

B.C. FOR DUMMIES

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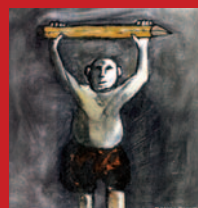
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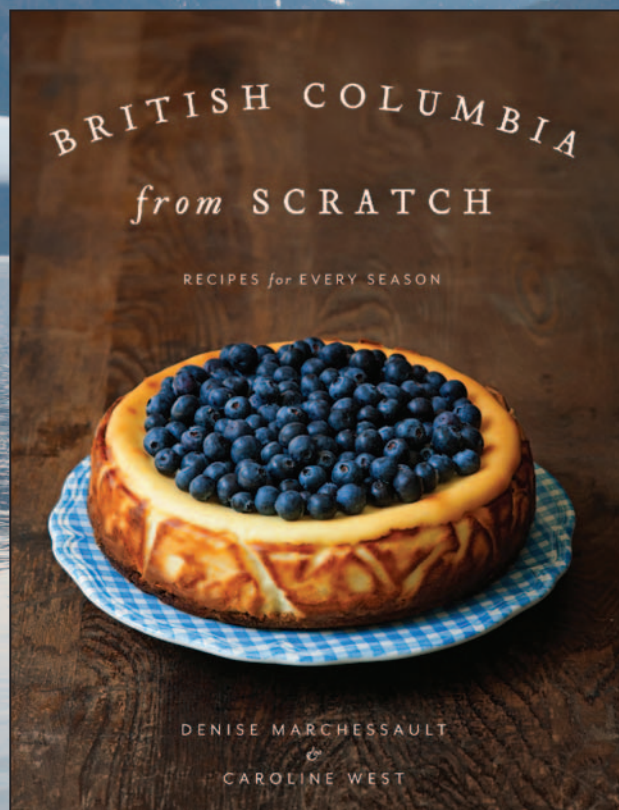


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“*British Columbia from Scratch* is not only a beautiful tribute to the amazing landscapes, produce and people of BC, but also a generous culinary hug from the kitchen table. This is a book that draws you into the homespun warmth of seasonal gatherings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

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“*British Columbia from Scratch* captures the magic of cooking seasonally in British Columbia and the creativity of Denise Marchessault’s delicious and refined food.”

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Gail Anderson-Dargatz brings magic to the Shuswap

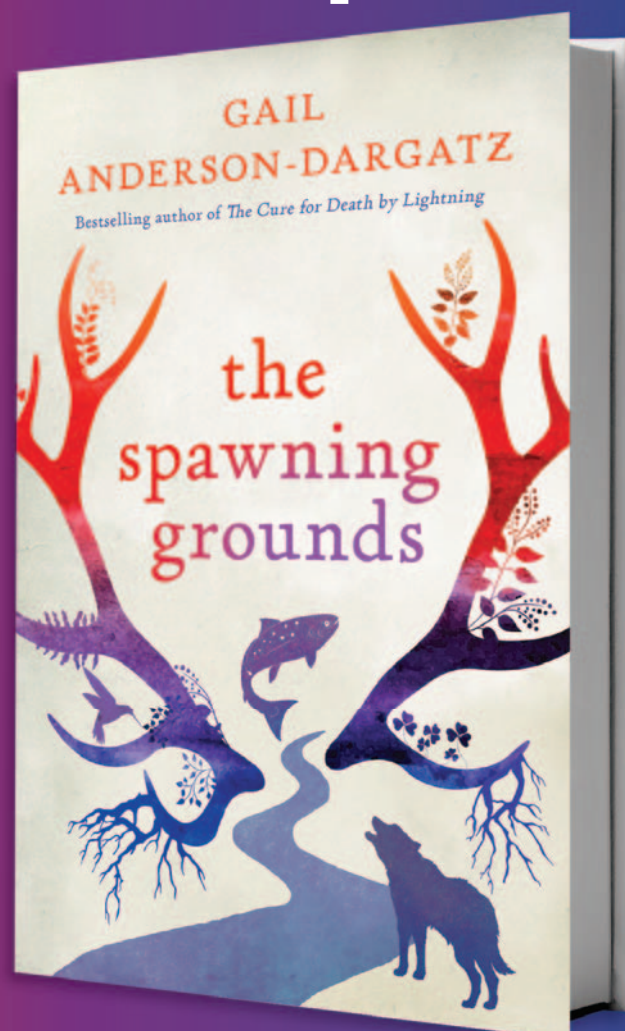
“Anderson-Dargatz has set the bar dauntingly high for every new work; it’s a measure that *The Spawning Grounds* more than meets. . . . *The Spawning Grounds* is a powerful, complex mélange of story forms and approaches.”

The Georgia Straight

“Writing as fluid as the river that runs through the story. . . . A master storyteller, Anderson-Dargatz sets out with a tale of the familiar and seamlessly takes the reader where they never imagined they could go.” *The Toronto Star*

“The Canadian novelist writes what’s sure to be classic literature.” *The Huffington Post*

“Sharp imagery and spare dialogue are put to good use in Gail Anderson-Dargatz’s ghost tale of a mysterious force intent on destroying a family in rural British Columbia.” *The Globe and Mail*



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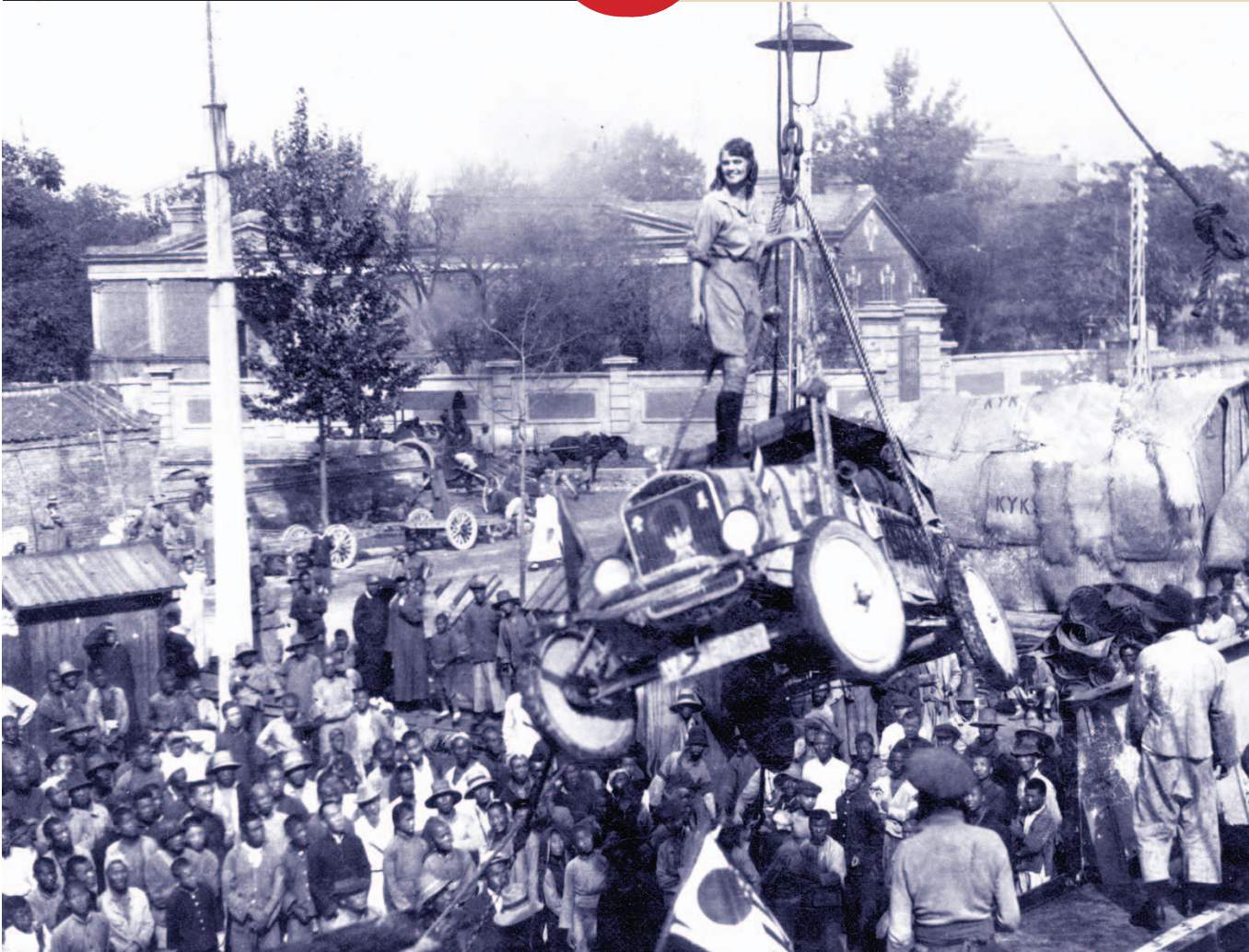
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Circling the globe in 1927, Qualicum's Aloha Wanderwell posed atop her car as it was hoisted off a ship in Japan.

How Aloha Wanderwell became a tomboy starlet

SLENDER, STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL, bisexual **Idris Hall** was a world renowned explorer and Hollywood starlet who was raised in North Vancouver, Duncan 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 around-the-world expeditions headed by "Captain" Walter Wanderwell. Born in Poland, his real name was **Valerian Johannes Pieczynski**. He had no military rank; he just wanted a name that would appeal to Americans. He

changed her name to Aloha Wanderwell.

In 1922, with his wife **Nell** (from Seattle), 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. He was 5'6"; she was 6'. They would have two children, **Nile** and **Valri**, born in Capetown and Miami respectively

It has been erroneously suggested that Aloha Wanderwell, masquerading as a man, was one of the few women to serve in the French Foreign Legion until she was unmasked; similarly there is little proof that she engaged in a fire-fight with Arabs in North Africa in the mid-1920s.

She did, however, hang out with **Douglas Fairbanks** and **Mary Pick-**

ford. She also participated in the search for the lost "Percy Fawcett" Expedition in the Mato Grosso region of Brazil just prior to her husband's death when he was shot in the back. She also learned how to fly a float plane.

There are various B.C. connections: Relatives of Idris Hall have owned tracts of land in North Vancouver, Qualicum Beach and Merville.

Her father **Herbert Hall** bought and developed a large parcel of waterfront land in Qualicum Beach bordering on what is now known as Judge's Row. The site eventually became home to the Qualicum Beach Boys' School (Qualicum College), and later a hotel complex.

This new biography draws from her diaries, family interviews and

recently de-classified FBI material to reveal the ambiguities of a seemingly sensual and bold woman. It also re-opens the book on Walter Wanderwell's murder.

Randolph Eustace-Walden of Vancouver

discovered the bizarre story of Aloha Wanderwell in 1998 while researching a documentary he wanted to make about driving around the world. A Google search for 'Aloha Airlines' and 'round the world' produced a myriad of results, including 'Aloha Wanderwell.'

For more information on Aloha Wanderwell's B.C. connections, including land holdings in Merville, go to the Eustace-Walden entry on ABCBookWorld.

9780864928955



Aloha in Tokyo, 1924



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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 McCullough**, 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.

978-1-926991-73-3



Ruth Abernethy and Glenn Gould statue at CBC headquarters in Toronto.



AVELET TSABARI PHOTO

Leesa Dean makes her debut

CONEY ISLAND OF THE HEART

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 Givner** will review *Waiting for the Cyclone* in our SPRING fiction issue. 978-1-927366-50-9

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*.

978-1-77171-105-0



Stephen 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 fellow well adapted for a new country being a good hunter.” With his Flat-head 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, **Abenaki Daring: The Life and Writings of Noel Annance, 1792-1869** (McGill-Queen’s \$39.95).

978-0-7735-4792-6



Jean Barman

Holiday Treats

FROM THE ARSENAL



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

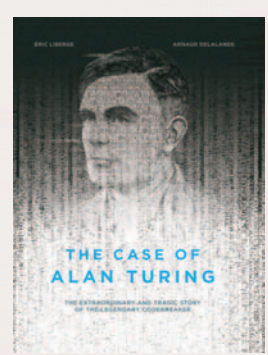
A witty and stylish cookbook of delicious, seasonal recipes for home entertaining from the proprietors of Chowgirls Killer Catering.



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 Reviews* (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

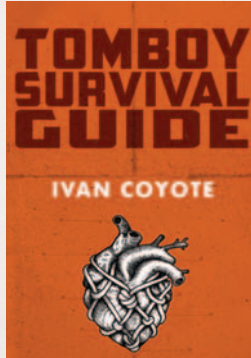
A remarkable graphic novel on sexual violence against women. "A manifesto for female empowerment and a punch to the gut of predatory males." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred)



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.



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

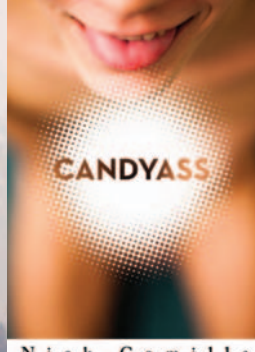
"With awesome brilliance and insight, Schulman offers readers new strategies to intervene on all relations of domination both personal and political." —bell hooks



NIAGARA MOTEL Ashley Little

978-1-55152-660-7; \$17.95

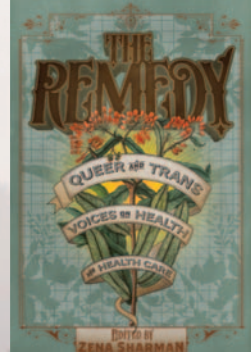
The new novel by the author of Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize winner *Anatomy of a Girl Gang*. "A voice and a story you won't be able to shake." —Alix Hawley



CANDYASS Nick Comilla

978-1-55152-664-5; \$15.95

"So young, so contemporary, so thoughtful and skillful in dissecting the exquisite corpse of gay life today." —Edmund White



THE REMEDY Zena Sharman (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*

ARSENAL PULP PRESS

WWW.ARSENALPULP.COM

The Peace in Peril: The Real Cost of the Site C Dam by Christopher Pollon (Harbour \$24.95)

BY DAVID CONN

British Columbians have been told we have the third-lowest residential electricity rates in North America. That's partly because two dams along the Peace River, envisioned by **W.A.C. Bennett** and executed by **Gordon Shrum** and thousands of workers, have produced reliable energy for decades to support growing industries and settlements throughout the province.

Now BC Hydro has suggested rates will rise about 30% over the next ten years. We're told a third Peace River dam and power station would help maintain regional employment for the next decade. Extra energy could power new industries like condensing natural gas for export as LNG, or producing hydrogen for fuel cells.

Expected to be built by 2024, BC Hydro's proposed dam called Site C will officially cost \$8 billion, but probably much more, and will flood about 4,000 hectares of class 1 to 5 agricultural land, 5,500 hectares in total.

A 93-square-kilometre artificial lake will drown the best topsoil left in northern B.C. as a 60-metre-high wall of compacted earth will stretch more than a kilometre across the main stem of the Peace River.

This latest energy spinner has already resulted in lawsuits and local hostilities. Environmentalists and other activists want citizens to know some of the province's best agricultural potential will be lost.

BC Hydro states it's in dialogue with local First Nations about their land use rights and the power company states it will compensate valley farmers and ranchers for lost property, but property values are dropping the longer

PEACE KEEPING OR PROSPERITY

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

they refuse to budge.

People in urban areas know precious little about this massive undertaking.

IN SEPTEMBER OF 2015, **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 form 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 as farm-

ers, ranchers and trappers talked 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, everything."

