Joan Haggerty reflects on racism and forbidden love on Bowen Island in the 1940s with her novel, *The Dancehall Years*.

Page 8

**THE WRITING LIFE OF W.P. KINSSELLA**

Pages 22-23

**DADS DURING THE CRADLE YEARS**

Page 24

**TRUTH AND THE HIGHWAY OF TEARS**

Page 25
Praise for British Columbia from Scratch

"...an inspiring book about a fabulous place and its marvellous food!"
–ERIC AKIS, Victoria Times Colonist Food Writer

"British Columbia from Scratch is not only a beautiful tribute to the amazing landscapes, produce and people of BC, but also a generous culinary hug from the kitchen table. This is a book that draws you into the homespun warmth of seasonal gatherings that celebrate food, people and place.
–MICHELE CRANSTON, Marie Claire Cookbooks Author

"...British Columbia from Scratch exceeds expectations. With inspiration from stunning photos, Denise warmly invites the reader into her West Coast kitchen for a tasty visit."
– ANNA OLSON, Host of Bake With Anna Olson on Food Network Canada

"British Columbia from Scratch captures the magic of cooking seasonally in British Columbia and the creativity of Denise Marchessault’s delicious and refined food.”
–GARY HYNES, EAT Magazine Editor

$40.00
Available where books are sold.
How Aloha Wanderwell became a tomboy starlet

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s|der, stunningly beautiful, bisexual Idris Hall was a world renowned explorer and Hollywood starlet who was raised in North Vancouver, Dun-

can and Qualicum. As perhaps the first woman to travel around the world by car, she reputedly faced a firing squad in Russia; drove across Africa and China; lived with Amazon tribes; shook hands with Mussolini and flirted with Hollywood royalty. Her husband was Walter Wanderwell, a WW I spy who was mysteriously murdered on their yacht. Now she’s the subject of Aloha Wanderwell: The Border-Smashing, Record-Setting Life of the World’s Youngest Explorer (Goose Lane $24.95), a long-delayed biography co-written by Randolph Eustace-Walden with Christian Fink-Jensen. It sounds like a Wes Anderson movie...

After an elite education in Belgium and France, tomboyish Idris Hall was hired as a secretary and driver for movie... The couple ran afoul of the Mann Act (transporting women across state lines in the U.S. for immoral purposes) and married in Los Angeles in 1925. He was 29; she was 18. As perhaps the first woman to travel around the world by car, she reputedly faced a firing squad in Russia; drove across Africa and China; lived with Amazon tribes; shook hands with Mussolini and flirted with Hollywood royalty. Her husband was Walter Wanderwell, a WW I spy who was mysteriously murdered on their yacht. Now she’s the subject of Aloha Wanderwell: The Border-Smashing, Record-Setting Life of the World’s Youngest Explorer (Goose Lane $24.95), a long-delayed biography co-written by Randolph Eustace-Walden with Christian Fink-Jensen. It sounds like a Wes Anderson movie...

Aloha in Tokyo, 1924

Walter led two motoring teams on global expeditions in Ford armoured cars, ostensibly to compete for most miles logged, likely supported by Henry Ford and Standard Oil. Initially Walter claimed Aloha [on his team] as his adopted sister, then abandoned Nell. Upon their return, the expedition was feted with a ticker tape parade in Detroit. The couple ran afoul of the Mann Act (transporting women across state lines in the U.S. for immoral purposes) and married in Los Angeles in 1925. He was 29; she was 18. As perhaps the first woman to travel around the world by car, she reputedly faced a firing squad in Russia; drove across Africa and China; lived with Amazon tribes; shook hands with Mussolini and flirted with Hollywood royalty. Her husband was Walter Wanderwell, a WW I spy who was mysteriously murdered on their yacht. Now she’s the subject of Aloha Wanderwell: The Border-Smashing, Record-Setting Life of the World’s Youngest Explorer (Goose Lane $24.95), a long-delayed biography co-written by Randolph Eustace-Walden with Christian Fink-Jensen. It sounds like a Wes Anderson movie...

Aloha in Tokyo, 1924
The award is judged by a panel selected by Pacific BookWorld News Society. A shortlist of three titles is selected prior to a presentation ceremony, hosted by UBC Library, in the spring of 2017.

An educational perspective is sufficient to merit the award. The author need not be formally affiliated with a university or college. The award is judged by a panel selected by Pacific BookWorld News Society. A shortlist of three titles is selected prior to a presentation ceremony, hosted by UBC Library, in the spring of 2017.

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Public art with dignity

Vancouver can boast about bike lanes; it can make repeated vows to eliminate homelessness in order to advertise its good intentions; and it can look great year-round due to its spectacular natural setting—but the micro-managed metropolis could also compete for the world’s Worst Public Art Award.

Ideally the part-time residency of bronze sculptor Ruth Abernethy in Kitsilano will have some transformative effect.

As evidenced in her coffee table book compendium, Life and Bronze: A Sculptor’s Journal (Granville Island $60), the Ontario-raised Abernethy has created alluring sculptures and installations that people really, really, really like.

Abernethy’s first major Vancouver work was unveiled at Telus World of Science in October of 2016. As described (but not pictured) in her book, her first West Coast installation honours scientists James Till and the late Ernest McCulough, co-discoverers of stem cells, who are a modern-day equivalent of Banting and Best.

In 1999, her depiction of pianist Glenn Gould on a bench, wearing his distinctive cap, launched her solo art practice into wider renown. Commissions to replicate Mackenzie King, John A. Macdonald, “In Flanders Fields” war poet John McCrae, golfer Arnold Palmer and pianist Oscar Peterson have followed.

In an ideal world, the city would commission Abernethy to produce a life-size bronze statue of beloved Chuck Davis who served for five decades in penury as Vancouver’s saint-like historian.

Leesa Dean makes her debut

Leesa Dean’s first collection Waiting for the Cyclone (Brindle & Glass $19.95) describes how contemporary girls and young women are mostly failing to establish stable relationships. The millennials in her thirteen stories are yearning to find dependable and loving partners, but instead they encounter faithless lovers, sexual predators and abusers who offer no shelter from the coming storm. Trouble is, often the women can behave as badly as the men. Dean’s first story, ‘The Cyclone,’ sets the tone. Increasingly severe weather conditions are a given for us all; at the same time ‘The Cyclone’ is also the name of a Coney Island roller-coaster that offers the most terrifying experience of danger in an amusement park. Born in Terrace and raised in Cranbrook, Leesa Dean is a graduate of the University of Guelph’s Creative Writing MFA program. She teaches English and Creative Writing for Selkirk College in Nelson. Her blog discusses “RANDOM ENCOUNTERS, CHURROS, SASQUATCHES, AN AGING CAT NAMED BALOU, URBAN CANOEING, BILINGUALISM, THINGS THAT HAPPENED BUT SHOULDN’T HAVE AS WELL AS THINGS THAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED AND DID.”

Joan Ginver will review Waiting for the Cyclone in our SPRING fiction issue. 978-1-427366-10-9

Stephen Le Scobie

The Griffin in the Griffin’s Wood (Ekstasis $29.95), a spy novel in the tradition of John Le Carre’s The Russia House, is a marked departure for Victoria-based poet Stephen Scobie, known for long narrative poems and critical work on Canadian literature, Georges Braque and Bob Dylan. Scobie tinkers with the conventions of the spy novel while recreating the tensions surrounding the fall of the Berlin Wall. Scobie is an elected member of the Royal Society of Canada and in 1980 he received the Governor General’s Award for McAlmon’s Chinese Opera. 978-1-77171-125-0

Stepan Le Scobie

Francais Columbia

The oldest French place name in British Columbia that’s still in use is likely Annacis Island, located southwest of New Westminster. It’s an Anglicized version of Annance’s Island, named after Noel Annance in 1827. Later that same year, Annance, the exemplary Abenaki First Nation employee of the Hudson’s Bay Company, oversaw Fort Langley’s official opening. HBC boss George Simpson described him: “Active determined and in the main a good hunter.” With his Flathead wife, Annance, a Francophone, had two sons in B.C. when he was the right hand man of HBC’s Archie McDonald at Thompson River in the “Okanogan” [sic]. Unusually literate and vastly travelled, he’s the subject of Jean Barman’s new biography, Daring: The Life and Writings of Noel Annance, 1792-1869 (McGill-Queen’s $39.95). 978-0-7735-4792-6

Jean Barman

Ruth Abernethy and Glenn Gould statue at CBC headquarters in Toronto.
THE LAST GANG IN TOWN
Aaron Chapman
978-1-55152-671-3; $24.95
The infamous story of the Vancouver Police’s battle with the Clark Park Gang in 1972, by the author of Live at the Commodore.

CHOWGIRLS KILLER PARTY FOOD
Heidi Andermack & Amy Lynn Brown
978-1-55152-645-4; $22.95
A witty and stylish cookbook of delicious, seasonal recipes for home entertaining from the proprietors of Chowgirls Killer Catering.

SUCH A LOVELY LITTLE WAR
Marcelino Truong
978-1-55152-647-8; $26.95
A stirring graphic memoir on the early years of the Vietnam war. "A first-rate work dealing with a pivotal period in modern American history."—Kirkus Review (starred)

THE CASE OF ALAN TURING
Liberge & Delalande
978-1-55152-650-8; $23.95
A gripping graphic history on Alan Turing, the heroic WWII codebreaker condemned for his homosexuality.

BECOMING UNBECOMING
UNA
978-1-55152-653-9; $24.95
A remarkable graphic novel on sexual violence against women. “A manifesto for female empowerment and a punch to the gut of predatory males.”—Kirkus Review (starred)

THE DAD DIALOGUES
George Bowering & Charles Demers
978-1-55152-662-1; $17.95
A poignant, witty correspondence between fathers from different generations about raising their daughters.

THE DAD DIALOGUES
George Bowering & Charles Demers
978-1-55152-662-1; $17.95
A poignant, witty correspondence between fathers from different generations about raising their daughters.

TOMBOY SURVIVAL GUIDE
Ivan Coyote
978-1-55152-656-0; $17.95
The acclaimed storyteller explores the tomboy life: a journey through treacherous gender landscapes. "Coyote is by turn eloquent, provocative, and persuasive."—Vancouver Sun

CONFLICT IS NOT ABUSE
Sarah Schulman
978-1-55152-643-0; $19.95
"With awesome brilliance and insight, Schulman offers readers new strategies to intervene on all relations of domination both personal and political."—bell hooks

NIAGARA MOTEL
Ashley Little
978-1-55152-660-7; $17.95
The new novel by the author of Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize winner Anatomy of a Girl Gang. "A voice and a story you won’t be able to shake."—Alix Hawley

THE REMEDY
Zena Sharan (ed.)
978-1-55152-658-4; $18.95
An anthology of queer and trans voices on health and health care. "The Remedy filled me with that relief and gratitude one senses from feeling deeply seen.”—Michael V. Smith

THE BOY & THE BINDI
Vivek Shraya & Rajni Perera
978-1-55152-668-3; $17.95
A children’s picture book about a boy’s fascination with his mother’s bindi. “Defines and affirms important values of Hindu culture—and nudges gender norms, as well.”—Publishers Weekly

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**PEACE KEEPING OR PROSPERITY?**

The Site C dam will be the most expensive infrastructure project in B.C. history.

