.

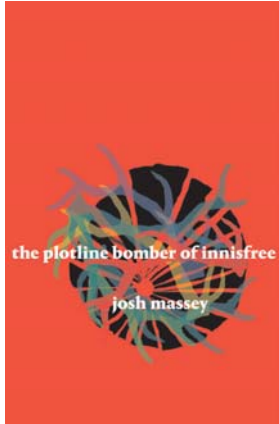
Jim Wong-Chu is one of the founders of the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop Society, of which Allan Cho is now the president. Wong-Chu also spearheaded a Chinese Canadian radio program called Pender Guy and has co-edited Swallowing Clouds: An Anthology of Chinese-Canadian Poetry (1999) and Strike the Wok: An Anthology of Contemporary Chinese Canadian Fiction (2003).



“Fast-moving and compelling”
—Catherine Graham

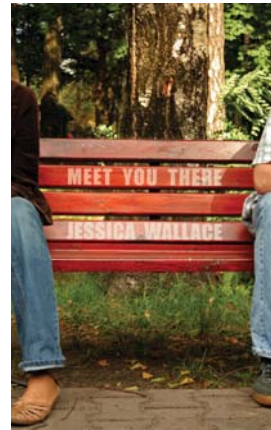
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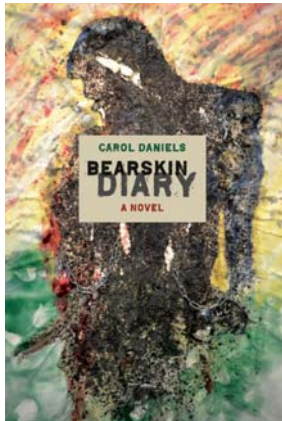
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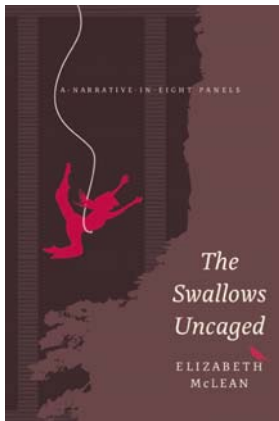
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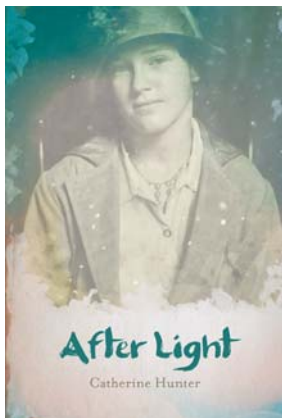
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“...unfolds like a dark and wonderful fairy tale.”
—Charlotte Gill

Award-winning author Pauline Holdstock returns with a haunting tale affirming the **persistence of life** and the **power of human connection**.

The Hunter and the Wild Girl by Pauline Holdstock
Goose Lane Editions
Fiction • Hardcover • \$32.95
ISBN: 978-0-864928-62-7 • Available Sept. 2015



In the midst of tragedy, **the creative fire that drives the Garrison family survives**, burning more and more brightly as it’s passed from one generation to the next, into the twenty-first century.

After Light by Catherine Hunter
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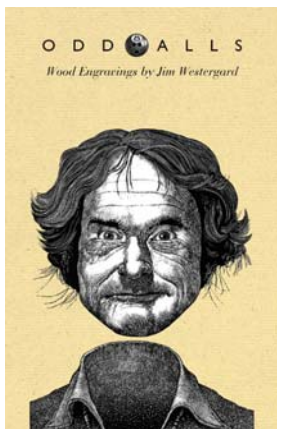
The unofficial story of someone who is both a **bearded lady** and the **fattest man** in the world.

Sideshow Concessions by Lucas Crawford
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Deerchild describes deep personal experiences and **generational effects of the Canadian Residential School system**, and how its ongoing impact has contributed to social problems that continue to exist today.

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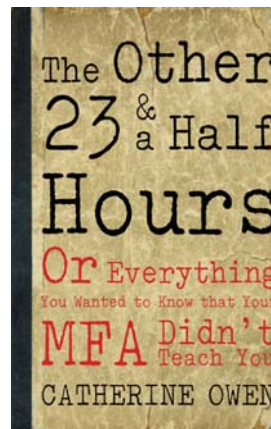
They say truth is stranger than fiction. In *Oddballs*, Jim Westergard proves it.

Oddballs by Jim Westergard
Porcupine's Quill
Art/Biography • Paperback • \$18.95
ISBN: 978-0-889843-89-9 • Available Dec. 2015



A stunning collection of writing and art that interrogates the current era of reconciliation in Canada.

The Land We Are by Gabrielle L'Hirondelle Hill & Sophie McCall (Eds.)
ARP Books
Art & Politics/Indigenous Studies • Paperback • \$24.95
ISBN: 978-1-894037-63-1 • Available June 2015



In interviews with over 50 authors, Catherine Owen charts what is happening at literature's grass roots.

The Other 23 & a Half Hours by Catherine Owen
Wolsak & Wynn
Literary Criticism • Paperback • \$20.00
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The Hunter and the Wild Girl
by **Pauline Holdstock**
(Goose Lane \$29.95)

BY **CHERIE THEISSEN**

A lonely taxidermist and a feral girl meet at a remote hunting lodge in 19th century France.

PAULINE HOLDSTOCK'S seventh novel, **The Hunter and the Wild Girl** is set in a remote, lofty estate near the town of Gougeac in France, during the 19th century.

For thirteen years, Peyre Rouff has been the reclusive steward of Chateau d'Aveyrac, a crumbling old hunting lodge belonging to the de Villiers family.

Tormented by an unspeakable tragedy—a hunting accident that cost him his family—Rouff, also a talented taxidermist, lives alone with his trusty old dog.

Into this isolation creeps a hungry, wild child; a feral girl. Her innocence is anything but angelic and pretty.

Naked, filthy, spitting, defecating, snarling and lapping water on all fours, this creature is no romantic symbol and yet she lifts her arms to the light; she knows joy.

Questions immediately arise for the reader.

Will he domesticate her? Will she heal him?

Is love going to germinate out of need?

If the novel were only about Rouff and his taming of the wild girl, it would still be fascinating, but Holdstock isn't interested in making a new, coarser version of *My Fair Lady*.



THE COUNTRYSIDE IN *THE HUNTER and the Wild Girl* is still full of impenetrable forests and inhospitable wilderness, a place where wild creatures are plentiful.

The steward is anchored in his hideaway by three things: the nearby grave he attends, his ageing canine companion and his passion for taxidermy.

With his sought-after skills

as a taxidermist, Rouff has created a veritable forest of Eden with a myriad of life-like birds and stuffed creatures in the orangerie (outbuildings on the grounds of wealthy estates).

Alongside his own dead and unpopulated world, he has created a glade and brought the dead into it, giving them a life he does not have and placing them in a beautiful world of his own creation, perhaps the closest he feels he can get to heaven.



I CONTACTED THE AUTHOR AND asked if the feral girl was based upon the story of **Victor of Aveyron** (1788-1828), a French feral child who was found around age nine. He kept running away until a young physician worked with him for five years.

"The true story of Victor of Aveyron certainly contains elements a fiction writer can use to great effect," says Holdstock. "His adoption and subsequent abandonment by the scientific community is one.

"I like to think the wild girl is all my own, but the fact is you can never truly create something from nothing. Everything is absorbed. She exists in the

context of all known feral children (and perhaps those still to appear).

"What is more interesting to me is the continuing readiness of society as a whole to embrace the concept of a truly wild child.

"What does that readiness mean? A longing for lost innocence?"



HOLDSTOCK TOLD ME SHE HAD BEEN making notes for some time about known cases of feral children with a view to a possible novel.

The idea only took fire after she had visited the Musee de La

Chasse et de La Nature in Paris and began to work on an entirely different novel, one about a reclusive and damaged hunter.

"The girl has a very special place in it," Holdstock says, "but it's not her story. It's really his."

Because this novel was not based on any historical figures and because it was set in Languedoc, where the author now spends about half of her time, Holdstock says the novel was relatively quick to write. By 'relatively quick' she means just under five years from the first notes she made.

"I work in a chaotic and ill-advised manner, beginning with an image or a flavour," she says.

"I start writing and do my research on an ad hoc basis as the need arises. Making discoveries keeps it exciting for me and that interest and excitement hopefully permeates the text and is passed on to the reader."

While the plot mainly explores what it means to be human, Holdstock also touches upon political ambition, the attitudes of 19th century Parisians toward the rest of the country, the different ways in which guilt can be packaged and unwrapped, the germination of love in youth, the ways in which a marriage and a family can unravel and the ways in which life can spring anew.

"I can only look at such complex questions through the medium of fiction," says Holdstock. "For me it's the right tool to approach intangibles. What does it mean to be human? To be able to connect with one another? To empathize? To love? And is there a cost? What is it we might lose?"

In Pauline Holdstock's unwavering grip, *The Hunter and the Wild Girl* is extremely readable, thought provoking and engaging. It's for each individual reader to decide why the story resonates as unforgettable fiction.



PAULINE HOLDSTOCK'S FIRST NOVEL, *The Blackbird's Song*, was set in the Chinese province of Honan during the Boxer Rebellion. Her second novel, *The Burial Ground*, explored the collision of cultures when smallpox was decimating the First Nations on the West Coast of B.C. In 2005, *Beyond Measure* won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize for exploring the twin themes of beauty and cruelty in 16th century Italy.

9780864928627

Cherie Thiessen has reviewed fiction on a regular basis for BC BookWorld for the past ten years.

LIFE BEYOND

CIVILIZATION

"I can only look at complex questions through the medium of fiction."

Pauline Holdstock



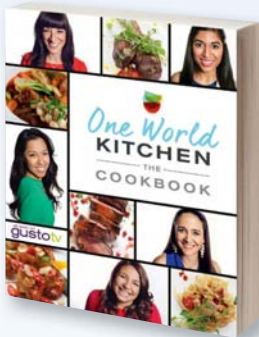
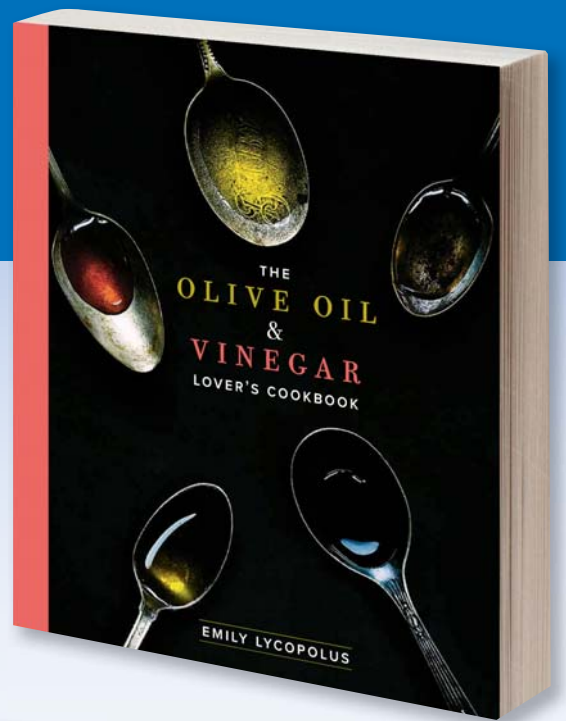
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Emily Lycopolus

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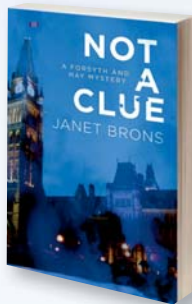


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Chris Knight

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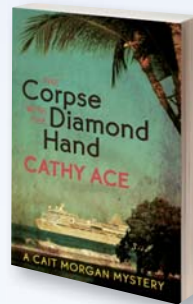


Not a Clue

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Janet Brons

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The Corpse with the Diamond Hand

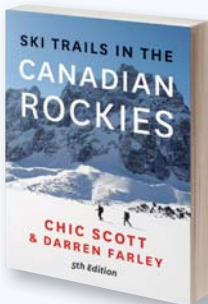
A Cait Morgan Mystery (#6)
Cathy Ace

It wouldn't be a vacation for Cait Morgan if there wasn't a dead body and a mystery to solve. When a ship employee drops dead at Cait and Bud's card table during their honeymoon Hawaiian cruise, the newlyweds covertly join an at-sea investigation to find the killer amidst thousands of possible suspects.

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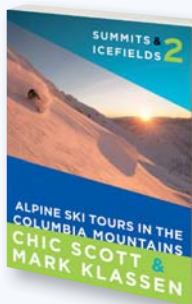


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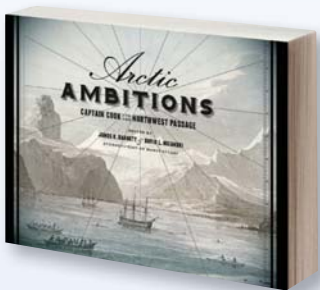
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Arctic Ambitions

Captain Cook and the Northwest Passage
James Barnett and David Nicandri, eds.

This handsome anthology, featuring full-colour illustrations and essays by international scholars, offers new insights on Cook's third and final voyage and the impact of his legacy on modern ideas of the Canadian North.

Heritage House Publishing | \$59.95 hc

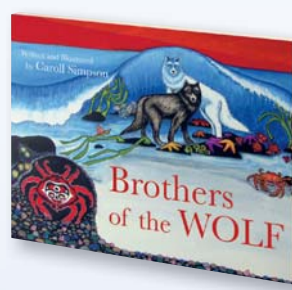


The Secret of Grim Hill

Book One
Linda DeMeulemeester

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Caroll Simpson

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LOOK OUT

56

A quarterly forum for and about writers;
as well as a series about the origins
of B.C. publishing houses.

Lori Shenher was assigned
to investigate the disappear-
ance of women from the
Downtown Eastside in 1998.

Botched

John Moore reviews a harrowing memoir of trying to catch a serial killer.

That Lonely Section of Hell: The Botched Investigation of a Serial Killer Who Almost Got Away
by **Lori Shenher** (Greystone Books \$32.95)

THOSE TASKED WITH INVESTIGATING serial killers are always at risk of becoming ‘collateral victims’ of the perpetrators they try to apprehend. These crimes are usually so heinous that the notion of ‘getting justice’ for the victims is absurd and challenges

the investigator’s own concept of rationality. How do you get ‘justice’ for human beings who have been kidnapped, terrorized, raped, sexually abused, murdered and then made non-existent by being butchered and rendered down like slaughtered pigs?

Police officers are trained to put such unquantifiable ethical questions aside, to suppress their personal emotions and proceed on the assumption that identifying, arresting and assembling evidence to convict the perpetrator does make a difference.

As ex-Vancouver Police detective **Lori Shenher** discovers and outlines in her memoir, **That Lonely Section of Hell**, neither training nor immersion in a law enforcement culture confident in its own assumptions can make you invulnerable to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, that terrible Pandora’s Box of memories, nightmares, sleep deprivation, chronic depression, guilt and suppressed rage that afflicts human beings whose job it is to confront monstrous behaviour in their own kind.

In 1998, Lori Shenher’s maiden assignment as an enthusiastic young VPD detective was to investigate a spike in disappearances of ‘low track’ female sex workers from the Downtown Eastside, an investigation that would ultimately become internationally infamous as *The Pig Farm Case* or *The Pickton Case*.

A few years later, she found herself standing in the hallway of Vancouver Police HQ, hand on her duty pistol, about to put a round into a recalcitrant photocopier.

At the time, it seemed like an appropriate way

to make a statement about the series of backfield fumbles that almost let a killer get away.

Shenher’s *That Lonely Section of Hell* is her harrowing record of how she got to the lowest point in her life and career.

That Lori Shenher seriously considered summarily executing a cranky piece of office equipment—instead of some of the colleagues she had to work with during the early years of Project Amelia, as the case was originally tagged—argues for her essential sanity. That she didn’t shoot the two self-interested Detective Bozos, (who remain pseudonymous), her original investigation was saddled with—a pair of washouts other sections of the VPD could spare—is just shy of miraculous, especially after it was revealed that they withheld the fact that **Robert ‘Willy’ Pickton** had been identified by Downtown Eastside sex workers in Project Amelia’s very first sweep.

With equal justification, she might have targeted some representative of the culture of senior VPD ranks who weren’t willing to even acknowledge the existence of a permanent resident culture of ‘low track’ high-risk sex workers in Vancouver and persistently viewed them as transient camp-followers who crossed the country with major cultural or sporting events or on whims and thus did not qualify as ‘missing persons’ even when their families insisted they were.

Stuffed in a closet with negligible resources, inadequate staff and hobbled by jurisdictional issues—since the Pickton farm was in RCMP turf—Shenher soldiered on, maintaining contact with the families of the missing women, which only deepened her personal despair.

By the time public pressure finally forced the RCMP and VPD to launch a joint investigation that ought to have been named Operation Bandwagon, since everyone suddenly wanted to get in on a possible career-making case, Shenher was already burned out, suffering from PTSD. She contributed her files but declined invitations to visit The Pig Farm.

Tormented by guilt that she’d had Pickton in her sights almost from the outset, she had to rally every ounce of strength she had left to testify in the subsequent public inquiry and to contemplate how many

victims might have been spared had the original investigation been taken seriously and given the resources it deserved... And to face their families, the survivors who, like her, would have to shoulder a crippling weight of guilt and failure for the rest of their lives.

Throughout the book, Shenher repeatedly refuses to equate her own suffering with that of the families who experienced this tragedy through the loss of loved ones. The PTSD that blighted her professional life and personal relationships for years was ultimately just part of the job. Police officers, fire-fighters, EMTs, doctors and nurses and social workers all deal with traumatic events that cause 80% of them to suffer Critical Incident Stress within 24 hours of an incident, putting them at risk for long term PTSD. They’re trained to respond systematically, to treat every case according to the same established processes. This is both democratic and therapeutic. By insulating them from having to respond emotionally to the horrors they deal with, trained systematic procedure makes it

possible for them to get on with jobs no one could do if they were emotionally engaged. Unfortunately, by reducing individual human tragedies to ‘cases’ or ‘incidents’ to be ‘managed’ by bureaucratic methods, procedure can also lead to systemic failure in the first-responder cultures it is meant to serve.

That Lonely Section of Hell reminds us that no system, no procedure, no going by

any ‘book’, can fully substitute for, or override, our capacity for emotional empathy or our higher sense of justice as human beings. To paraphrase **John Donne**’s famous poem; ‘No one is an island. Every person’s death diminishes me because I am involved with humankind. Therefore, send not to ask for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee.’

Through the sirens, the adrenaline rush, the gabble of coded communications and tendentious double-talk, Lori Shenher heard the bell.

Asking for whom it tolled was her job. Discovering that it also tolled for her was her own tragedy.

978-1771640930

*John Moore regularly reviews
from Garibaldi Highlands*



**JOHN
MOORE**

St. Mary's bell

The bell tower in Mission is one of 150 province-wide locations to be pinpointed by the forthcoming *Literary Map of B.C.*, due in the spring. The map will provide in-depth, illustrated entries for 150 B.C. authors—who live from Atlin to Abbotsford—such as this excerpt from the Terry Glavin entry.