Critics of the project claim the demand for electrical power in the province has been flat for the past ten years, confounding 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 SFU energy economist **Mark Jaccard** who insists Site C could be a valuable asset.

The environmental impact will be major, reaching as far as the Peace-Athabaska delta in northeastern Alberta. As 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."

978-1-55017-780-0

Freelance writer David Conn is a former librarian who lives in Vancouver.

Crackpot conspiracy theory?

AMONG THE PEOPLE interviewed was **Art Hadland** who operates a 2,400-acre seed farm.

As a former commissioner on the North Panel of the Agricultural Land Reserve from 1990 to 1996, Art Hadland claims Site C will require the single largest removal of farmland from the ALR in B.C. history.

Hadland also alleges that Site C will bring about the demise of BC Hydro—on purpose. Hadland wants to remind people that ex-premier **Gordon Campbell** set about privatizing pieces of BC Hydro in 2002, outsourcing 1,500 employees to Accen-

ture and creating the BC Transmission Corporation. Both schemes, according to Pollon's book, lost millions. "Consider," says Hadland, that BC Hydro's current debt is over \$70 billion. And while

Site C is projected to cost about \$8.8 billion (including contingency), the recently completed Shepherd Energy facility in Calgary—which produces energy capacity comparable to that projected for Site C—cost about \$1.4 billion to build."

Hadland predicts the added debt of Site C will then force/enable the B.C. government to sell the profitable components worth billions, financed by British Columbians, to private enterprise at fire sale prices.

About four months after Pollon spent four hours at Hadland's house, the Peace River farmer was arrested for mischief by the RCMP near a Site C construction site.



Art Hadland arrested by RCMP near Site C.

ENRGETICITY.CA



ANDREA MORISON PHOTO

The Dancehall Years
by Joan Haggerty
(Mother Tongue \$23.95)

BY CAITLIN WOODS-ROTTERING

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**.

GWEN KILLIAM'S aunt on Bowen Island has a secret. At age 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 their homes are no longer safe.

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 hitches 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.



DANCE ME TO THE END OF

LOVE

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

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.

The novel follows this complex web of lives into the 1960s when a grown up Gwen falls deliriously in love with her university professor and starts a family of her own. After making the move to America and abandoning her university degree to be a mother, Gwen's marriage begins to crumble.

Haggerty's sharp depiction of Gwen's devastation and longing for a relationship with her husband makes for a raw and heartbreaking read. Gwen heads back home to Canada with two daughters in tow and tries to put the pieces of herself and her life back together. The family she returns to is a shadow of the one we were introduced to at the beginning of the novel.

Her beloved Aunt Isabelle has been cast out for many years, left alone with her husband, Jack, who is deeply traumatized from the war and in need of constant care. Isabelle and Gwen's parents are

no longer on speaking terms, 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.

978-1-896949-54-3

Caitlin Woods-Rotering is a B.C. native who recently returned to Vancouver after many years living in Edinburgh, Scotland. She is currently a student in the Professional Communications program at Douglas College and works in fundraising and communications for Special Olympics BC.



Joan Haggerty

Madeleine 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.



Madeleine Thien

A Series Of Dogs

JOHN ARMSTRONG

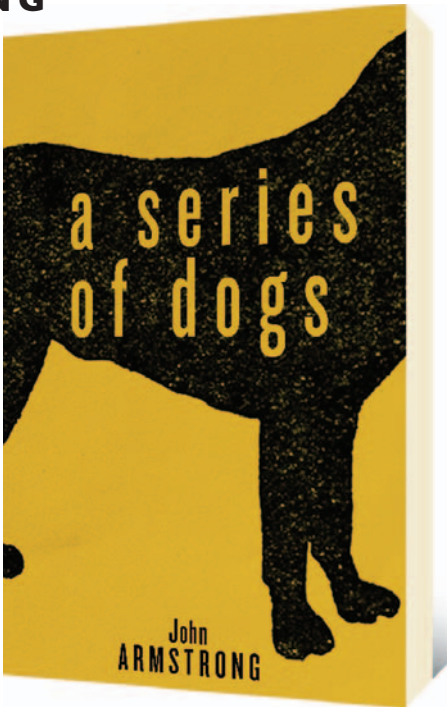
uses his wry wit and vivid prose to evoke a life immeasurably enriched by one best friend after another.

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, howl-inducing memories of laying a treasured friend to rest during a rain- and beer-soaked night, and many more stories both moving and hilarious.

COMING NOVEMBER 2016



Armstrong and Bob, circa 1957.



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*

The News We Deserve

The Transformation of Canada's Media Landscape

MARC EDGE

"*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



Soviet Princeton

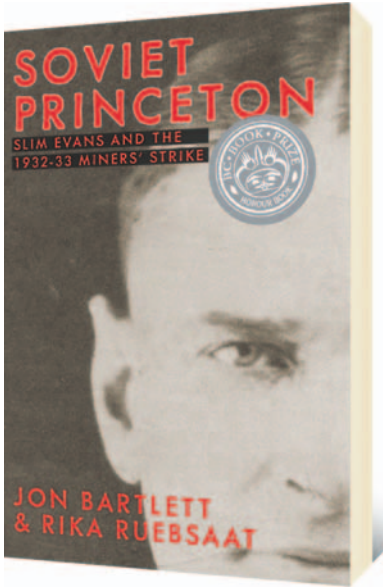
Slim Evans and the 1932–33 Miners' Strike

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.

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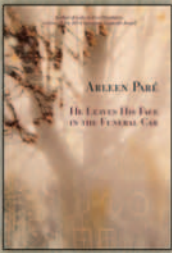
Winner of the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize



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



TRICIA DOWER
Becoming Lin
Caitlin Press

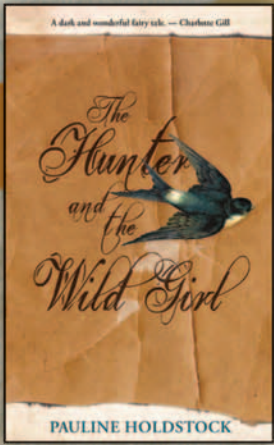


ARLEEN PARÉ
*He Leaves His Face
in the Funeral Car*
Caitlin Press

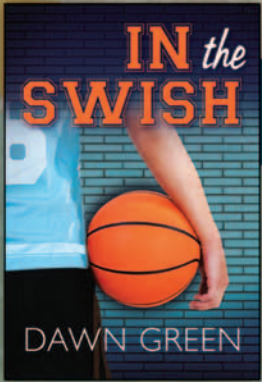


LAURA TRUNKEY
Double Dutch
House of Anansi

Hats off to
the other
nominees...



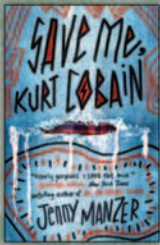
PAULINE HOLDSTOCK
*The Hunter and
the Wild Girl*
Goose Lane Editions



DAWN GREEN
In the Swish
Red Deer Press

Winner of the Bolen Books Children's Book Prize

Hats off to
the other
nominees...



JENNY MANZER
Save Me, Kurt Cobain
Delacorte Press



ROBIN STEVENSON
*The Summer We
Saved the Bees*
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

Explore Diversity

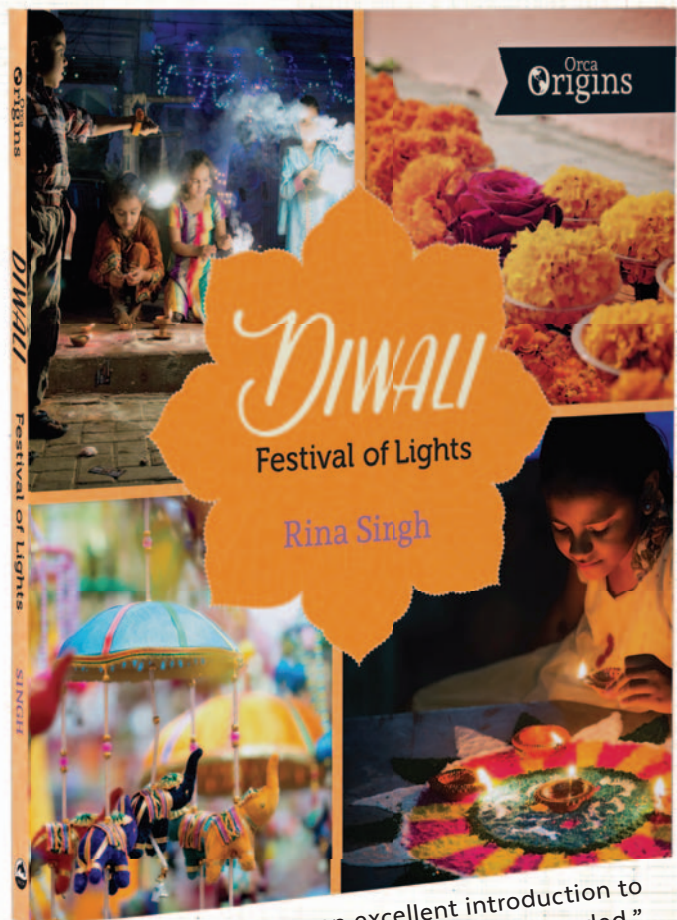
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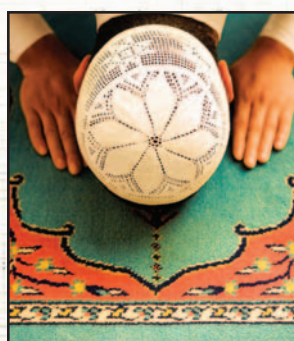
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Nikki Tate and
Dani Tate-Stratton



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Jen Sookfong Lee



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Ausma Zehanat Khan



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Nikki Tate and
Dani Tate-Stratton



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Portrait of Jesus by Michael Ableman from *Street Farm: Growing Food, Jobs and Hope on the Urban Frontier*.



A is for Ableman

SALT SPRING ISLANDER **MICHAEL ABLEMAN** 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.

978-1-60358-602-3

B is for Block



Tina Block

IN HER STUDY OF RELIGION and irreligion in our neck of the woods, **The Secular Northwest** (UBC Press \$95), Thompson Rivers University history prof **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.

978-0-7748-3128-4

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 muttered 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



Marion Crook

Who's Who
BRITISH • COLUMBIA

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 promotional schemes in order to find experience in this new digital marketing. It was strange and fascinating.”

978-1-77040-828-9

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



Joe Denham

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.

978-0-88971-8

E is for Elson



Peter R. 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).

978-1-4426-0971-6

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, mythi-



LAURA D'ALESSANDRO PHOTO

Kim Fu

cal 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 Galloway** 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.

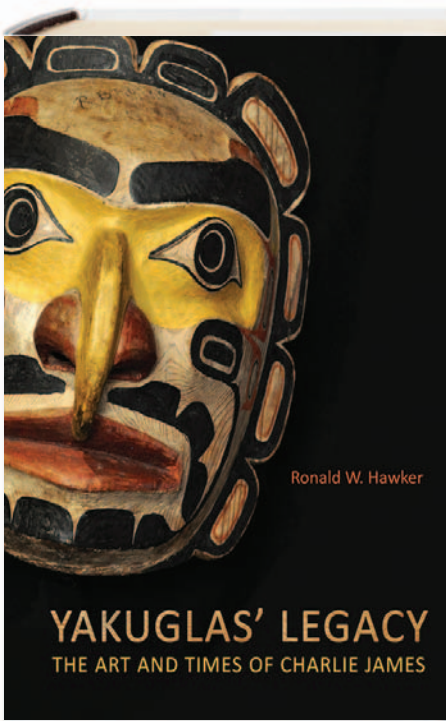
H is for Hills

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.

9781927559949

continued on page 12

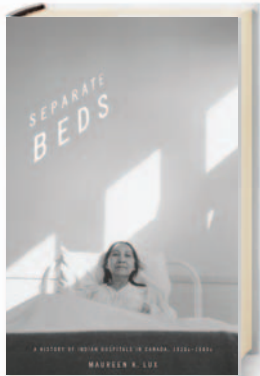
New from
University of Toronto Press



Yakuglas’ Legacy

The Art and Times of Charlie James
by Ronald W. Hawker

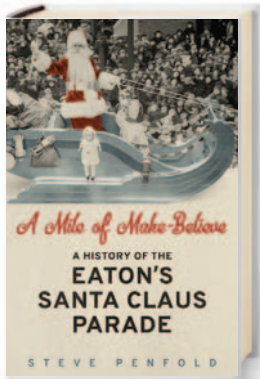
Charlie James, also known by his ceremonial name Yakuglas, was a premier carver, painter, and activist from the Kwakwaka’wakw First Nation of British Columbia. *Yakuglas’ Legacy*, a beautiful and poignant book with 123 colour illustrations examines the life and art of Charlie James.



Separate Beds

A History of Indian Hospitals in Canada, 1920s-1980s
by Maureen K. Lux

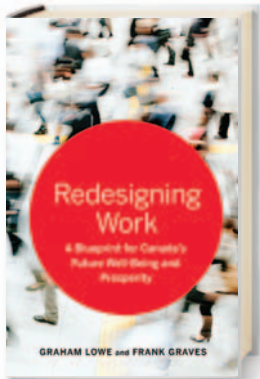
A disturbing look at the dark side of the liberal welfare state, *Separate Beds* reveals a history of racism and negligence in health care for Canada’s First Nations that should never be forgotten.



A Mile of Make-Believe

A History of the Eaton’s Santa Claus Parade
by Steve Penfold

A Mile of Make Believe examines the unique history of the Santa Claus parade in Canada. Professional historians and the general public alike would be remiss if this wasn’t on their holiday wish list.



Redesigning Work

A Blueprint for Canada’s Future Well-Being and Prosperity
by Graham Lowe and Frank Graves

In *Redesigning Work* the authors provide a blueprint for the future of work in Canada by identifying practical ways to make work more motivating, rewarding and productive.



Inge Israel

I is for Israel

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 **Find-ing the Words** (Seraphim Editions \$19.95) recalls the events and people who shaped her life.

978-1927079409

J is for Jewish

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 Porcu-pine’s Quill), took home the Pinsky Givon Family Prize (Non Fiction). **Glenda Leznoff’s** *Heartache and Other Natural Shocks* (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).

K is for Kara-lee

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** (Caitlin \$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.

978-1-987915-13-6

L is for Laurence

ARTS JOURNALIST **ROBIN LAURENCE** HAS WON this year’s Royal Canadian Academy of Arts medal for her significant con-tribution to cultural life in Canada. For over twenty years she has been a visual arts critic for *The Georgia Straight* and a contributing editor of both *Canadian Art* and *Border Crossings* magazines. Laurence’s most recent book celebrates the art on display at the YVR, **A Sense of Place: Art at Vancouver Interna-tional Airport** (Figure 1 \$24.95).

9781927958261



Kara-lee MacDonald’s *Eating Matters* explores the complex drives and compulsions arising from anorexia and bulimia.



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WHO'S WHO



N is for Noon:
Saleema Noon (right)
teams up with sex-ed
pioneer Meg Hickling
for *Talk Sex Today*
(Wood Lake).