*In September of 2013, Christopher Pollon and photographer Ben Nelms decided to explore the planned reservoir area—between Hudson's Hope and Fort St. John—by river and road. Without an assignment, they packed camping gear, tied a canoe on Nelms' truck and drove northeast across the province. “Ben did some early scouting so we didn't go in cold,” Pollon recalls. “He and I had worked together before, and we worked well in the field. We thought it might be a long film journalism piece.”

Pollon's text and Nelms' colour photographs in *The Peace in Peril: The Real Cost of the Site C Dam* now render a strong impression of the natural bounty in the flood reserve area where development has been mostly halted in preparation for the BC Hydro project.

“Reaching the Peace Canyon Dam, the pair paddled downriver, casting for bull trout and whitefish while camping on wooded islands. “The Peace River was portrayed quite often as damaged goods,” says Pollon, but in spite of fluctuating water levels, they found an abundance of vegetation and wildlife.”

Back on shore, the duo traversed Highway 29 and listened to farmers, ranchers and trappers about their lives. Some riverside families have been against the dams for decades. Farmers stated that with its long summer days, the higher latitude Peace Valley could be as productive as the Fraser Valley, but nowadays much outstanding agricultural land has now been left fallow. When Pollon returned to Vancouver, he discovered the Site C project had already had a full review by the B.C. Utilities Commission way back in 1983, under the Social Credit government—and the plan was kiboshed.

“It was deemed to be not in the public interest,” says Pollon. “But this time around it was exempted from the process. Instead the (B.C. Liberal) government did more internal reviews….”

“The difference between '83 and now is scrutiny: independent scrutiny of cost estimates, of the forecasting assumptions that went into it, of the need for the project,” says Pollon. “Critics of the project claim the demand for electrical power in the province has been flat for the past ten years, in contradiction BC Hydro's forecasts. Environmentalists assert that if extra energy is needed now, there are other ways to produce it rather than an expensive megaproject that will flood a fertile valley. Pollon also considers the views of some experts beyond the Peace, such as SPU energy economist Mark Jacqard who insists Site C could be a valuable asset.

The environmental impact will be major, reaching as far as the Peace-Atbazka delta in northeastern Alberta. A 1,800 workers log and reshape the valley, local First Nations, Amnesty International, BCGEU, Peace Valley Landowner Association (PVLA), Royal Society of Canada and many other groups are opposed. Outstanding treaty rights issues remain to be settled. Two First Nations and the PVLA have been in provincial court to try to halt the project.

Pollon hopes his book will produce “an awareness of the Peace as our economic engine, but also the fact that it's being sacrificed for our benefit.”

Freelance writer David Conn is a former librarian who lives in Vancouver.
In 1941, when Gwen Killiam arrives at her family's summer cottage on Bowen Island, she is ready for another summer of ice cream, swimming at the beach, and spying on dancers in the beautiful dancehall above the wharf. But the spectre of war and the complications of family life will soon shatter the peaceful insulation of her childhood in Joan Haggerty’s The Dancehall Years, reviewed here by Caitlin Woods-Rotering.

When twenty-one, her Aunt Isabelle has fallen scandalously in love with a young man named Takumi Yoshito. Takumi, who also happens to be Gwen's swimming teacher, is the son of Shinsuke and Noriko, keepers of some of the most beautiful gardens on Bowen Island. The Yoshitos have been an integral part of Bowen Island for years, caring for the Bowen Inn gardens and living in a lovely Scarborough house which was gifted to them in their former employer’s will.

After December 7, 1941, the Yoshitos are no longer gardeners or friends or neighbours—they are enemies. The surprise invasion of Pearl Harbor means Japanese Canadians can be forced into camps in the Interior, and the Yoshitos can never be the islanders they were until the war is over. Takumi returns to his wilderness for years. Upon hearing that the war is over, Takumi flees the island by boat, narrowly avoiding capture. His sudden departure leaves Isabelle with a broken heart and a very uncertain future. Takumi takes refuge along the British Columbian coastline, using his skill and ingenuity to hide out and survive in the wilderness for years. Upon finally hearing that the war is over, Takumi returns to his home on Bowen Island only to find it has been sold by the government and bought by Isabelle’s brother-in-law.

With the home he has been dreaming of now occupied by someone else, Takumi bitches a ride on a fishing boat and finds himself across the border in Blaine, Washington. Just when he thinks he has escaped his painful past, he runs into an old family friend from Bowen Island—and a big surprise.

Takumi’s story is one of many rich narrative threads in Joan Haggerty’s novel. The numerous characters in The Dancehall Years are all well-developed; each with their own secrets, betrayals, heartbreak and guilt. The stories intertwine beautifully as the graceful narrative floats through their interconnected lives, taking the reader deep into their homes and their memories.

Just when he thinks he has abandoned his family and he is ready for another summer, a mysterious stranger arrives to restore the dancehall, a strange resolution for reasons her mother refuses to disclose. A complex web of secrets has been built up over the years. The decaying dancehall on Bowen Island remains as a haunting reminder of how the idyllic past can never be regained. When Gwen and a friend embark on a project to restore the dancehall, a mysterious stranger arrives who has a connection to their childhood days. Her presence threatens to unravel the tangled threads of Gwen’s family history, which perhaps is just what they need.

The Dancehall Years is a beautifully written saga. It combines the deep complexities of family, love, memory and community. This is a sophisticated novel that will feel strikingly familiar, not only to anyone who knows the landmarks of the West Coast, but to anyone who has ever been in a family with a secret.

Joan Haggerty revisits how internment of Japanese Canadian citizens during WW II had a devastating impact.

Madeleine Thien wins—again

Madeleine Thien’s third novel, Do Not Say We Have Nothing (Knopf) has now won both the Governor General’s Award for Fiction and the $100,000 Scotiabank Giller Prize in 2016. It was also shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. This recognition is unprecedented for a B.C.-born author. The only Giller winner to have won while living in B.C. is Esi Edugyan of Victoria for Half-Blood Blues in 2011. She was born and raised in Calgary. Both their winning novels were published in Ontario. Thien is currently a resident of Montreal. Jim Wong-Chu will profile Madeleine Thien’s formative years in Vancouver in our forthcoming Spring FICTION issue.
Soviet Princeton
Slim Evans and the 1932–33 Miners’ Strike

JON BARTLETT & RIKA RUEBSAAT

Finalist, BC Book Prizes
Finalist, BC Lieutenant Governor’s Medal for Historical Writing

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.

Also available as a Kobo or Kindle ebook

“The News We Deserve is a compelling compilation showing how money, policy, and education have aligned to give Canadians poorer journalism than they deserve. Anyone concerned about the role journalism plays in Canadian politics, culture, and society will find his critique unsettling.”

—Robert G. Picard, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford

COMING NOVEMBER 2016

A Series Of Dogs
JOHN ARMSTRONG

uses his wry wit and vivid prose to evoke a life immeasurably enriched by one best friend after another. A Series Of Dogs introduces the reader to some of the most memorable characters to come along in Canadian literature in some time. Armstrong tells boyhood tales of romping along the railroad tracks with Spooky the mutt, touching accounts of Sluggo the Rottweiler befriending sex workers, howling memories of laying a treasured friend to rest during a rain- and beer-soaked night, and many more stories both moving and hilarious.

Praise for Armstrong’s previous memoirs, Guilty of Everything and Wages:
“A topnotch storyteller: insightful, smart, self-deprecating and funny.”
—Monday Magazine

“Armstrong is a natural storyteller.”
—Exclaim!

“One hell of a writer.”
—The Nerve

A Series Of Dogs

introduces the reader to some of the most memorable characters to come along in Canadian literature in some time.

Armstrong and Bob, circa 1957.

Congratulations!
A fine crop of Victoria writers

Winner of the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize

FRANCES BACKHOUSE
Once They Were Hats: In Search of the Mighty Beaver
ECW Press

TRICIA DOWER
Becoming Lin
Caitlin Press

ARLEEN PARE
He Leaves His Face in the Funeral Car
Caitlin Press

LAURA TRUMLEY
Double Dutch
House of Anansi

Hats off to the other nominees...

PAULINE HOLDSTOCK
The Hunter and the Wild Girl
Goose Lane Editions

Winner of the Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize

Dawn Green
In the Swish
Red Deer Press

Hats off to the other nominees...

JENNY MANZER
Save Me. Kari Cobain
Delacorte Press

ROBIN STEVENSON
The Summer We Saved the Bells
Orca Book Publishers

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These two juried prizes of $5,000 each are awarded annually. The Victoria Book Prize Society administers the prizes. Guidelines and details:
www.victoriabookprizes.ca
Award-winning authors dig deep into the cultures that shaped them as they connect with and explain traditions that have nourished and supported people for centuries. Rich personal stories, carefully-researched history, gorgeous photos (and some delicious recipes), the Orca Origins provide vital connections to the magnificent diversity of our modern world.

“A must-have title, whether readers are already knowledgeable about the holiday’s history and rituals or learning about them for the first time... Highly recommended for all ages.”
—Jewish Book Council

“A standout volume... an excellent introduction to Diwali and Indian culture, highly recommended.”
—School Library Journal

“An exceptionally valuable resource.”
—Kirkus Reviews

Find these books at your favourite bookstore or online.
has published Street Farm: Growing Food, Jobs, and Hope on the Urban Frontier (Chelsea Green Publishing/UTP $33.20) to celebrate the transformation of asphalt into gardens in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside. Ableman’s Sole Food Street Farms spearheaded this initiative which he describes as North America’s largest urban farm project, boasting an annual yield of 50,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables from five paved sites, 4.5 acres in total, employing 75 people since 2009.

A is for Ableman

SALT SPRING ISLANDER MICHAEL ABLEMAN

Marion Crook

B is for Block

IN HER STUDY OF RELIGION AND IRRELIGION IN OUR NECK OF THE WOODS, The Secular Northwest (UBC Press $49.95), Thompson Rivers University history professor Tina Block posits that even though our post-war populace has largely rejected organized religion, it has not necessarily turned its back on the concept of God.

C is for Crook

MARION CROOK HAS RELEASED AN UPDATED, third printing of Writing for Children and Young Adults (Self-Counsel $8.99), first published in 1988. “The world of writing and publishing had changed so much that I muddled a kind of schizophrenic conversation with myself discussing every paragraph,” she says. “Was this still true? What else contributed to this aspect of writing in this modern world? I was, at the time of writing, on a private Facebook page with about fifty other writers, most of them living in the US, who discussed writing and contracts and were willing to give advice. I volunteered to participate in their virtual tours, street trams, contests and promotion schemes in order to find experience in this new digital marketing. It was strange and fascinating.”

D is for Denham

JOE DENHAM’S REGENERATION MACHINE (Nightwood Editions $18.95) has won the Canadian Authors Association (CAA) Award for the best work of poetry published in the preceding year. It’s a 9,000-word, 100-stanza letter in verse to his deceased friend Nevin Sample who committed armed robbery of a small credit union, then fled into the nearby forest with police in hot pursuit. Hidden by a stump at the edge of a small clearing, with the police calling out to him, Nevin Sample shot himself in the head. Regeneration Machine is at once a requiem, an elegy and a lament.