DIRECTIONS: Drive east from Vancouver for about an hour-and-a-half to get to the town of Mission... ascend Stave Lake Street, turn right onto 5th Avenue... and soon you'll find a bell tower, built in 2000, to house the original bell from St. Mary's Residential School.



LOCATION: Bell tower, Fraser Valley Heritage Park, Mission.
This bell was donated by the Stó:lô First Nation to Fraser Valley Heritage Park in 1999. Cast in West Troy, New York, it was used at Mission for almost a century, until 1965.

Terry Glavin's Amongst God's Own: The Enduring Legacy of St. Mary's Mission (Longhouse, 2002) documents and examines the bleak history of the school that was opened by the Mission-ary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1863.

Originally located near the Fraser River, the first St. Mary's School was intended for boys only, housing 42 students in its first year. The Sisters of Saint Ann opened a second school for girls in 1868. These schools were soon relocated up the hill due to railway expansion.

The town of Mission now manages the 50-acre grounds containing graves for Oblate priests, nuns and students. The park

was created in 1986 after local resident **Norma Kenney** lobbied relentlessly for six years to preserve the site.

Founded in 1816, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate were a Catholic order of missionaries sworn to convert the poor and dispossessed of the Earth. Led by **Father Fouquet**, a fanatical insomniac, the Oblates set up schools and churches in the hopes of teaching 'civilization' to the Stó:lô



For the Literary Map of B.C., BCBW's Alan Twigg visited the descending staircase and foundations that mark the gloomy site of the boys' dormitory from the 1880s.

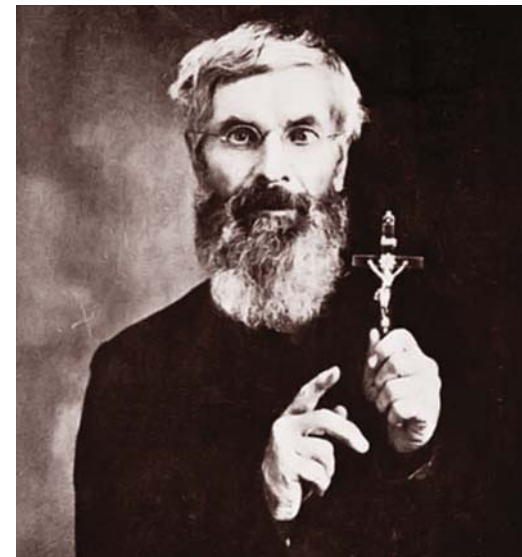
of the Fraser Valley.

Initially the Stó:lô accepted this offer of seemingly good intentions and were in awe of these prophets who carried cures in a bottle. They even accepted the placement of their children in residential schools. But, according to Terry Glavin in his *Amongst God's Own*, the schools became "little better than vectors of disease and pedophilia."

Not advertised by park signage are the gloomy stone walls and a descending staircase for the boys' dormitory on the site, dating from 1884. A small plaque in the earth does not provide any context. Most visitors prefer to visit the first Marian site (for the Blessed Virgin Mary) erected in B.C. in 1892, now towering above the grounds as the refurbished Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes—a six-sided cupola shrine with stained glass skylights.

Amongst God's Own was an initiative of **Bill Williams** and the Mission Indian Healing Foundation, funded through the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. In it, Glavin presents the testimonies of 45 Stó:lô survivors who tell of their past experiences, good and bad, in St. Mary's Mission, where passion plays were enacted into the 20th century. These first-hand accounts document the lives of Stó:lô children who were forbidden to speak their own language and often beaten as punishment.

With federal funding, the original St. Mary's school was adopted as a model for more Oblate-run schools in Cranbrook, Williams Lake and Kamloops. In the early days, mail arriving to the school and its Oblate teachers was addressed to "The Mission." This is how the town of Mission got its name.



The fanatical insomniac Father Fouquet

BORN IN THE UNITED KINGDOM TO IRISH PARENTS IN 1955, Terry Glavin immigrated in 1957 to Canada where he was raised in Burnaby. Along with **Stephen Hume**, Terry Glavin has been at the forefront of journalistic exploration of British Columbia as a psychological, physical and political environment.

A former *Vancouver Sun* journalist, Glavin began his writing career with the *Georgia Straight* and later returned to that publication as a bi-weekly columnist about B.C. culture at large. As a freelance writer, Glavin lived on Mayne Island before moving to Victoria in 2007.

Glavin has received numerous awards, including the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence in 2009. He has also edited the Transmontanus series for New Star Books and was a founding member of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council. He increasingly veered towards covering foreign affairs in his late 50s.

As an author, Terry Glavin has primarily been an advocate for indigenous peoples and the protection of the environment. "Personally," Glavin has cryptically remarked, "I am not a big fan of apartheid."

Glavin's *A Death Feast in Dimlahamid*, written in support of native land claims, takes its name from a 22,000-sq.-mile city-state that Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en tribes maintain was situated near the confluence of the Bulkley and Skeena Rivers. The book was shortlisted for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize. It was followed by *Nemiah: The Unconquered Country*, co-authored with the people of Nemiah Valley; with photographs by **Gary Fiegehen**, **Rick Blacklaws** and **Vance Hanna**.

BOOKS BY TERRY GLAVIN

A Death Feast in Dimlahamid
(New Star 1990, 1998)

Nemiah: The Unconquered Country
(New Star, 1992), with the people of Nemiah Valley; photographs by Gary Fiegehen, Rick Blacklaws and Vance Hanna

A Ghost in the Water
(Transmontanus 1, New Star, 1994)

Dead Reckoning: Confronting the Crisis in Pacific Fisheries (D&M, 1996)
This Ragged Place: Travels Across the Landscape (New Star 1996, 1998)

A Voice Great Within Us (Transmontanus 7, New Star, 1998), with Charles Lillard.

The Last Great Sea: A Voyage through the Human and Natural History of the North Pacific Ocean (Greystone, 2000)

Among God's Own: The Enduring Legacy of St. Mary's Mission (Longhouse, 2002), with

former students of St. Mary's.

Waiting for the Macaws: And Other Stories from the Age of Extinctions (Penguin, 2006).

Come from the Shadows (D&M, 2011)

Sturgeon Reach: Shifting Currents at the Heart of the Fraser (New Star, 2012), with Ben Parfitt.



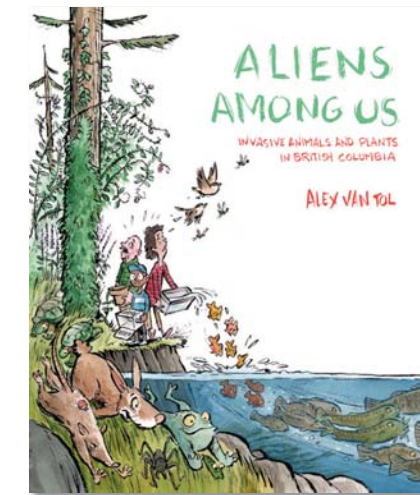
Terry Glavin

NEW from the Royal BC Museum



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Invasive Animals and Plants in British Columbia



Written by Alex Van Tol
Illustrated by Mike Deas
For children aged 8 – 12

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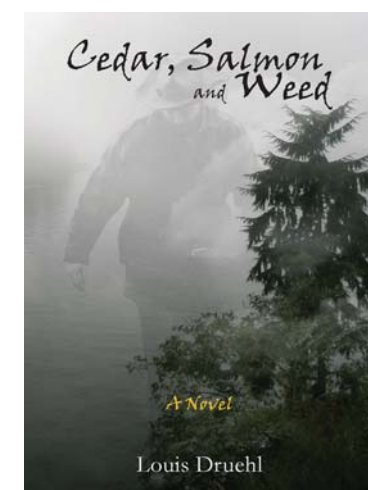
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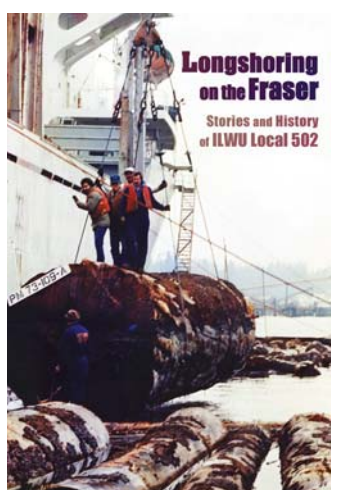
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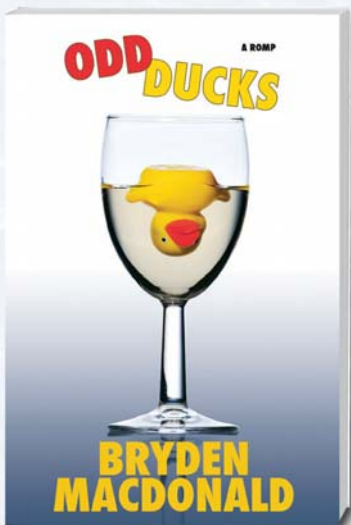
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Congratulations to Our 2015 Governor General Award (Drama) Nominees



Odd Ducks Bryden MacDonald

Welcome to the small town of Tartan Cross, Nova Scotia, where skeletons rattle in closets and past histories are so intertwined that the lives of four forty-something, eccentric characters have become so complicated that something needs to change. In the comedy, *Odd Ducks*, award-winning playwright Bryden MacDonald positions his four characters at the brink of existential angst – and the action unfolds from there.

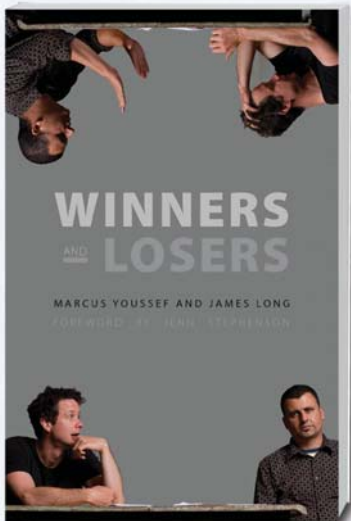
At the centre of the drama is Ambrose Archibald, an irredeemable reprobate and the type of guy who rants philosophically at the bar while mooching beer from his friends. He's a narcissist who thinks he's God's gift to women. And he's having an affair with the charming and beautiful Mandy Menzies, who was the high school beauty queen but is now stuck in a marriage of convenience and a life of boredom. Her housekeeper, Estelle Carmichael, has seen it all, but her prickly exterior belies a loving heart. The dryly funny Freddy Durdle is the perfect counterbalance to over-the-top Ambrose.

Cast of 2 women and 2 men.

Finalist for the 2015 Governor General's Awards (Drama)

"*Odd Ducks* is a tragedy that is essentially a comedy because really, without comedy, nothing can be taken seriously ... The writing sizzles and sings ... the play builds to a great finish." – *The Chronicle Herald* (Halifax)

\$17.95 CAN / 128 pages / Drama / 978-0-88922-934-1



Winners and Losers Marcus Youssef & James Long

Two buddies, theatre artists and long-time friends Marcus and James, sit at a table and pass the time together playing a made-up game in which they name people, places, or things – Pamela Anderson, microwave ovens, their fathers, Goldman Sachs – and debate whether they are successful or not; in other words, whether they are winners or losers. Each friend seeks to defeat the other, and because one of these men grew up economically privileged, and the other did not, the competition very quickly adds up.

Cast of 2 men.

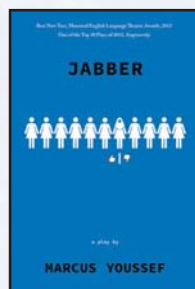
Finalist for the 2015 Governor General's Awards (Drama)

"... simply amazing ... the show I'd suggest to anyone to see to understand what's going on in [experimental theatre in] Canada right now." – Andrew Templeton, playwright, on the NYC World Theatre Day blog

"As the gloves come off, the intensity increases. The guiding theory behind the game is that you can't have two winners sitting next to each other; for there to be a winner, the men reason, there has to be a loser." – *Globe and Mail*

\$16.95 CAN / 96 pages / Drama: Humour / 978-0-88922-932-7

Jabber

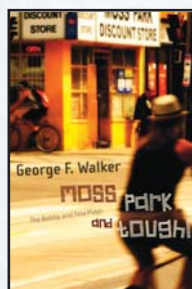


Marcus Youssef

When anti-Muslim graffiti appears on the walls of her school, Fatima, an Egyptian-born girl who wears a hijab, transfers to a new school. There, she starts an unlikely friendship with a boy who has a reputation for anger issues.

ISBN 978-0-88922-950-1
Drama / \$16.95 / 96 pp

Moss Park and Tough!



The Bobby and Tina Plays George F. Walker

Moss Park: It's been twenty years since the debut of *Tough!*, but only two years have passed in the lives of Tina and Bobby, the main characters. *Tough!*: With its sharply drawn young characters, *Tough!* has been a nearly continuous success in Canada since its premiere in 1993.

ISBN 978-0-88922-954-9
Drama / \$19.95 / 192 pp

Sila



Chantal Bilodeau

Sila is part of The Arctic Cycle – eight plays that examine the impact of climate change on the eight countries of the Arctic. *Sila* received the Woodward International Playwriting Prize, as well as prize in the Uprising National Playwriting Competition.

ISBN 978-0-88922-956-3
Drama / \$17.95 / 112 pp

The World Afloat



Miniatures M.A.C. Farrant

Farrant has given us a gorgeous gift book that contains short, sharp shots of an existential elixir that improves the mood and leaves one better prepared to face the surreal day. Give the gift of irony, and hold the antidepressants.

ISBN 978-0-88922-838-2
Fiction / \$12.95 / 112 pp

Studies in Description

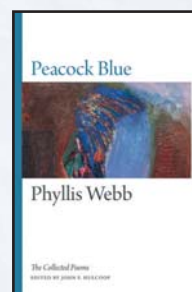


Reading Gertrude Stein's Tender Buttons Carl Peters

In Carl Peters's sustained annotative reading of Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons*, he demonstrates the ways in which Stein's thought questions everything, underlining reasons that her work has long served as the wellspring for generations of experimental writers.

ISBN 978-0-88922-895-5
Non fiction / \$18.95 / 160 pp

Peacock Blue



The Collected Poems Phyllis Webb

Phyllis Webb published seven poetry collections between 1954 and 1990. Compiled for the first time in one volume, Webb's poems are infused with an interest in public life and the common good, concerns which underpinned her decades-long career as a radio broadcast journalist.

ISBN 978-0-88922-914-3
Poetry / \$29.95 / 512 pp / Softcover

Rom Com



Dina Del Bucchia & Daniel Zomparelli

From *It Happened One Night* (1934) to *Harold and Maude* (1971) to *Love, Actually* (2003) the poems' narrators examine the highs and lows of romantic relationships and the expectations and realities of love.

ISBN 978-0-88922-960-0
Poetry / \$19.95 / 128 pp

Scree

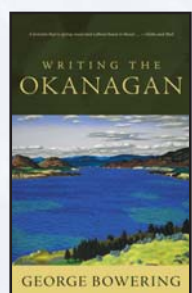


The Collected Earlier Poems, 1962–1991 Fred Wah

Fred Wah's career has spanned six decades and a range of formal styles and preoccupations. Most of Wah's early work is out of print. This collection allows readers to (re) discover his groundbreaking work. The volume contains 13 titles.

ISBN 978-0-88922-947-1
Poetry / \$45.00 / 646 pp / Cloth

Writing the Okanagan



George Bowering

Writing the Okanagan draws on forty books Bowering has published since 1960 – poetry, fiction, history, and some forms he may have invented. With the addition of some previously unpublished works, the reader will find the wonder of the Okanagan here, in both prose and poetry.

ISBN 978-0-88922-941-9
Poetry / \$24.95 / 320 pp

FEN QING & CORRUPTION IN VICTORIA

Anti-anxiety drugs & rebel youth in China

November Radio
by Steve Noyes
(Oolichan \$19.95)

STEVE NOYES' EIGHTH book, **November Radio** is a novel that reflects his China/Victoria professional divide, having taught in Chinese universities.

After a break-up in Victoria, Wendy travels to China where she becomes embroiled in the intrigues of two rebellious Chinese performance artists who seek to undermine the Chinese state by producing a dystopian holograph.

Back in Victoria, Wendy's abandoned lover Gary is a provincial government bureaucrat in the Ministry of Wellness who is assigned to



Steve Noyes and poet Catherine Greenwood at the entrance to the Forbidden City alongside a Qilin—a mythical creature composed of parts of different animals. Noyes and Greenwood of Victoria were overlooked when *BC BookWorld* compiled a list of thirty-five B.C. "author couples."

evaluate a clearly dangerous, anti-anxiety drug called Euphoritril—to which he happens to be addicted.

Gary discovers suppressed research. His bosses want the drug approved. The state in China is corrupt in its own way, suppressing dissent and art, making life dangerous for Wendy's disaffected, sophisticated and neurotic new friends.

Although the Chinese characters do not elicit our empathy, Noyes' novel is hugely orig-

inal by virtue of his depiction of a disaffected, internet-savvy, sub-culture in China known as the 'fen qing' or angry youth. "Oddly, many of them were fiercely patriotic," he says.



STEVE NOYES TAUGHT ENGLISH AT Qing Hua University in Beijing and in Dong Yan Jiao, a small village outside of Beijing, in 1997-1998, and those experiences have resonated in some of his earlier books. See ABC-BookWorld.com for more info.

978-0-88982-311-2

ROMANCE & KELP

Louis Druehl's "Great Bamfield Novel"

Cedar, Salmon and Weed
by Louis Druehl
(Granville Island \$24.95)

THOSE WHO HAVE BRAVED THE 60-mile gravel road from Port Alberni to Bamfield can easily agree with **Simon Winchester**'s assessment of Bamfield in the *New York Times* as "the perfect subject for a novel."

Louis Druehl's debut novel **Cedar, Salmon and Weed** views the tightly-knit town on the west coast of Vancouver Island through the life of a well-intentioned local, 'Gaz', who is a builder, marine biologist and marijuana cultivator in the early 1970s.

Gaz is a hard-working guy who falls for red-haired Heidi, a visiting student at the local marine research station. He also dreams of building a cedar palace.

Along the way the reader is

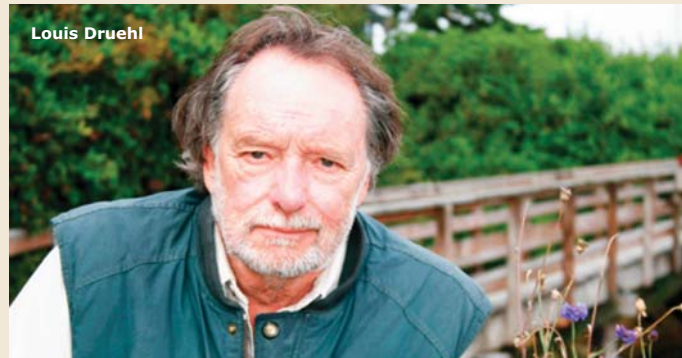
introduced to an endearing and believable mix of fishermen, hippies, First Nations and scientists. It's the Great Bamfield Novel by someone who knows the town's manners and history.

Here we meet locals who can tell you the difference between a native oyster and the Japanese oyster in a town where a mind-blowing psilocybin and mozzarella omelette is common breakfast fare.