M is for Marks

HAVING WON THE MARION DEWAR PRIZE IN Women's History in 2012 and the Floyd S. Chalmers Award in Ontario History in 1996, UVic history prof **Lynne Marks** has now examined the limitations of organized Christianity in often Godless B.C. for **Infidels and the Damn Churches** (UBC Press \$95), a study of secularism in which she asserts class and racial tensions fueled irreligion in settler B.C. 978-0-7748-3344-8

N is for Noon

A STEP-MOM TO TWO TEENAGED GIRLS, **Saleema Noon** has teamed up with veteran B.C. sex-ed pioneer **Meg Hickling**, a registered nurse and educator, for **Talk Sex Today: What Kids Need to Know and How Adults Can Teach Them** (Wood Lake \$24.95). For Hickling, who has both the Order of B.C. and the Order of Canada, it's her sixth book. Noon has created the iGirl and iGuy Empowerment Workshops for nine-to-twelve-year-olds and she has taught assertiveness training, internet safety, healthy relationships, body image and self-esteem. In 2011, Noon received the YWCA Vancouver's Women of Distinction Connecting the Community Award, leading to her induction into the Order of B.C.

978-1-77064-813-5

O is for Owen

PROLIFIC CATHERINE OWEN'S **THE DAY OF THE Dead: Sliver Fictions, Short Stories & an Homage** (Caitlin \$20) is described as a series of collisions between genders in the realms of sexuality, relationships, art and grief in three sections: Men & Women, Muses and The Dead. We are told to expect interactions between boys, girls, ghosts, men, women and all sorts of bystander animals.

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*. 978-1-987915-20-4

P is for Pflüger

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.



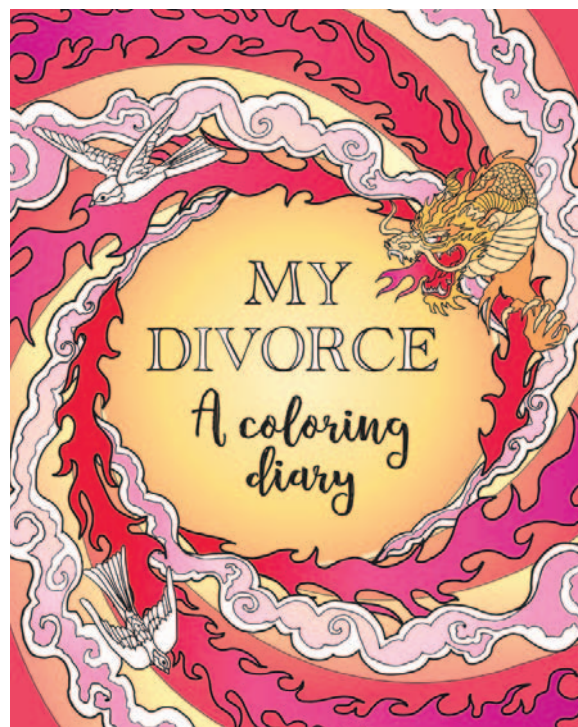
Gudrun Pflüger

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. 978-1-77160-127-6

Q is for Quartermain

SET IN VANCOUVER, IN 1972, **U GIRL** (TALON \$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. 978-1-77201-040-4

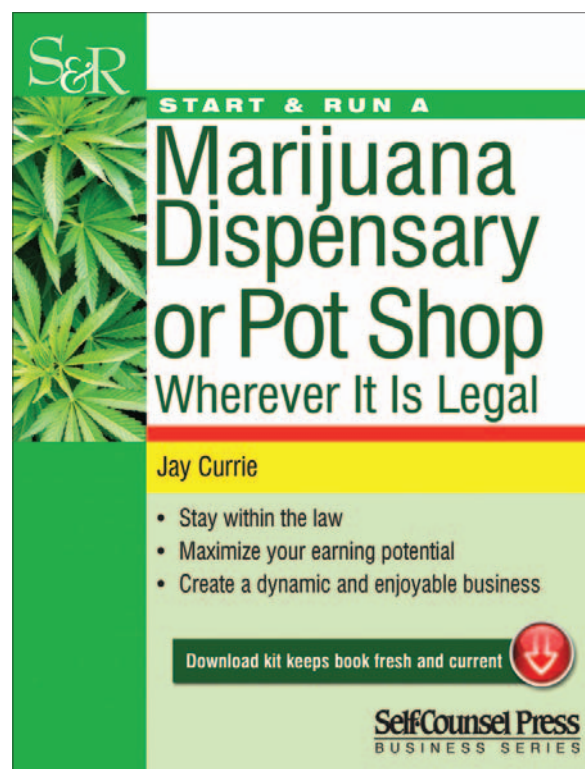
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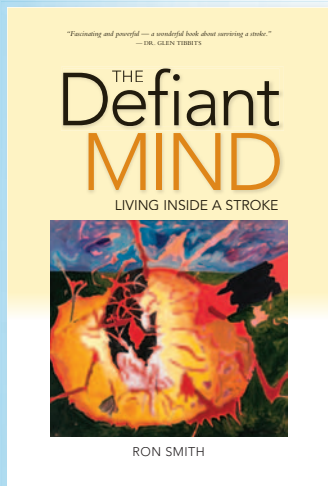
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The Defiant Mind

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Ron Smith

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Is This Who We Are?

14 Questions about Québec

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.

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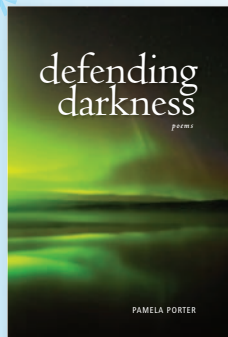


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Luanne Armstrong

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.

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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.

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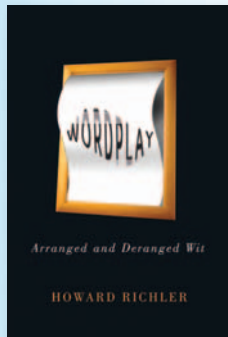


Heart Like a Wing

Dan Paxton Dunaway

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.

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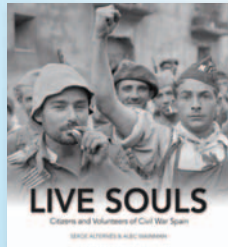


Taking a Chance on Love

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?

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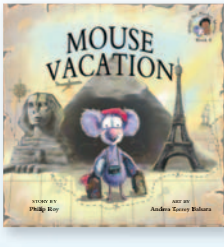
Live Souls

Citizens and Volunteers of Civil War Spain

Serge Alternès & 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.

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Story: Philip Roy / Art: Andrea Torrey Balsara

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who's who

BRITISH COLUMBIA

R is for Rowntree



Lenore Rowntree LAWYER AND PAINTER **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** (Thistle-down \$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



Bill Stenson NEVER MIND *HANNAH and Her Sisters Hanne and Her Brother* (Thistle-down \$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. 978-1-77187-114-3



T is for Tanya

ARMED CONFLICTS BETWEEN INDIA AND Pakistan have been stymied by the Siachen Glacier. Winter foiled **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



U is for Undiné

MORE THAN FIFTY PROMINENT B.C. WRITERS have reviews-in-progress for *The Ormsby Review* including **Undiné Thompson**, granddaughter of the anthropologists **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*.



V is for Vassilopoulos



Peter 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. 978-0-919317-50-5



Cruising the Inside Passage: Puget Sound to Alaska by Peter Vassilopoulos

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 segregation 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



Elvi Whittaker

X is for Xantus's Murrelet



Jennifer Harrington

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 Urson (Canadian porcupine) and X is for Xantus's Murrelet. Z is for Zooplankton. 978-0-9920320-3-6

Y is for Young

HAVING HAD THREE STORIES INCLUDED IN Journey Prize collections, **Clea Young**, another graduate of the UBC Creative Writing program, already had an agent prior to the publication of her first collection of stories, **Teardown** (Freehand \$19.95), described as an arresting debut about people "arguing about lamps in IKEA, drinking gin and tonics on a dock in summer, unemployed and without prospects." **Billie Livingston** writes, "*Teardown* captures a multitude of lives on the cusp of critical change. Young's prose is nimble, her dialogue smart. This is a remarkable debut." 978-988298-01-6

Z is for Zeus

AS WE WERE SAYING IN the Autumn issue of *BC BookWorld*, it's hard to keep up with the poet and publisher **Manolis**, aka Manolis Aligi-zakis. He has since released a new collection, **The Second Advent 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). 978-1-77171-176-0



Manolis



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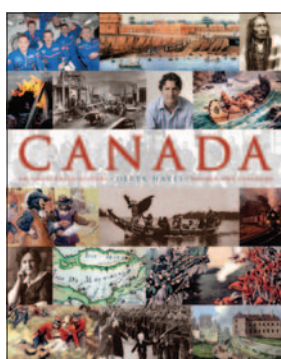
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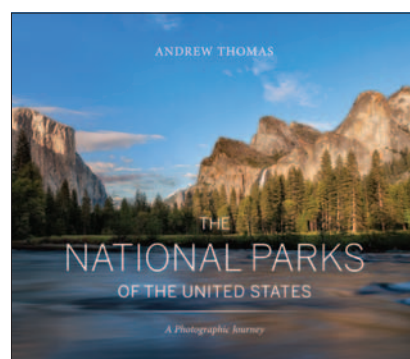


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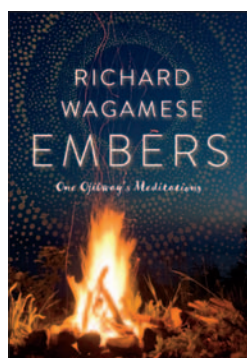


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This coffee-table book by award-winning photographer **Andrew Thomas** features magnificent photographs of all 59 US National Parks, just in time for the 100th anniversary of the US National Parks Service.

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The Battle of Sainte-Foy and the Conquest of Canada

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

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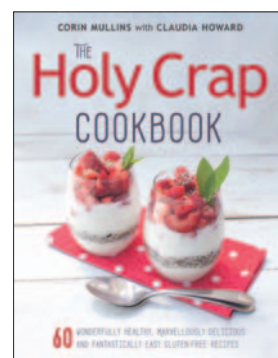


ALL THE FINE YOUNG EAGLES

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 WWII fighter pilots and eighty photos.

HISTORY \$28.95 PB 6"x9"
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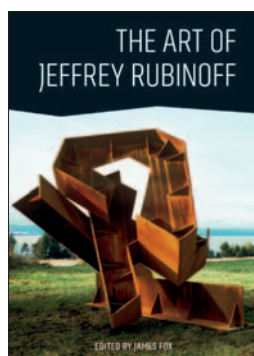


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Sixty Wonderfully Healthy, Marvellously Delicious and Fantastically Easy Gluten-Free Recipes

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

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

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ISBN 978-1-77162-129-8



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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 Westra** and **Chris Flodberg**.

ART \$49.95 HC 9"x11" 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"x9"
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THE PERFORMANCE

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BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR

DUMMIES

Bev Sellars does not mince words in her turbo-charged history lessons.

Price Paid: The Fight for First Nations Survival by Bev Sellars (Talon \$19.95)

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, *They Called Me Number One: 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 level and turbo-charged intelligence.

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 ministries and other commissioners. Now her book has emerged with some encouragement from her second husband Hereditary Chief **Bill Wilson**, aka Hemas Klee-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 American 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.

Price Paid offers the reader an overview of North and South American aboriginal contributions to European 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.’



AS LATE AS 1975 WHEN BEV SELLARS was first married, she was told she would lose her rights as a member of the Soda Creek band; her rights and those of her children would be ‘transferred’ to the band to which her husband belonged. Fortunately, he agreed to move to her community and didn't lose any of his rights by doing so.

Other chapters provide lessons in Indian Band Governance, the Department of Indian Affairs, Land Claims, Re-Establishing Aboriginal Rights and ‘Tilting of Power Back to First Nations.’ It is now the duty of all levels of government to meaningfully consult with First Nations.

Price Paid is sometimes painful reading but it is necessary if we are to move forward as a country—First Nations and newcomers together—armed with knowledge and empathy.

978-0-88922-972-3

Caroline Woodward is the author of eight books. Alaska Highway Two-Step, first published by Polestar in 1993, will be re-issued by Harbour Publishing in 2017. Her daily mantra is: Respect Treaty 8! No Site C!



CAROLINE WOODWARD

RE-CONNECT with READING THIS WINTER

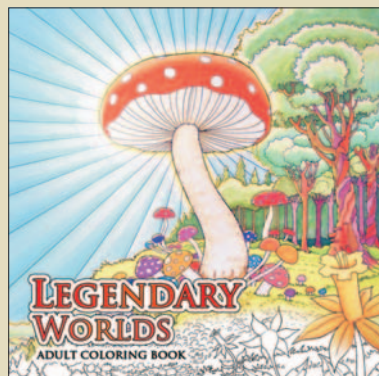


National Bestseller! WHITewater COOKS with PASSION

Shelley Adams

Each book in the *Whitewater Cooks* series has become a national bestseller and belongs on every cooks' shelf. This most recent one offers more fresh, healthy recipes and includes many innovative and extravagant dishes as well. Artisanal sauces from the cookbooks are available in stores now. And the secret is out - watch for a **new Whitewater cookbook** coming in 2017!

9780981142425 \$34.95 pb Alcon Holdings

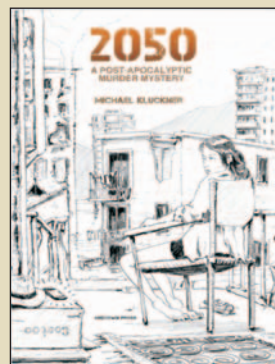


Legendary Worlds Adult Coloring Book

Witek Radomski & 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.

9780994881526 \$24.99 pb Colorworth Publishing

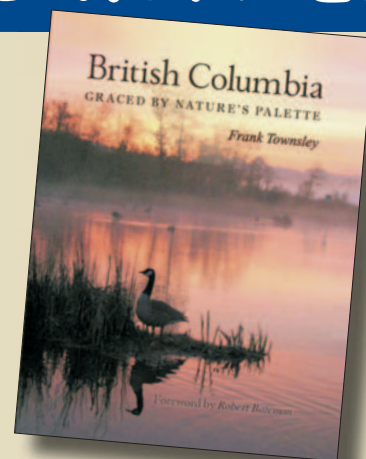


2050 A Post Apocalyptic Murder Mystery

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.

9781988242187 \$19.95 pb Midtown Press



BRITISH COLUMBIA Graced by Nature's Palette

Frank Townsley

Foreword by Robert Bateman

This magnificent coffee table book offers stunning colour photos of regions of BC showcasing not only our varied landscapes in all seasons, but also the rich nuances of our plant and animal life. Abundant text enriches the visual art to create a beautiful book sure to please that special person on your gift list.

9781460289617 \$49.95 cloth Frank Townsley

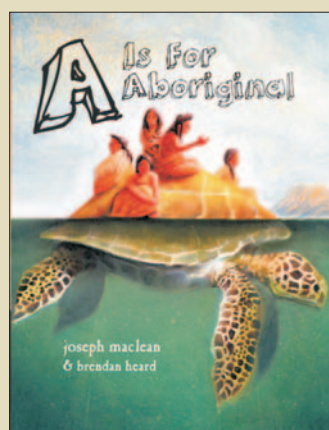


Okanagan Eats & Drinks

Brandi Parnell, 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, winemakers and brewmasters, it's laden with locally infused creations, hearty mains as well as shareables and sweet afters - delicious recipes that reflect the bold and explosive flavours of this region.

9780995241800 \$39.95 hc Mint Publishing



A is for Aboriginal

Joseph Maclean

Written as a lyrical exploration of indigenous people, each letter explores some 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. The second half of the book is a comprehensive glossary or dictionary of all of 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.