E is for Elson

AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR IN THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION at Uvic, Peter R. Elson has edited an examination of non-profit housing in B.C.; social policy in Alberta; sport, culture, recreation and lottery funds in Saskatchewan; and community economic development in Manitoba for Funding Policies and the Nonprofit Sector in Western Canada (UTP $38.95). 978-1-4426-0971-8

F is for Fu

KIM FU’S DEBUT NOVEL FOR TODAY I AM A BOY was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award, a New York Times Book Review Editors’ Choice and winner of the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction. Her debut collection of poems How Festive the Ambulance (Nightwood Editions $18.95) is filled with incantations, mythical creatures and extreme violence. Despite the word pyrotechnics, these poems shed light on small scenes of domestic life and banal tragedies of modern love and modern death. Born in Vancouver, Fu is a graduate of UBC’s Creative Writing Program. She currently lives in Seattle. 978-0-88971-321-5

G is for Galloway

KERRY GOLD'S EXCELLENT AND LENGTHY article in The Walrus magazine on the removal of novelist Steven Gal- loway from his perch atop the UBC Creative Writing Program tells the story of how Galloway waited until one of his female students had officially graduated from the program before he slapped her in the face, in public, in front of other writers, for having had the audacity to say she was not a fan of his writing. Case closed.

H is for Hills

PATRICK AND HEATHER HILL'S HOME ON THE WAVES: A Pacific Sailing Adventure (Promontory $17.95) recounts 14 months aboard their self-built, 42-foot sailboat with two children sailing more than 15,000 miles, “harbour-hopping” along the Pacific coast before visiting the South Pacific, staying in the Hawaiian Islands and visiting the glaciers of Alaska. The Vancouver couple has owned nine sailboats, including Sky One Hundred, built in their back yard. 978-1-927559-04-9
BORN OF A RUSSIAN MOTHER AND POLISH father in Frankfurt in 1927, Inge Israel escaped Hitler’s rise, with her parents, to France. After also living in Ireland, Belgium and Denmark, she came to Edmonton in 1958 and Victoria in 1996. She speaks four languages and has eight previous books in French and English. Now her reflective and emotionally-charged memoir Finding the Words (Seraphim Editions $19.95) recalls the events and people who shaped her life.

FOUR OF THE FIVE WINNERS OF THE Western Canada Jewish Book Awards are British Columbians. Tom Wayman won the 2016 Diamond Foundation Prize for fiction for The Shadows We Mistake for Love (D&M). Bob Bossin author of Davy the Punk (The Porcupine’s Quill), took home the Pinksky Givon Family Prize (Non Fiction). Glenda Leznoff’s Heartache and Other Natural Shapes (Tundra Books $21.99) was awarded the Jonathan & Heather Berkowitz Prize (Children & Youth). Adara Goldberg’s Holocaust Survivors in Canada (U. of Manitoba Press) took home the Marsid Foundation Prize (Holocaust).

A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF NORTHERN B.C., Kara-lee MacDonald teaches English at the Fort St. John Literacy Society while completing her MA in English (UNBC) and releasing her first poetry collection, Eating Matters (Caillt $18), in which a semi-autobiographical narrator overcomes her complex drives and compulsions arising from anorexia and bulimia. It’s described as part trauma travelogue, part self-analysis, part cultural critique and part healing journey into binge/purge purgatory.

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LGBTQ?+ What the heck, we might as well also mention Owen is a bass player in the metal band Medea and she blogs at Marrow Reviews.

When Austrian-born Gudrun Pflüger retired from athletics (Mountain Running World trophy winner 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997), the certified field biologist relocated to Western Canada where she got involved in the conservation of B.C.’s coastal wolf population and studied wild wolves in the Rocky Mountains. Diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour, Pflüger was told she had eighteen months to live. Taking the wolf as her role model, she immersed herself in the wilderness of the mountain ranges of western Canada as an unconventional approach to self-healing—and has survived. Her memoir Wolf Spirit: A Story of Healing, Wolves and Wonder (Rocky Mountain Books $28) was shortlisted for the 2016 Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival award for Mountain and Wilderness Literature.

Set in Vancouver, in 1972, U GIRL (Palon $19.95) by Meredith Quartermain is a coming of age story about Frances Nelson as she arrives in the big city for her first year of university, escaping her small-town life. Sexual experimentation, drugs, working at menial jobs, meditating on Wreck Beach and studying at the University of British Columbia during the “free love” era are all incorporated in her struggle to be taken seriously as a woman with a desire for gender equality.

Know anyone going through a tough divorce? Colouring is proven to be therapeutic. So why not give them a colouring book that helps them deal with the trauma of ending a long-term relationship? Each chapter takes the colorist on a journey through the range of emotions one experiences when getting a divorce, expressed through art therapy.

Colour Through Your Divorce! $16.95 CAD | Paperback | Download Kit

Become a Potrepreneur! Does the thought of running your own pot shop sound like a dream job? B.C. bud is big business. In an industry worth an estimated $CAD 6 billion annually in B.C. alone, you could open a successful marijuana retail business and get in on the ground floor while you still have a chance. Wherever it is legal of course.

$22.95 CAD | Paperback | Download Kit
The Defiant Mind
Living Inside a Stroke
Ron Smith

This evocative memoir takes us on a breathtaking journey — from the carpet bombing of the brain to a renewed and purposeful life. Full of arresting anecdotes and enlivened by a vivid style, The Defiant Mind provides insight and support to survivors, families, and medical professionals navigating the fear and bewilderment that accompanies a stroke.

978-1-55380-464-2 (PB) / $22.95  978-1-55380-480-2 (HC) / $29.95  978-1-55380-465-9 (EBOOK)  316 pp

Is This Who We Are?
14 Questions about Quebec
Alain Dubuc / Translated by Nigel Spencer
This explosive critique questions the viability of both Québec and the entirety of Canada over the long term. Certainly, La Presse’s Alain Dubuc knows how to puncture a balloon with the best of them.

978-1-55380-467-3 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-468-0 (EBOOK)  254 pp  $21.95

Defending Darkness
Pamela Porter
Searing and lyrical, these poems explore the wisdom in starting over and moving on while enduring adversity — with a kind of singing that can defend darkness itself.

978-1-55380-470-3 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-471-0 (EBOOK)  86 pp  $15.95

Wordplay
Arranged and Deranged Wit
Howard Richter
Laugh out loud as Howard Richter takes us through the audaciously funny English language at its most creative. With 12 illustrations.

978-1-55380-452-9 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-453-6 (EBOOK)  160 pp  $19.95

Deaf Heaven
Garry Gottfriedson
Poetry that takes us inside present-day First Nations reality to reveal the wounds of history and the possible healing to come.

978-1-55380-449-9 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-450-5 (EBOOK)  104 pp  $15.95

Live Souls
 Citizens and Volunteers of Civil War Spain
Serge Alternês & Alec Wainman
This award-winning memoir by a medical volunteer in the Spanish Civil War (later a professor at UBC), along with 210 of his b/w photos, was long thought to be lost. Now recovered, it gives a stirring account of the opening act of WWII.

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

Sand
LuAnne Armstrong
A teenage girl involved in a car accident battles paralysis and depression with therapeutic horseback riding, and a deep bond develops with Sand, a spirited rescue horse who has also been injured.

978-1-55380-473-4 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-474-1 (EBOOK)  210 pp  $11.95

Heart Like a Wing
Dan Paxton Dinanway
An edgy coming-of-age story about an adopted girl’s fight to discover her First Nations identity and the truth behind the scar on her face, while learning to fly a bush plane in the remote reaches of northern Saskatchewan.

978-1-55380-476-5 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-477-2 (EBOOK)  240 pp  $11.95

Last Chance Island
Norma Charles
Fleeing their village after it was torched by rebels, two African children are taken on board a smuggler’s boat and later abandoned on an island off Ireland, where a Canadian girl must find a way to save them.

978-1-55380-458-1 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-459-8 (EBOOK)  228 pp  $11.95

Taking a Chance on Love
Mary Razzell
Can a teenage girl on the Sunshine Coast during WWII find both love and an education when the adult expectations promise so little? And when the marriages she encounters carry such dark shadows?

978-1-55380-455-0 (PRINT)  978-1-55380-456-7 (EBOOK)  154 pp  $11.95

Mouse Vacation
Story: Philip Roy / Art: Andrea Torrey Ballara
In the fourth volume of the “Happy the Pocket Mouse” series, Happy’s dreams of a vacation include the Taj Mahal and New Zealand, but John offers only the woods and river. How’s a poor mouse to have any fun?

978-1-55380-479-6 (HC)  FULL COLOUR  32 pp  9 X 9  $12.95
who's who

BRITISH COLUMBIA

R is for Rowntree

LENORE ROWNTREE has followed her brilliant but almost entirely unnoticed linked collection, Dovetail Joint and other stories (Quadra Books, 2015) with a first novel, Cluck (Thistledown $19.95) which was a finalist in The Great BC Novel Contest. Cluck follows the life of a socially awkward man, Henry, as he attempts to navigate through Kitsilano burdened by his mother’s mental illness and his own sexual repression. He’s a radio junkie, an obsessive romantic and a chronic outsider.

978-1-77187-108-2

S is for Stenson

NEVER MIND HARUAN and her sisters HANNE and HER BROTHER (Thistledown $19.95) is Bill Stenson’s novel about Hanne Lemmon who, at age sixteen, moves beyond her isolated, home-schooled life in the Cowichan Valley with a protective father to seek independence and love within the very different landscape of Eastend, Saskatchewan. Nelson-born Bill Stenson of Victoria was the driving force behind The Claremont Review, an effort to publish literary works by teens.

978-1-77171-176-0

U is for Undine

MORE THAN FIFTY PROMINENT B.C. WRITERS have reviews-in-progress for The Ormsby Review including Undine Thompson, granddaughter of the anthropologist Robin and Jilian Ridington, who will provide an in-depth response to one of this year’s most important B.C. books, The Peace in Peril: The Real Cost of the Site C Dam, by Christopher Pollon, with photos by Ben NELMS. See page 11. Previously Thompson published a review of The Regulation of Peace River: A Case Study for River Management in BC Studies. The reviews editor of The Ormsby Review, Richard Mackie, was formerly reviews editor of BC Studies.

978-1-55451-793-0

V is for Vassilopoulos

FOR HIS TENTH TITLE SINCE HIS CLASSIC WEST COAST maritime title Antiques Afloat in 1988, Peter Vassilopoulos has gathered images from approximately 150 coastal trips over 40 years for his first coffee table book to appeal to all Pacific Northwest travellers by boat, ferry, cruise ship or ‘pocket cruises’ (i.e. charters), Cruising the Inside Passage: Puget Sound to Alaska (Pacific Marine Publishing/Heritage $39.95). Replete with some of his aerial photos, it is meant to be a souvenir book, printed on a lighter paper with a flexible cover. Already in the works are similar books for the West Coast of Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii.

978-0-9920320-3-6

Y is for Young

CLEA YOUNG is an artistic associate at the Vancouver Writers Festival.

978-0-919317-50-5

W is for Whittaker

A PROFESSOR EMERITA of anthropology at UBC, Elvi Whittaker has edited a collection of essays about isolating experiences of women employed in Canadian universities, Solitudes of the Workplace (McGill-Queen’s $37.95). It examines marginalization, uncertainty and regret arising from the hierarchies in universities and gendered identities as it affects faculty and students, as well as others who work at universities.

978-0-7735-4633-2

X is for Xantus’s Murrelet

HAVING MOVED back to B.C. from Toronto, Jennifer Harrington has released her latest ABC book dedicated to educating children about Canada’s diverse wildlife, ABC Animal Babies of Canada (Eco Books 4 Kids $11.95), illustrated by Michael Arnott. In case you’re wondering, Q is for Quail; U is for Ursa (Canadian percy), and X is for Xantus’s Murrelet, Z is for Zooplankton.