Although Druehl is trying to channel his inner **John Steinbeck**, we think it's **Thomas Hardy** who would approve.

Druehl and his wife operate Canadian Kelp Resources Ltd., producing sea vegetables (Barkley Sound Kelp) on their kelp farm. Also editor of *The New Bamfelder*, Druehl, a former SFU professor, has a kelp genus and species named after him. See ABCBookWorld.com for more info.

978-1-926991-66-5



CELEBRATE YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS WITH RECIPES FROM VANCOUVER'S FAVOURITE BAKERY



Butter Baked Goods owner Rosie Daykin shares more than 100 recipes to celebrate any occasion. Welcome a new baby, a new neighbour, or the New Year; share Hannukah or Christmas with friends and family; whatever the special occasion Rosie has the perfect recipe.



Praise for
Butter Baked Goods

"As inviting as a bakeshop window.... Rosie will have you running into the kitchen to bake."

ANNA OLSON,
FOOD NETWORK HOST AND
AUTHOR OF *BACK TO BAKING*

appetite
by RANDOM HOUSE

Penguin
Random
House

PENGUINRANDOMHOUSE.CA

The Shadows We Mistake For Love: Stories by Tom Wayman
(Douglas & McIntyre \$24.95)

INTERSPERSED WITH HIS teaching gigs, Tom Wayman has lived primarily in the Kootenays since 1989, having published the first of his eighteen collections of poetry in 1973. **The Shadows We Mistake For Love** is his fourth work of fiction, so he's no neophyte. It's also clear Wayman knows his characters from their socks to their hippy scarves.

Unlike his earlier short story collection, *Boundary Country*, published in 2007, which crosses time and place to present thematically linked fiction, *The Shadows We Mistake for Love* is rooted in a sense of place. Some of his characters, such as Duncan Locke, the small town lawyer, surface in several stories, while an unnamed man introduced in the first story, appears again in the last.

Only the first story (*Dwelling*), and the last (*Fenris*) detour away from realism. Snow suddenly starts falling inside a house in winter and colours sprout from the walls and ceilings in the spring with the fecund smell of soil and new growth. In the bookend story, *Fenris*, which completes

BREWED LEFT IN THE KOOTENAYS

Tom Wayman's stories of quintessential B.C. characters

THE COUNTRY'S MOST-PUBLICIZED LITERARY COMPETITION, THE SCOTIA Bank Giller Prize, remains laughable. This year all twelve of the longlisted titles are from publishing houses in Ontario.

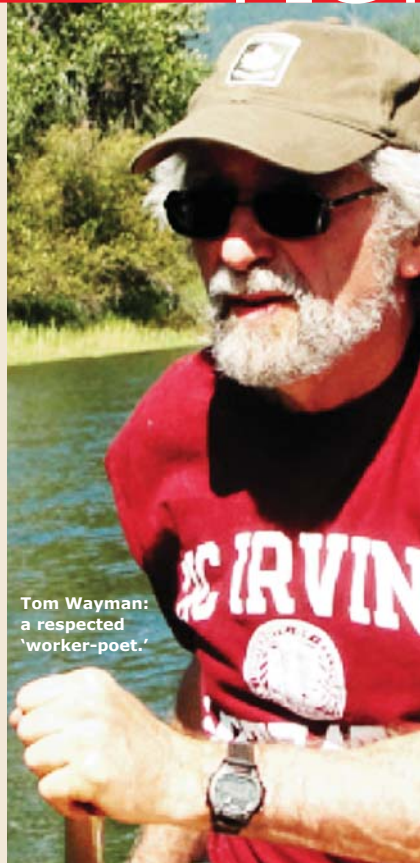
There were 168 books submitted. All but one of the long-listed publishers operate in Toronto, where the dinner is held; the exception was the Biblioasis imprint based in Windsor.

It was much the same last year. You would think all Western Canadian publishers would boycott.

With his new collection of stories entirely based in the West Kootenays, **Tom Wayman** might as well be published from the moon. There are no writers or writing instructors in any of his fourteen stories. His characters are B.C. bud cultivators, loggers, draft dodgers, homesteaders, environmentalists, thugs, single mothers, commune activists and even specters.

Moon creatures all, if you live in Toronto.

Here **Cherie Thiessen** provides her perspective from Pender Island.



Tom Wayman: a respected 'worker-poet.'

and then *Graveyard*, in which a young woman is distraught over the death of her father, thereby inciting her lover to have doubts about his relationship with her. Wayman's descriptions of the place, the day, and the mood are so dead on and so compelling you may shudder and shiver at the same time.



ALTHOUGH TOM WAYMAN IS STILL widely-respected as a 'worker poet'—someone who did much to recognize the dignity of 'everyday' jobs as a force within the Vancouver Industrial Writers' Union (1979-1993)—he has clearly maintained his momentum as a literary artist.

His poetry collection, *My Father's Cup*, was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award in 2003 and his short story collection, *Boundary Country*, was shortlisted for the Danuta Gleed Award. I enjoyed 13 of the 14 stories in *The Shadows We Mistake for Love*, a pretty good batting average in anyone's league.

Cumulatively, *The Shadows* is a well-written and intriguing mix of POVs, characters, moods and styles, redolent with the manners and values of the Kootenays.

978-1-77162-095-6

Cherie Thiessen reviews fiction from Pender Island.



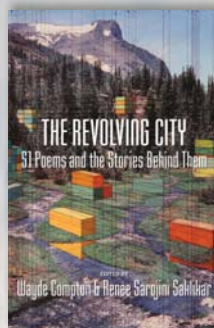
info@anvilpress.com | www.anvilpress.com



SEEP by W. Mark Giles

A novel that limns the tension between land development and landscape, trauma and nostalgia, dysfunction and intimacy in a narrative of twenty-first century Canada. "Giles' Seep is a wickedly wonderful account of how our senses of self and of place can be interrelated ... making for a complicated world and illuminating fiction."—Tom Wayman

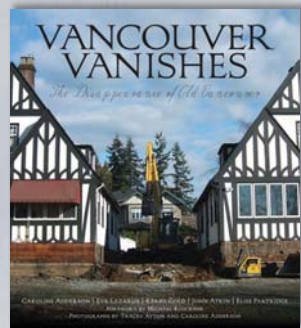
224 PAGES | \$20 CAN/USA
978-1-77214-012-5 | NOVEL | AVAILABLE NOW!



THE REVOLVING CITY by Wayde Compton & Renée Sarojini Saklikar, eds.

The Revolving City: 51 Poems and the Stories Behind Them is a vibrant and diverse collection from a who's who of the west coast poetry scene. The poems address the theme of disconnection in an urban environment from a variety of positions, concerns, and cultural perspectives.

160 PAGES | \$18 CAN/USA
978-1-77214-032-3 | POETRY | AVAILABLE NOW!



VANCOUVER VANISHES NARRATIVES OF DEMOLITION & REVIVAL by Caroline Adderson, John Atkin, Kerry Gold, Evelyn Lau, Eve Lazarus, John Mackie, Elise and Stephen Partridge, and Bren Simmers, with an introduction by Michael Kluckner

Based on the popular Facebook Page, *Vancouver Vanishes* is a collection of essays and photographs that together form a lament for, and celebration of, the vanishing character homes and apartments in the city.

160 PAGES | \$32.95 CAN/USA | 978-1-77214-034-7
OVER 250 COLOUR & B/W PHOTOGRAPHS | AVAILABLE NOW!



10 WOMEN (STORIES) by George Bowering

10 Women is a collection of ten new stories from one of Canada's pre-eminent writers. These ten characters remind us that for every fetish there's a partner. "The maestro is at it again."—The Vancouver Sun

192 PAGES | \$20 CAN/USA
978-1-77214-031-6 | STORIES | AVAILABLE NOW!

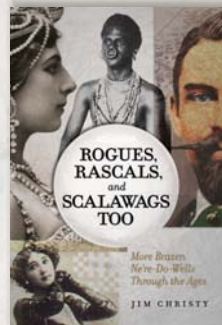


TRaversing LEONARD by Craig Savel

WINNER OF THE 37TH ANNUAL 3-DAY NOVEL CONTEST

Traversing Leonard is a short, wacky novel about an eccentric physics prof who takes a journey to 1950s New York via a quantum time machine.

96 PAGES | \$16 CAN / \$14 USA
978-1-77214-033-0 | NOVEL | AVAILABLE NOW!



ROGUES, RASCALS, AND SCALAWAGS TOO: MORE NE'ER-DO-WELLS THROUGH THE AGES by Jim Christy

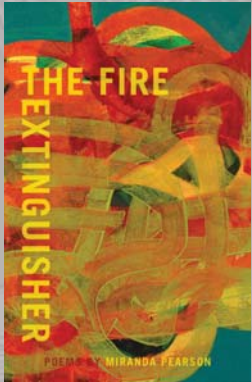
Never before have as many outrageous and out-sized characters appeared in one place at the same time. Words like rogues, rascals, rapscallions, reprobates and rodomontades don't completely describe these individuals; they are more than each or any combination thereof. They are scalawags.

192 PAGES | \$20 CAN/USA
978-1-77214-017-0 | NON-FICTION | AVAILABLE NOW!

FRESH FROM THE FORGE

New Titles From Oolichan Books

Fernie, B.C. - www.oolichan.com - info@oolichan.com



The Fire Extinguisher

Miranda Pearson

978-0-88982-308-2
Poetry - 112 pages
Paperback • \$17.95

“These are poems you enter and never quite leave. They are alive to the things people

don't say, the complications of a view, the strength and fragility of our bodies. They commemorate the present and admit how difficult it is to live in it. Above all, these are poems that describe our 'flammable lives' with shrewdness and grace.”

~ HELEN MORT

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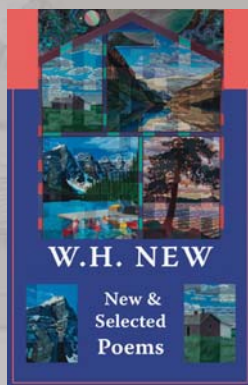


November's Radio

Steve Noyes

978-0-88982-311-2
Fiction - 256 pages
Paperback • \$19.95

November's Radio, is a strange, satiric book concerning the making of a holographic film in China and the intrigue around a new anti-anxiety drug. It is a literary novel with comic leanings, crisply written, and full of surprising scenes.

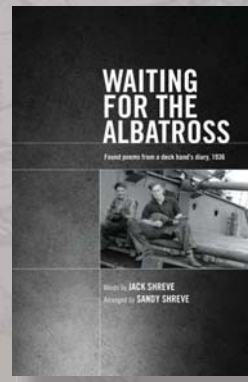


New & Selected Poems

W.H. New

978-0-88982-310-5
Poetry - 248 pages
Paperback • \$21.95

W. H. (Bill) New became one of our most inspiring and innovative Canadian poets with the publication of ten volumes of poetry over a span of twenty years. The variety and intensity of experience in these ten books is remarkable and the experimentation with form often extraordinary.



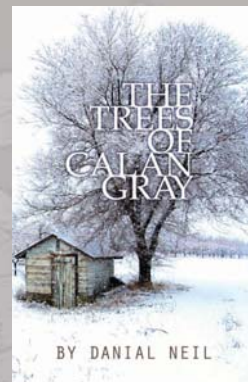
Waiting for the Albatross

Sandy Shreve

978-0-88982-304-4
Poetry - 86 pages
Paperback • \$17.95

“Poignant, salty, full of danger, these poems always manage to dock at our hearts. The experience of reading it is a lot, I imagine, like being there.”

~ JANE EATON HAMILTON

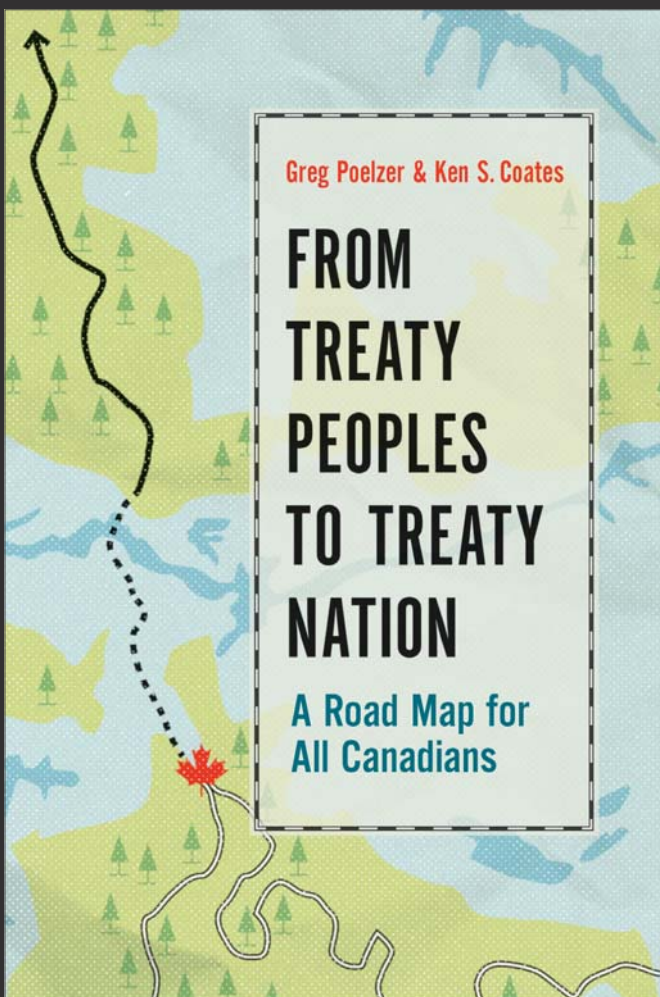


The Trees of Calan Gray

Danial Neil

978-0-88982-297-9
Fiction - 268 pages
Paperback • \$19.95

Calan Gray talks to trees. They speak back to him, he hears the language of trees. They become his sanctuary against a violent father who wishes to commit him to an institution for expressing such delusions. It is 1964, and the world is a harsh place for those who are different.



We as a peoples need to stop looking for a single, sweeping solution.

***Meaningful change
will require millions
of Canadians to step
forward to create the
Canada they want.***

It is about time Canadians began to live as treaty peoples, to coexist in friendship, to work to find the best solutions for the country as a whole, and to build relationships that will endure and allow all parties to flourish culturally, socially, economically, and politically.



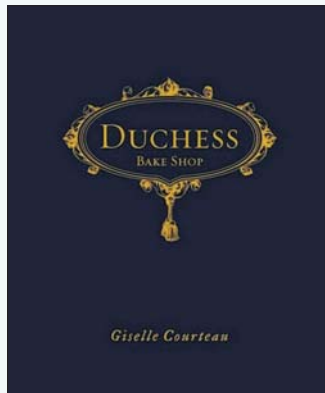
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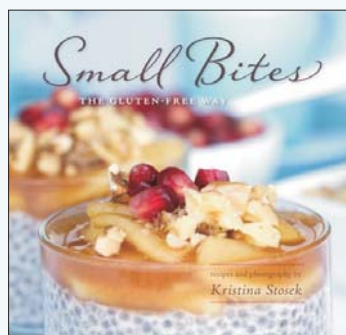
CELEBRATE WINTER WITH A GREAT BOOK



Winner! Taste Canada Awards!
DUCHESS Bake Shop
Giselle Courteau

Edmonton's Duchess Bake Shop was named the **best bakery in Canada** and **ranked 4th in the world** by *BuzzFeed.com*. Like the bakery, this award-winning book is a feast for the eyes and palate. It offers exquisite recipes with step-by-step photos and instructions for everything from the bakery's renowned tea-time treats to French classics: buttery brioche, delightful macarons, mille-feuilles, salted caramel and more.

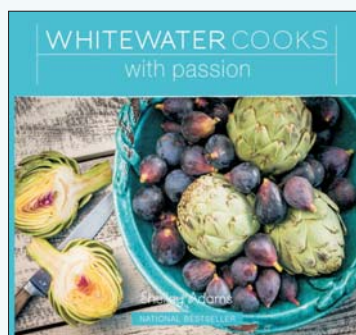
9780993901201 \$45.00 cl *Duchess Bake Shop*



SMALL BITES
The Gluten-Free Way
Kristina Stosek

Packed with delicious 100% gluten-free bites and small dishes, this beautifully photographed cookbook offers recipes for every occasion. Great for catering to guests' food restrictions this Christmas. The recipes are so tasty, those without gluten sensitivities will never know! You'll want the first in the series, too: *Entertaining The Gluten-Free Way...*

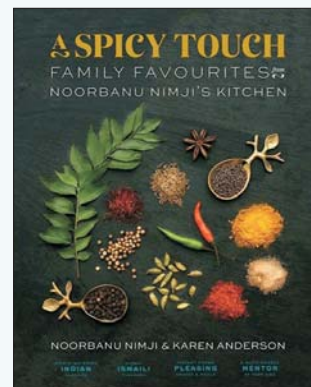
9780994037114 \$19.95 pb *Bluecap Books*



WHITEWATER COOKS
WITH PASSION
Shelley Adams

A national bestseller, *Whitewater Cooks with Passion* is a feast of simple, fresh flavours and a cornucopia of easy, delicious recipes. Shelley's ideas will make you look like a kitchen rock star with starters, mains and desserts for casual to fine dining. Wonderful, healthy ideas for switching up Sunday breakfasts and brunches, too! *And watch for the Whitewater salad dressings now available in a store near you.*

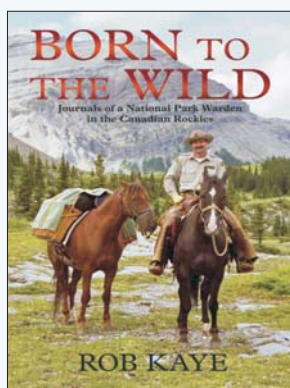
9780981142425 \$34.95 pb *Alicon Holdings*



A SPICY TOUCH
Family Favourites
from Noorbanu Nimji's Kitchen
Noorbanu Nimji & Karen Anderson

Each cookbook in Noorbanu Nimji's *A Spicy Touch* series is regarded as an Indian and East African Ismaili cook's "bible". The mouth-watering dishes in this edition of family favourites will become instant classics. Carefully explained spices and specialty ingredients, coupled with exquisite photographs will take Indian cooking to a whole new level for home cooks of all cultures.

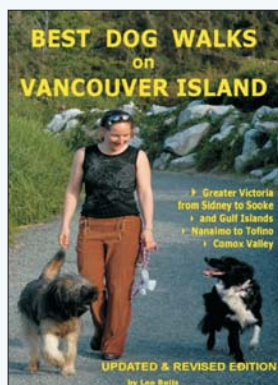
9780969315926 \$34.95 hc *Spicy Touch*



BORN TO THE WILD
Journals of a National
Park Warden in the
Canadian Rockies • Rob Kaye

Rob Kaye's job was to protect and preserve wilderness and wildlife in his long career with Parks Canada. His many adventures as a Park Warden chronicle backcountry encounters with wolves, bears, bighorns, as well as stories of survival and adversity. Kaye's passion for the preservation of wilderness is a theme throughout the book. *A BC Bestseller!*

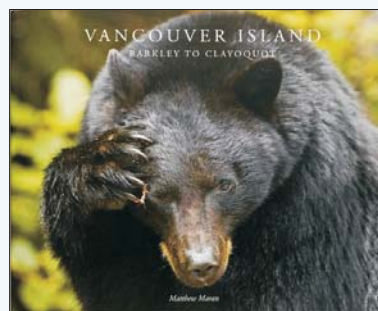
9780994051806 \$21.95 pb *Grey Wolf Books*



BEST DOG WALKS
ON VANCOUVER ISLAND
Revised Edition
Leo Bujs

The perfect gift and guide to dog-friendly walks on the Island, now revised and updated! A must for those who want to find the best walks, hikes, swimming holes and beaches around Victoria, north to Duncan, Nanaimo, Courtenay and Campbell River, west to Tofino and east to some of the Gulf Islands and the Saanich Peninsula. It includes maps, photos and a quick reference guide to over 60 of the best places to share and explore with your canine companion.