9780991858903 \$24.95 hc NuMedia Group

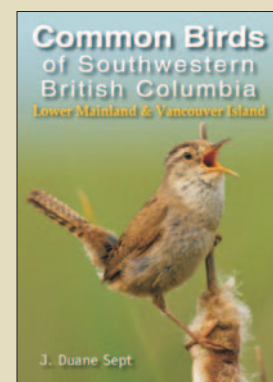


DYSCONNECTED Isolated by Our Mobile Devices

Anton Scamvougeras

Do you check your cell phone before you get out of 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.

9780995205604 \$19.95 pb AJKS Publishing



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.

9780973981995 \$14.95 pb Calypso Publishing



Granny Get Your Glue Gun

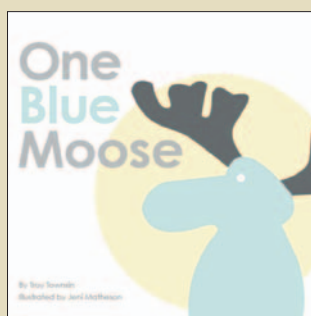
How to Have Fun with

Your Grandchildren

Maureen Goulet & Diana Budden

Get creative with kids and crafts this winter! Two wanna-be grannies give you their tips for making everything from wine cork boats, to fun in the kitchen (chocolate cake in a mug), great games to play (dancing ping pong balls, a treasure hunt) or how to make an easy birdfeeder. Grandparents, mothers and anyone who wants to entertain young children will appreciate this essential helper!

9780994809704 \$19.95 pb MADi Publishing



Gold Award Winner! One Blue Moose

Troy Townsin • Illus Jeni Matheson

GOLD Winner Moonbeam Children's Book Awards! This colour and counting board book for early learners features bold illustrations mixed with rhyming verses that follow the antics of twelve playful moose. It's a catchy Canadian read that young children love - all the while practicing their colours and numbers. It's a perfect bedtime book ending with every moose snuggled up for sleep. Troy is the author of several children's books including the *Moose in a Maple Tree* series.

9781928131014 \$14.95 hc Polyglot Publishing



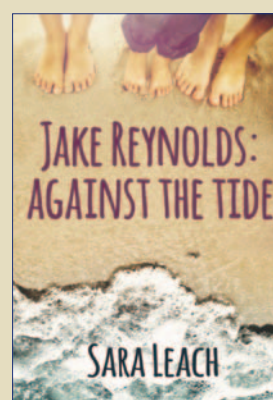
BC Bestseller!

British Columbia Lullaby

P. L. McCarron • Illus Joy Steuerwald

You've seen it on the BC Bestsellers list! Here's the newest in the *Baby Lullaby* series of souvenir childrens' books! This lovely portrait of BC celebrates baby animals set amidst iconic regions from forests and vineyards to the vast coast of the Pacific Ocean from Haida Gwaii to Tofino. The text is a gentle lullaby for the very young set against gorgeous paintings to introduce them to the wonders of BC.

9780991946389 \$12.95 hc Baby Lullaby Souvenirs



Jake Reynolds: Against the Tide

Sara Leach

In this adventure story for 7 - 11-year-olds set on British Columbia's coast, Jake Reynolds is caught in a stormy sea of friendship. He'd like to hang out with Emily but her city friend wants nothing to do with him. A new boy on Hidalgo Island appeals to Jake's sense of adventure, but his idea of fun—throwing jellyfish, catching snakes and climbing the off-limits sandbank—puts Jake at odds with Emily and himself. Will he be able to sort things out before the tide comes in?

9780978281830 \$9.99 pb Poppy Productions

Let Them Eat Dirt: Saving Our Children from an Oversanitized World by **B. Brett Finlay & Marie-Claire Arrieta**
(Greystone \$19.95)

WE LIVE IN AN obsessively clean world with antibiotic soaps, cleansers, antibiotic drugs and body washes. For some good reasons....

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.

Before antibiotics were developed, 90 percent of children died if they contracted meningitis. But about 25 years ago scientists began to realize that lack of exposure to microbes could partially explain an increase in childhood allergies. This research has now expanded to examine the origins of obesity, diabetes, asthma and possibly autism.

In their **Let Them Eat Dirt**, microbiologists **B. Brett Finlay** and **Marie-Claire Arrieta** caution parents not to create hermetically sealed cocoons for their young children. Early exposure to a wide variety of microbes is key to firing up the immune system.

“The consequences of missing out... appear to be that, later in life, the immune system may react too fiercely to these harmless microbes, which could trigger inflammatory responses in various organs of the body,” they write. “This contributes to the appearance of “developed country diseases” (like asthma and obesity) that are becoming so prevalent today.”

Let Them Eat Dirt is crammed with fascinating research (babies born on farms have fewer allergies or asthma), historical detours (the Father of Microbiology was a lens maker) and practical Do’s and Don’ts for pregnant women and new parents with questions about breastfeed-



Marie-Claire Arrieta with her daughter. At UBC, Arrieta studied the link between intestinal alterations and immune diseases.

BUGS’R’ US

Our kids need dirt and face licks from the family dog.

ing, hygiene, antibiotic use, allergies, probiotics, vaccines and diet.

- Invisible to the naked eye, microbes are the smallest, oldest and most successful forms of life on earth.

- All microbes combined weigh more than all plants and animals on the entire planet.

- For every single human cell in our bodies there are 10 bacterial cells and for every gene in our cells, there are 150 bacterial genes.

- 500-1,500 species of bacteria live in the human gut. They look after digesting most of our food and produce essential vitamins B and K.

- A single bowel movement is 60 percent bacteria.

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 will help keep them healthy later in life.

We can thank the human discovery of fire for a whole new stage of evolutionary development that also created a more diverse forest of healthy microbes in our guts.

“We completely take it for granted now, but cooking food made it safer to eat, as heat

kills the disease causing bacteria that thrive in decomposing meat... If humans hadn’t developed a way to cook food we, too, would have to spend six hours chewing five kilos of raw food every day to get enough energy to survive, just like our primate cousins do.”

With fire, human brain size grew by about twenty percent, improving our ability to hunt, communicate and socialize. “In other words, cooking made us smarter and it made us human.”

Microbes play a role starting in the womb. Pregnancy

generates changes in the mother’s micro biota makeup, especially during the third trimester, helping create more energy for mother and fetus. That same microbial mix has been found in babies at one month of age.

“From a genetic perspective, having babies is the only way to propagate our genes; from a microbial perspective, a newborn is brand new real estate where microbial genes can also multiply and propagate.”

During vaginal birth babies are exposed to lactic microbes that help the baby digest mother’s milk, develop the immune system and protect against infections. (Some mothers who experience a Caesarean section birth are now “seeding” these microbes into their newborns.)

Antibiotic use during pregnancy can also have consequences for children. A recent New York study showed children were at an 85 percent higher risk to be obese by age seven if antibiotics intervene. This is new research, but if the trend continues, it could mean that, “antibiotic use during pregnancy has significantly more risk than is currently assumed in medical practice.”

The married authors of *Let Them Eat Dirt* think antibiotics are too readily administered to pregnant women, often for the flu virus, which does not require antibiotics. Mother’s milk also delivers beneficial bacteria that help the baby’s immune system develop, and with the introduction of solid foods and a diverse diet, new microbial species begin to bloom.

As with all ecosystems, the more diversity the better.

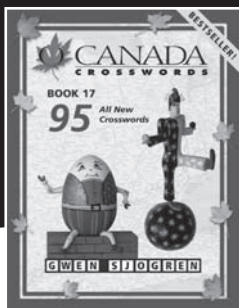
And yes, kids should absolutely get outside and roll around in the dirt with the family dog. Slobber included. As Grandma was heard to say, “You have to eat a peck of dirt before you die.” It seems that peck of dirt is mostly good for you.

9781771642545

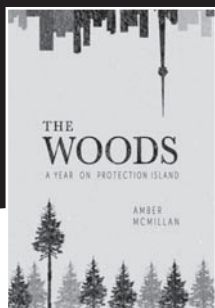
Former CBC Radio host Mark Forsythe is now a man of free intelligence in Fort Langley.

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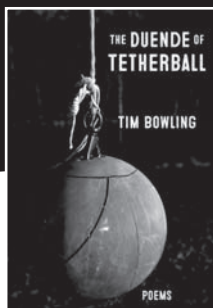
O CANADA CROSSWORDS BOOK 17
Gwen Sjogren
Filled with puns, Canadiana and hours of solving delight.
PUZZLES \$13.95



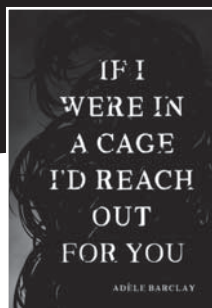
THE WOODS: A YEAR ON PROTECTION ISLAND
Amber McMillan
A non-fiction account of moving from Toronto to a small community on a Gulf Island in the Pacific Ocean.
MEMOIR \$19.95



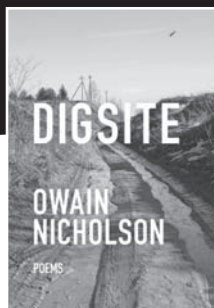
WITNESS, I AM
Gregory Scofield
A collection of poems exploring themes of identity and belonging, and the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women.
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THE DUENDE OF TETHERBALL
Tim Bowling
Poems that fearlessly ransack the scrutinizing role of the past on the present and the challenges and pleasures of growing older.
POEMS \$18.95



IF I WERE IN A CAGE I'D REACH OUT FOR YOU
Adèle Barclay
“... brims with cracking imagery and whip-smart delivery.” —Jonathan Ball, *Winnipeg Free Press*
POEMS \$18.95



DIGSITE
Owain Nicholson
Poems with an archaeological lens, reimagining tens of thousands of years of human existence.
POEMS \$18.95

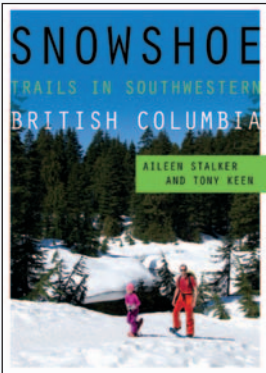
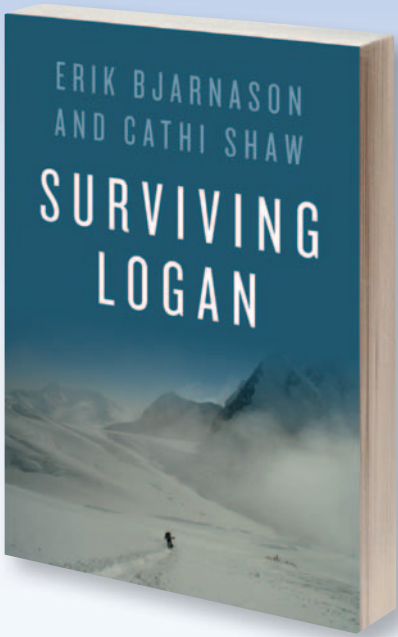
COZY READS FOR COLD NIGHTS

Surviving Logan

Erik Bjarnason and Cathi Shaw

North Shore resident Erik Bjarnason’s harrowing story of being trapped on the second-highest peak in North America, Mount Logan, during an extratropical cyclone.

RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$28 hc | \$13.99 ebook

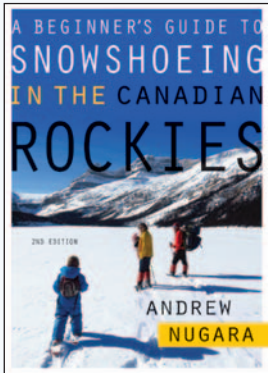


Snowshoe Trails in Southwestern British Columbia

Aileen Stalker and Tony Keen

Full-colour guide to 35+ trails around Whistler, Sea to Sky, Manning Park, Sunshine Coast and North Shore.

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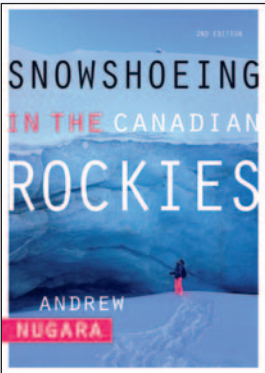
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2nd Edition

Andrew Nugara

Features 75+ trips around Banff, the Columbia Icefield, Waterton and the Crownsnest Pass.

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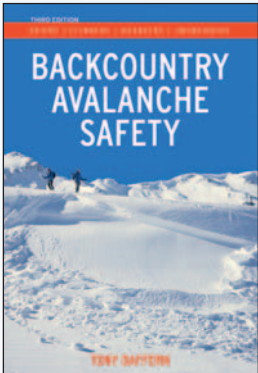
Snowshoeing in the Canadian Rockies

2nd Edition

Andrew Nugara

This full-colour guide highlights 100+ trips for snowshoers throughout the central and southern Rockies.

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Backcountry Avalanche Safety

3rd Edition

Tony Daffern

With colour photographs, charts, and diagrams, the author provides guidelines for safe alpine recreation.

RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$29.95 pb



150 Years of Canadian Beer Labels

Lawrence C. Sherck

In celebration of Canada’s 150th birthday, a stunning selection of beer labels dating from the late 1870s to the present day.

TouchWood Editions | \$29.95 hc | \$8.99 epub



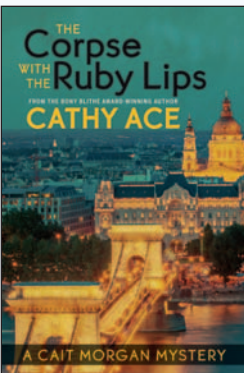
A Killer in King's Cove

A Lane Winslow Mystery

Iona Whishaw

“An author destined for awards . . . Whishaw is an exciting addition to Canada’s fine roster of mystery writers.” —Canadian Mystery Reviews

TouchWood Editions | \$16.95 pb | \$8.99 epub



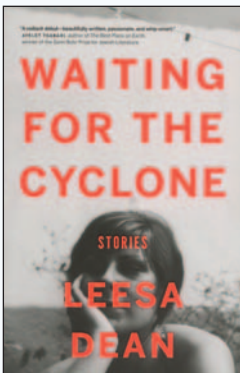
The Corpse with the Ruby Lips

A Cait Morgan Mystery

Cathy Ace

In the latest mystery from this Bony Blithe award-winning author, Cait Morgan takes on a chilling cold case while lecturing in Budapest.

TouchWood Editions | \$14.95 pb | \$8.99 epub



Waiting for the Cyclone

Stories

Leesa Dean

“A radiant debut—beautifully written, passionate, and whip smart.” —Ayelet Tsabari, award-winning author of *The Best Place on Earth*

Brindle & Glass | \$19.95 pb | \$8.99 epub



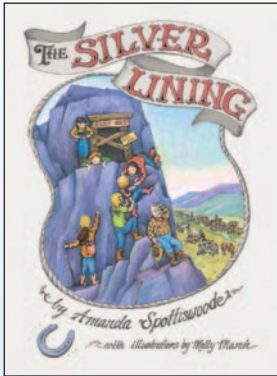
Spirit of the Wild

A Lyrical Colouring Book

Erica Neumann and Dawn Sprung

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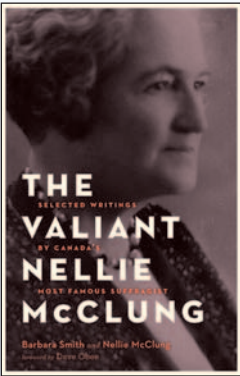
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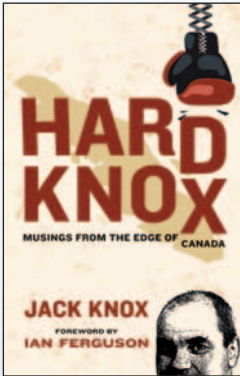
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Barbara Smith and Nellie McClung

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Jack Knox

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LOOK OUT

57

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



The Ormsby Review
is named after
Margaret Ormsby (pictured
at left, over the years),
the venerable historian
who often met with
editor Richard Mackie
at her home (above)
at Coldstream, near Vernon.