978-0-940230-0-3-6

T is for Tanya

ARMED CONFLICTS BETWEEN INDIA AND Pakistan have been stymied by the Siachen Glacier. Winter failed Napoleon’s assault on Russia. Way back in 119 BCE, General Wei Qing took advantage of a sand storm for a surprise attack versus Xiongnu nomads. In order to engage middle-school-age readers, Tanya Lloyd KYI’s 24th book, Extreme Battlefields: When War Meets the Forces of Nature (Annick $16.95), looks at ten military campaigns complicated by nature. Tanya Lloyd Kyi grew up in Creston. She worked as a graphic designer for many years before deciding to write full-time.

978-1-55451-793-0

ABCBookWorld reference site).

15 BC BOOKWORLD WINTER 2016-17

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Manolis

as were saving in the Autumn issue of BC BookWorld, it’s hard to keep up with the poet and publisher Manolis, aka Manolis Aligizakis. He has since released a new collection, The Second Advers of Zeus (Ekstasis $23.95), and his collection Autumn Leaves has been released in a Serbian version. Since founding his imprint in 2006, he has published 35 original or translated titles (all listed on his entry on the ABCBookWorld reference site).

978-0-77171-176-0

Photo: Michael Arndt
FALL into a GOOD BOOK with

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Available in bookstores this autumn www.douglas-mcintyre.com

WADE DAVIS Photograhps

A stunning photography collection from celebrated anthropologist Wade Davis, representing the vast diversity of communities and cultural traditions he has encountered in his career.


EMBERS

One Ojibway’s Meditations

A beautiful volume of personal reflections to inspire and ignite your spirit, carefully curated by Richard Wagamese, one of Canada’s foremost First Nations authors.

SPIRITUALITY $18.95 PB 5½″×8″ 176PP ISBN 978-1-77162-133-5

BACKS TO THE WALL

The Battle of Sainte-Foy and the Conquest of Canada

In this sequel to Northern Amalgamation, D. Peter MacLeod pens the first detailed account of one of the most dramatic events in Canadian military history.

HISTORY $34.95 HC 6″×9″ 272PP ISBN 978-1-77162-127-4

ALL THE FINE YOUNG EAGLES

In the Cockpit with Canada’s Second World War Fighter Pilots

This updated and expanded second edition by David L. Bashow features first-hand accounts from Canadian war fighter pilots and eighty photos.


THE NATIONAL PARKS OF THE UNITED STATES

A Photographic Journey

This coffee-table book by award-winning photographer Andrew Thomas features magnificent photographs of all 59 US National Parks, just in time for the 100th anniversary of the US National Parks Service.

TRAVEL $39.95 HC 12″×10½″ 160PP ISBN 978-1-77162-121-9

THE HOLY CRAP COOKBOOK

Sixty Wonderfully Healthy, Marvellously Delicious and Fantastically Easy Gluten-Free Recipes

Corin Mullins and Claudia Howard tell the story of a Canadian business phenomenon while sharing dozens of delicious recipes. With over 100 colour photos.

COOKING $22.95 PB 7″×9″ 164PP ISBN 978-1-77162-129-7

THE ART OF JEFFREY RUBINOFF

With striking colour photographs and insightful essays, this collection is an exploration of the life and work of Canadian sculptor Jeffrey Rubinoff, edited by James Fox.

ART $36.95 HC 7½″×10″ 256PP ISBN 978-1-77162-129-8

CHRIS FLODBERG Paintings

A stunning introduction to the unique work of one of the country’s best young painters: Chris Flodberg. Edited by Scott Steedman and Peter Cocking, with essays by Monique Wastr and Chris Flodberg.

ART $49.95 HC 9″×11″ 216PP ISBN 978-1-77162-123-6

TAKE US TO YOUR CHIEF

And Other Stories

A collection of classic science-fiction stories by award-winning author Drew Hayden Taylor, reinvented with a contemporary First Nations outlook.

FICTION $18.95 PB 6″×9″ 160PP ISBN 978-1-77162-131-1

THE PERFORMANCE

Novelist Ann Eriksson, acclaimed for her deft explorations of social issues, takes on the theme of inequality by contrasting the worlds of symphony musicians and the urban poor.

FICTION $22.95 PB 6″×9″ 256PP ISBN 978-1-77162-125-0

All Douglas & McIntyre titles are available from University of Toronto Press
Bev Sellars served as the Chief of the Xat’sull (Soda Creek) First Nation near Williams Lake from 1987 to 1993 and from 2009 to 2015. But before that she became a mother at the age of nineteen. After raising three children, she attended university as a mature student in Victoria where, much to her surprise, after dismal experiences in residential school, she discovered a passion for history. Her passion is now reflected in Price Paid: The Fight for First Nations Survival, her follow-up to the resounding critical and popular success of her memoir, Secrets and Survival at an Indian Residential School (Talon, 2013).

The fact that Bev Sellars eventually attended law school at UBC and earned her LLB while living in one of the family residences on campus, caring for two of her children (one attending university, the other high school), and a nephew attending high school, is a testament to her energy. Now her ability to research, synthesize and focus on the task at hand has led to another highly readable and engaging book. Armed with her degrees—and thousands of years of cultural instruction transmitted through her grandparents—Sellars worked on the B.C. Treaty Commission from 2003 to 2009. During this process it became alarmingly apparent that the shoddy education she’d received in both her elementary and high school Canadian history classes was shared by some aboriginal and nearly all the non-aboriginal negotiators around the Commission table. That was the germination point for Price Paid.

During the Treaty Commission meetings one of the commissioners—according to Sto:lo Nation representative Stephen Point (who later became Lieutenant Governor) —actually said, “B.C. brings land to the negotiation table. Canada brings money. The First Nations do not bring anything to the table.” Whereupon Bev Sellars replied, “Aboriginal people bring all the land, and the money the governments bring comes from resources held on Aboriginal lands.” Sellars consequently developed a two-hour education session on B.C. for government ministers and other commissioners. Now her book has emerged with some encouragement from her second husband and Hereditary Chief Bill Wilson, aka Hemas Kla-Lee-Lee-Kla, the father of federal Minister of Justice Jody Wilson-Raybould. Bill Wilson has contributed the foreword as well as chapters on controversial 1970s Ameri Indian Movement activist Leonard Peltier (still serving a life sentence after being convicted of murdering two FBI agents). Wilson also relates his own experience as a lawyer helping to draft the only amendment to Canada’s 1983 constitution. That amendment, known as the ‘Self-Government Amendment’, is a testament to Bev Sellars’ energy.

Price Paid offers the reader an overview of North and South American aboriginal contributions to Euro-Canadian lives from first contact to the present day. Before beginning chapter one, which covers human habitation from 40,000 years ago to first contact with Europeans in the 1400s, the reader is asked: What if you owned a house and a beautiful garden? Would you share it with others? Would you welcome them?

By chapter five, the question is: What if eventually you are displaced to the garage and the newcomers take over the rest of the house? Is it theirs? Bev Sellars examines derogatory terms such as ‘Indian giver’ and discusses the importance of medicinal plants, and hunting and fishing rights. We learn how the democratic model of the Iroquois Confederacy influenced Benjamin Franklin’s thinking. The term ‘newcomers’ is applied to those who came to Canada and were helped by First Nations guides and healers and cooks—when they were found stumbling along the Fraser River, half-starved and looking for gold in the Cariboo.

We learn that the job of establishing reserve boundaries was mostly left up to gold commissioners with no legal or surveying background. Re-jigged boundaries were quickly drawn up to benefit a newcomer who wanted a spot on the river for his flour mill, to cite just one example, which meant an entire First Nations village was relocated. Agreements were not worth the paper they were written on and underlined the imbalance of power between those who were literate and those who gave oral consent before witnesses. The Indian Act and the power wielded by Indian Agents, the repression of cultural ceremonies, the damage done in residential schools and the fact that women were suddenly removed from long-held leadership roles by the newcomers (English law designated women as ‘chattels’ or property of men) created what the United Nations defines as ‘cultural genocide.’

Bev Sellars does not mince words in her turbo-charged history lessons.
**Okanagan Eats & Drinks**
Brandi Parmelli, Ed

From 35 of the best restaurants and vineyards in the Okanagan comes a beautiful recipe box spread over the pages of this book. Filled with insider tips and culinary tricks from some of the Valley’s best chefs, it’s laden with recipes and culinary lore from 35 of the best restaurants and winemakers and brewmasters, it’s laden with insider tips and culinary lore from 35 of the best restaurants and winemakers and brewmasters.

**Legendary Worlds**

**Adult Coloring Book**
Witek Radomalski & Carrie Wong

Adult colourists will love these amazing journeys into real and imaginary landscapes from Canadian scenes to castles in the sky, crystal caves and underwater realms. This sequel to the bestselling Legendary Landscapes features heavy art grade paper and a kaleidoscope of details that will challenge and inspire. See images at colorworth.com.

**2050 A Post Apocalyptic Murder Mystery**
Michael Kluckner

In the wake of the Patriotic War and pandemic, a city of impoverished survivors is ruled by the charismatic Sensei and his strict environmental laws. When Detective Sara Fidelia sets out to find the murderer, her route takes her through a ruined landscape (recognizably Vancouver) to the distant rebel town of Excursion – a journey that becomes far more than she bargained for. This is the second graphic novel for Michael Kluckner, award-winning BC author and artist.

**DYSCONNECTED**
Isolated by Our Mobile Devices
Anton Sciamouggeras

Do you check your cell phone before you get up off the bed in the morning? If so, you’re not alone - there are now more mobile devices in the world than people and more people have access to a cell phone than to a working toilet. This fascinating book offers quotes, opinions, phone facts and ideas by well known thinkers and social media gurus that will cause pause for thought. Illustrated with pen & ink drawings.

**Common Birds of Southwestern British Columbia**
Lower Mainland & Vancouver Island
J. Duane Sept

Southwestern BC is an oasis for the birds that inhabit our rainforests, hardwood stands, open areas, marshes and open waters. This illustrated guide has color photos, identification tips and interesting facts about 154 species. With a list of great observation sites, it’s the perfect gift for nature lovers.

**B.C. Baby Lullaby**
Sara Leach

Written as a lyrical exploration of indigenous people, each letter explores what forms one facet of Aboriginal history and culture. Each page reflects an aspect of the word selected, followed by a list of indigenous nations that begin with that letter.

**Legend of the Pecoos & the Poquitz**
Joseph Maclean

The second half of the book is a comprehensive glossary or dictionary of all the indigenous peoples named in the book, citing nation names, locations and interesting facts that give a global sense of the expanse and depth of the Aboriginal story.

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**British Columbia Lullaby**
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**As for the Aboriginal**
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**Common Birds of Southwestern British Columbia**
Lower Mainland & Vancouver Island
J. Duane Sept

Southwestern BC is an oasis for the birds that inhabit our rainforests, hardwood stands, open areas, marshes and open waters. This illustrated guide has color photos, identification tips and interesting facts about 154 species. With a list of great observation sites, it’s the perfect gift for nature lovers.

**B.C. Baby Lullaby**
Sara Leach

Written as a lyrical exploration of indigenous people, each letter explores what forms one facet of Aboriginal history and culture. Each page reflects an aspect of the word selected, followed by a list of indigenous nations that begin with that letter.