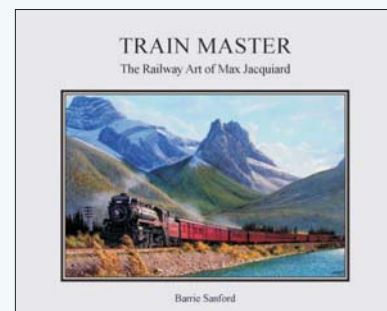
9780973552737 \$22.95 pb *Seaview Investments*



VANCOUVER ISLAND
Barkley to Clayoquot
Matthew Maran

Reprinted by popular demand, this spectacular coffee-table book reflects Vancouver Island's vast areas of wilderness that are home to black bears, a myriad of birds, towering ancient rainforests and over 3,000 km of coastline made up of hundreds of inlets which support a rich variety of marine wildlife from seals and sea otters to the iconic Orcas that symbolize the Pacific Coast region. Maran's stunning photography has brought him international recognition.

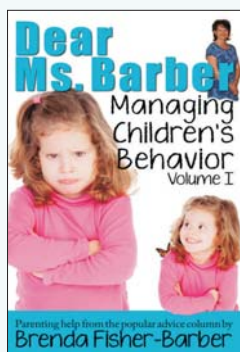
9780956819611 \$39.99 hc *Hemisphere Publishing*



TRAIN MASTER
The Railway Art of
Max Jacquiard
Barrie Sanford

It's been said that Max Jacquiard is to railway art what Robert Bateman is to wildlife art. Paintings and prints of railway scenes created by Max grace thousands of homes and offices across Canada and the United States. Here, Max's paintings are showcased with text and ephemera provided by well known railway historian and author, Barrie Sanford.

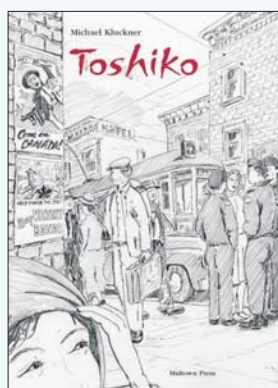
9780973560220 \$39.95 hc *Railway Hist Society/BC*



DEAR MS. BARBER
Managing Children's Behaviour
Brenda Fisher-Barber

This handy take-anywhere guide is full of helpful insights and practical suggestions for improving your child's self-confidence and self-esteem, dealing with tantrums, tall tales and sibling rivalries, establishing bedtime routines and other healthy habits. Using real-world examples from her popular advice column, Brenda Fisher-Barber helps parents understand their children's behavior and respond with love, logic and compassion.

9780994863805 \$16.95 pb *B. Fisher-Barber Pub.*

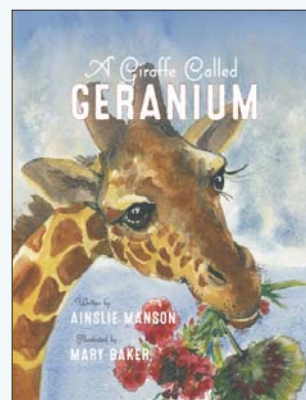


TOSHICO
Michael Kluckner

This graphic novel is written and illustrated by award-winning BC artist Michael Kluckner. *Toshiko* is the story of a young Japanese-Canadian girl. Set during WW II, when Japanese-Canadians were exiled from their homes on the West Coast, Toshiko's family land on a small farm in the BC interior. Toshiko forms a friendship with a local farm boy which becomes a kind of Romeo and Juliette romance.

A BC Bestseller!

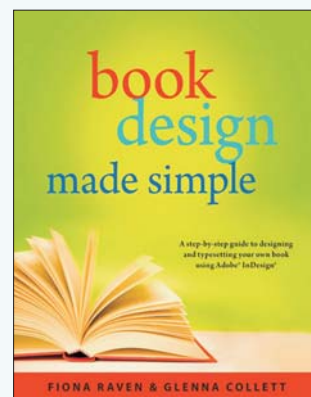
9780988110175 \$19.95 pb *Midtown Press*



A GIRAFFE
Called GERANIUM
Ainslie Manson • Illus by Mary Baker

Susanna finds a giraffe that has escaped from captivity to Canada's west coast. She treats her as a pet, keeping her in her house until she realizes the animal must be returned home to Africa. This beautifully illustrated tale by a well known author will appeal to animal lovers, young and old alike. *Shortlisted for the Chocolate Lily Young Reader's Choice Award.*

9780993734106 \$19.95 hc *Red Diamond*



BOOK DESIGN
Made Simple
Fiona Raven & Glenna Collett

Two experts offer a step-by-step guide to designing and typesetting books using Adobe® InDesign®. They give authors, small presses and graphic designers the power to better control their projects and explain every step from installing the software right through to sending files to the printer. It's a semester of book design instruction plus a publishing class, all rolled into one.

9780994096906 \$59.95 pb *12 Pines Press*

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Karen Autio launched **Kah-Lan: The Adventurous Sea Otter** during Sea Otter Awareness Week at the Vancouver Aquarium.

COMEBACK

Kah-Lan the Adventurous Sea Otter by Karen Autio
(Sono Nis \$9.95)

YOU KNOW YOU'RE stuck on a story when it stays in your head for three decades and it won't let go. Such was the case for **Karen Autio** and her fourth book for children, **Kah-Lan the Adventurous Sea Otter**.

After moving to Vancouver to attend Regent College in 1984, Autio and her husband **Will** soon bought aquarium passes. For hours at a time, she would park her lawn chair outside the sea otter enclosure, observing, wondering, and developing a story about two, almost-mature, wild sea otters getting swept away by a powerful ocean current.

The story persisted in her mind as she shifted her focus to raising her children and writing three historical novels. Over the years Autio kept fine-tuning the balance of her otter story between natural history and a quest story. "I was not only smitten with sea otters," Autio says, "I was also fascinated by their survival skills in the Pacific Ocean."

While Autio's admiration for otters shaped the plot, the manuscript was passed through a string of biologists to ensure naturalistic accuracy. Dripping with ecological facts yet without a whiff of didacticism, *Kah-Lan the Adventurous Sea Otter* weaves the natural environment into the myriad challenges that otters contend with—from orcas and riptides to food scarcity and fishing net entanglement. Kah-Lan and his pal Yam-

KIDS

After they were hunted nearly to extinction, sea otter populations along the west coast of North America are regaining their numbers.

ka must contend with human encroachment, hide from orcas, dive for ever-scarcer food in their home kelp bed and avoid periodic grouchy cuffs from the Grand Otters living in their raft.

The young otters describe humans and human-made objects in zoomorphic terms such as sea-trees, furless ones and—my personal favourite—not-rock (kelp forests, humans and an old glass bottle, respectively).

Reminiscent of the invented words in **Richard Adams' Watership Down**, the language in *Kah-Lan* is nonetheless easy for young readers to discern without a glossary—although there is one provided.

"I played with language to express Kah-Lan's perspective," says Autio, "and to immerse the reader in his watery world. Kalan is a zoological term for sea otter and the spelling Kah-Lan helps readers know how to pronounce it."



ALEX VAN TOL

At the end of the book, readers will find several pages of information about sea otters, including their role in keeping our kelp forests healthy so that they, in turn, can support a di-

versity of sea life.

Engaging text, quick pacing and illustrations by **Sheena Lott** put the reader at eye level with the demands of life in our shallow coastal waters, while present-tense narration lends a sense of urgency to the otters' experiences.

Targeted mainly for readers ages seven to twelve, *Kah-Lan* is a story with cross-generational appeal because it will lead to conversations about the health of our oceans, the necessity of maintaining biodiversity of the maritime environment and the importance of keystone species—such as the sea otter. 978-1-55039-244-9

Alex Van Tol's new book is Aliens Among Us: Invasive Animals and Plants in B.C. (Royal B.C. Museum).

Karen Autio's Finnish roots

HAVING GROWN UP IN THE Finnish section of Fort William (now part of Thunder Bay), **Karen Autio** received a silver spoon from her grandmother that made her curious about her grandmother's Finnish friends and their links to Canada's worst maritime disaster in peacetime—the sinking of the *Empress of Island*. Her first juvenile novel **Second Watch** (Sono Nis, 2005) placed an eleven-year-old heroine, Saara, on the doomed vessel as it departs in May of 1914, just one day prior to the loss of 1,012 passengers and crew from among the 1,477 people aboard. Fewer paid passengers died when the *Titanic* sank. In Autio's second novel, **Saara's Passage** (Sono Nis, 2008), Saara, as one of the 465 survivors, returned to northwestern Ontario only to learn her beloved Aunt Marja must move to a sanatorium in Toronto for treatment of tuberculosis. Autio's Finnish Canadian trilogy was completed with **Sabotage** (Sono Nis, 2013) based on an attempt to blow up a Nipigon River railway bridge near Port Arthur during the First World War.

Winning disaster

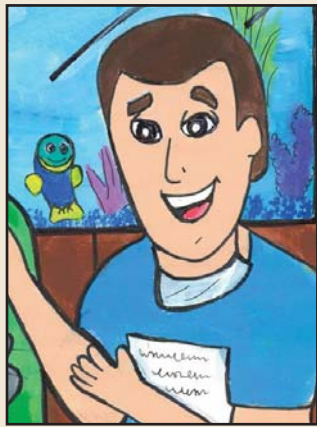
Originally from Toronto and Saskatchewan, **Penny Draper** lived in Switzerland, New Zealand and Prince George prior to moving to Victoria in 1989. Her sixth novel for teens about Canadian disasters, **Day of the Cyclone** (Coteau \$8.95), has won the University of Regina Faculty of Education and Campion College Award for Publishing in Education at the Saskatchewan Book Awards. 978-1-55050-481-1

Kid kindness

Annette LeBox's Peace is an Offering (Penguin Random House \$16.95) is an illustrated poem about a group of neighbourhood children dealing with the ups and downs of childhood. Whether it's patience, kindness or consideration, the poem shows various ways that the friends use to help each other. Ultimately, the children create a community where they care for one another in a world where selfishness and conflict dominates. Illustrations by **Stephanie Graegin**. Annette LeBox lives in Maple Ridge and has a cabin in the Cariboo. 978-0-8037-4091-4

Camp investigator

For her latest novel, **Siege** (Orca \$9.95) **Jacqueline Pearce** learned how to fire an 1812 musket and found out the speed of the current over Niagara Falls if you fell in near historic Old Fort Erie. Her protagonist, Jason doesn't share her interest in history. When he agrees to go to camp with his cousin, Sean, he doesn't realize it's a War of 1812 re-enactment camp — no cell phones or electricity. It's not all bad. Firing the muskets and sneaking out at night, getting into trouble is fun, but Jason and his friends keep running into the same camp counselor, and he is clearly up to no good. When they start to investigate what he's doing, they find they may have taken on more than they can handle. 9781459807518



Sean Kelly: the entertaining dentist

Cat brush

Lots of medical doctors have written books; not so many dentists. From his dental practice, Dr. **Sean Kelly** realized many parents have similar questions about the care of their kids' teeth, and at the same time it would be helpful to families if there was an entertaining way to introduce children to dental care before they need to visit the dentist. So he's written **Cuddles the Cat Goes to the Dentist** (Promontory \$9.95) about a cat who brushes twice-a-day and visits the dentist. His best friend Bob, however, often forgets to brush and his teeth are turning brown. 978-1-987857-02-3

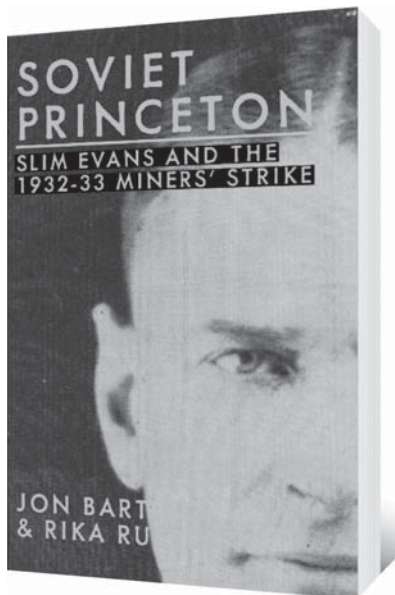
Soviet Princeton

Slim Evans and the 1932–33
Miners' Strike

**JON BARTLETT &
RIKA RUEBSAAT**

When mine owners slashed wages in Princeton, B.C., the miners called in notorious labour activist Slim Evans, who led the newly formed union in a dramatic months-long battle against the owners, the police, the local board of trade, and the KKK.

Available November 2015.



Twenty Seven Stings

JULIE EMERSON

ILLUSTRATED BY
ROXANNA BIKADOROFF

Seventeen poems inspired by the cultural histories and military strategies that have led us into wars throughout history, from sixth century BCE China to Alexander the Great to contemporary American drone warfare.

Available November 2015.

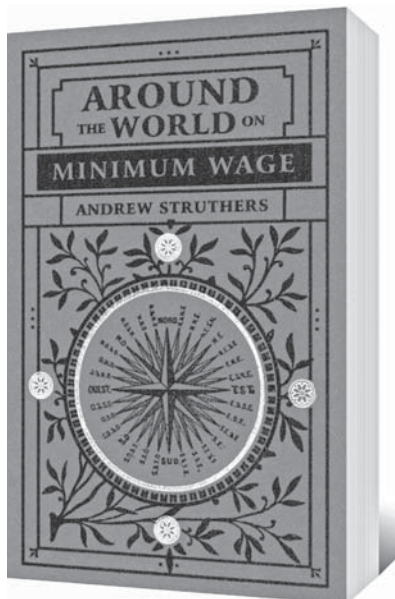


Around the World on Minimum Wage

ANDREW STRUTHERS

"Struthers breaks new literary pathways into the genre of travel memoir. Almost crazily clever... A true trip of the body, mind and soul."
— *Vancouver Sun*

Andrew Struthers will be reading from Around the World at WORD Vancouver on Sunday, Sep. 27.

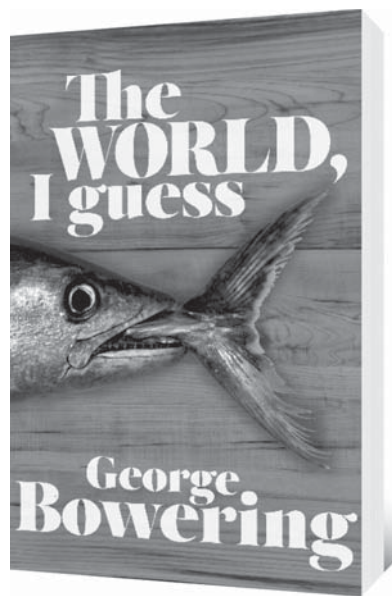


The World, I Guess

GEORGE BOWERING

"A book about the writing life that manages to be affable, astute, and cohesive... George Bowering's candour is beguiling. He gives you a good time with his writing, you feel comfortable, even chummy, in his presence; he's playful, but then he nails you with some hard truths."
— *Vancouver Sun*

George Bowering will be appearing at the 2015 Vancouver International Writer's Fest, which runs Oct. 20–25.



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THE NEW ARCADIA Tahiti's Cursed Myth

Monique Layton

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KIRKUS REVIEWS

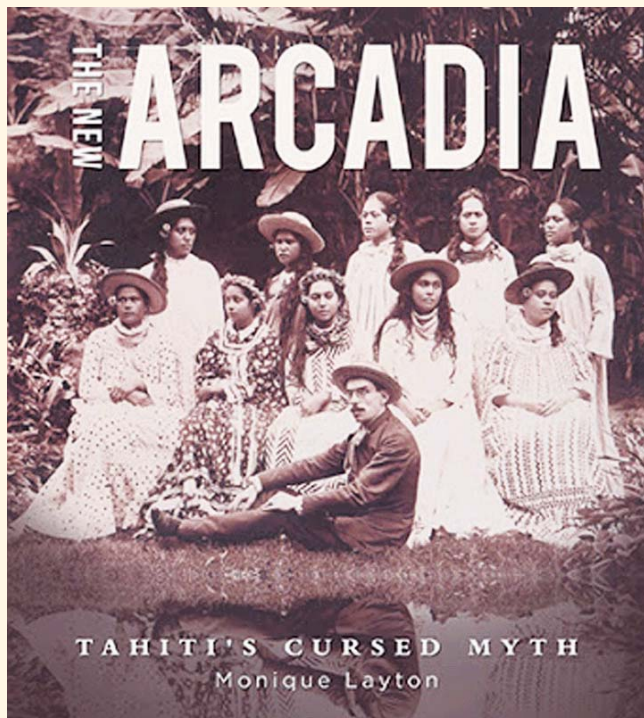
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"The Tahitian reality is often grim," says cultural anthropologist **Monique Layton** "but the mirage somehow endures." According to Layton, since being 'discovered' in 1767, Tahiti has been branded with "the irresistible dual myth of the Noble Savage's harmonious Arcadian life and of the vahine's amorous favours freely granted. People (navigators, missionaries, whalers, slavers) and events (deadly epidemics, atomic testing, and now tourism), all have contributed over time to creating the modern Tahitian quandary: trying to recover an idealized past and losing the benefits of modern life, or continuing as a cog in the French administrative system and losing her soul."



NOTES FROM ELSEWHERE: Travel and Other Matters by Monique Layton

Notes from Elsewhere covers various aspects of travel (Morocco, Thailand, Seychelles, Cuba, Venezuela) and other considerations, such as the pitfalls of acquiring a new language and a new culture, the alienating environments of prisons and psychiatric hospitals, and the delicacy of personal encounters. Layton draws on her background as an anthropologist and an immigrant to describe the staggered stages of assimilation.

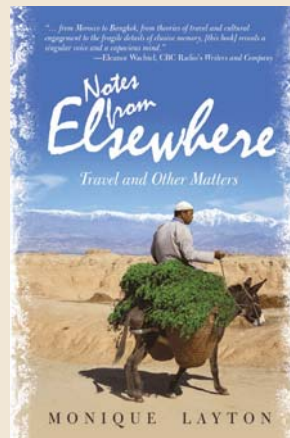
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—KIRKUS REVIEWS

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BULLYING, BE GONE

Katarina Jovanovic on language & courage

The Blue Vase
by **Katarina Jovanovic**
(Tradewind \$12.95)

KATARINA JOVANOVIC's second book in English, **The Blue Vase** is a sophisticated story for middle grade readers about bullying and entrapment.