“British Columbians have always been literate, and
they have always been inspired by a sense of their
province’s destiny.” — **Margaret Ormsby**

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

MY FIRST ACQUAINTANCE WITH **MARGARET Ormsby** was mostly literary: I knew her magnum opus, commissioned for the 1958 centennial and called simply *British Columbia: A History* (Macmillan, 1958).

I also owned her two most-recent books, *A Pioneer Gentlewoman in British Columbia: The Recollections of Susan Allison* (UBC Press, 1976) and *Fort Victoria Letters 1846-1851* (Hudson’s Bay Record Society, 1979).

This was back in the 1980s when Margaret was working on her history of Coldstream Valley, published in 1990 as *Coldstream: Nulli Secundus* by 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 time I was a Master’s student in history, I hesitated to introduce myself for several years. That’s because a professor of mine at UVic, a quantitative historian, had once sneered at Ormsby’s *British Columbia: A History* as “classic seat-of-your-pants history.”

Fortunately, as I got older, I learned to make up my own mind about books and people. I discovered that her work was accurate, reliable, and often inspired. Eventually, through my cousin, I got myself invited for afternoon tea, which in Coldstream means 4 p.m.

Only one property separated the Mackies and Ormsbys, so I was soon at her house on the lakefront beside a fragment of what was once a large orchard.

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

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 Margaret missed the collegiality and the chinwag 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 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 **Anchoretta**; somehow that led to her being referred to mischievously as **Chairman Mao**.

Visiting Margaret became part of my Coldstream routine.



Richard Mackie, editor
The Ormsby Review

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.

She often shared her early memories of my Coldstream cousins, the Mackie and Marle families, who ran a boys’ boarding school in the Valley.

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 [above] in which Margaret Ormsby was raised in Coldstream, and where she also resided in her retirement years, was demolished in 2014. The extensive property had been listed for sale for \$5.9 million and sold for an undisclosed sum that summer. Ormsby’s will had stipulated that the local district should have the first opportunity to purchase her property but the offer made by the town of Coldstream was refused.

Twenty years after Ormsby’s death, *The Ormsby Review* now puts her name back in circulation.

The Ormsby Review: www.bcbooklook.com



THE WRITING LIFE OF W.P. Kinsella (1935-2016)

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 **Olive 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 these people who woke up at age five knowing how to read and write,” he said. His family moved into Edmonton when he was ten. He was an avid 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 Doom* 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 Yellow Pages 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. Valgardson**. He received his B.A. from UVic in 1974. He began selling his stories in 1975. He received an M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa in 1978. He taught English at the University of Calgary from 1978 to 1983.

Kinsella’s work ethic remained consistent and he was stubbornly persistent about re-submitting material that had been rejected. In 1983, while living with third wife, **Ann Knight**, in a White Rock apartment, he made his decision to try making his living as a writer on a fulltime basis.

W.P. Kinsella’s popular “Indian stories,” mostly set on the fictitious Hobbema reserve of Alberta (based on the Ermineskin Reserve and the indigenous community of Hobbema that changed its named to Maskwacis, meaning Bear Hills, in 2014), resulted in a remarkable string of highly entertaining tales that have been superficially attacked as racist. They feature a Cree narrator Silas Ermineskin, a would-be writer, and his outrageous entrepreneurial sidekick Frank Fencepost, as they invariably outwit white authorities. Despite the widespread appeal of these stories, Kinsella didn’t receive the Leacock Medal for Humour until 1987, ten years after he made his debut.

Kinsella flatly rejected criticism that he had demeaned First Nations by resorting to

stereotypes. *Dance Me Outside*, a superb story in his first collection, was made into a Canadian movie by director **Bruce McDonald**, but Kinsella abhorred the result. “I gave him plot, geography and characters and he chose to ignore them,” he said. The main characters resurfaced in the TV series called *The Rez*.

Kinsella was also perturbed when director/actor **Christine Lahti** and co-producer **Jana Sue Memel** won a best live-action short Oscar for *Lieberman in Love*, based on a Kinsella short story, but the author was not mentioned in their acceptance speech. “They thanked everyone and their dog but me,” Kinsella told **Kerry Diotte** of the *Edmonton Sun*. “I later got a full-page apology in *Variety*. I think it was just carelessness more than anything. They buy these projects, work on them 18 months and then consider them their own.”

Kinsella was better known around the world for his baseball-related fiction, often incorporating magical or supernatural events. One of his best stories, *The Thrill of the Grass*, recounts how a retired locksmith reclaims the energy and purpose of his youth by secretly replacing artificial turf in a major league baseball stadium with real turf.

After a young American editor in Boston named **Larry Kessenich** saw a brief synopsis of Kinsella’s short story called *Shoeless Joe Jackson Comes to Iowa* in *Publisher’s Weekly*, he contacted Kinsella and asked him for a novel. That resulted in *Shoeless Joe* (*Houghton Mifflin*, 1982) that became the basis for the 1989 **Kevin Costner** movie *Field of Dreams*, for which Kinsella only received \$250,000. The film was nominated for three Academy Awards: Best Original Score, Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Picture. The phrase ‘Build it and they will come’ has entered everyday speech from this story of an Iowa farmer named Ray Kinsella who erects a baseball field in his cornfield to attract bygone baseball stars from the 1919 Chicago White Sox. Audaciously, the central character kidnaps **J.D. Salinger** as part of the plot. Kinsella decided to use Salinger’s name after discovering Salinger had used the name Kinsella for the main character in a story Salinger had published in *Mademoiselle* magazine in 1947 called *Young Girl of 1941 with No Waist at All*.

Plans were long afoot to mount a musical version of *Shoeless Joe*.



W.P. Kinsella’s other writing includes his collection of short stories, *Red Wolf*, *Red Wolf*, his nostalgic Alberta novel called

Box Socials, poetry in *The Rainbow Warehouse* and a non-fiction book *Two Spirits Soar*, about Saskatchewan Cree painter **Allen Sapp** and Sapp’s mentor, **Allen Gonor**.

Not entirely ignored by the CanLit establishment, Kinsella won the \$10,000 Houghton Mifflin Literary Fellowship, the Books in Canada First Novel Award, the Canadian Authors Association Fiction Award and Leacock Medal for Humour. He also received the Order of Canada, the Order of British Columbia, the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award, the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal and he was inducted

into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame as a baseball writer.

Kinsella strongly supported the Reform Party in federal politics and was a member of American Atheists. He taught briefly in Calgary before relocating to White Rock.

In 1997, Kinsella was stung by a vengeful portrait in *Vancouver* magazine by his ex-lover **Evelyn Lau**, with whom he had a relationship from 1995 to 1997. Kinsella sued for the detailed account that exposed him to ridicule; and the case was settled out of court. *Vancouver* magazine published an apology.

On October 11, 1997, Kinsella was struck while walking on a south Surrey sidewalk when a vehicle driven by **Rupert Sasseville** backed out of a driveway. He claimed injuries suffered made it impossible to write, giving rise to a lawsuit. Formerly based in White Rock, Vancouver and the Fraser Valley, Kinsella became “unintentionally retired” and subsequently lived in relative seclusion in Yale for many years following his accident. A similar traffic accident befell American writer **Stephen King** when he was out for a walk.

Also like Stephen King, Kinsella had his work denigrated by some who are envious of his popularity. Kinsella remains B.C.’s closest equivalent to King in terms of adaptations for television and movies. In addition to *Field of Dreams* and *Dance Me Outside*, movies were made of his short stories *The Job*, *Lieberman in Love*, *John Cat* and *Caroline*. He published more than 30 books of fiction, as well as hundreds of short stories, articles, stageplays and screenplays.

“Inspiration is hard work,” he said.

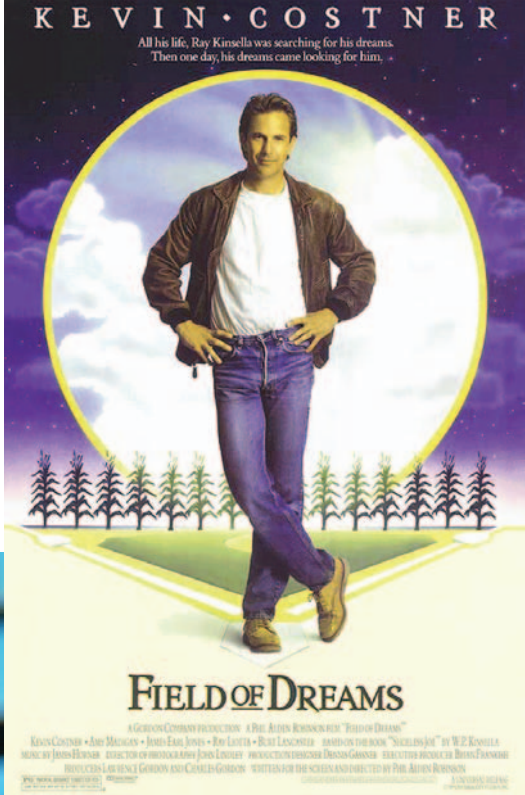
Following his lawsuit, Kinsella veered increasingly towards playing competitive Scrabble but eventually resumed writing.

He collaborated with a Japanese journalist to produce a book in Japanese about the right fielder of the Seattle Mariners, **Ichiro Suzuki**, the American League MVP and Rookie of the Year

in 2001, but Kinsella provided his content via interviews. His fanciful baseball novel *Butterfly Winter* in 2011 was a fusion of previous work.

As a big fan of traditional country ‘n’ western singers such as **Tom T. Hall**, **Merle Haggard** and **George Strait**, Kinsella wished he might one day have some song lyrics recorded.

Throughout Kinsella’s work, there was a consistent sympathy for the underdog. In *The Further Adventures of Slugger McBatt*, for instance, an unathletic boy wins the approval of a star



school athlete when he draws a comic strip based on the star’s exploits. “My life is not interesting,” Kinsella told *Maclean’s* in 1993, “What you can invent is much better than anything that’s actually happened to you.”

At age 77, in March of 2012, he celebrated his 13th wedding anniversary with **Barbara Turner Kinsella**, who he met as a neighbour in White Rock 29 years earlier. She died in 2013. He relocated from Yale to Hope, following the death of Barbara.

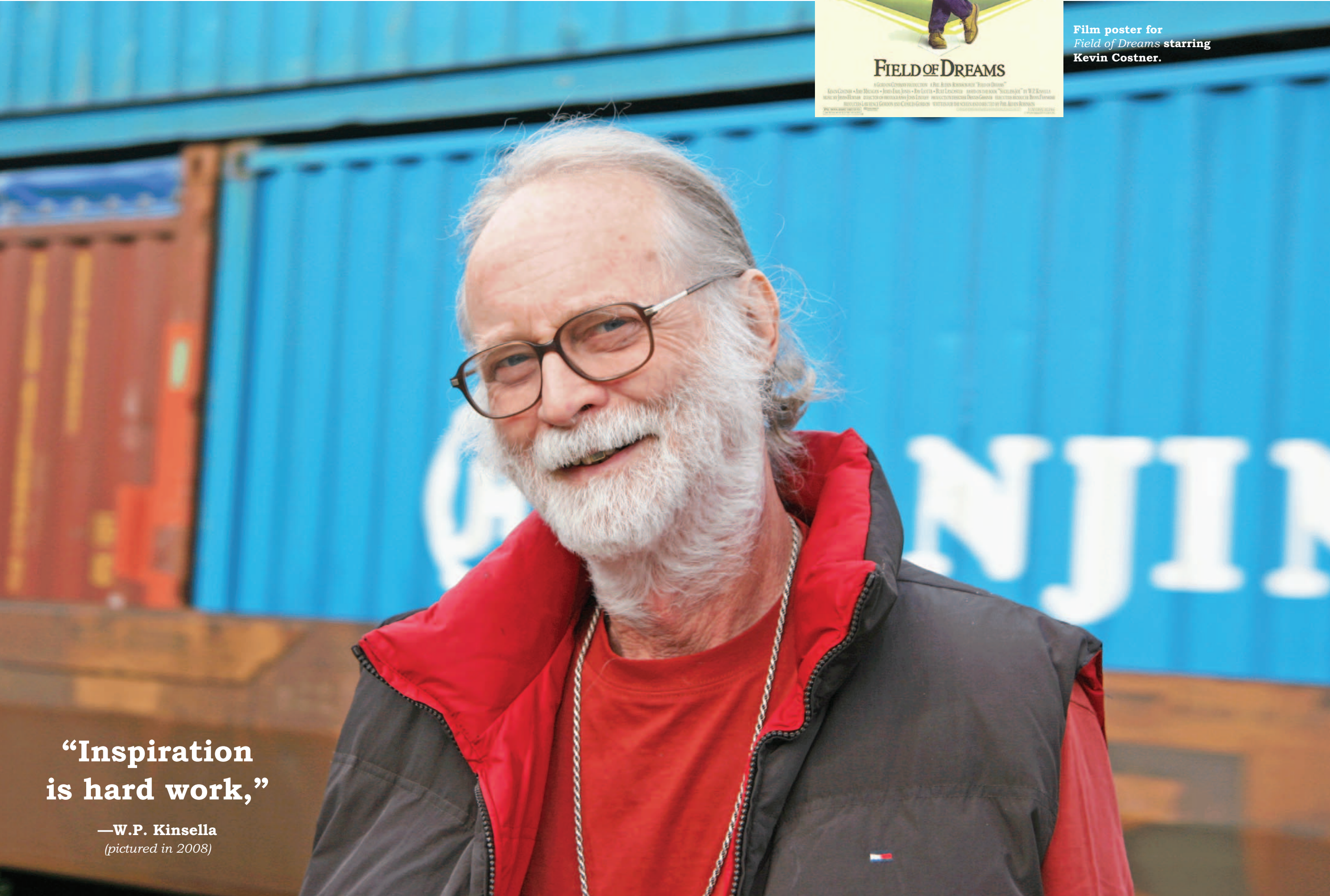


A POSTHUMOUS NOVEL BY KINSELLA SET IN 1979 Vancouver, called **Russian Dolls** (Coteau Books \$21.95), is slated for publication this autumn. *Russian Dolls* is a collection of short stories embedded in the arc of a novel.

According to promotional material, the *Russian Dolls* protagonist is “Wylie, a struggling author who lives in a rooming house occupied by an assortment of losers and hangers-on. A girl named Christie takes a room and eventually they move in together. Wylie believes that Christie is his Muse, and believing it makes it so; his stories begin to sell. Christie tells him dark, dangerously inconsistent stories of her past. Are any of them true? Or is the enticing but erratic Christie simply the better storyteller of the two?”

9781550506952

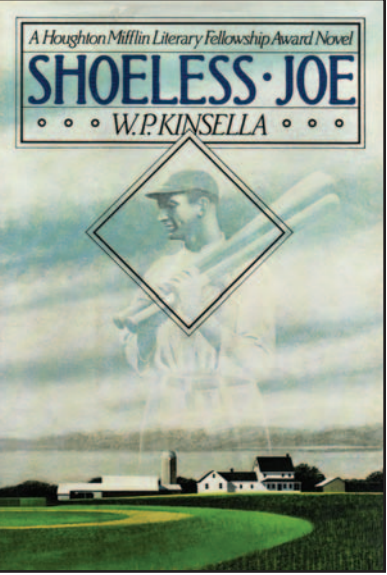
Film poster for
Field of Dreams starring
Kevin Costner.