**Legend of the Pecoos & the Poquitz**
Joseph Maclean

The second half of the book is a comprehensive glossary or dictionary of all the indigenous peoples named in the book, citing nation names, locations and interesting facts that give a global sense of the expanse and depth of the Aboriginal story.

**2050 A Post Apocalyptic Murder Mystery**
Michael Kluckner

In the wake of the Patriotic War and pandemic, a city of impoverished survivors is ruled by the charismatic Sensei and his strict environmental laws. When Detective Sara Fidelia sets out to find the murderer, her route takes her through a ruined landscape (recognizably Vancouver) to the distant rebel town of Excursion – a journey that becomes far more than she bargained for. This is the second graphic novel for Michael Kluckner, award-winning BC author and artist.

**DYSCONNECTED**
Isolated by Our Mobile Devices
Anton Sciamouggeras

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Antibiotics are important and necessary interventions for life threatening or serious bacterial infections, but applying antibacterial hand sanitizers every time a child plays outside could be eliminating microbes that help keep them healthy later in life.

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Microbes like H1N1 influenza killed more people than those that died in the First World War; not to mention the toll from other deadly diseases like cholera, tuberculosis and bacterial meningitis.

A recent New York study showed children were at an 85 percent higher risk to be obese by age seven if antibiotics intervene.

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Who today in B.C. has heard of F.W. Howay or W.K. Lamb? Many estimable pre-internet figures in B.C. history are vanishing from public knowledge due to limited information about them on the internet. That’s just one of the reasons why editor Richard Mackie and BC BookWorld have teamed up to create The Ormsby Review.

For this on-line platform of serious non-fiction about B.C. and its literary history, Mackie will consider submissions from both academics and non-academics.

**Tea with Chairman Mao**

BY RICHARD MACKIE


This was back in the 1980s when Margaret was working on her history of Coldstream Valley, published in 1990 as Coldstream: Nulli Secundus (Friesen after being turned down by UBC Press). I’m ashamed to say that, even though I happened to be her neighbour in the Coldstream Valley, around the Ormsby-Friesen after being turned down by UBC Press.

I walked up to the front door and knocked. A minute later the door flew open and an annoyed elderly woman appeared. She asked me sharply why I hadn’t used the side door, as she had requested.

This was classic Margaret Ormsby. She had mistaken me for the gardener’s boy.

After I had introduced myself, she was as mortified as I was alarmed. I was then about 26 years old, but to her I must have seemed younger. She was in her late 70s or early 80s. I called her Margaret, because that’s what my cousin Paddy did, and she seemed fine with being called by her first name.

Our meetings thereafter usually consisted of historical chat and tea. She wanted to know what was going on at UVic and who was writing what. I could see that active historians enjoy so much. A year or two later I transferred to UBC to begin my Ph.D in history and geography, and again she wanted to know the news of old students like Cole Harris and Keith Ralston, and of ex-colleagues like Margaret Prang. She wanted to know who was working on the colonial era, or who was doing B.C. political history, and so on.

I used to think I was the only historian who ever visited her house on Kalamalka Lake, but over the years I have met old students of “Dr. Ormsby” who also made annual pilgrimages. I am glad that I was not alone in appreciating this kindly, inspiring, enthusiastic, supportive, and amusing woman whose lifelong passion was the British Columbia past and the historical profession that studied it.

Long active in the Okanagan Historical Society, Margaret Ormsby died in her Coldstream home in 1996 at age 87. The lakefront house was her Victorian parents’ ideal of mid-afternoon sustenance. She often shared her early memories of her Coldstream cousins, the Mackie and Marle families, who ran a boys’ boarding school in the Valley.

The lakefront house is named after Margaret Ormsby, who often met with the venerable historian at her home at Coldstream, near Vernon.

I never mentioned the nickname for her that had arisen during her long tenure as head of the UBC history department.

Margaret Ormsby’s middle name was Anchorettta; somehow that led to her being referred to mischievously as Chairman Mao.

Visiting Margaret became part of my Coldstream routine.

**UBC’s Margaret Ormsby led the way for academics since the 1950s who have taken B.C. history seriously—including Richard Mackie.**

For tea, she always served pieces of buttered toast cut in half diagonally. I found this a pleasant but somewhat puzzling habit until, some years later, in a novel by Anthony Trollope I found a reference to exactly the same combination of afternoon buttered toast and tea.

I was a rough British Columbian. Her tea must have been a cultural artifact: toast and tea her Victorian parents’ ideal of mid-afternoon sustenance. That’s why editor Richard Mackie and BC BookWorld have teamed up to create The Ormsby Review.

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BORN IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA, ON MAY 25, 1935, William Patrick (Bill) Kinsella invoked the assisted dying provisions of Bill C-14 and died at Hope at 12:05 p.m. on September 16, 2016. He had been a type 2 diabetic for most of his adult life.

W.P. Kinsella was born the son of John and Oliva Kinsella. His father was a plastering contractor and he was home-schooled by his mother in a remote Alberta homestead near Darwell, 60 km. west of Edmonton. Without other children around, he used his imagination to entertain himself and took correspondence courses until Grade Five.

“I’m one of those people who wake up at age fifty knowing how to read and write,” he said. His family moved into Edmonton when he was ten. He was an odd reader who developed a keen interest in baseball, although he himself was never much of a player. At age 14, he won a YMCA contest for a short story called Diamond Dances about a murder in a ballpark. At age 18, he published a sci-fi story about a totalitarian society. He married in 1957 and raised a family.

In 1967 he moved to Victoria where he drove a taxi and operated a pizza restaurant called Caesar’s Italian Village. Other ‘vile occupations’ included selling Pueblo Papers advertising, managing a credit bureau and selling life insurance.

In 1970 he began taking writing courses at the University of Victoria, mainly benefiting from the tutelage of W.D. Van Zanten. He received his B.A. from UVic in 1974. He began selling his material that had been rejected. In 1978 he moved to Victoria where he drove a taxi and operated a pizza restaurant called Caesar’s Italian Village. Other ‘vile occupations’ included selling Pueblo Papers advertising, managing a credit bureau and selling life insurance.

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The Amelia Earhart of the automobile

FICTION

Pauline Holdstock
Winner of the 2016 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize

The Hunter and the Wild Girl

James Paley is a Vancouver freelance writer.

24 BC BOOKWORLD WINTER 2016-17
A 14, Azielah Saric Auger died on the Highway of Tears in 2006—Ray Michalko has investigated ever since. Now private eye Ray Michalko has written a book about it.

Officially, over the last four decades, at least nine young women have been murdered or gone missing along the seven-hundred-kilometre stretch of road between Prince George and Prince Rupert known as the Highway of Tears. Ex-RCMP cop turned old school gumshoe Ray Michalko has documented his decade-long efforts to unlock the secrets of these missing women’s lives and those nine unsolved cases for Obstruction of Justice: The Search for Truth on Canada’s Highway of Tears (Red Deer Press $19.95).

The title is drawn from his own difficulties with the RCMP. He says, “At one point the RCMP sent me a letter suggesting that if I didn’t stop investigating the Ramona Wilson case and a number of others, I would face an obstruction of justice charge.”

Recently Michalko told Frank Pape of the Prince George Citizen that his spat with the RCMP brass has been smoothed over. “The men and women in the RCMP out on the road I have no problem with,” he said. “In fact, those members and I have a lot of conversations together as part of my work and their work. It was some of the bosses in Vancouver that caused the problems I kept running into.”

There were seven cases of murdered or missing women along the highway when Michalko started his own sleuthing into the tragic conundrum. The RCMP has since added similar cases from Highways 97 and 5, as well as from Northwest Alberta, raising the number of missing women under investigation to eighteen. Some have suggested that more than thirty women could be included in the scope of the ongoing inquiry.

Thus far, Michalko says he will not participate in a national inquiry into murdered and missing women, saying “I haven’t got a lawyer, and you would need one to take part in something like that.” This stance could make him vulnerable to allegations from the public that his book enables him to benefit from the tragic disappearances.

Michalko has received some payment for his investigations, but much of the time he has been conducting his own inquiry on his own dime.

This year, according to Prince George reporter Elaine Macdonald-Meisner, Michalko has continued to work on the cases involving Nicole Hoar, Leah Alishia Germaine, Roxanne Thiara and Alberta Williams.

“You keep getting tips,” he told her, “and I think as long as I am getting them, I am obligated to follow them up. My gut feeling though, is that unless someone knocks on a police officer’s door and says ‘I did it,’ that these cases are probably never going to get solved.”

Thus far 33 recommendations have arisen from the Highway of Tears Symposium that followed the death of 14-year-old Azielah Saric Auger who was dumped on the side of the highway just west of Prince George in the winter of 2006 but no arrests have been made in the ten years after her body was found.

THE FIRST, SELF-PUBLISHED THRILLER BY Lin Weich of Quesnel, Strength of an Eagle (2012), was inspired by the disappearances of women along the Highway of Tears and the drug smuggling problems in Northern B.C. A young sea kayaking guide named Maya battles for her freedom after she is discovered in the wilderness by members of a drug cartel who force her to cook and clean in a fish camp, enduring beatings.

Similarly, the social trauma of the missing women from the Highway of Tears is reflected in Adrianne Harun’s debut novel, A Man Came Out of a Door (Penguin, 2014). Harun teaches at Pacific Lutheran University.

Marie Clements’ original, Aboriginal blues/rock multi-media musical The Road Forward was partially conceived to recognize the First Nations women missing and murdered on the Highway of Tears and Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside.

Cry, cry, cry.

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I

His eldest son, Emilio Picariello, a thorough investigation of the Sicilian-born British Columbia who had a reputation for being something of a Robin Hood figure.

His is a tragic tale that cries out for a Puccini. In Act One, the Italian immigrant works as an ice cream vendor in Fernie. In Act Two, he becomes a successful bootlegger. In Act Three, he descends to infamy in the gallows of Alberta.

Adriana Davies assiduously paints a clear portrait of the man who was widely known as Emperor Pick; and along the way she discusses the prejudices Italian immigrants had to overcome in B.C. during the early 20th century. Our rags to riches tale begins when Emilio Picariello of Fernie began to collect bottles. He introduced a policy of allowing children to trade bottles for ice cream. While establishment figures viewed him as a “junk man,” the local breweries found it easier to buy back their bottles from Picariello than buy new ones.

The passage of Prohibition on October 1, 1917 in British Columbia—with it had been passed in Alberta on April 19, 1916—offered an opportunity for expansion that Picariello could not pass up. As well as providing liquor to B.C. citizens high and low, Picariello and his cohorts began running liquor to B.C. citizens high and low, Picariello and his cohorts began running liquor to Albertans.

“Picariello’s extensive bootlegging business was an open secret,” writes Davies, “known among both the immigrant community and the British elite, who did not socialize with him but who, nevertheless, ordered liquor for weddings and other occasions.”

Along the way, Picariello took pride in community service and philanthropy. “Picariello also had a paternal streak,” writes Davies, “and contributed to the war effort through the purchase of Victory Bonds. He also made it his business to help needy individuals, as well as the local church and, at the time of the 1918-1919 General Strike, he ran grocery stores to those affected.”