After Sonia accidentally breaks a precious vase belonging to her next-door neighbour, Mrs. Kaminski, her playmate Marta, who is Mrs. Kaminski's granddaughter, promises to keep the incident secret in exchange for money and gifts. As Marta's power over Sonia increases, and her blackmail demands escalate, Marta spreads lies about Sonia at school. Ultimately Sonia must find the strength to confront bullying and allow honesty to prevail. It's illustrated by Montreal's **Josée Bisaillon**.



Katarina Jovanovic

well like many people from Europe who went through university studies and travelled. My English was good enough to work, to read, to teach, to integrate and to make friends. But not sufficient to be the writer I used to be.

"Language is not only about grammar and morphology, it is also about the mind and the feelings. It took me years of silence, years of seeing myself as a diminished poet, before I started sensing the English words the way I had felt the words in my first language. It took me years of not writing for the simple reason that I couldn't decide in what language to write.

"It took me years before my deepest reflections and thoughts touched the words and I started writing literature in English. Still, it takes courage to talk about that."

978-1-896580-91-3

A WINDFALL IS A DOWNFALL, ANOTHER BULLYING TALE

Bad Business
by **Diane Daker** (Orca \$9.95)

IN DIANE DAKER'S ORCA CURRENTS mini-novel for ages 10-14, **Bad Business**, the protagonist Lindy knows she should not keep the \$200 that was given to her by mistake, as an overpayment for chores, from a confused old lady.

But Lindy hesitates and makes the added mistake of telling a scheming and nasty schoolmate Shanna—who proceeds to make her pay for her deceit in a completely unexpected way.

First Lindy has to confess to her teacher, possibly disqualifying her from a much-anticipated field trip; then it's her parents. But when she finally has to confess to dear old Mrs. Naulty about the money that was inside the envelope, her belated honesty pays off in a way she could not possibly have imagined.



Diane Daker has authored books on Calvin Klein, The Beatles, Elie Wiesel and CHEK-TV.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE REMARKS made by the Serbia-born teacher and journalist Katarina Jovanovic when she accepted the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize in 2009 for *The King Has Goat Ears* (Tradewind, 2008), illustrated by **Philippe Béha**.

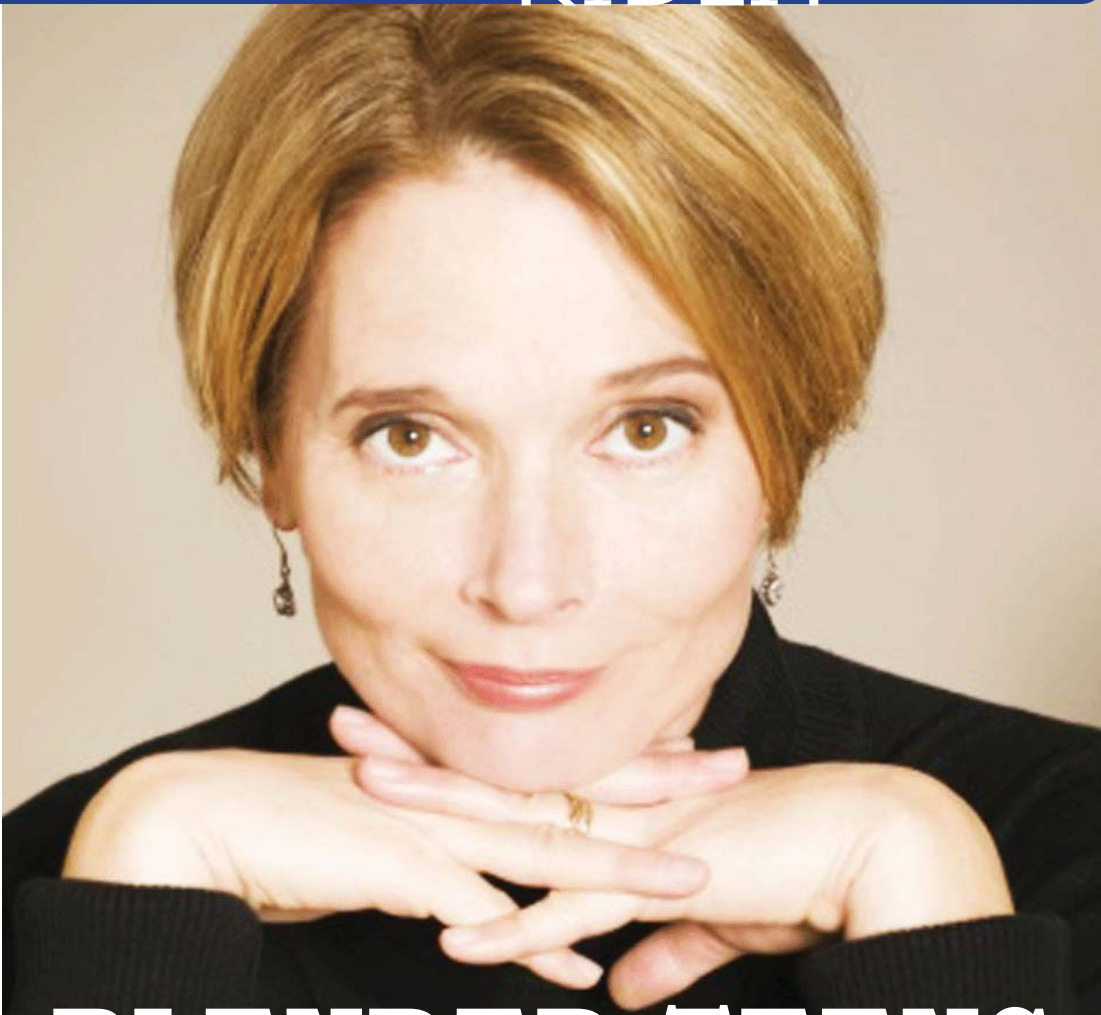
"There is an anonymous quote on children's literature: "Good children's literature appeals not only to the child in the adult, but to the adult in the child.

"My idea of writing for children is that the content of books for young readers can be as complex and serious as any other literature because children deserve to be given the opportunity to reflect on life just like adults. The difference is in the way of expressing it...

"I am a person of words and language had been my major channel to life since I was a child. Fifteen years ago, I lived the words: I was a writer and a journalist with a solid career in radio broadcasting. I saw poetry in every segment of the day. But it was all in another country and in another language.

"When I came to Canada I spoke English very

978-1459809697



WE ARE ALL MADE OF MOLECULES
by **Susin Nielsen** (Tundra \$10.99)

BY DENISE REID

THE NEWLY "BLENDED" FAMILY AT THE heart of **Susin Nielsen's We Are All Made of Molecules** might better be described as "coarsely chopped" rather than blended.

Stewart and Ashley are two completely different teenagers, with different outlooks, forced to share the same roof by their freshly united parents.

Stewart Inkster is a gifted, kind, but socially inept 13-year-old. He and his dad Leonard have struggled with grief since Stewart's mom died of cancer. Brainy Stewart, who measures his days and moods in mathematical terms, describes his former family unit as an "equilateral triangle" that collapsed when his mom died.

Stewart's dad Leonard has recently found love with his longtime friend and colleague Caroline Anderson, mom to 14-year-old Ashley, a selfish queen bee who treats others badly and constantly misuses words. While not book smart, she is a genius when it comes to her high school's social ladder. Ashley sits at the top rung and will do whatever it takes to remain there.

Leonard and Caroline have decided to live together, so Stewart and his father make the move from their North Vancouver home to Caroline's place in East Vancouver. Complicating matters is the fact Ashley's dad (and Caroline's ex-husband) Phil lives in the property's laneway home. Despite a seemingly happy marriage, Caroline and Phil divorced when Phil acknowledged that he was gay.

Ashley hasn't forgiven her father for breaking their family apart and she questions whether or not he ever really loved her or her mom. She can't fully accept her dad's homosexuality and, worried her friends won't be accepting either, hides the real reason for her parents' divorce.

Nielsen simultaneously depicts the devastation and the "black hole of sadness" that accompanies the loss of a loved one through Stewart's struggles to deal with his mother's death. He has a therapist on speed-dial and the companionship of his beloved cat Schrödinger.

Stewart is initially enthusiastic about gaining a sister, but when Ashley's nastiness surfaces he realizes his vision of the new family doesn't match the reality. Ashley resents having new people (and new belongings) in her home.

Things get worse when Stewart decides to go to Ashley's high school where his high IQ bumps him up into her grade. Ashley is devastated, certain that "nerd-bot" Stewart will threaten her social status.

It isn't until popular new student Jared enters the picture that Ashley and Stewart start having to rely on each other. Jared has his bully-scope targeted on Stewart, and only Stewart's connection to Ashley keeps Jared at bay. Ashley has a crush on Jared, and Stewart is useful first as a go-between for their messages, then as a decoy for Jared's after-school visits.

As Stewart and Ashley find out more about who Jared really is, there are ugly examples of bullying, harassment and assault. But there are also lovely examples of the good in people.

Ashley discovers that the quality of a person goes far deeper than their appearance. Stewart finds that taking risks, while scary, can be life-changing. The two also learn about bravery, compromise and standing up for others.

We Are All Made of Molecules is convincingly told from the alternating perspectives of Stewart and Ashley, with equal skill. While Nielsen's book is geared for the young adult market, there is plenty to keep adult readers engaged. It's a story told with humour, intelligence and sensitivity, based on characters that could easily be the teens next door.

Ashley and Stewart's struggles and achievements remind us that no matter how different we may seem, at the core we are all interconnected. Because after all, we are all made of molecules.

Discovering not just bullying, harassment and assault, but also the lovely examples of the good in people.

Denise Reid is a graduate of Douglas College.

A is for Ambassador

Born in Ghana, **Andrew Benedict Acheampong**, Ph.D is a Catholic “seeker of spiritual knowledge, mystic philosopher, and scientist.” With many years in the U.S. pharmaceutical industry, he has published over 50 scientific articles. His interests in body chemistry, drug safety, spiritual practices, religious faiths, science of personality and astrology have led him to write **Created for Wholeness: The science, religion, and astrology of self-knowledge and harmony** (Promontory \$15.95). 978-1-927559-48-2

B is for Backhouse



Frances Backhouse

Once upon a time there were probably 60 million beavers in North America. But the arrival of European fur traders almost wiped out the chubby, industrious rodent. **Frances Backhouse** shares both quirky facts and deeper truths about the reviving species in **Once They Were Hats: In Search of the Mighty Beaver** (ECW \$18.95). After the state of Oregon officially adopted the beaver as its mascot, Canada passed Bill C-373 in 1975 “to provide for the recognition of the Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) as a symbol of the sovereignty of Canada.” 978-1-77041-207-1

C is for Cope

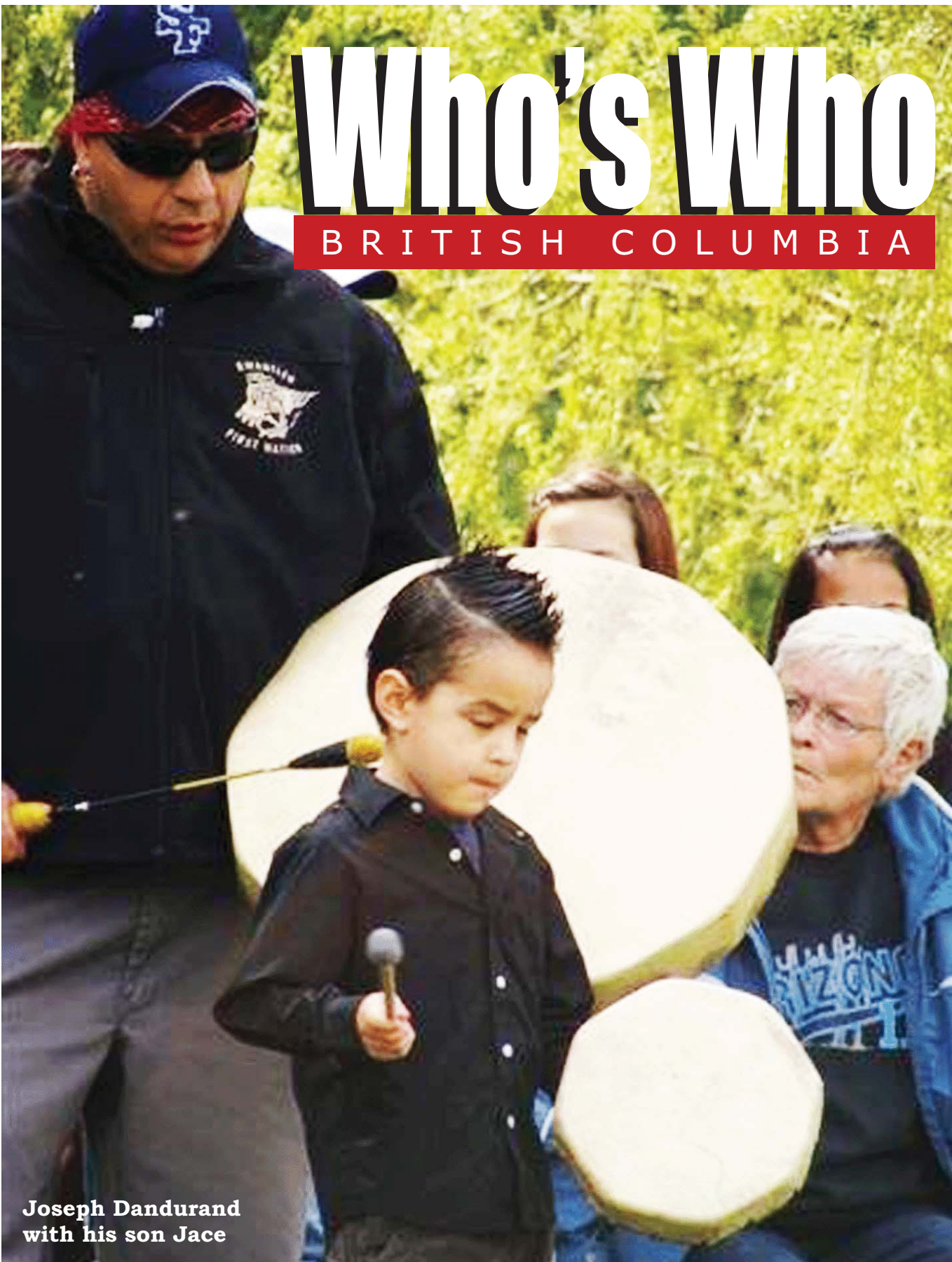
Wayne Cope spent many childhood hours watching cowboys and criminals on TV, favouring **Richard Boone** in *Have Gun Will Travel*, before he eventually decided to become a police officer. Recalling his diverse career with the Vancouver City Police Department for more than 30 years in **Vancouver Blue: A Life Against Crime** (Harbour \$22.95), Cope sheds light on cases such as Vancouver’s so-called Centrefold Murders and “the infamous killing of the Stanley Park flamingoes.” 978-1-55017-699-5



Wayne Cope

D is for Dandurand

Joseph Dandurand, a member of the Kwantlen First Nation (near Fort Langley), recounts his struggles to overcome physical, emotional and sexual abuse in his first book of poetry, **I Want** (Leaf Press \$20). Dandurand expresses his love of the land, his connections to his ancestors, his endurance and his deep desire to foster his children so they grow up without abuse. “I am here / this pen to paper / proves it yet again.” Having graduated in performing arts from Algonquin College, Dandurand has had his plays produced at the Red Path Theater in Chicago, the Algonquin Theater in Connecticut, the Debajemejig Theater in Ontario and the Autry Theater in Los Angeles. Dandurand was Playwright-in-Residence for the Museum of Civilization in Hull in 1995 and for the National Arts Centre in Ottawa in 1998. In 2004 he published a play, *Please Do Not Touch the Indians* (Renegade Planets Publishing). 978-1-926655-79-6



Joseph Dandurand with his son Jace

E is for Emerson

Following the bombing of the Kunduz hospital in Afghanistan by American forces in October of 2015, Mayne Island’s **Julie Emerson** published **Twenty-Seven Stings** (New Star \$18). The suite of seventeen poems illuminate various aspects of warfare, including the rules of warfare; the roles of women as pawns or inspirations; battles, and the use of poisons and bees as weapons. Emerson examines military strategies that have generated wars from the sixth-century BCE China to Alexander the Great to American drone warfare. *Twenty-Seven Stings* is illustrated by Vancouver artist **Roxanna Bikadoroff**. 9781554201075



Julie Emerson

F is for Findon

Joanne Findon, formerly of Coquitlam, has examined the 19th century life and times of **Sarah Jameson Craig** who was educated at home by her parents when few working-class girls in Canada were literate. Her journals



Joanne Findon

and memoirs create the framework for **Seeking our Eden: the Dreams and Migrations of Sarah Jameson Craig** (McGill-Queen’s \$34.95). Craig lived in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Saskatchewan and finally British Columbia. She became an advocate of women’s rights and a staunch dress-reformer, believing the restrictive fashions of the day were a barrier to equality of the sexes. She also explored alternative medical treatments (water cures) and was drawn to the concept of utopian colonies. 9780773544802

G is for Gilmour

By the summer of 1907, White British Columbians had become increasingly fearful of Asian immigration, and rumours circulated about the impact of immigration on massive labour contracts for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. The Asiatic Exclusion League of Vancouver organized a parade that resulted in a violent riot



Julie F. Gilmour

on Main Street. **Julie F. Gilmour** examines the riot’s impact on Canadian immigration policy, international relations and Canada’s political development during WWI in **Trouble on Main Street: Mackenzie King, Reason, Race, and the 1907 Vancouver Riots** (Penguin/Allen Lane \$34). 9780670065127

H is for Hughes

To mark his fortieth birthday, **Trevor Marc Hughes**, a former CBC Radio reporter, made a solo exploration of north-western B.C. on his Kawasaki KLR motorcycle. His visits to such places as Stewart, B.C., Hyder, Alaska, the village of Gitanyow and the Stikine River are recorded in his self-published memoir, **Nearly 40 on the 37: Triumph and Trepidation along Stewart-Cassiar Highway** (Last Autograph Press \$18.95) with an endorsement from anthropologist **Wade Davis**. 978-0-9918590-0-9