“Inspiration
is hard work,”

—W.P. Kinsella
(pictured in 2008)

LAURA SAWCHUK PHOTO



Shoeless Joe, original cover, 1982

Life and Bronze

A Sculptor's Journal



Life and Bronze

A Sculptor's Journal

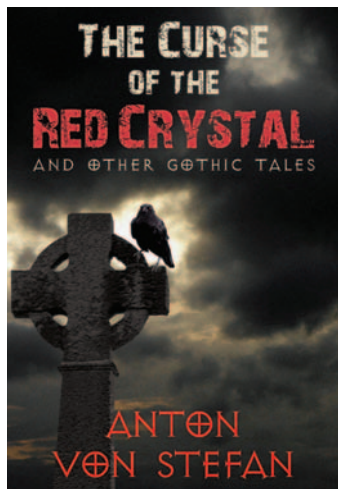
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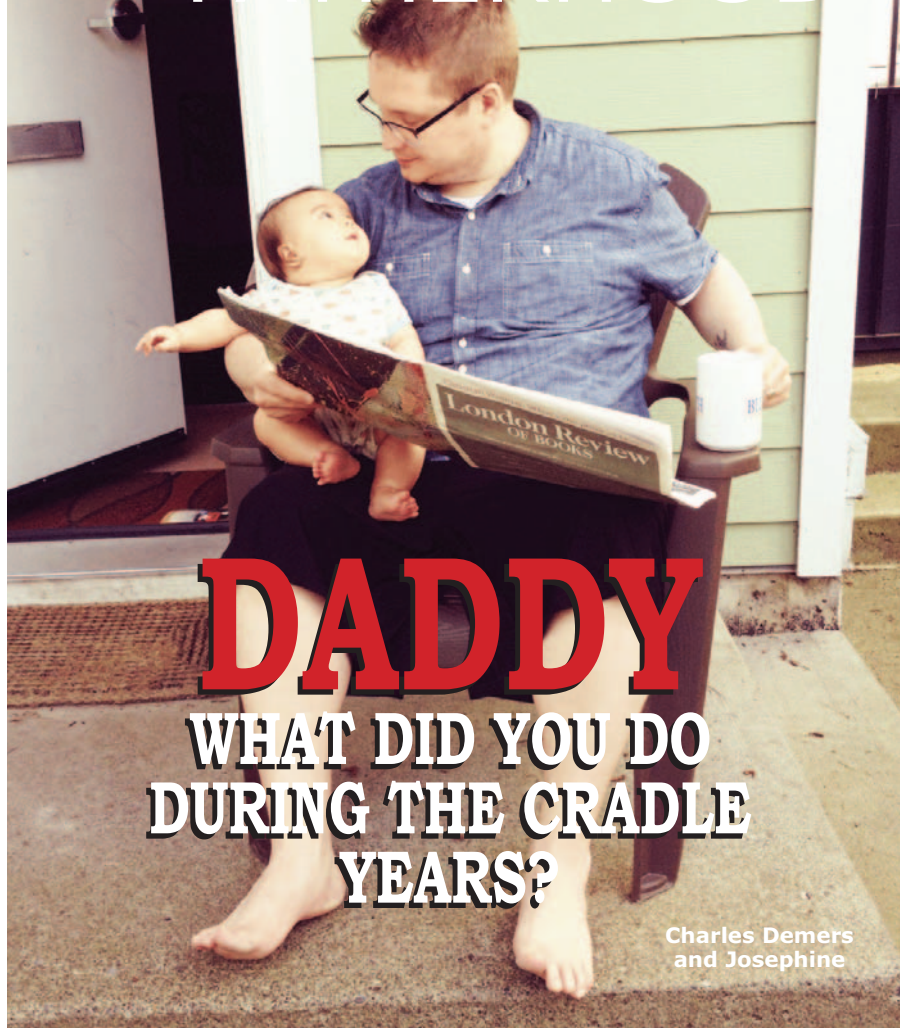
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review

FATHERHOOD



Charles Demers
and Josephine

Two e-males discuss infant care

**The Dad Dialogues:
A Correspondence on Fatherhood
(And The Universe)**
by **George Bowering & Charles Demers**
(Arsenal Pulp \$17.95)

BY JAMES PALEY

THE DAD DIALOGUES: A CORRESPONDENCE ON FATHERHOOD (And The Universe) is an exchange of seemingly off-the-cuff, long messages—we used to call them letters—written between prolific, elderly and venerable **George Bowering** and thirty-something comedian **Charles Demers** who divides his promising career between standup, stage plays, books, radio gigs and teaching.

Whereas Demers writes with the raw anxiety and wonder typical of a new father, Bowering's comments on paternalism are more reflective and composed, though sometimes laced with the old fears.

The letters begin with Demers anticipating the birth of his daughter, due in a matter of days. Bowering responds with tales of his own daughter's birth, over forty years ago. Each author relates the saga of his daughter's first year in vivid detail.

Thea Bowering was born in October of 1971. **Josephine**, Demer's daughter, was born in January of 2014. Their histories, although separated by more than forty years, share similarities. Both fathers share fears about the world their daughter is growing up in. For Bowering, this meant raising a child during the cold war. For Demers, who suffers from anxiety and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, he worries about oceans turning to acid, tiny lungs being punctured by smaller ribs and red blotches on the skin.

Demers is a dedicated father who can't stand spending time apart from his kid soon after her birth. Every other task he's presented with becomes a chore, pure drudgery that separates

him and Josephine. Instead of feeling relief at finally having time to himself when he's away from work, spending the night in a hotel room is the loneliest he's ever felt.

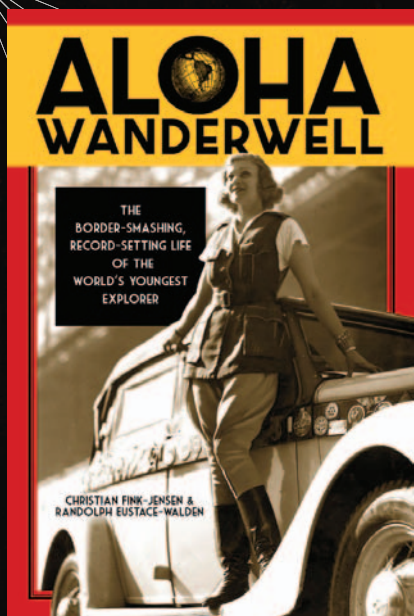
Bowering casts back to his diary entries to relive his first trip away from the family. It was a series of train trips he made from Vancouver to Prince George to Edmonton and back. Without the added convenience of cell phones and discount flights, the time out of contact felt eternal. Add some northern weather and the whole trip was pretty bleak.

So this is a seemingly unplanned book that is less about events than it is about emotions. The stories told are mostly about ordinary events, milestones that every parent can identify with. Women have been sharing such stories with one another for aeons; men not so much. Because Demers and Bowering, as males, are sharing anecdotes about their reactions to their infant daughters, how they feel, ostensibly this makes *The Dad Dialogues* into unusual literature.

Cloying or fascinating, there's an undeniable buoyancy to their friendship that keeps the dual narratives afloat. Typically, when Demers recounts 'Joji's' first visit to the emergency room, over a small red mark on her face, the beginnings of a light bruise, Bowering counters with a story about his own daughter drinking lemon-scented furniture polish when she was a year old. The hour-long drive to the ER was peppered with curses and pleas.

As Demers chronicles the first year of Josephine's life, Bowering reciprocates, like a good shepherd, reminding Demers that he is not alone in his feelings. *The Dad Dialogues* affords an intimate look at the diapers, despair and overwhelming joy of fatherhood. Not war stories from the trenches; instead a rare advertisement for male nurturing. 978-1551526621

*James Paley is a Vancouver
freelance writer.*

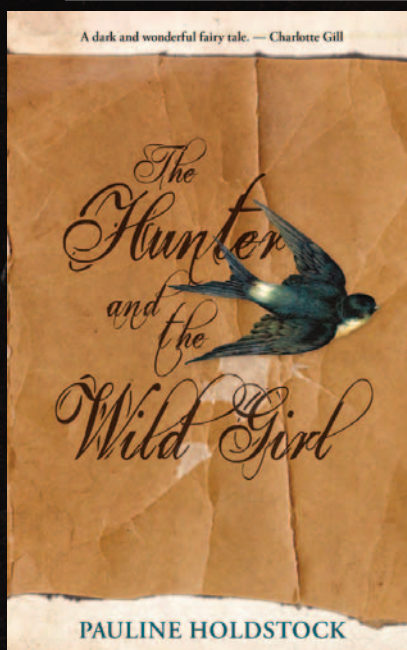


FACT

The Amelia Earhart of the automobile

FICTION

Winner of the 2016
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Butler Book Prize

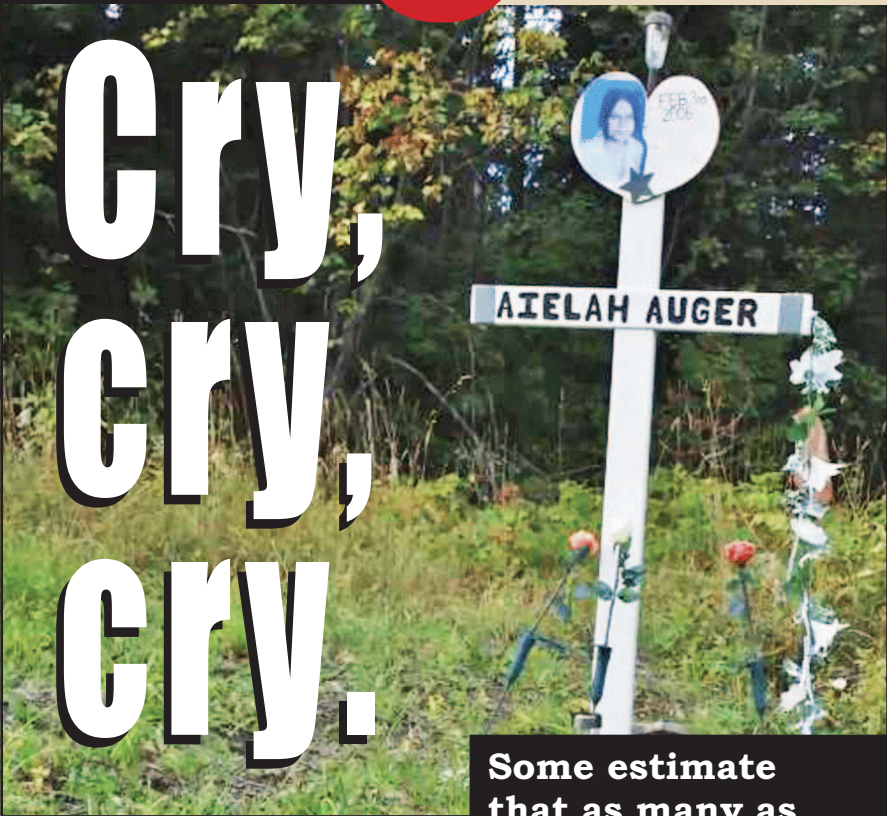


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AT 14, **AIELAH SARIC AUGER** died on the Highway of Tears in 2006—**Ray Michalko** has investigated ever since. Now private eye Ray Michalko has written a book about it.

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 Peeples** 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.

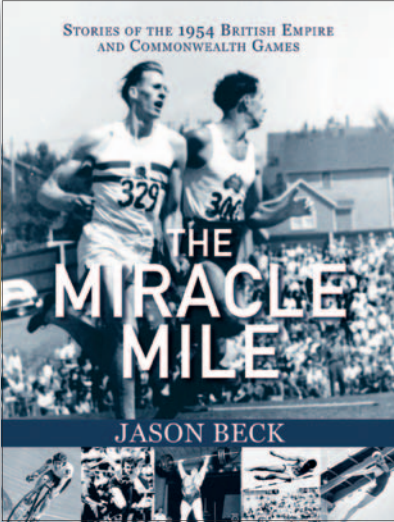
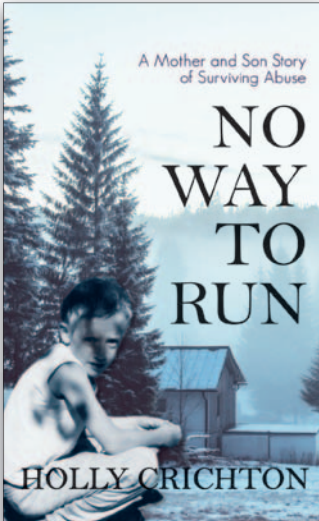
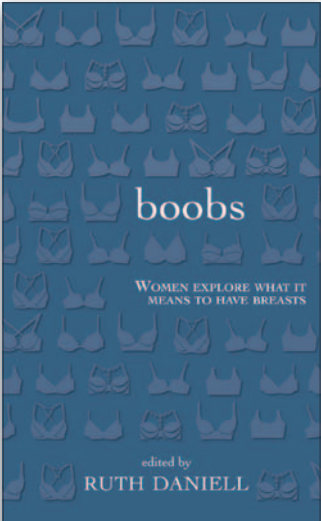
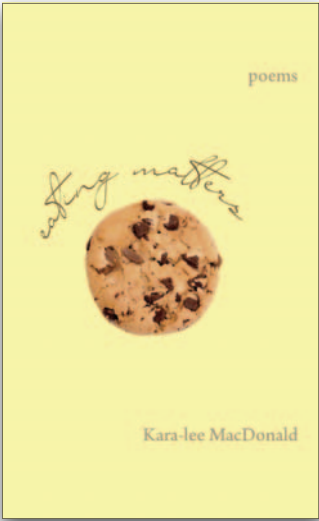
Thus far, Michalko says he will not participate in a national inquiry into murdered and missing women, saying “I haven’t got a lawyer, and you would need one to take part in something like that.” This stance could make him vulnerable to allegations from the public that his book enables him to benefit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

Some estimate that as many as forty women have gone missing along the Highway of Tears corridor in thirty years.

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**, **Rox-**

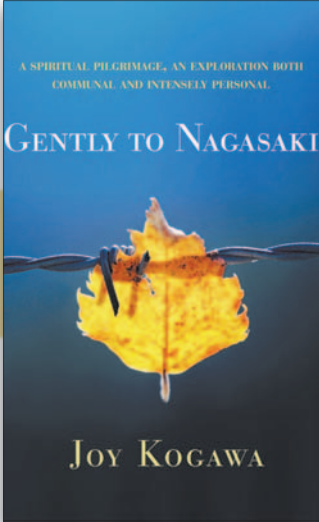
anne Thiara and **Alberta Williams**. “I keep getting tips,” he told her, “and I think as long as I am getting them, I am obligated to follow them up. My gut feeling though, is that unless someone knocks on a police officer’s door and says ‘I did it,’ that these cases are probably never going to get solved.” Thus far 33 recommendations have arisen from the Highway of Tears Symposium that followed the death of 14-year-old Aielah 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.

★ 978-0-88995-545-5
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.



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The Rise and Fall of Emilio Picariello by Adriana Davies (Oolichan \$19.95)

BY JAMES PALEY

IN HER PORTRAIT OF A patriotic bootlegger, researcher **Adriana Davies** prefers sobering reality to fanciful drama in **The Rise and Fall of Emilio Picariello**, a thorough investigation of the Sicilian-born British Columbian 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—after 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 alcohol into Alberta.