In the aftermath of a failed striking scene set up by the British Columbia Police in 1922, during which he learned of his eldest son, Steve, had been wounded, Picariello got into a heated argument with Constable Stephen Stephen. They fought, shots were fired. Some say the gunmen were cops. The alleged shootout led to his 1923 execution for the murder of a policeman.

Also executed was his female employee, twenty-two-year-old Florence Lassandro, who had been with him in his car when the altercation occurred.

When Picariello and Lassandro were hanged in Fort Saskatchewan, convicted of murdering Lawson, she became the last woman executed in Alberta—by which time she was already notorious. The public was not averse to assuming the possibility that Lassandro could have been either the father’s mistress or the son’s sweetheart.

“In the alteration she was already notorious. The public was not averse to assuming the possibility that Lassandro could have been either the father’s mistress or the son’s sweetheart.

“Very little ink was given to Florence Lassandro, at the time,” writes Davies, “other than observations that she was a “waitress” before her marriage and that she was not Picariello’s “daughter” as some papers had reported. She would later be referred to as his mistress or that of his son Steve, who was five years her junior.”

Adriana Davies revisits the trial as a cold case, suggesting that bigotry had much to do with Picariello’s demise. Davies reports that Picariello’s family believe that authorities initially tried to get Picariello to plead guilty to the lesser charge of manslaughter, but refused, insisting that he was innocent.

Davies has excused any notion that Picariello and Lassandro were intimate. Instead we learn that Florence Lassandro became deeply depressed during her incarceration, on the verge of collapse. The Fernie Free Press described her as “a pale, weak little creature, an object of hundreds of curious eyes.” Ostensibly the promise of an afterlife and Christ’s forgiveness promised comfort.

During the trial she recounted that there was a struggle between Picariello and Lawson for a gun. She saw the flash of a gunshot going past her leg and also of shots in the alley. She asserted that she only cared for Picariello’s son Steve as a brother—i.e. there were no sexual entanglements—and that she had no hand in the gun in her hands. She was somehow convicted of murder nonetheless.

One theory for the bizarre conviction is that, on the morning of her arrest, Lassandro had agreed "that it would be best for me to take the responsibility and say that I did it as women don’t hang in Canada and he would get off.

Regardless of what really happened, the double execution of Picariello and Lassandro made them into legendary fodder for art.

In Aritha van Herk’s feminist essay, “Driving Towards Death,” published in 1977, Lassandro first gained victim status. Sharon Pollock also wrote about bootlegging in the Crownest Pass in her 1983 play, Whiskey Six Cudjoe, performed by Theatre Calgary. "Both Pollock and van Herk," writes Davies, “rein- in the media at the time of the trial and, in the more recent accounts, she is somehow sanctified.”

PROHIBITION IN CANADA STARTED in Prince Edward Island in 1901. Manitoba and Ontario followed suit in 1916. Next came British Columbia and New Brunswick in 1917. Federal legislation was enacted by an Order-in-Council on April 1, 1918. It became a part of the War Measures Act. Thou Shalt Not Sell Booze. Quebec passed anti-booze laws in 1919; followed by Nova Scotia in 1921. Quebec was the first province to repeal Prohibition in 1919 (yes, that’s the same year it was enacted), followed by B.C. and Manitoba in 1921, Ontario in 1923, Alberta in 1924, Saskatchewan in 1925, New Brunswick in 1927, and Nova Scotia in 1929. PEI, the first province with Prohibition, was the last province to revoke the legislation in 1948.

Florence Lassandro, mug shots, 1922. She became deeply depressed while awaiting trial.

The Rise and Fall of Emilio Picariello by Adriana Davies

JAMES PALEY

In her portrait of a patriotic bootlegger, researcher Adriana Davies before sobering reality to fanciful drama in The Rise and Fall of Emilio Picariello.

Our rags to riches tale of the man who was widely known as Emperor Pick; and along the way she discusses the prejudices Italian immigrants had to overcome in B.C. during the early 20th century. Our rags to riches tale begins when Emilio Picariello of Fernie began to collect bottles. He introduced a policy of allowing children to trade bottles for ice cream. While establishment figures viewed him as a “junk man,” the local breweries found it easier to buy back their bottles from Picariello than buy new ones.

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The Rise and Fall of Emilio Picariello

Adriana Davies revisits the story of Picariello and Lassandro in the context of the 1980s and early 1990s, when there was a spate of academic criticism dealing with sexual politics and post-colonialism.

John Estacio and John McBain’s Whiskey Six Cudjoe, an operatic recounting of the Picariello/Lassandro story developed as a collaboration between the B.C. and Manitoba. McBain worked, and the Calgary Opera Company, where Estacio was composer in residence. The opera was performed in February 2003 in Calgary and at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa in 2005.

“In literature,” Davies concludes, “women are frequently either madonnas or whores. This, sadly, is also true in life. Lassandro started as a whore...
THE DEPENDENT - A Memoir of Marriage and The Military
Danielle Daniel

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Mike Martin

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“Wait for me, Daddy” is just one of the gems in Derek Hayes’ illustrated history for Canada’s 150th.

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No matter how you vote, you have to admit the notion that Canada is a construct worth preserving has been reinvigorated with the election of Trudeau the Younger. Just that decision to stop slowly starving the CBC to death is enough to make millions believe we are no longer inexorably destined to emulate the catastrophic capitalist spiral of our neighbour to the south.

It’s therefore good timing for Derek Hayes’ revised and expanded, Canada: An Illustrated History to coincide with the country’s 150th anniversary in 2017. Without a great deal of chest-thumping, the multi-award winning geographer Hayes has fashioned a marvelous tour of our national story, from explorer Jacques Cartier to astronaut Chris Hadfield.

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The photo known as “Wait for Me, Daddy” inspired a memorial statue at the foot of Eighth Street that was unveiled in 2014 with Warren ‘Whitey’ Bernard—the 79-years-young boy who appeared in the photo—in attendance.

978-1-77162-120-5

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Mazie Baker in 1999 while writing Spirit of Powwow with Kay Johnston, "I was taking photos to illustrate the book when I was dandered over to the longhouse on the Capilano Reserve..."

Not My Fate: The Story of Mazie Baker (Caitlin Press $24.95)

Also released by Caitlin Press is Not My Fate: The Story of a Nisga’a Survivor (24.95) in which Janet Romain recounts the life story of her friend, Josephine (Jo) Caplin who overcame paternal abandonment, alcoholism and epileptic seizures. After Caplin was removed as a third grader from the care of her father, brother and uncle due to domestic violence, she endured foster homes without any family contact up to age fourteen. Burred from the abuse and neglect, Josephine suffered from fetal alcohol syndrome and abuse by sadistic men. Mazie Caplin was nonetheless determined to shape her own fate and not be a victim.

Non-Fiction

The Amazing Mazie Baker
The Squamish Nation’s Warrior Elder by Kay Johnston
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Not My Fate: The Story of A Nisga’a Survivor records her arduous and triumphant creation of a private life of peace and forgiveness.

978-1-927575-54-3

Kay Johnston co-wrote Spirit of Powwow with Gloria Nahaneee who had attended St. Paul’s Indian Day School in the 1950s where the nuns had taught her Scottish, Irish, Ukrainian, Dutch, Spanish and square dances. It wasn’t until Nahaneee’s own daughter began to naturally dance at age six that she began to explore the dancing of her own culture. She knew the Squamish Nation had held powwows in the 1940s and 1950s, sometimes lasting ten days, but she had never participated. "I just remember I ran away," Gloria Nahaneee recalled. "I thought I had to dance. The regalia and the noise scared me at first. I remember the stage where our ancestors, uncle Dominic Charlie and August Jack..."

Those powwows disappeared for 30 years until Nahaneee co-founded the Squamish Nation Dancers in 1987 and organized the first revival of the Squamish powwow in 1988. It evolved into a three-day event that attracted 200 dancers and an audience of up to 4,000.

Kay Johnston later moved to Salmon Arm and became president of the Shuswap Association of Writers and Festival Chair for the 2016 Word on the Lake Writers’ Festival.

With a M.A. in Counselling Psychology and a UVic English degree, she has now released a biography of another stout-hearted, Squamish Nation mother, The Amazing Mazie Baker: The Squamish Nation’s Warrior Elder.

Gloria Nahanee co-founded the Squamish Nation Dancers in 1987 and worked at her dining table, surrounded by the dozens of family photos and memorabilia that covered the walls and sat on every shelf, often interrupted by people dropping in to chat, to ask for advice or help.

With input from Wendy Lundberg Lockhart, JoAnn Nahaneee, Jackie Gonzales and Mazie’s family, Kay Johnston transcribed 22 tapes made by Mazie, her family, friends and political cohorts.

"Mazie was a joy to work with,” says Johnston, “always eloquent, with a sizzling sense of humour and scathing opinions. She worked hard on her ‘homework’ and was totally fascinated and involved in her book with her sharp mind and memory.”

Mazie’s family called her ch’esken: Golden Eagle. Mazie Baker took her last flight on April 19, 2011. “I was proud and bebinged over,” says Johnston, “and named as an honorary pall bearer at her funeral.”

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Not My Fate: The Story of A Nisga’a Survivor records her arduous and triumphant creation of a private life of peace and forgiveness.

978-1-927575-54-3

Kay Johnston

I n 2003 Kay Johnston co-wrote Spirit of Powwow with Gloria Nahaneee who had attended St. Paul’s Indian Day School in the 1950s where the nuns had taught her Scottish, Irish, Ukrainian, Dutch, Spanish and square dances. It wasn’t until Nahaneee’s own daughter began to naturally dance at age six that she began to explore the dancing of her own culture. She knew the Squamish Nation had held powwows in the 1940s and 1950s, sometimes lasting ten days, but she had never participated. "I just remember I ran away," Gloria Nahaneee recalled. "I thought I had to dance. The regalia and the noise scared me at first. I remember the stage where our ancestors, uncle Dominic Charlie and August Jack..."

Those powwows disappeared for 30 years until Nahaneee co-founded the Squamish Nation Dancers in 1987 and organized the first revival of the Squamish powwow in 1988. It evolved into a three-day event that attracted 200 dancers and an audience of up to 4,000.

Kay Johnston later moved to Salmon Arm and became president of the Shuswap Association of Writers and Festival Chair for the 2016 Word on the Lake Writers’ Festival.

With a M.A. in Counselling Psychology and a UVic English degree, she has now released a biography of another stout-hearted, Squamish Nation mother, The Amazing Mazie Baker: The Squamish Nation’s Warrior Elder.

Gloria Nahanee co-founded the Squamish Nation Dancers in 1987 and worked at her dining table, surrounded by the dozens of family photos and memorabilia that covered the walls and sat on every shelf, often interrupted by people dropping in to chat, to ask for advice or help.

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32 BC BOOKWORLD WINTER 2016-17
I n his second collection of short stories, *As If*, the Langara English prof Alban Goulden addresses the fluid and subjective nature of life. Goulden has previously published Sci-Fi so don’t expect kitchen sink realism. Every story leaps into madness and wonder immediately. ‘I’m Not Buying Your Lies Anymore’ starts with the sky tearing open to rain blood. The characters treat this as ordinary. “The All-Meat Empress Cafe” introduces shimmering force fields by the end of the second page. “Looks Like I Got A Vulture” starts with an earthquake, riots and spattered blood. “Vampyr (sic) at the Movies” literally describes the cinematic experience of a vampire going to the movies. Set in New Westminster, the titular story “As If,” complicates the realms of death when one of the narrators, Rye, slips on a raft of logs and disappears beneath the water. Maureen, the mother of his child, becomes an alternate narrator. This pair meet again as strangers in a cabin at the edge of the world. So has Rye really drowned or not? Is this the same Maureen that he left behind? Deception is a major theme among the stories in Goulden’s collection. In a story called “Lie To Me Or I’ll Panic,” the protagonist is lying about a porn addiction. With his mother on her deathbed, he writes, “She knows she has encouraged me to lie to her all my life.” It’s a portrayal of lies gone to seed in various stages. “Her eyes say lie to me one more time, prove to me you love me even if you don’t. Lie to me or I’ll panic. And you won’t be able to handle that.”