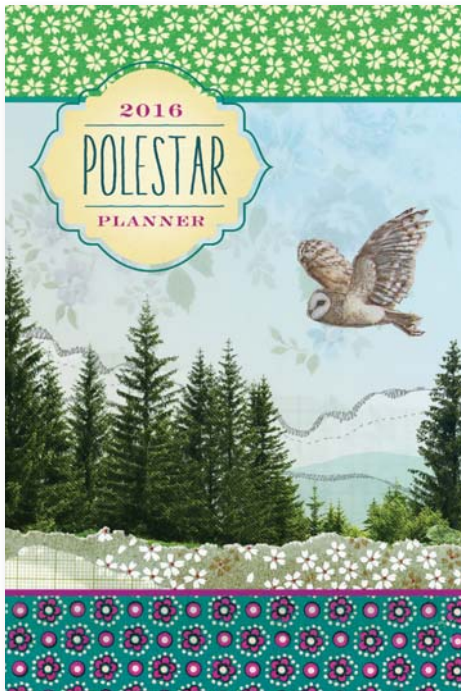


Trevor Marc Hughes

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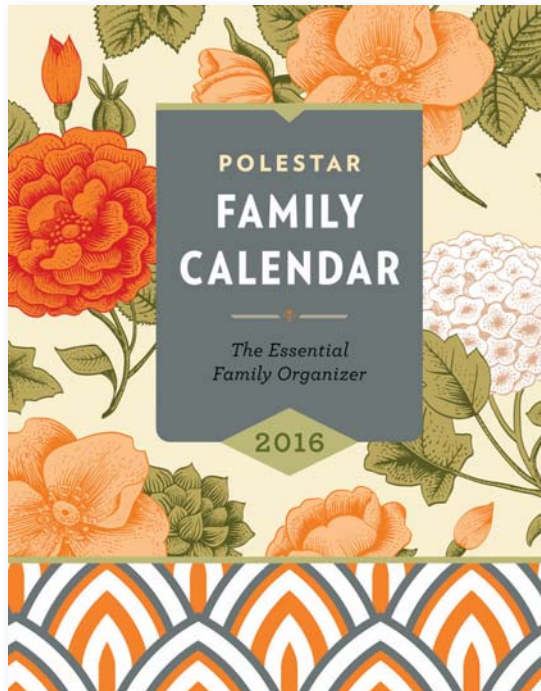
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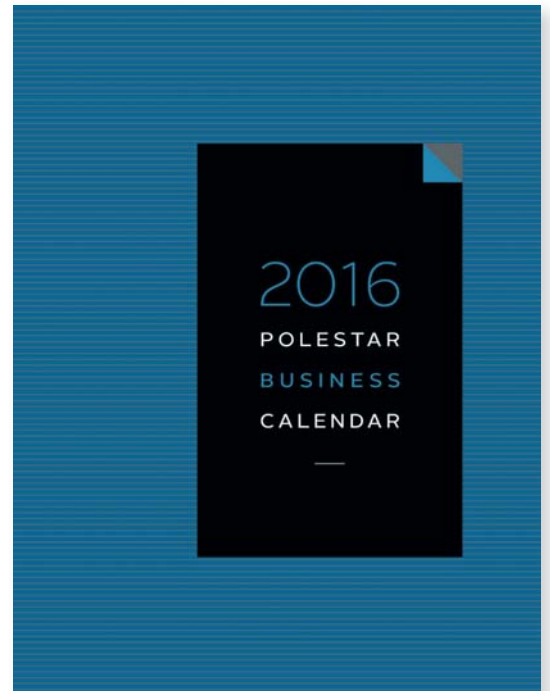
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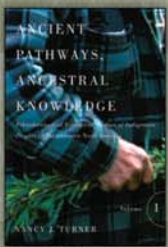
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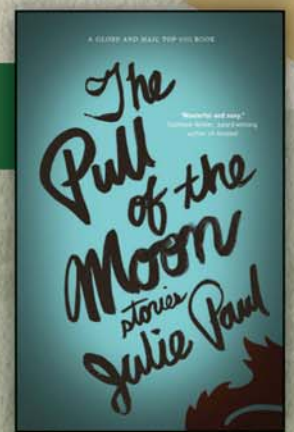


ARLEEN PARÉ
Lake of Two
Mountains
Brick Books

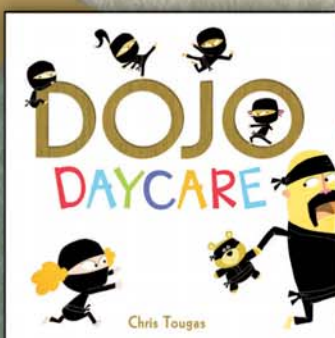


KAREN ENNS
Ordinary Hours
Brick Books

*Hats off to
the other
nominees...*



JULIE PAUL
The Pull of the Moon
Brindle & Glass Publishing



CHRIS TOUGAS
Dojo Daycare
Owlkids Books

Winner of the Bolen Books Children's Book Prize

*Hats off to
the other
nominees...*



LAURA LANGSTON
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Stared At
Razorbill Canada



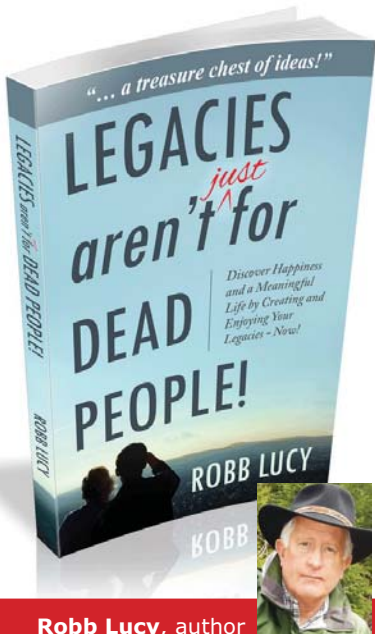
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I is for Inlet



Gwen Curry

Ray Phillips recalled the varied history of Jervis Inlet, where he grew up, in *The Royal Fjord: Memories of Jervis Inlet* (Harbour, 2015), and now **Gwen Curry** of Brentwood Bay has recorded the history and beauty of her nearest waterway in **Tod Inlet: A Healing Place** (Rocky Mountain \$25). Only about half an hour from downtown Victoria, this tiny fjord known as a "hidden gem" has had a low provincial profile. It was long home to the WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) people; then it became the twentieth-century home to the Vancouver Portland Cement Company. The nearby limestone quarries gave rise to Butchart Gardens. Much of the area has been preserved as Gowlland Tod Provincial Park. 9781771600767

J is for Johnson

For **Mourning and Mysticism in First World War Literature and Beyond: Grappling with Ghosts** (Palgrave Macmillan \$104) **George M. Johnson** examines how the loss of loved ones was endured and justified during World War One in Britain. He examines how writers that include Arthur Conan Doyle, Oliver Lodge, J.M. Barrie, Rudyard Kipling, Virginia Woolf, Wilfred Owen and Aldous Huxley coped with personal losses and traumas with doses of mysticism. With avenues such as telepathy, clairvoyance and automatic writing, many people wanted to believe that personality could survive beyond death.



George M. Johnson

Mourning and Mysticism suggests that such explorations resulted in a therapeutic form of mourning, more effective for solace than state-sanctioned representations of mourning such as war memorials. 9781137332028

K is for Klondike

With more than 600 photos, **Robert D. Turner's The Klondike Gold Rush Steamers: A History of Yukon River Steam Navigation** (Sono Nis \$49.95) must surely rank as one of the most comprehensive studies of the remarkable Yukon River vessels and their vital services, as well as those who built and ran them. After 19 books, Turner understands the importance of B.C. and Yukon history to the general public and it's a catalyst for his work. "I've met so many people whose parents or grandparents featured in my books," he says. 978-1-55039-242-5



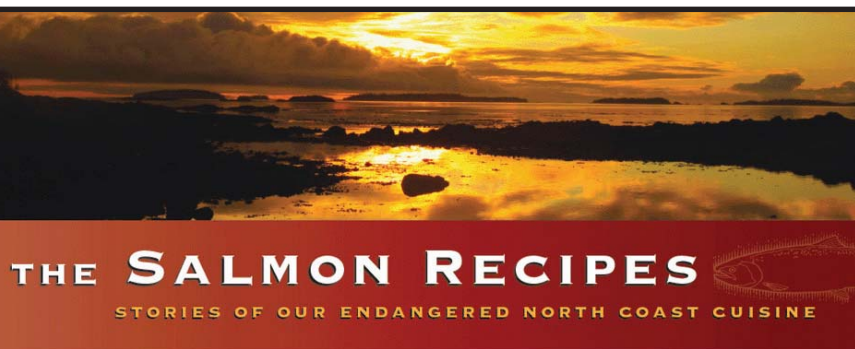
Robert D. Turner

L is for Lohman

"The Klondike gold fields are a silent backdrop to **Bill Reid's** choice of gold as a material," claims **Jack Lohman** in **Treasures of the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives** (RCBM \$39.95), "That is what museums are good at—we encourage visitors to make these connections, to leap over time like a Killer Whale, to weave a rich tapestry of history out of a single display." The lavishly illustrated coffee-table book has sub-sections by **Steven Point, Martha Black, Richard J. Hebda, Grant Keddie** and **Gary Mitchell**. 978-0-7726-6830-1

M is for McDonald

Bob McDonald, host of CBC Radio's *Quirks and Quarks* since 1992 and a member of the Order of Canada, has left Toronto to live in Victoria. In **Canadian Spacewalkers** (D&M \$29.95) McDonald interviews Canada's three legendary astronauts who have achieved spacewalker status: **Chris Hadfield, Steve MacLean** and **Dave Williams**. Their accounts detail the extreme mental and physical demands of training and describe the out-of-this world experience of taking a spacewalk. 978-1-77162-044-4



Why turn down a billion bucks?

Lax Kw'alaams members, who live in Prince Rupert at the mouth of the Skeena River, are turning down Petronas' billion dollar offer. Eelgrass is more important.

The Salmon Recipes' goal is to protect salmon. It is a defense against another threat to eelgrass- oil tankers. Prince Rupert Environmental Society volunteers who are about half First Nations and include fabulous story tellers, use stories, recipes and photos.

"The Salmon Recipes is not so much a cookbook, although it is an excellent one, as a luscious visual and mental experience."

— DOLORES BROTEN, THE WATERSHED SENTINEL

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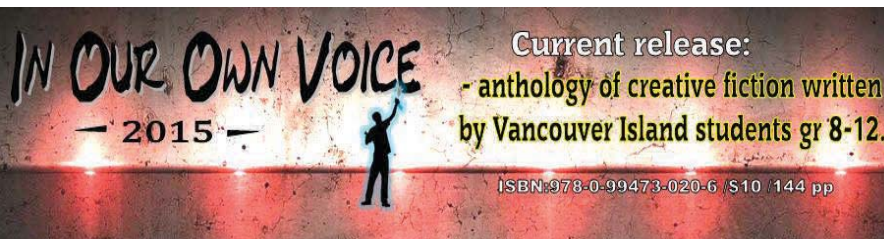
— ANDREW NIKIFORUK, TYEE

Available at local bookstores (Heritage Group Distribution)
or online from www.SaveOurSkeenaSalmon.org

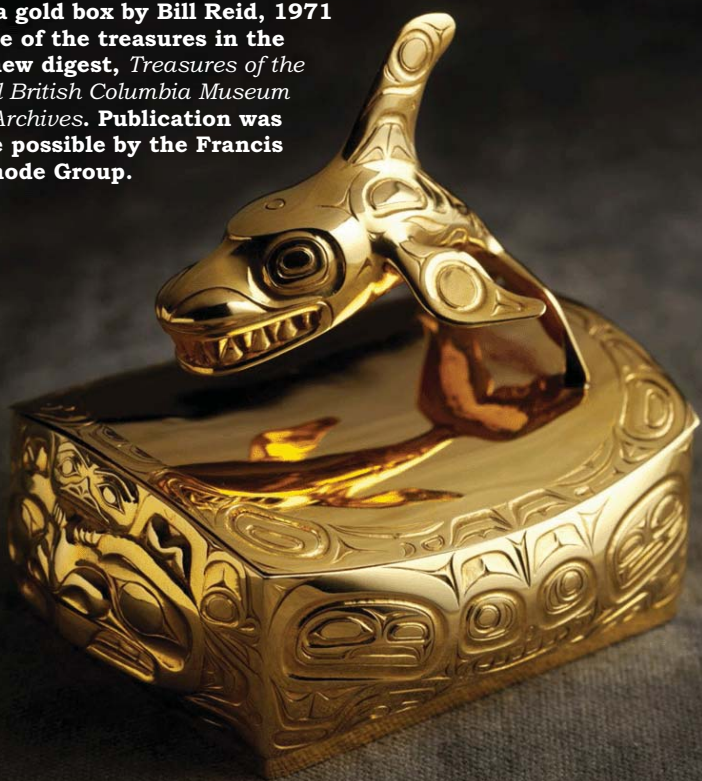
YA Fiction Book Publisher

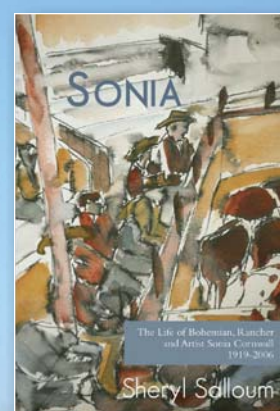
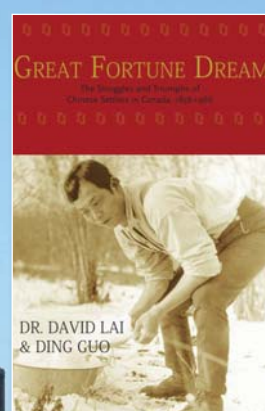
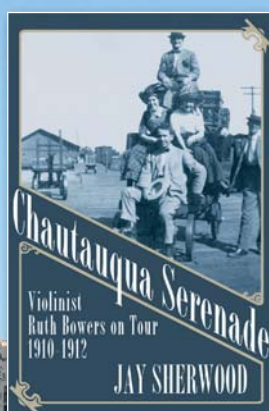
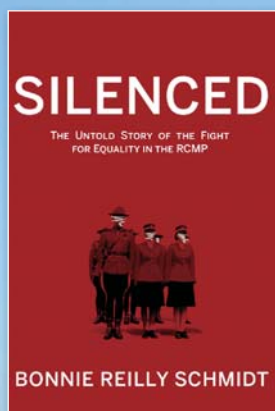
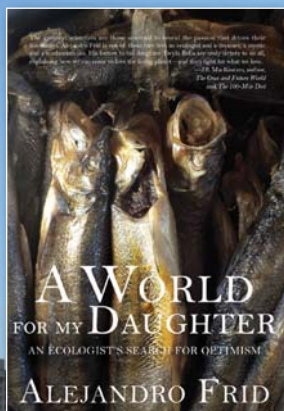


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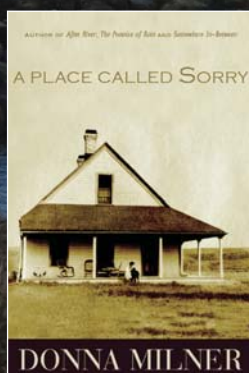
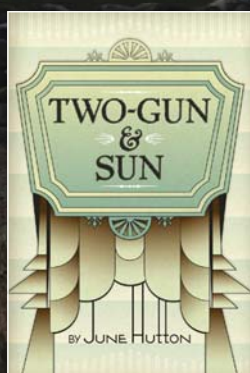
Haida gold box by Bill Reid, 1971 — one of the treasures in the new digest, Treasures of the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives. Publication was made possible by the Francis Kermodé Group.





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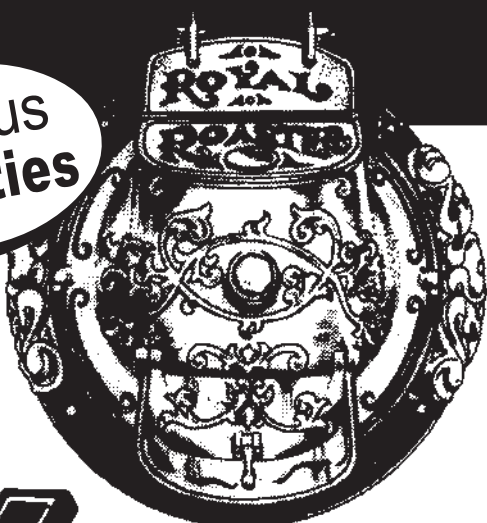
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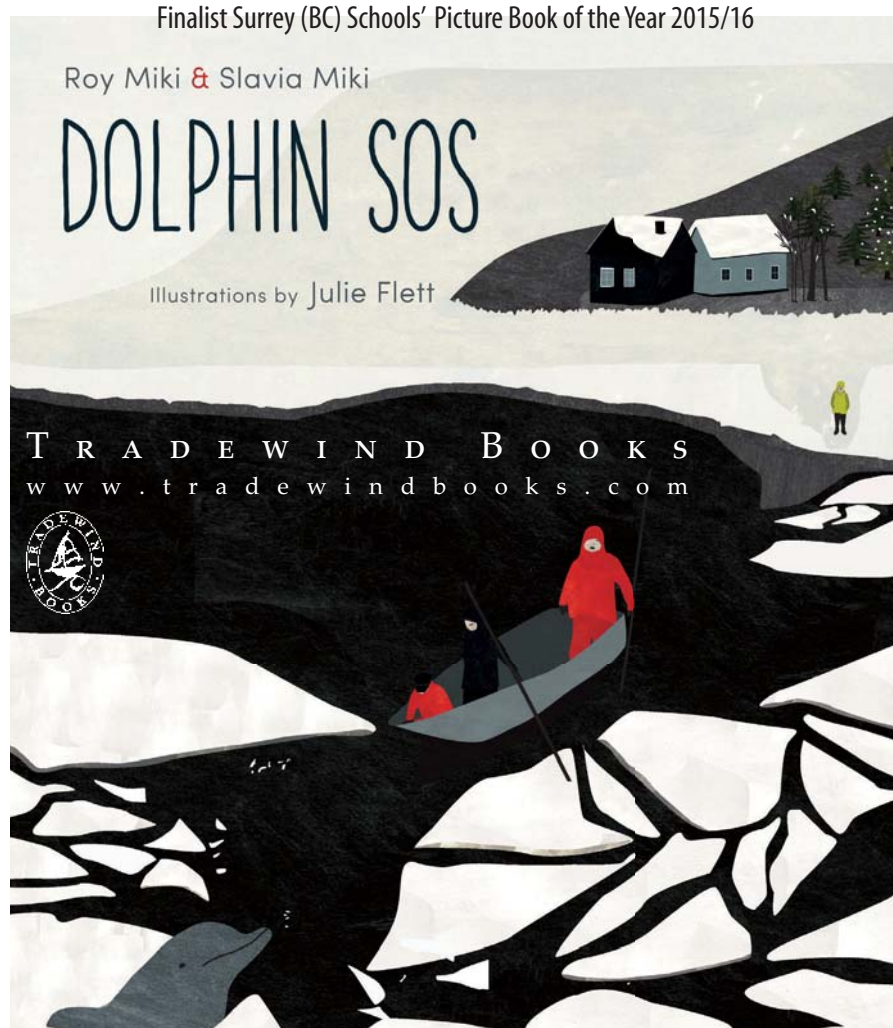