“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 patriotic streak,” writes Davies, “and contributed to the war effort through the purchase of Victory Bonds. He lent money to needy individuals, as well as the local church and, at the time of the 1918-1919 General Strike, is said to have delivered groceries to those affected.”

In the aftermath of a failed sting operation set up by the Alberta Provincial Police in 1922, during which he learned his eldest son, **Steve**, had been wounded, Picariello got into a heated argument with Constable Stephen Lawson. They fought, shots were fired. Some say the gunmen were

PROHIBITION TRAGEDY

From ice cream vender to bootlegger, **Emilio Picariello’s** life story has the makings of a Bonnie & Clyde movie if you don’t stick to the truth—which resulted in the tragic hanging of **Florence Lassandro**.



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

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.

“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 he refused, insisting that he was innocent.

Davies has eschewed 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, the object of hundreds of curious eyes.” Ostensibly the promise of an afterlife and Christ’s forgiveness provided 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 not had 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 Crowsnest Pass in her 1983 play, *Whiskey Six Cadenza*, performed by Theatre Calgary.

“Both Pollock and van Herk,” writes Davies, “rein-

terpret the story of Picariello and Lassandro in the context of the 1980s and early 1990s academic criticism dealing with sexual politics and post-colonialism.”

John Estacio and **John Murrell’s** *Filumena* is an operatic recounting of the Picariello/Lassandro story developed as a collaboration between the Banff Centre, where Murrell 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

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.

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James Paley is a Vancouver writer.



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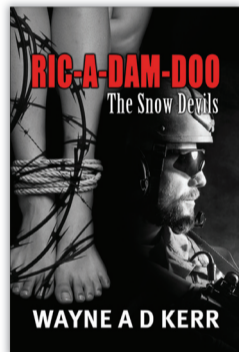
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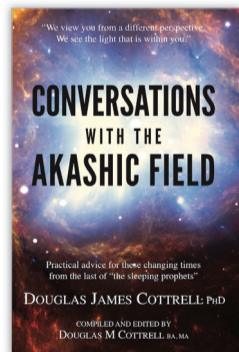
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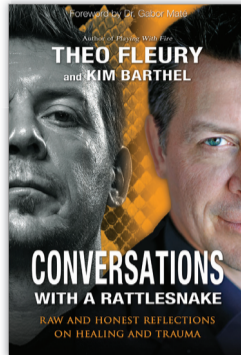
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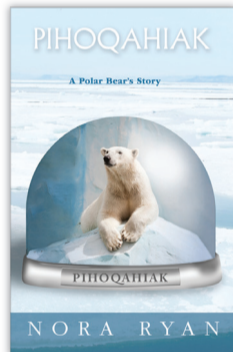
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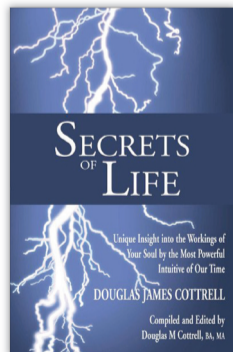
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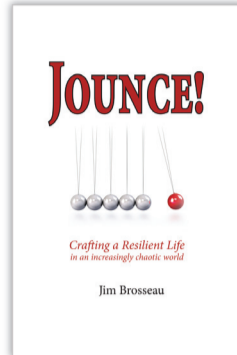
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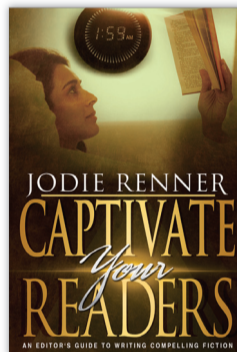
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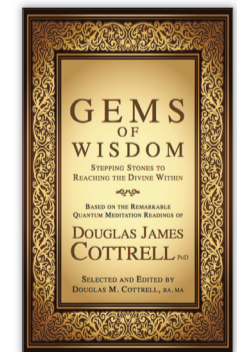
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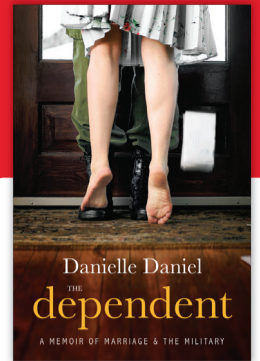
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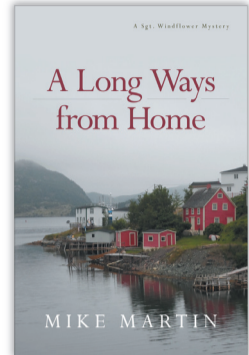


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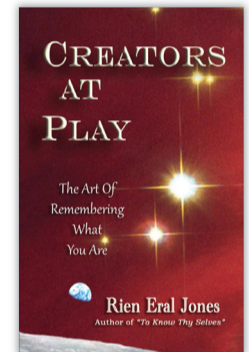
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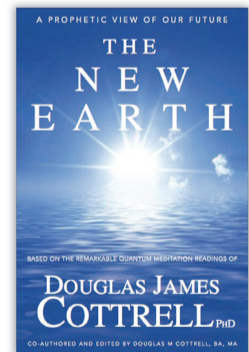
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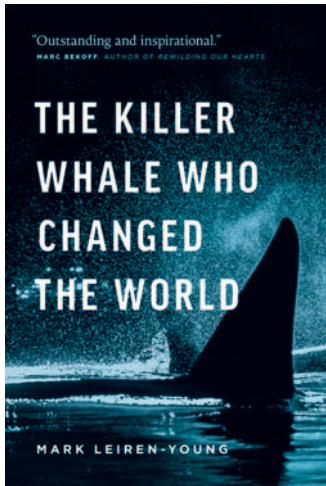
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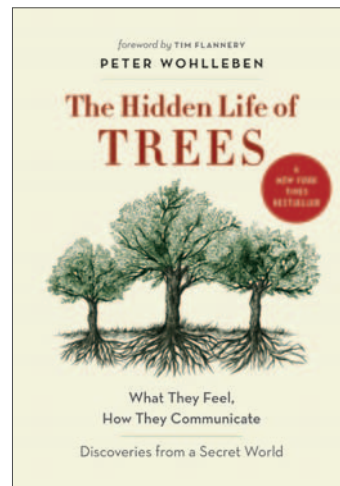
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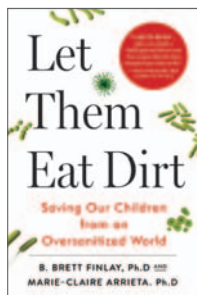
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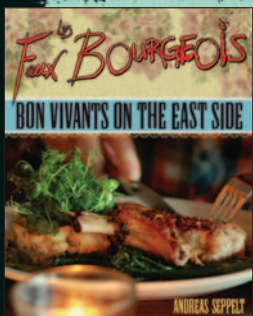


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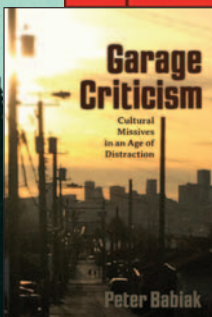
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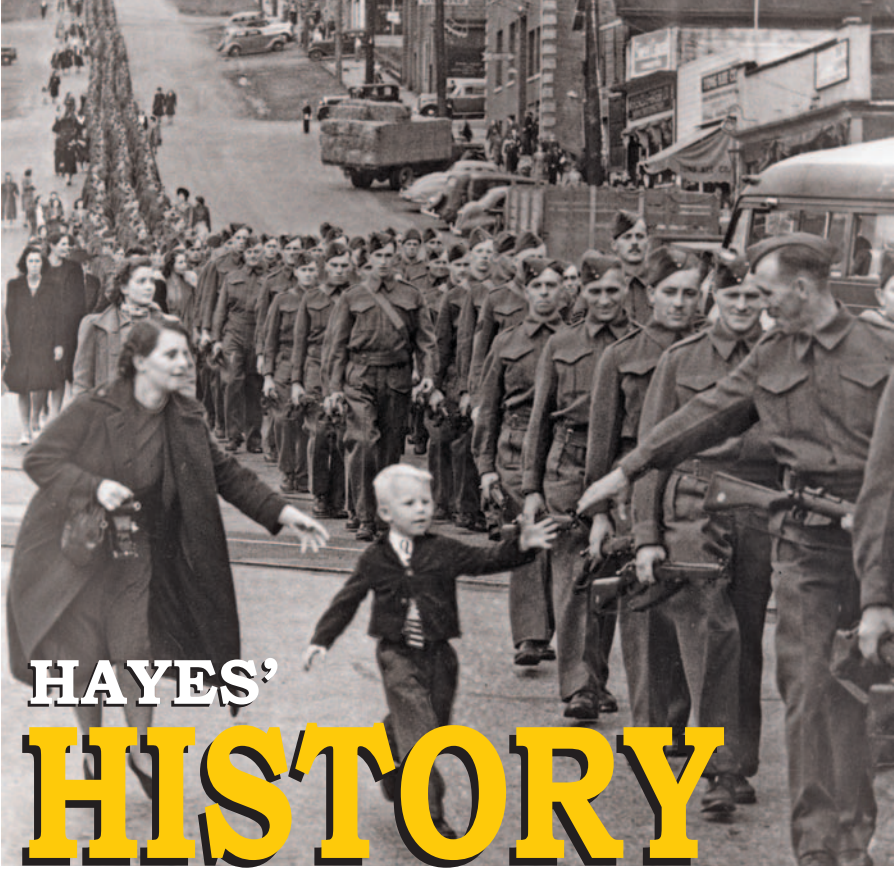
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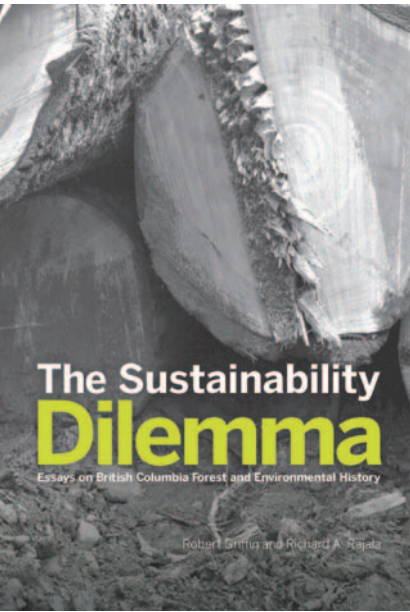
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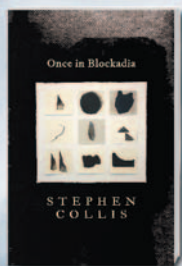


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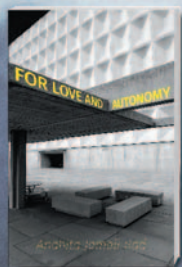


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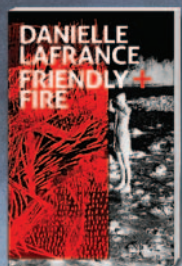


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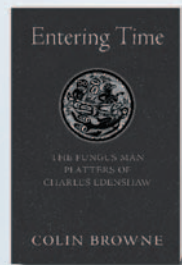


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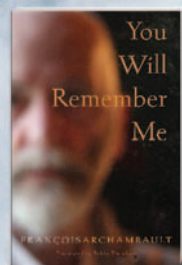


In A Blue Moon

LUCIA FRANGIONE

When Frankie's dad dies, her mom, Ava, can't afford to live in the city anymore. The only asset they're left with is a farmhouse and twenty acres outside of town. Ava decides to move there and start an Ayurveda clinic on the property, providing her precocious and grieving daughter a new start. The only problem is a squatter who won't leave.

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Carmen returns home to convince Manon, her sister, to end ten years of mourning the death of their parents, Léopold and Marie-Louise. Past and present mingle as the two daughters struggle to reconcile events preceding the fatal car crash. Cast of 3 women and 1 man.

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Squamish Nation elder **Mazie Baker**, *Yenyansemaat-t*, fought for Indigenous women's rights.

A MAZIE GRACE

The mother of powwow revivalist **Gloria Nahanee**, **Mazie Baker** overcame illiteracy to stand up for families.

The Amazing Mazie Baker
The Squamish Nation's
Warrior Elder by Kay Johnston
(Caitlin Press \$24.95)

IN 2003 KAY JOHNSTON co-wrote *Spirit of Powwow* with **Gloria Nahanee** 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 Nahanee'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 Nahanee 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**, did the Squamish songs and dances..."

Those powwows disappeared for 30 years until Nahanee 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**.



Kay Johnston

AT AGE SIX, IN 1937, MAZIE Baker was taken away by police and forced to attend the St. Paul's Indian Residential School operated by Order of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate from 1899 to 1958. Situated on Keith Road in North Vancouver (where St. Thomas Aquinas School now stands), it was torn down in 1959.

At St. Paul's, Mazie endured months of beatings, malnourishment and lice infestations before her family retrieved her from the Catholic school and fled with her siblings across the U.S. border. Following World War II, the family returned to the Capilano Re-



Mazie had the guts to question how the male leadership of the Squamish Nation was handling \$32 million per year.

serve. Mazie worked for eleven years packing salmon in a cannery. She married **Alvie Baker** and raised nine children.

Gradually, like her daughter, Mazie Baker reconnected with her Squamish identity and began to speak out against corrupt leadership in her community. She fought for the rights of Indigenous women who were denied status and property rights, advocating for families in need.

Kay Johnston first met Mazie Baker in 1999 while writing *Spirit of Powwow* with

Baker's daughter, Gloria Nahanee.

"I WAS TAKING PHOTOS to illustrate the book when I wandered over to the longhouse on the Capilano Reserve where food was being sold," Johnston recalls. "Finally it was my turn and I had a piece of fresh, warm bannock in my hand. It had definitely been worth the wait. When I caught up with Gloria later and told her the bannock was wonderful, she smiled and said, 'My mom makes it. Go over

to her house and get a picture of her making it for the book.'

"I arrived to find this tiny woman in her kitchen looking like a ghost: her clothes, hands, face and hair were all dusted with flour. She was surrounded by frying pans, mixing bowls, bags of flour, boxes and piles of fresh bannock, and the place was humming as she and two helpers ran an assembly line with a driver waiting for all the boxes to be filled to make the next "bannock run" to the powwow. To my amazement thousands

of pieces of bannock were made in that tiny kitchen over the three days of the powwow.

"When her husband died in 1993, the bottom had fallen out of her world, but his death became the catalyst for a life-changing decision: she would plunge more deeply into politics, especially Native women's rights.

"She was joined in her crusades by her niece, **Wendy Lundberg Lockhart**, and together they became a formidable team. Ultimately, with massive support from the people, they orchestrated the defeat of their chiefs' and councillors' plans for self-government, causing ripples of shock across the country."



OVER FIVE YEARS OF TALKING Kay Johnston and Mazie Baker became close friends. They 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 Nahanee**, **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 to be called her 'sister,'" says Johnston, "and named as an honorary pall bearer at her funeral."

978-1-987915-06-8



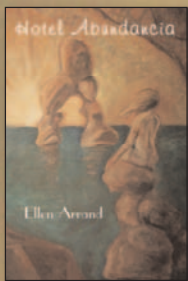
ALSO RELEASED BY CAITLIN PRESS IS **Not My Fate: The Story of a Nisga'a Survivor** (\$24.95) in which **Janet Romain** recounts the life story of her friend, **Josephine (Jo) Caplin** who overcame maternal abandonment, alcoholism and epileptic seizures.

After Caplin was removed as a third grader from the care of her father, brother and uncle due to alcoholism in the family, she endured foster homes without any family contact until age fourteen. Burdened by symptoms of fetal alcohol syndrome and abuse by sadistic men, Caplin was nonetheless determined to decide her own fate and not be a victim.