It’s giving too much away, but it’s hard not to mention that this story ends when Psych students at ‘Language College’ are lined up on a rooftop. Their final assignment is to jump in order to accumulate practical experience.

“I would argue that all consciousness—and even the secretive machinations of the subconscious—is a form of narrative imagination. Without a story there’s nothing to understand.” —ALBAN GOULDEN
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**CHEWING A MOUTHFUL OF RUBBER BANDS**

Every forty seconds someone in North America suffers a stroke, and every four minutes someone dies from a stroke.

__Ron Smith: "Trapped or lost at the heart of a maze."__

While waiting in ER, he suffered a fall attack. "I felt as though I were trapped or lost at the heart of a maze. Bewildered, I couldn’t see a way out. And I kept spilling down, down to a place I knew I didn’t want to go to. It was so dark and crushing and lonely.”

While lying in a hospital room beside a noisy and demanding patient, Smith used his memory to escape, and began to reconstruct his personal identity that he worried was slipping away. Smith remembered much loved books, works hard at multiple therapies: exercise, meditation, massage, acupuncture, personal training and swimming where, “everything stops hurting.”

He also imagines walking the streets of London and Rome or the sands of Long Beach with Pat. His ability to hold a book, turn the pages and read eventually returns. “What a feast for a reawakening mind.”

Smith worries that too often stroke victims are abandoned by health professionals and he tells the story of a patient who couldn’t speak, but could tap out messages in Morse Code. Each patient’s experience is unique. There is no template for treatment. Smith does value the care health professionals provided, but laments a huge gap in knowledge and understanding of what individuals are actually experiencing.

Today Ron Smith, founder of Oolichan Books, uses a cane and walker amid the trees at his Nanoose Bay home. He hopes to regain at least 80% of his former mobility, but laments a huge gap in knowledge and understanding of what individuals are actually experiencing.

Janet Rogers, according to George Elliott Clarke, parliamentary poet laureate (2016-17), “is as fearless as an eagle feather and as forensic as a tomahawk. This Indigenous Canadian poet says what E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake) wanted to say, but couldn’t, because the time wasn’t ripe, a century back, for a voice that is unhindered by polite- ness and undiplomatic in outrage.” Rogers’ fifth poetry collection Totem Poles and Railroads (Arbeiter Ring $18.95) about the 500-year-old relationship between Indigenous nations and Canada, was launched at the Art Gallery of Ontario, with Lillian Allen and her band, after Rogers told herself she would not publish in print any longer. “This collection came as quite a surprise,” she said. “To show you the spirit of creation is a force much greater than ourselves.”

**What Pauline couldn’t say**

Janet Rogers

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**By MARK FORSYTHE**

“I continued to view my condition as a nightmare in which I was a reluctant participant. I was still convinced that I was going to wake up, climb out of bed, walk to the car and drive home.”

Just eight months after being felled by a massive ischemic stroke, Ron Smith began typing his manuscript for The Defiant Mind: Living Inside A Stroke using only the index finger of his left hand. His eighteen months of pecking after that became part of his recovery and helped satisfy his “need to be heard,” to let others know what is it like from the inside out to have a stroke. Smith thinks the word “stroke” is far too light to describe a brain that has been “attacked” or “carpet bombed.” In his case it meant paralysis “attacked” or “carpet bombed.” “Stroke” is far too light to describe what it was like. The power of being told “you’re dead” or “you’re going to die” is far too great to have a stroke.

His wife Pat thought otherwise and took him to Nanaimo Regional Hospital where a doctor insisted that he check in for observation. This saved his life.

A stroke is the leading cause of disability in North America. 78-1-55380-480-2

**What is a stroke?**

A stroke is a disruption of blood flow to the brain, usually from a blood clot that has traveled through arteries in the brain and blocked a blood vessel. This reduces the amount of oxygen and nutrients that enter the brain and prevents normal brain function. It is both a medical emergency and a medical crisis, and often results in a variety of health problems, such as weakness, numbness, or paralysis of the face, arm, leg, or body; confusion, trouble speaking, or difficulty understanding speech; trouble seeing or a change in vision; trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance, or lack of coordination; and severe headache with no known cause. If someone is having a stroke, it is important to act quickly to minimize the damage caused by the interruption of blood flow to the brain.

**How do I know when I have had a stroke?**

The three most common symptoms of a stroke are:

- Trouble speaking: The person may have difficulty finding the right words or may repeat something they have already said.
- Trouble seeing: The person may see double or have trouble seeing.
- Trouble walking: The person may have difficulty walking or have trouble keeping balance.

In addition to these three symptoms, other signs of a stroke may include:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion or trouble understanding speech
- Sudden trouble with walking or a lack of balance or coordination

If you or someone else develops any of these symptoms, call 911 immediately.

**What can I do to prevent a stroke?**

There are several things you can do to reduce your risk of having a stroke:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise regularly
- Eat a healthy diet
- Avoid smoking
- Limit alcohol consumption
- Manage high blood pressure
- Manage high cholesterol

**What happens if I have a stroke?**

If you have a stroke, it is important to get medical help as soon as possible. The earlier you receive treatment, the better your chances of survival and recovery. If you do not receive treatment, your quality of life may be negatively affected. People who survive a stroke often have difficulty with daily activities and may require ongoing care.

**How long does it take to recover from a stroke?**

The amount of time it takes to recover from a stroke varies depending on the severity of the stroke and the person’s overall health. Some people may make a full recovery, while others may have long-term disabilities. It is important to receive treatment as soon as possible to minimize the damage caused by the interruption of blood flow to the brain.

**Where can I find more information about strokes?**

You can find more information about strokes by contacting your local hospital, stroke support group, or stroke association. You can also search the internet for more information about strokes and stroke treatment.

**THE DEFIANT MIND: LIVING INSIDE A STROKE**

By Ron Smith

Cheryl Forrest is an internationally-known counsellor, artist, and teacher.

ISBN: 9781504343213 • Balboa Press • $16.95

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Margriet Ruurs was born in the Netherlands in 1952. She learned English at age nine. Since her arrival in North America in 1977, she has also lived in California, Oregon, Northern Alberta, Kananaskis Provincial Park, the Yukon and the Okanagan. She came to B.C. in 1990.

In the early 2000s, Ruurs created an online magazine for children in which they share their own stories and poems. Conceived as an online project for her Masters of Education from Simon Fraser University, Kidsuwaniuwe has attracted submissions from children all around the world. In 2014 she received an honorary fellowship from Okanagan University in Kelowna for her volunteer work on this project.

MARGRIET RUURS

Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family’s Journey, another foray into a world far beyond her idyllic Gulf Island life. Browsing Facebook one day, she stumbled on a number of photographs of stone arrangements by a Syrian artist: A delicate stone mother holds a tiny stone baby; a downcast figure is running for safety; a father heaves a heavy load. The artist, Badr, had no telephone or laptop. When eventually contacted, he agreed—through translators—to collaborate with Ruurs on a children’s book that would bring his work and stories to a broader audience.

For a publisher, Ruurs found Orca Books founder Bob Tyrrell, who was already hip to the potential of the graphic novel. The Graphic Novel, conceived as an online project, has teamed up for a graphic novel, Seeking Refuge (Tradewind $18.95), that continued Watts and Shoemaker’s Good-Bye Marianne: An eleven-year-old named Marie Kohn who leaves Germany in 1938, won the Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction. Ten years after that, illustrator Kathryn E. Shoemaker and co-author Good-Bye Marianne: The Graphic Novel. Now Watts and Shoemaker have teamed up for a graphic novel, Seeking Refuge (Tradewind $18.95), that continues Marianne’s story, depicting her estrangement in Canada as a refugee who is missing her family and needing to learn English.

Victoria's Alex Van Tol often gives presentations in B.C. schools about writing.

Victoria Book Prizes

Dawn Green (left) with Bolen Books’ Samantha Holmes

Margriet Ruurs is wait- ing at the dock, herself just back from another trip. Ruurs is what you might call an internationalist. In another week she and her husband, Kees, will visit Spain, then it’s onto Qatar for two weeks, where Ruurs will speak to students at ten different schools; then it’s onto Saudi Arabia: more schools, more children, more stories. At her Book Lovers’ B&B operated with her husband, as she makes poached eggs on English muffins in her light-filled kitchen, Ruurs explains the origins of Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family’s Journey, another foray into a world far beyond her idyllic Gulf Island life.

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I make a killing at a Galiano Literary Festival

Gary Geddes

IT TAKES ALL KINDS TO MAKE A GALIANO ISLAND WRITERS FESTIVAL, February 17-19. You can be a hotshot in Toronto, such as Yasuko Thanh, the Vietnamese novelist whose MYSTERIOUS FRAGRANCE OF THE YELLOW MOUNTAINS (Hamish Hamilton) has won the $25,000 Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize, writing about when French-ruled Vietnam was rife with corruption and revolutionary cells...

Or you can be the indefatigable Gary Geddes who has spent four years interviewing elders for Medicine Unbound: Dispatches from the Indigenous Frontlines (Heritage House $26.95), a non-fiction book about Canada’s segregated “Indian” hospitals put in place to keep Indigenous patients separate from mainstream, white society. Geddes reveals that these hospitals were usually run for 50% of the cost of other hospitals, poorly staffed and often were struggling to maintain a full complement of sick Indians. Joan Morris, a Songhees elder, told Geddes how her mother was taken to the Nanaimo Indian Hospital at age 18, in apparent good health, and not released until she was 35.

The hospitals, in cahoots with residential schools, were responsible for forced sterilizations, gratuitous drug and surgical experiments, and electric shock treatment to destroy the short-term memory of sexual abuse. Geddes claims, “The big presses [in Ontario] all said this would not be able to sell it because ‘Alas, no one in Canada is interested in Indians.’” Royalties will go towards a scholarship in Indigenous Studies at UVic.

“Look at these guys trying to survive. That’s what happens when you don’t have co-ops and a centralized food supply.”

Gary Geddes & Yasuko Thanh at Galiano Literary Festival

A S THE SAYING GOES, GO BIG OR GO HOME. As a follow-up to his first graphic novel Toshiko set during World War II, Michael Kluckner has hit the fast forward button and created 2050: A Post-Apocalyptic Murder Mystery (Midtown: Presse / Sandhill $19.95). Evoking a futuristic West Coast in the wake of a Patriotic War and a pandemic, Kluckner’s dystopian wasteland features Detective Sara Fidelia on a trail of a murderer in a chaotic era, only his dictator is a Sensei, whose strict environmental laws, including population control, dominate the planet in the wake of global chaos, circa, 2028–30. “Visually,” he writes on his blog, “the setting looks like Vancouver, but the only text reference is in a couple of signs; I couldn’t resist adding the ‘nuclear weapons free zone’ sign to one drawing.”