Figure.1

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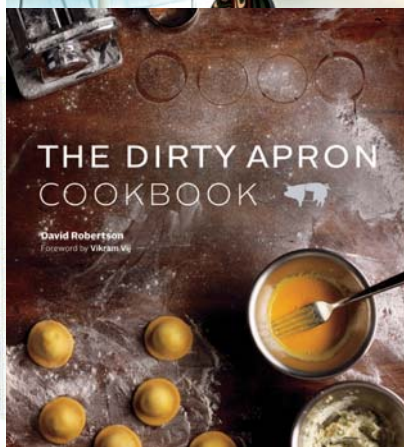
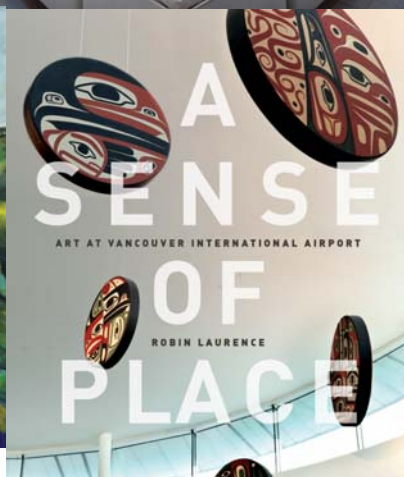
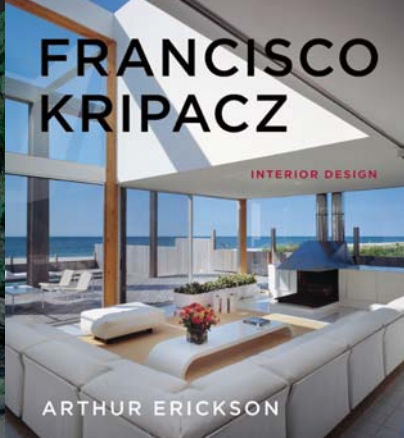
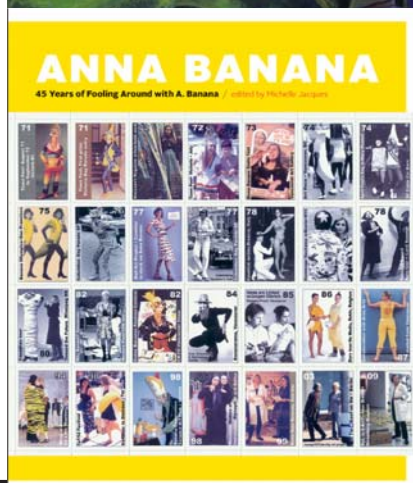
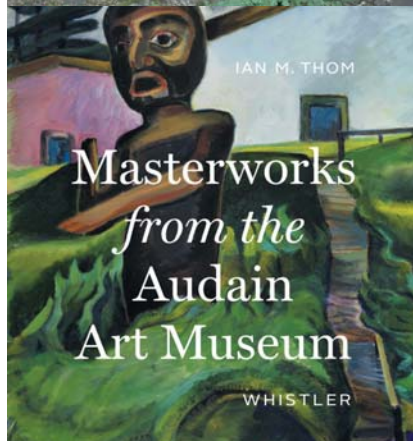
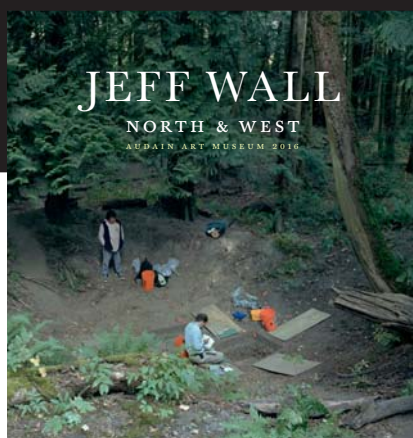
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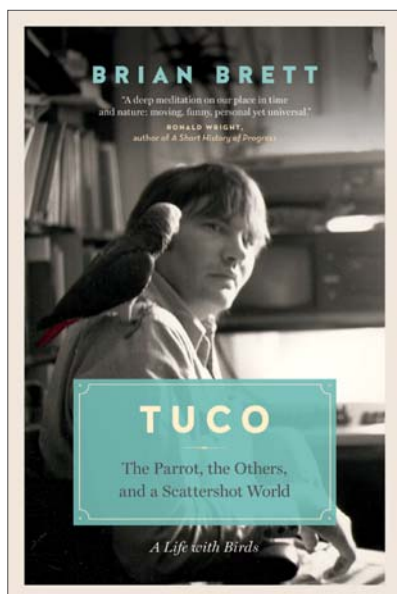
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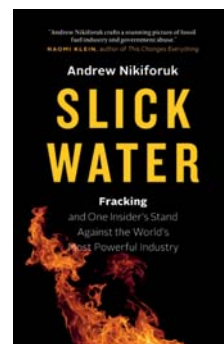
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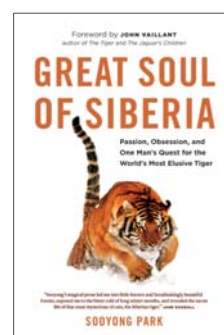


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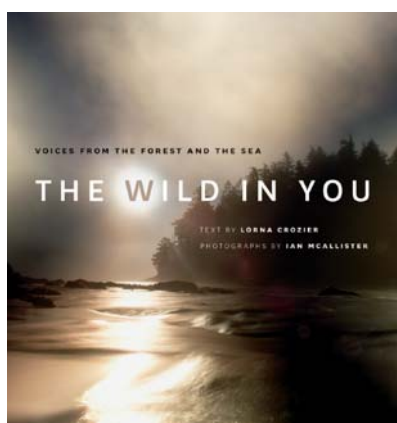
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who's who

BRITISH COLUMBIA

N is for Namir



Hasan Namir

And you thought it was hard being gay in Victoria? Or Whitehorse? Set in war-torn Iraq in 2003, **Hasan Namir's** forthcoming novel about being queer and Muslim, **God in Pink** (Arsenal \$15.95) breaks new ground for B.C. publishing. Born in Iraq in 1987, Namir graduated from SFU with a BA in English.

Namir's story follows the travails of a gay university student named Ramy whose parents have died, so he seeks counsel—as well as escape from the scrutiny of his fundamentalist brother and sister-in-law—with Ammar, a sheikh at the local mosque. When the teachings of the Qur'an don't mesh with the realities of Ramy's anguished predicament, the inherited belief system is called into question. It's a long way from *The Well of Loneliness*.

978-1551526065

O is for O'Brien



Emily O'Brien

As an associate professor in history and humanities at SFU, **Emily O'Brien** has examined the autobiography of the fifteenth-century humanist **Aeneas Sylvius Piccolomini**, better known as **Pope Pius II**, who wrote a romantic novella and his life story, *Commentaries*. Her new book, **The Commentaries of Pope Pius II (1458-1464) and the Crisis of the Fifteenth Century Papacy** (UTP \$65), shows how Pius' self-portrait affected and supported the evolution of the Renaissance papacy. "Though Canadian born," she writes, "I consider Italy to be my true intellectual home."

978-1-4426-4763-3

P is for Pearson

"We live such flammable lives," writes **Miranda Pearson** in the title poem for her fourth collection, **The Fire Extinguisher** (Oolichan \$17.95). Again Pearson evokes the struggle to live outside and beyond vulgarity and catastrophe, bravely beholden to glimpses of grace. There are some particularly sublime and subtle poems about human frailty when a body has been invaded by the C-word. Pearson will be one of the 150 authors featured in the forthcoming *Literary Map of B.C.*

978-0-88982-308-2

Q is for Quantum

As Nina Woolliams, **Nina Shoroplova** wrote an important book on ranching in B.C., *Cattle Ranch: The Story of the Douglas Lake Cattle Company* (D&M, 1979). With an endorsement by B.C.'s Lieutenant Governor **Judith Guichon**, Shoroplova has now hybrid-published her advice about spirituality as **Trust the Mystery: Questions, Quotes, and Quantum Wisdom** (Influence \$21.95). Born in Cardiff, Wales in 1947, she



Nina Shoroplova

came to Canada in 1969 to work as a physiotherapist and married the manager of the Douglas Lake Ranch in 1970. In 1979, as her first book was published, she left to operate a sheep and cattle ranch in Australia for five years. After taking a "body-mind-spirit" course at the Canadian School of Natural Nutrition, she increasingly turned to matters of spirituality and health.

978-1-77143-130-1

R is for Ricou

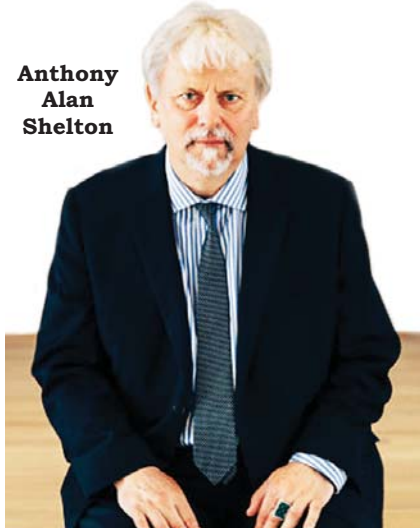
Since 1979, **Laurie Ricou**—a non-soccer player—has coached various levels of girls' soccer, making him a co-recipient of a Youth Coach of the Year Award from the B.C. Soccer Association. Simultaneously, his wife, **Treva Ricou**, has been an avid soccer player since her thirties, continuing to play competitively into her seventies. Laurie Ricou has recalled his 35 years of coaching in **Foot Notes: Telling Stories of Girls' Soccer** (Oolichan \$12.95), published to coincide with the 2015 Women's World Cup.

978-088982-314-3

S is for Shelton

Anthony Alan Shelton captures the playful, subversive culture of Portugal, a nation "forever trapped between land and sea, salvation and damnation," in **Heaven, Hell and Somewhere In Between** (Figure 1 \$45), a companion piece for a major exhibition that opened in May 2015 at the Museum of Anthropology at UBC. The book combines an in-depth analysis of Portuguese art and culture with photographs of 40 artworks—ceramics, masks, puppets—and another 60 supporting images from medieval frescoes, roadside icons, graf-

Anthony Alan Shelton



fiti and images of carnival performers and artisans at work in their studios.

As director of the Museum of Anthropology, Shelton co-authored a tribute to the museum with **Carol E. Mayer** entitled *The Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia* (D&M, 2010).

9781927958247

T is for Thistle



John Thistle

Geographer **John Thistle** is an expert on the repercussions of large-scale resource extraction. His **Resettling the Range: Animals, Ecologies, and Human Communities in Early British Columbia** (UBC \$29.95) details the battle B.C. ranchers waged to rid the grasslands of wild horses and grasshoppers during the late 19th and early 20th century. Eradication was justified with claims of "ranch improvement and rational land use."

9780774828376

U is for UBC



Jean Barman

More from UBC Press... **Jean Barman** has received the Sir John A. MacDonald Prize in Ottawa for **French Canadians, Furs and Indigenous Women in the Making of the Pacific Northwest** as well as the Governor General Award for Scholarly Research for 2015.

Long-time UBC Press editor **Jean Wilson** has received the Gray Campbell Award for outstanding service to the B.C. literary community.

Also from UBC Press, **Elsie Paul's** memoir in collaboration with **Paige Raibmon** and **Harmony Johnson**, **Written As I Remember It: Teachings (??ms ta?aw) from the Life of a Sliammon Elder** has won the Armitage-Jameson Book Prize from the Coalition for Western Women's History, whose mission is to advance scholarship on women, gender, and sexuality.

V is for Valley



Nicole Dargère

Originally from France, **Nicole Dargère** has crafted a fanciful, lyrical, sasquatch story set near Harrison Hotsprings in the late 19th century. In **Mystery Valley** (Ekstasis \$25.95), an elder of the Chehalis nation finds an abandoned sasquatch infant and raises it until it is welcomed by her community. With the intrusion of European trophy hunters, the Chehalis people unite to protect the sasquatch population who live in a place called Mystery Valley. This novel was originally published in Paris as *Mystery Valley ou Le secret du peuple de la rivière* (L'Harmattan, 2012). Nicole Dargère was raised in the small village of La Tour de Salvagny, near the city of Lyon. She immigrated to Toronto at age 24, eventually moving to Langley.

978-1-77171-028-2



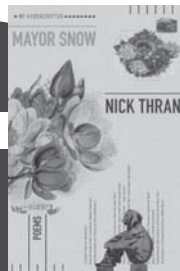
Miranda Pearson will be one of 150 authors with a site on the Literary Map of B.C.



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on the illusion of remaining
grounded and a sense
of belonging

MAYOR SNOW

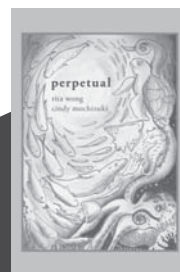
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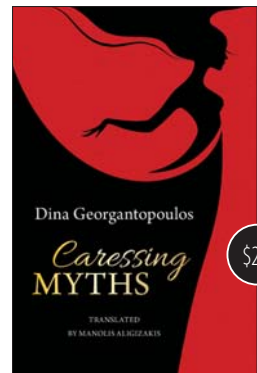
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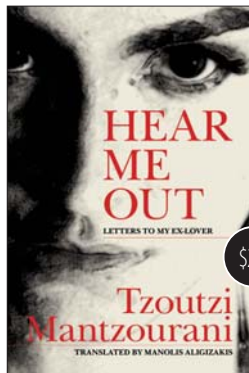


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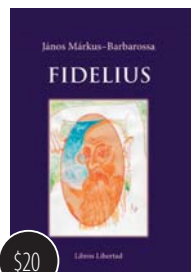
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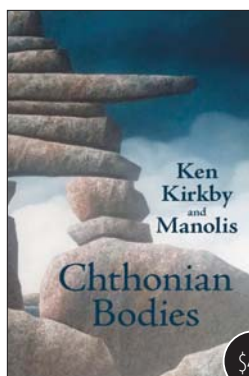
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For decades, cowboys known as 'tick riders' have patrolled the U.S.-Mexico border to prevent cattle carrying 'fever ticks' from crossing. In former B.C. rancher William Street's first novel, *The Tick Rider*, the protagonist is a Texas cowboy who works for the Texas Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, along the Rio Grande near El Paso, as a tick rider.

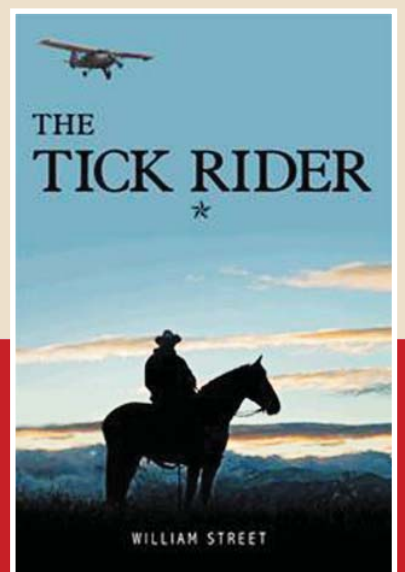
All the main characters are introduced on the same day in May of 2009, in various locations in Mexico and Texas.

The tick rider falls in love with the daughter of a successful Mexican rancher whose land lies along the river. Their lives are complicated by drug smuggling when a cartel boss and his henchmen want to set up a new drug crossing plaza along the river in Coahuila.

William Street managed Elkhorn ranch at Lake Windermere from 1951 to 1962. He and his wife own a cabin at Bliss Landing, north of Powell River. It's his first novel, preceded by a memoir that recalls his first job on a farm near Briscoe, B.C.

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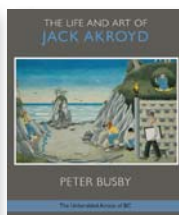
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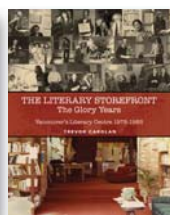
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WHO'S WHO



In 2013, Sarah de Leeuw won the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize for *Geographies of a Lover* (NeWest Press).

W is for Wah

Two veterans of the poetry wars, **Fred Wah** and **John Pass**, are releasing new books of old poems. Launched with a collective reading at the Western Front, **Fred Wah's Scree: The Collected Earlier Poems, 1962-1991** (Talon \$45) includes two facsimile editions of early chapbooks as well as the complete poems from thirteen now out-of-print or rare books. Similarly, John Pass has gathered a selection of early, out-of-print poems for **Forecast: Selected Early Poems 1970-1990** (Harbour \$18.95). Wah was selected as Canada's Parliamentary Poet Laureate in 2012 and appointed to the Order of Canada in 2013. Pass received the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 2006.

Scree 978-0-88922-947-1
Forecast 978-1-55017-731-2

X is for 'Xsan

The Skeena River is known to the Tsimshian as 'Xsan, meaning the "waters that flow from the clouds." Praised as a North Country epic, and as a poem/ assemblage that "cracks open geology," and as a "poly-vocal watershed of poetry," **Sarah de Leeuw's Skeena** (Caitlin \$18) is a single narrative elegy and celebration for and about B.C.'s second-longest river. Hyped by **Wade Davis** in advance, *Skeena* is also noteworthy because Sarah de Leeuw and her partner hand-screen printed each dust jacket. The Skeena or 'Xsan was first written about extensively in **Hubert Evans'** classic novel, *Mist on the River* (1954).

978-1-927575-91-8



Fred Wah was born in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, but grew up in the West Kootenays of B.C.

Y is for Yekelchyk



Serhy Yekelchyk

As a UVic history professor in the Department of Germanic and Russian Studies, **Serhy Yekelchyk** examines the 'politics of memory' under **Josef Stalin** with analysis based on declassified information from eight Ukrainian and Russian archives. **Stalin's Empire of Memory: Russian-Ukrainian Relations in the Soviet Historical Imagination** (UTP \$29.95) uses the Ukrainian republic as a case study to explain intricate relations between the Kremlin, non-Russian intellectuals and their audiences.

978-1-4426-2846-5

Z is for Zabkiewicz

With a Ph.D from UC Berkeley, **Denise Zabkiewicz** of SFU has co-edited **Health Research Methods: A Canadian Perspective** (Oxford Press \$79.95) with **Kate Bassil**. The anthology demonstrates the many ways research methods can be used to make new discoveries that improve human health.

Previously Zabkiewicz examined issues of employment and mental health within the context of U.S. welfare reform policy and a rapidly changing labour market. This research was motivated by her collaboration on the Welfare Client Longitudinal Study where she developed an interest in reducing socio-economic inequalities and the mental health problems that are often over-represented among disadvantaged populations.

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B.C.'s oldest author kicks the bucket

Frank White
1914-2015

FRANK WHITE, PIONEER, RACONTEUR and author of bestselling books, has died at his home in Garden Bay, B.C. on the Sunshine Coast. White could claim to be the province's oldest active author when he published his memoir *That Went by Fast* at the age of 100 in 2014, a follow-up to his 2013 bestseller *Milk Spills and One-Log Loads*.

A workingman and small businessman who didn't retire until age 80, White wrote about his long life in a colloquial, unvarnished style that got his books onto the B.C. Bestseller Lists. They are still popular on the BC Ferries newsstands. White's trademark was his self-deprecating humour.

"I'd got used to thinking my life hadn't amounted to much," he wrote, "and it seemed most people agreed with me on that. Now it's, 'Oh, you rode in a horse and buggy? You worked on a steam donkey show? Your girlfriend was a flapper?...You should write a book!' By hanging around so long it seems I have become an object of historical interest."

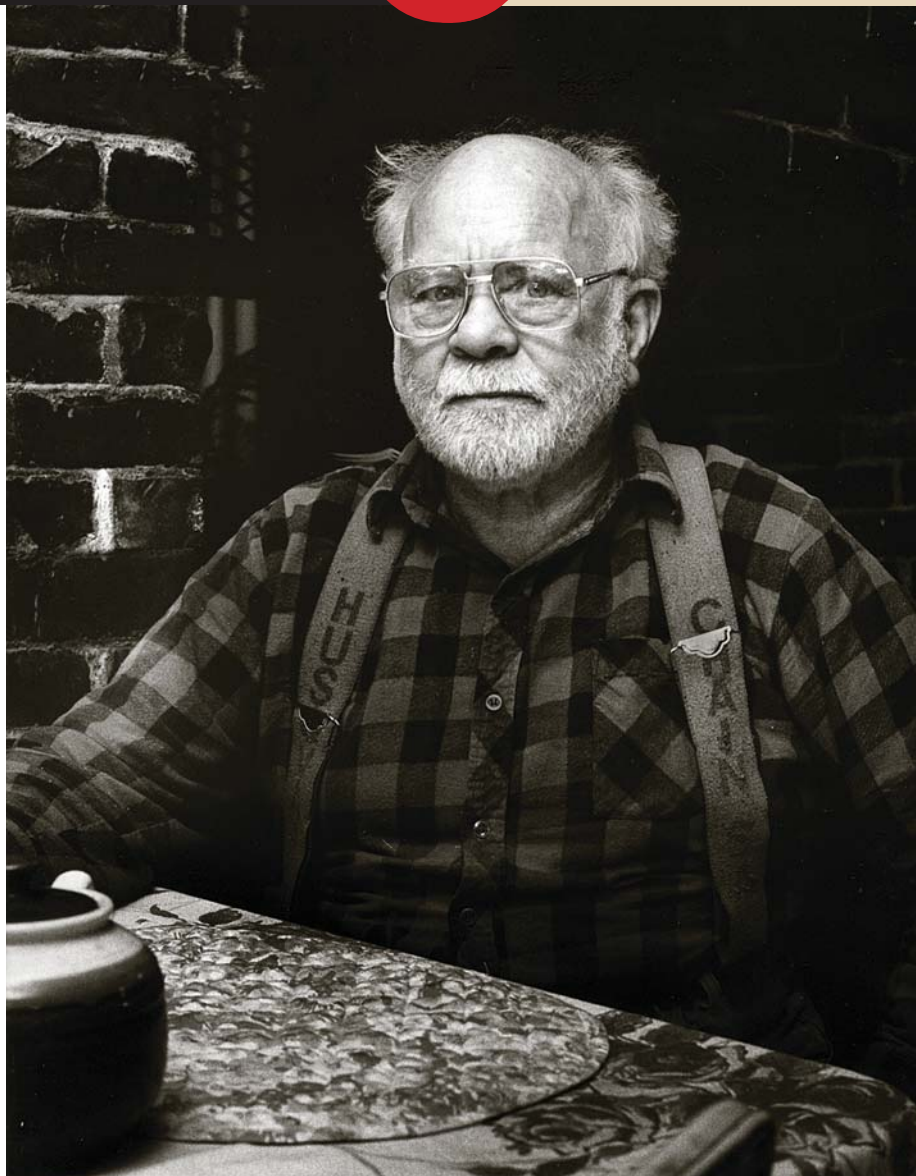
His was a typical life for a British Columbian of his time, comprised mostly of endless hard work, although on the evidence of his stories it was seldom dull. He grew up in Abbotsford the son of the town butcher and at age eight began serving customers in his father's shop by standing on a butter box so he could see over the counter.

His father bought the first Model-T delivery truck in Abbotsford but couldn't get the hang of the horseless carriage so young Frankie taught himself to operate it, lying about his age to get his driver's licence at age 13. "By the age of 13 I already had two professions: butcher and truck driver," he wrote.

He built on his early start to follow the trucking boom that hit B.C. in the 1930s and 1940s, pioneering highway freighting then truck logging. In the 1950s he became a small-scale "gyppo" logger before moving to the coastal fishing village of Pender Harbour, where he operated an excavating business, a gas station and a municipal water system.

Along the way Frank White endured shipwrecks, topped 200-foot spartrees, fought forest fires, got physical with log rustlers, built houses, built boats, raised a family, dabbled in politics, built early computers, buried a beloved wife and daughter, travelled the world and wrote books.

At age 92 he married the former *New Yorker* writer **Edith Iglauer**, 89, and they continued to live in their small waterfront cottage in Pender Harbour until the end. He died peacefully with his family and caregivers around him and his sense of humour intact. In his final hours when a nurse asked him how he was, he whispered between gasps, "Hundred per cent!"



Frank White: "By hanging around so long it seems I have become an object of historical interest." Portrait by Stephen Osborne.

White was bemused by his longevity and the celebrity that came with it. "When I was fifty and still had most of my marbles," he wrote, "all people wanted me to tell them was why their car stalled at the intersection. Now that everything is starting to get hazy, they're not satisfied unless I can tell them the meaning of life."

On that score he wasn't venturing any great pronouncements. "Life is life. It's not under our control and it doesn't follow any script. It just is." He might have added, life goes a lot easier if you have a good sense of humour.



FRANKLIN WETMORE WHITE WAS BORN MAY 9, 1914 in Sumas, Washington. He leaves behind his wife Edith Iglauer, a daughter **Marilyn**, two sons **Howard** and **Donald**, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He died on October 18, 2015.

Both of Frank White's books were edited with the assistance of Howard White, his son and publisher, who performed a similar role for the three bestselling classics of B.C. literature by inventor, entrepreneur, artist and airline owner **Jim Spilsbury**.

Wayne Skene
1941-2015

BORN ON FEBRUARY 5, 1941, **DENNIS WAYNE Skene** died in Surrey after a lengthy illness on July 5, 2015. "Wayne's fate," says editor and friend **Brian Scriven-**



Wayne Skene

er, "was the curse of Cassandra, in Greek myth—an analogy that he himself made more than once—gifted with prophecy, yet never having those prophecies fully appreciated." A

former radio and television manager within CBC, Skene published a critical assessment of the CBC's future in *Fade to Black: A Requiem for the CBC* and an examination of the results of airline deregulation since 1988 entitled *Turbulence: How Deregulation Destroyed Canada's Airline*.

Based in White Rock, Skene subsequently co-wrote Premier **Mike Harcourt's** memoirs entitled *Mike Harcourt: A Measure of Defiance* and he examined Ontario Hydro, Hydro-Quebec, BC Hydro and other electricity companies in *Delusions of Power: Vanity, Folly and the Uncertain Future of Canada's Hydro Giants*.

Bill Titheridge
1929-2015

LONGTIME B.C. BOOKSELLER **WILLIAM (BILL) John Titheridge**, born in Winnipeg on February 26, 1929, died on August 27, 2015 just shy of his 60th wedding anniversary. With his wife and their three children, Titheridge moved to Penticton in 1962 and opened Penticton Stationery, soon to become Okanagan Books. Most importantly he co-founded the B.C. Booksellers Association and served as president of the Canadian Booksellers Association. "He gave unstintingly of his time and advice to both organizations," recalls book industry veteran **Mark Stanton**.

A quintessential family man and community builder, Titheridge was long active in the Downtown Business Association of Penticton, the Penticton Regional Hospital Board and Kiwanis. "Bill was a long-time friend and mentor," says **Nancy Wise** of Sandhill Book Marketing in Kelowna. "He taught me much about bookselling when I was just starting out. His warmth and sense of humour are fondly remembered."

Pickup artist

I must tell you that my husband has often said that I travel on the Nanaimo ferry just to pick up a copy of *BC BookWorld*. I read it cover to cover, and often note books of particular interest to buy.

I am working on a "Galiano Family Tree" which started with my interest in wanting to know the history behind the pioneers who are buried in our cemetery, particularly those with WWI connections. It is a fascinating project.

Helen Russell
Galiano Island

Right on off the grid

As one of the editors of *Cooking And Community on Lasqueti Island*, I just want to thank you for your kind review. I especially liked "Off the grid but on the mark." Our book has been selling well throughout the summer. Thank you also for your great support of our wonderful B.C. writers.

Annie Carrithers
Lasqueti Island

Squinters unite

I enjoy reading your newspaper but wish that the typestyle was just a little bigger. If it was the same type size as the body copy in most of the books you advertise, it would be much easier to read.

Bill Stockmann
Kelowna

[We completely agree! You can zoom in on the text of each issue of BCBW via our two public service sites at ABCBookWorld.com and BCBook-Look.com].

Buzz words

I just saw the fall issue of *BC Book World* and want to say thank you so very much. What a lovely review of my book from Alex Van Tol and what great photos Laura Sawchuk took! And the COVER—wow. I so appreciate the support.

Robin Stevenson
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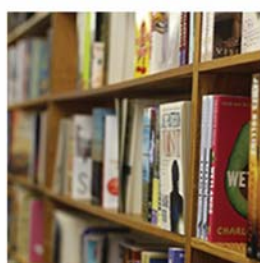
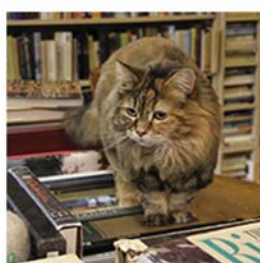
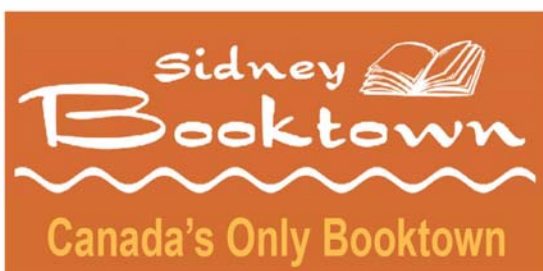
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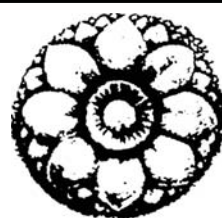
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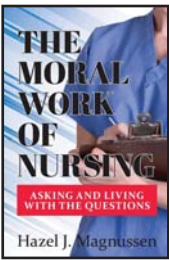
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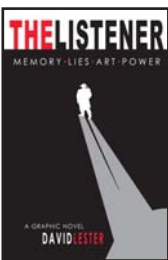
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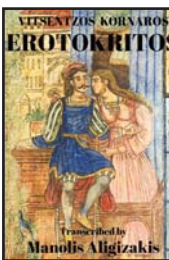


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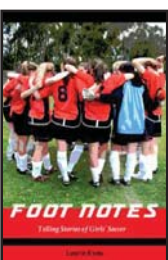


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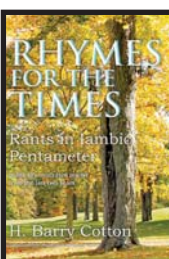


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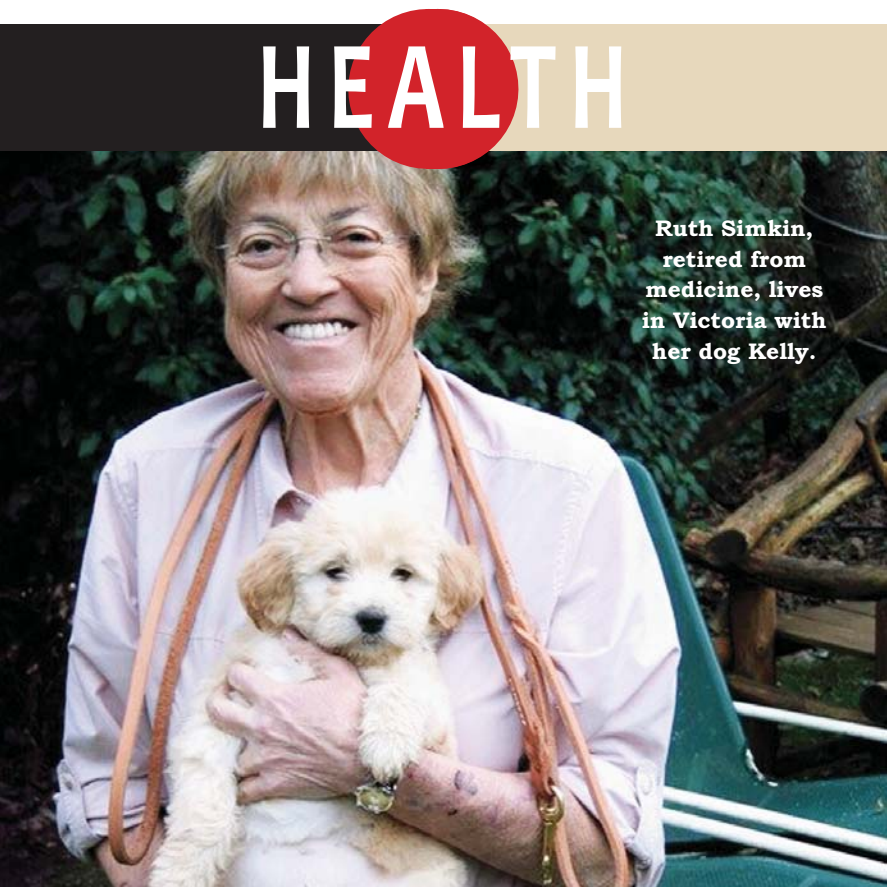
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Ruth Simkin,
retired from
medicine, lives
in Victoria with
her dog Kelly.

Ruth's truths

God, death, cruelty, & whistling on the Sabbath

DOCTOR, SOCIAL ACTIVIST AND feminist **Ruth Simkin** first revealed her personal challenges in a memoir that recounted her successful struggle to overcome mis-understood epilepsy, *The Jagged Years of Ruthie J* (Ekstasis Editions, 2010).

This has now been followed by **What Makes You Happy: Memories and Fiction** (Ekstasis \$25.95), a diverse collection of stories—some fictionalized—with poignant and humorous accounts of her work as a physician.

What Makes You Happy ranges from the big subjects—God, death and cruelty—to miniscule but formative experiences, such as remembering her backyard conversations with animals as a child. And then there was the time when Simkin was chastised by a reli-

gious Jew who passed by the yard and objected to five-year-old Ruth whistling on the Sabbath.

Cumulatively it's a deeply humanist affirmation of life from a Jewish-raised doctor, born in Winnipeg, who became a specialist in palliative care.

In the early 1990s, Simkin moved to Salt Spring Island where she became a farmer of "yuppie veggies" for almost ten years before returning to medicine as the first fellow to study palliative care at the UBC Faculty of Medicine.

After her three-year fellowship she became certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, becoming a specialist in pain and symptom management of dying people. For five years, she worked at the Victoria Hospice during which time she left Salt Spring Island and moved to Victoria.

Ruth Simkin's first book, *Like an Orange on a Seder Plate* (Self-published, 1999), has been described as a feminist *Passover Haggadah*. Having lived and studied in Canada, the U.S., Israel, China, England and Russia, Simkin has also published many medical articles on women's health.

In recent years, Simkin was active with a pet therapy program (PATS) and she served on the board of directors of the cultural group Out of the Box Productions for four years. She was active in volunteer work for the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, became a taiko drummer, and was involved in theatrical productions at the Vancouver Island Jewish Community Congregation Emanu-El.

Ruth Simkin received a copy of her new book while she herself is currently in palliative care.

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AD INDEX

Aldridge Print & Media...41
Anvil Press...26
Arsenal Pulp Press...8
Back Valley Road...41
Bamfield History...14
Banyen Books...41
BC Historical Federation...10
Caitlin Press...35
Douglas & McIntyre...6
Douglas College/EVENT...11
Ekstasis Editions...15
Ellis, David...41
Federation of BC Writers...11
Figure One...36
Friesen Press...43
Friesens Printers...43

Galiano Island Books...39
Givner, Joan...38
Granville Island Publishing...23
Greystone Books...36
Harbour Publishing...44
The Heritage Group of Publishers...20
Hignell Printing...41
Houghton Boston...43
Jasper Comics...39
Layton, Monique...30
Leaf Press...39
Libros Libertad Publishing...38
Literary Press Group...18
Lucy, Robb...34
Mermaid Tales Bookshop...41
Mother Tongue Publishing...38

New Star Books...30
Nightwood Editions...38
Oolichan Books...27
Orca Books...2
Penguin Random House...25
Polestar Calendars...33
Printorium/Island Blue...43
Proud Horse Publishing...39
Promontory Press...16
Rebel Mountain Press...34
Ronsdale Press...4
Royal BC Museum...23
Salmon Recipes, The...34
Sandhill Book Marketing...28
Self-Counsel Press...14
Sidney Booktown...41

Sikstrom, Sari...39
Sono Nis Press...12
Street, William...38
Talonbooks...24
Theatre in the Raw...39
Tradewind Books...35
UBC Press...27
U of Calgary Press...11
U of Regina Press...11
Van Tol, Alex...41
Vancouver Desktop...41
Victoria Book Prize Society...33
Yoka's Coffee...35

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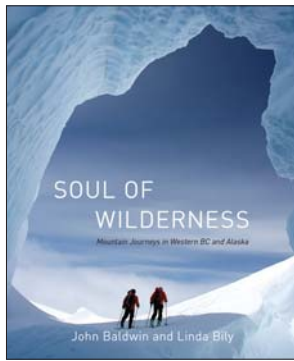
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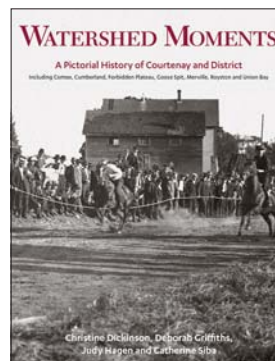


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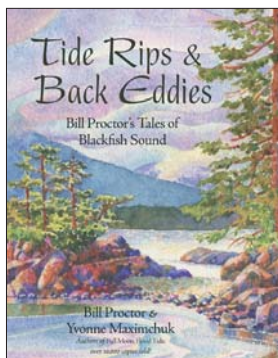


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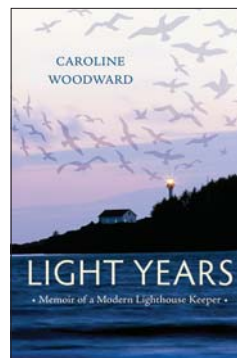


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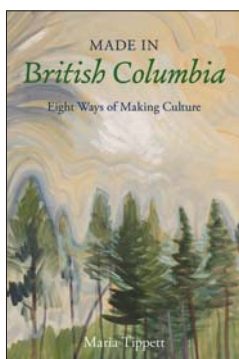


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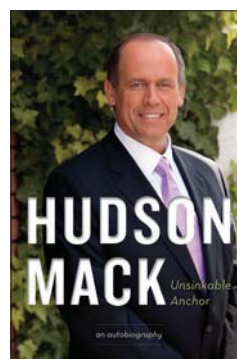


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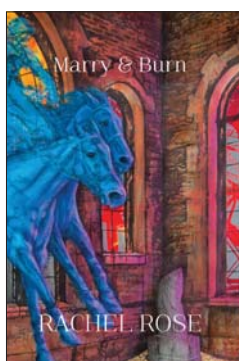


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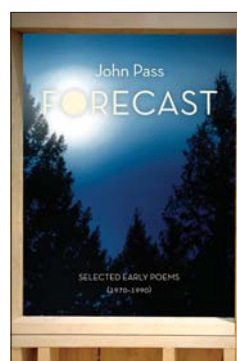
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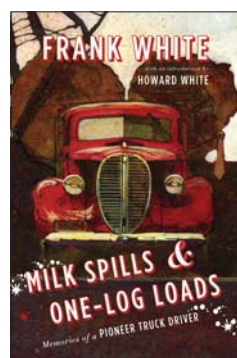
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