I’M RIGHT AND YOU’RE AN IDIOT

GIVEN THE ONGOING MALARKY OF DONALD TRUMP, IT’S HARD not to argue that the title of James Hoggan’s long-in-progress book about the evolution of political discourse, in conversation with Grania Litwin, I’m Right and You’re an Idiot (New Society $19.95) should easily win any contest for most prescient title of the year. Subtitled The Toxic State of Public Discourse and How to Clean It Up, it’s an environmental book for the mind. Hoggan, a public relations head honcho who doubles as chair of the David Suzuki Foundation, has identified the intellectual pollution of divisive, rancorous, manipulative and deceiving talk. By meeting with a lot of smart people you’ve probably never heard of, while incorporating the wisdom of the Dalai Lama and Noam Chomsky for good measure, Hoggan seeks uplifting alternatives to the “smog of propaganda, adversarial rhetoric and polarization” that has characterized the U.S. presidential election campaign and has increasingly stirred serious discussion and debate around the globe.

“If you can’t answer an argument, shriek,” observes Chomsky, “That’s true in corporate relations, true in international relations. Just rant. Call people names. Slander them. Anything to undermine an argument you can’t respond to.”

There is a new wacko leader in the Philippines, Rodrigo Duterte, who is more vile and dangerous than Trump. Fueled by distrust and hate, xenophobic movements are gaining momentum in France, Great Britain and eastern Europe.

“People need to become savvier about the systems we’re creating,” says Joel Baken, author of The Corporation, “more aware of how propaganda works and how public discourse gets polluted.”

And, consistently, the way public discourse gets polluted is by telling lies. In a chapter about his meeting with French philosopher Bruno Latour in Paris, Latour recalled the 2003 speech by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell to the United Nations wherein he attested to the “unambiguous and indisputable fact of the presence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.” Powell’s groundless pitch for invading Iraq was prefaced by saying, “My colleagues, every statement I make today is backed up by sources, solid sources. These are not assertions. What we are giving you are facts and conclusions based on solid intelligence.” Colin Powell was never jailed or fined for this war mongering. Sixteen years later Donald Trump can say whatever he wants.

Similarly, the recklessly fraudulent and semi-fraudulent transactions of Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, Barclays Bank, etc. that caused an economic meltdown in 2008 were almost entirely excused.

“The government is not our government,” Chomsky told me when I spoke to him. “It’s an environmental book for the mind. Hoggan, in what easily qualifies as the best chapter in his book. “It is not a government of the people. It’s a government of the people. It’s a government of the over-whelmingly rich, of the corporations and the wealthy... And so it does what they want.” 978-0-86571-817-3

FINDING THE WORDS

IN HER LATEST BOOK, Finding the Words, Inge Israel recalls with humour and poignancy the events and people who helped shape her life. Her Russian mother and Polish father met in Siberia then settled in Germany where Inge was born. Fleeing the Nazis, the family escaped to Belgium, France, then Ireland. She later lived in Denmark before finally settling in Canada.

Inge Israel, Copenhagen, 1949

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Writer Wanted: We are now seeking a creative innovative writer for this book project.

Elaine has self-published her first children’s storybook “Monkey Guy and the Cosmic Fairy” and plans to now self-publish her life story. There is an already completed manuscript. Prospective writers and serious, credible publishers are invited to visit two in-depth web sites at elainetanner.ca and questbeyondgold.ca

CONTACT: JOHN WATT
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*WRITER WANTED: We are now seeking a creative innovative writer for this book project.

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CONTACT: JOHN WATT
mightymouse@elainetanner.ca

It took Nellie Cashman and six men 77 days to get to the mining site. They were just in time to save most of the miners.

Nicknamed ‘the miner’s angel,’ the unorthodox and rugged Nellie Cashman (1845-1925) is the subject of Thora Illing’s biography, Gold Rush Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Nellie Cashman (TouchWood $18.95). Active from California to Alaska, Cashman is well-known for her achievements as a miner, entrepreneur and philanthropist in the western U.S. but she’s much lesser-known in B.C.

Cashman set up restaurants, boarding houses and general stores reputedly giving much of her earnings to support the building of hospitals and churches, or to help fellow miners down on their luck. Thora Illing of Sidney is a former journalist and librarian.

Judith Phillips, a former librarian, first visited Bamfield in 1985 and now owns a home there. Her Our Whole Bamfield Saga: Pioneer Life on Vancouver Island’s West Coast (self-published $45) is a family history project that serves to illustrate several decades of Bamfield history in the early half of the twentieth century. Combining letters, photos and other documents, it has won the first-ever Community History Award provided by the B.C. Historical Federation and came third in the B.C. Genealogical Society Family History Book Awards.

Ivan E. Coyote has increasingly incorporated music into their public appearances and encouraged the use of the pronoun ‘their’ in place of the gender-specific ‘he’ or ‘his.’ As well, Coyote has become a community leader and a role model for LGBTQ constituents, frequently providing heartfelt advice and counsel for younger people struggling to accept or express their ‘middle-sex’ identities, giving rise to Tomboy Survival Guide (Arsenal Pulp $17.95). Their book is the only B.C.-published title among ten longlisted books for the 13th annual B.C. National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction judged this year by Hal Wake, Jan Walter and John Burns. There were 140 entries from 46 publishers. The nine other longlisted publishers are based in Ontario.

Ivan E. Coyote has a sold-out hit at the Vancouver Writers Festival.

Galiano Island Books presents the 2017 Galiano Literary Festival a 3-day festival designed with readers in mind within an intimate and interactive environment showcasing a wide variety of very talented Canadian authors. The Festival takes place at the scenic Galiano Inn – Oceanfront Inn & Spa from Friday February 17th to Sunday February 19th, 2017 on beautiful Galiano Island, BC. For more information or to register, call 250-539-3340 galianoliteraryfestival.com

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I’ve been dreaming of being on the cover of BC BookWorld for about 15 years now. Very exciting. Thank you!

Ashley Little
Okanagan Valley

I still stare at the Spring 2015 issue of BC BookWorld and smile. So happy to have had that opportunity to be on the cover. I am now managing editor at Room magazine and we’re making a 40th Anniversary Anthology.

My second book will now be published with the lovely folks at BookThug.

Chelene Knight
Vancouver

A huge thank you for the very striking Moby Doll cover for the BC Ferries print run. Mark Leiten-Young is absolutely thrilled with it, and truly delighted. He has been following this story for more than twenty years, so this is extremely special for him.

The Greystone team were also grateful that you included the story of the book’s creation and mentioned Rob Sanders’ hand in it. Everyone over here is on Cloud 9.

Zoe Grams
Vancouver

Having two permits to proceed. The Trudeau government now that they’ve issued two permits to proceed.

Christy Clark, her cabinet and the BC BookWorld

I am now managing editor of the cover. I am now managing editor of BC BookWorld and mentioned Rob Sanders’ hand in it. Everyone over here is on Cloud 9.

The new book’s creation and mentioned Rob Sanders’ hand in it. Everyone over here is on Cloud 9.

Now we have the Site C dam looming. The new book’s creation and mentioned Rob Sanders’ hand in it. Everyone over here is on Cloud 9.

The Peace in Peril

Now we have the Site C dam looming. The new book’s creation and mentioned Rob Sanders’ hand in it. Everyone over here is on Cloud 9.

The Sylvia Hotel would be the perfect location.

Harry Karlinsky
Vancouver

We’ve already added a map entry for Fetherling and the location where I chose is the Sylvia Hotel in Vancouver.—Ed.

Caricatures

Thank you for a fine publication. In a world of electronic madness, with thumb typing and truncated, mutilated phrases and sentences, it is a pleasure to know there are still people out there who value the written word.

Over the past year, while travelling on BC Ferries, I’ve started making caricature sketches of various writers profiled in BC BookWorld. So far there are about twenty of them in my 3.5 x 5 in. sketch book.

Some of the writers I’ve drawn so far include Susan Musgrave, Jim Wong-Chu, Caroline Adderson, Claudia Casper and Marina Sonkina.

Bill Purcell
Sechelt

Kelp help

I always enjoy your informative and entertaining publication indexing your feature on kelp, it’s a bit strange that a popular “sea vegetable” nori, which is the wrap used in making sushi, was not mentioned. The coverage says kelp are not “plants or animals.” I’m not sure “plantamials” or “sea vegetable” are scientific terms. Perhaps you should have someone with a background in science review such articles prior to publishing them.

Marshall Letcher
Richmond

Reality check

Though I adhere to the sentiments expressed in the letter “Have Mercy” [Autumn 2016] praising your publication, I have to confess that I did not write that letter. Not being inclined to the assumption of a folksy voice in my writing, I would not express my appreciation of B.C. BookWorld in the way that “John Harris” did. However, I am thankful that John Harris provided me with another occasion to say that I am indeed an avid reader, and I welcomed an occasion to find that excellent photo of me in your pages.

(Real) John Harris
Prince George

Edmonds success

Despite being a published writer I had never attended a writer’s conference. After seeing their advertisement in BC BookWorld, I decided to attend the Write On The Sound Writers Conference in Edmonds, Washington. I went with the attitude that this old dog could not be taught new tricks—only to have my preconceived notions shattered. The conference was educational, stimulating and enthralling. With a history spanning over thirty years, it sells out very quickly, attracting over 150 participants each year. Most of the sessions sell out within a couple of days of registration. This in itself is testament to its quality. The conference offers over thirty sessions with an array of knowledgeable, professional well-prepared presenters. I would advise any Canadian writer to attend.

Jaye Seagrave
Vancouver

Grouse Grind grin

The review of my book, Dancing in the Rain, by Alex Van Tol in your Autumn issue, was really wonderful. I especially liked the clever caption—The Grind Finale and I laughed when I saw that you had dug up that picture of me walking the reindeer. Thanks for all you do in supporting B.C. authors.

Shelley Hrdliatscha
North Vancouver

Site C-eeling

Years ago, when climate change discussions were done in a whisper, a good friend on Salt Spring Island bought a copy of Bill Purtell caricature of Russian-born Marina Sonkina, based on a photo in the Spring 2016 issue.

Martha Chatwin
Sechelt

Bill Purcell caricature of Russian-born Marina Sonkina, based on a photo in the Spring 2016 issue.

Letters may be edited for clarity & length.
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BOOKSTORES & SERVICES
Jim Douglas, publisher (1924-2016)

Jim Douglas founded J.J. Douglas in 1970 as a nation-al book distributor, and entered the publishing field by releasing a cookbook. From this modest beginning the company evolved to the forefront of publishing books about First Nations, as well as guidebooks and histo-ries. J.J. Douglas became Douglas & McIntyre in 1979.

ALLAN BROWN, poet (1934-2016)

Longtime Powell River resident and teacher, Allan Brown a published poet since 1962, including Winter Journey (Quarter Press, 1984), Directions (Ekstasis Editions, 1998), and Before the Dark (Leaf 2014).

SAMUEL BAWLF, historian (1944-2016)

Samuel Bawlf of Salt Spring Island was a former So-cial Credit cabinet minister who later published a bestselling biography of Sir Francis Drake in 2004.

CAT MAJORS, poet (1956-2016)

Born in Montreal, Cat Majors moved to Vancou-ver, becoming a fixture in the 1970s art scene as a performance poet at the Literary Storefront.

For full obituaries, see ABCBookWorld.com
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