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

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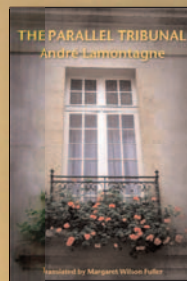


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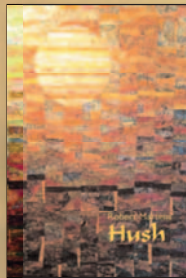
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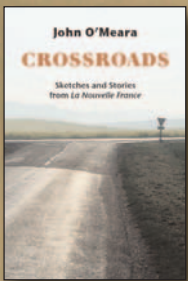
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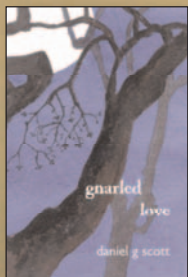
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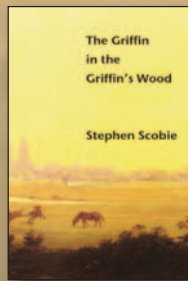
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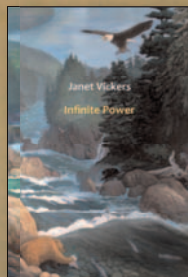
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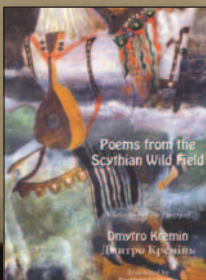


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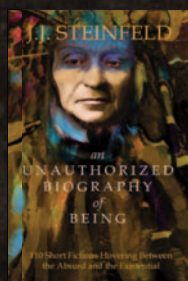
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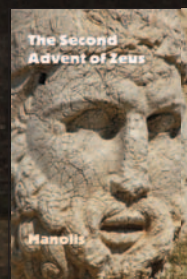
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STEALING THE FLOOR

Alban Goulden writes with a fire and vitality that belies his age.

As If (stories)
by Alban Goulden (Anvil \$18)

IN 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.

More fiction ahead in 2017

BRITISH COLUMBIA REMAINS A HOTBED for fiction. **Our Spring FICTION ISSUE** will highlight more than thirty new fiction titles from B.C. authors, such as **Gail Anderson-Dargatz** (*below*), **Ann Eriksson**, **Roy Innes** and **Steven Price**.



You can also find critical reviews of B.C. fiction posted by *The Ormsby Review* on BCBookLook.com

From the little lies in 'Joy' to sudden loss in 'As If,' to Mr. Jimmy in 'The Painted Hand,' Goulden looks at all the ways one's world can collapse. Each story works to steal the floor out from under its protagonist, with little or no warning, giving the overall impression that there's no such thing as sure footing in this world.

978-1-77214-048-4

James Paley is a graduate of Douglas College's Professional Communication program.

my hands are solar panels
to praise and release
I am reaching deep
inside healing
feeling the burn

These poems are new and fresh but also the continuation of a very long conversation, and Rogers has that gifted sort of voice and brilliant perspective that weave together rhyme and reason. She sings, she challenges, she rips open the world and shows us something better. Her rhythm is resolute. Her words are smoke that rises above the fray.

—Katherena Vermette, Governor General Award-winning author of *North End Love Songs* and Governor General Award finalist for *The Break*.

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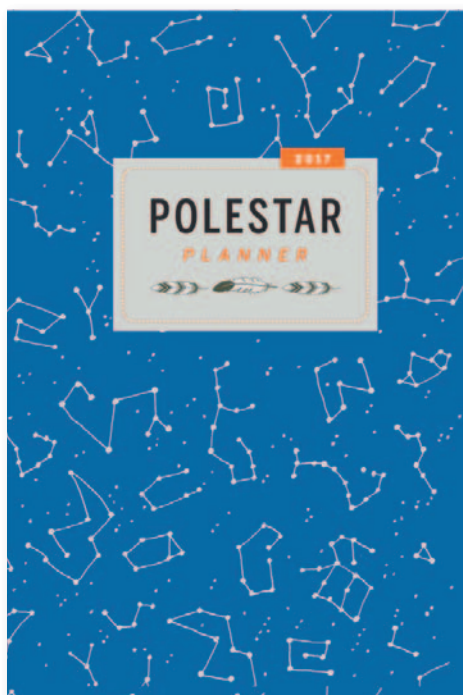
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“Clea Young's intelligent stories sparkle with life... clever and imaginative, an absolutely addictive read.”

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"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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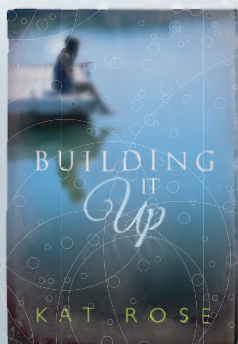
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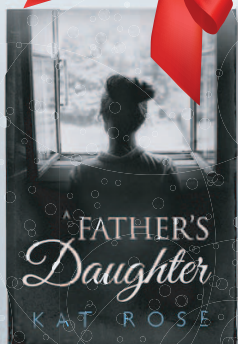
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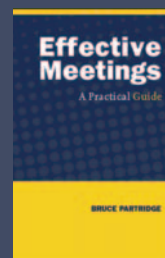
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The Defiant Mind: Living Inside A Stroke by Ron Smith
(Ronsdale Press \$22.95)

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 it's 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 on the right side of his body, depression, constant fatigue and untold tears.

At first he couldn't communicate; his voice sounding like he was, "chewing on a mouthful of rubber bands." He describes feeling absent from his own body, becoming "a shadow being" like something his archaeologist daughter might dig up.

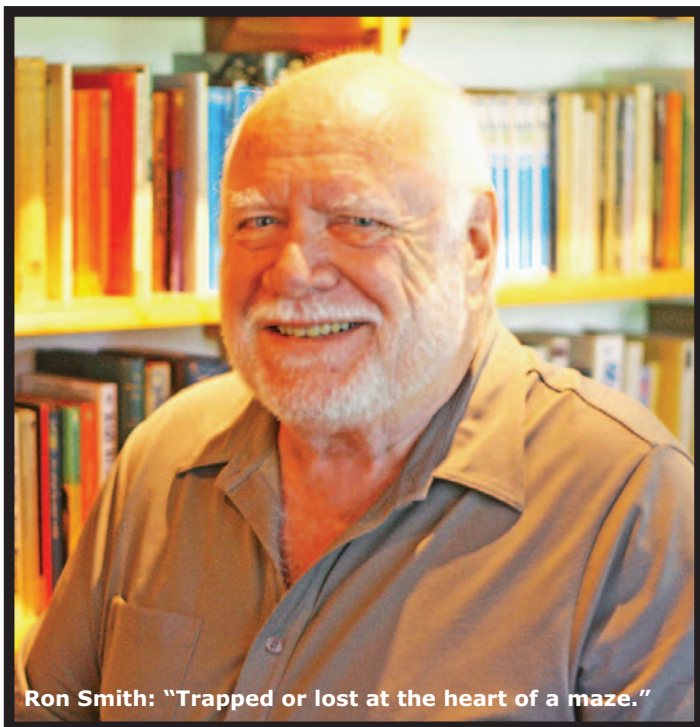
Family and friends figure prominently in *The Defiant Mind*. The power of being told you're going to get better, and that you're loved, cannot be overstated. They helped Smith feel human again.

Like many people, he shrugged off the early warning signs. Light headedness, vertigo, a collapse on the golf course and a growing weakness on one side of his body were self-diagnosed as the flu.

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.

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 full 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 spiralling 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, music and paintings. Banned from solid foods until he could swallow safely, his hunger triggered memories of travels to Spain, France and Morocco as a young man on a puny budget.

"Who we are and what we do is fundamentally a function of memory," he writes.

While physical needs were met by health care professionals, his mental needs were not. They didn't know what was going on inside his head.

No one knew what caused the stroke or if it would happen again. Smith felt inner chaos (extreme sensitivity to sound and light), pain and spasticity, fear (am I dying?), anxieties (will I be disabled?) and loneliness.

"...my body felt weighed down, like a tree branch bent low to the ground after a heavy snowfall, and my brain was in free fall, rapidly losing touch with thoughts and images that connected me to the familiar. How I longed to kick my way through a pile of leaves and stare up through the bony shapes of maple and alder trees at the winter sky."



IN *THE DEFIANT MIND*, RON SMITH explores new research around

memory and brain plasticity which is the brain's power to regenerate pathways. He 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 in hindsight says he should have taken note of symptoms sooner and dialed 911:

"Had I used common sense," he says, "I could have prevented myself years of unnecessary grief."

A stroke is the leading cause of disability in North America.

78-1-55380-480-2

Mark Forsythe is co-author of *The BC Almanac Book of Greatest British Columbians*.

What Pauline couldn't say

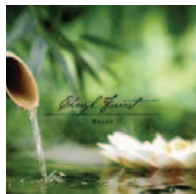
Janet Rogers, according to **George Elliott Clarke**, parliamentary poet laureate (2016-17), "is as fearless as an eagle feather and as forensic as a tomahawk. This Indigenous Canadian poet says what **E. Pauline Johnson** (Tekahionwake) wanted to say, but couldn't, because the time wasn't ripe, a century back, for a voice that is unhindered by politeness 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. "Goes to show you the spirit of creation is a force much greater than ourselves."



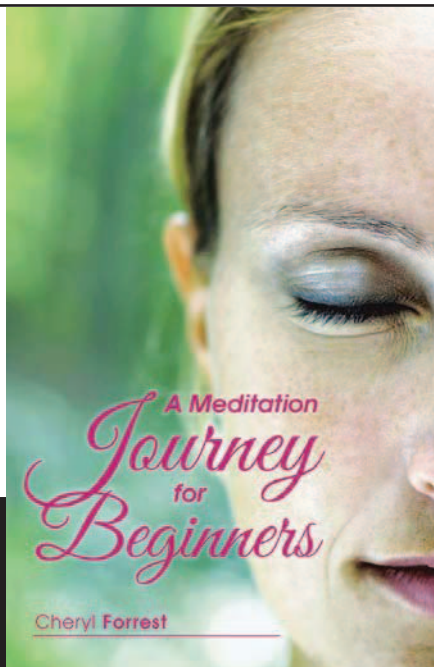
Janet Rogers

The musical evening was followed by a conventional book launch at Type Books on Queen Street. With her playful earthiness, she told her AGO audience after one of her poems, "I didn't mean to get sexy on you, but I went ahead and got sexy on ya."

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LOOKING BACK

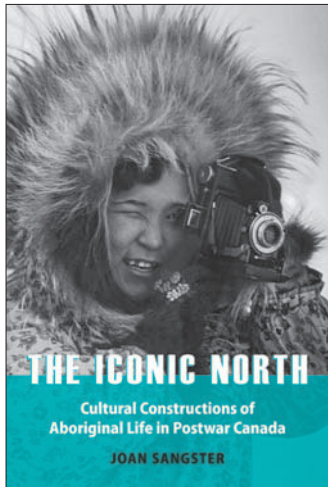
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JOAN SANGSTER

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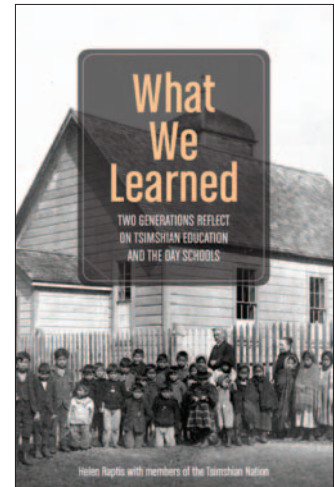
What We Learned

Two Generations Reflect on Tsimshian Education and the Day Schools

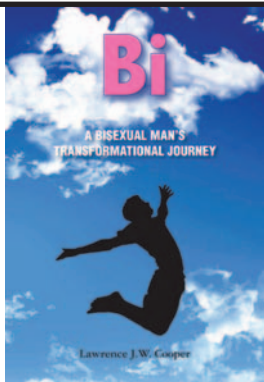
HELEN RAPTIS WITH MEMBERS OF THE TSIMSHIAN NATION

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thought that counts



On the outside he seemed to have it all, a happy marriage and family life, a successful career as an educational psychologist, and respect in his community, but on the inside he was slowly falling apart: he was gay.

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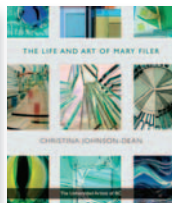
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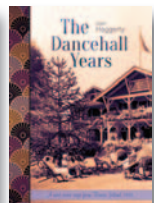
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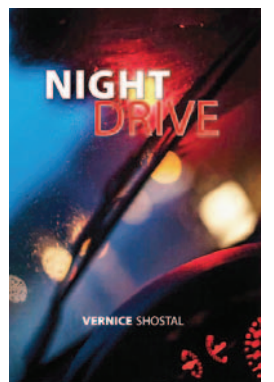


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Stepping Stones
by Margriet Ruurs (Orca \$20)

ON A CHILLY AND overcast October morning, as the Skeena Queen pulls into Saltspring's Fulford Harbour, **Margriet Ruurs** is waiting 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.

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 father heaves a heavy load behind them. Small stone figures are running for safety as bombs fall overhead. They

WALKING FROM SYRIA TO EUROPE

Stone art depicts one family's plight.

are migrants.

Captivated, Ruurs set out to contact the artist who could generate such heart-rending images from mere pebbles. The artist, **Nizar Ali Badr**, was telling the stories of his people, forced to flee a land besieged by civil war, struggling to cross borders with their families and health intact.

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-deep into bringing a refugee family to Canada with his wife, **Avril**. One dollar from the sale of each book would go to supporting refugee resettlement organizations across North America; Ruurs would donate her royalties in their entirety.

Ruurs was intentionally

spare in her storytelling for *Stepping Stones*, leaving geography out of it and focusing instead on the plight of all those who are forced to flee their home countries, with translation assistance from **Falah Raheem**.

With only what they can carry, Rama and her family flee their once-peaceful village to escape civil war. Including her grandfather and brother, Rama's family is hoping to walk to freedom in Europe.

"I wanted to make the story more universal," says Ruurs. "These stories of refugees, their experiences—it's always happening somewhere. Two years from now, in another part of the world, the story will be the same."

Even though *Stepping Stones* has emanated from the grim plight of Syrians, it does so in a hopeful, forward-looking way. Despite the harsh realities of refugees meeting with closed borders, chain-

link fences and overcrowded camps, Ruurs chose to leave the ending light.

"I wrote it for my grandson," she says, "as a way of sharing with him my message that we need to help each other. I am here because, in World War II, the Americans and Canadians helped us. Countries that are currently living in peace need to help others that are not."

★

MARGRIET RUURS WAS BORN IN THE Netherlands in 1952. She learned English at age nineteen. 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, *Kidswwrite* 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.

9781459814905

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



Cover art from *Seeking Refuge*

Migrating alone

BORN IN BERLIN IN 1931, **IRENE Watts** was brought to Great Britain as a child via Kindertransport. It was a rescue movement that moved 10,000 mainly Jewish children out of Nazi Germany, Austria, Poland and Czechoslovakia, starting in 1938. None were accompanied by their parents.

Watts immigrated to Alberta in 1968. Thirty years later her story *Good-Bye Marianne*, about an eleven-year-old named Marianne Kohn who leaves Germany in 1938, won the Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction.

Ten years after that, illustrator **Kathryn E. Shoemaker** co-authored *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.

9781926890029

Victoria Book Prizes



Dawn Green (left) with Bolen Books' Samantha Holmes

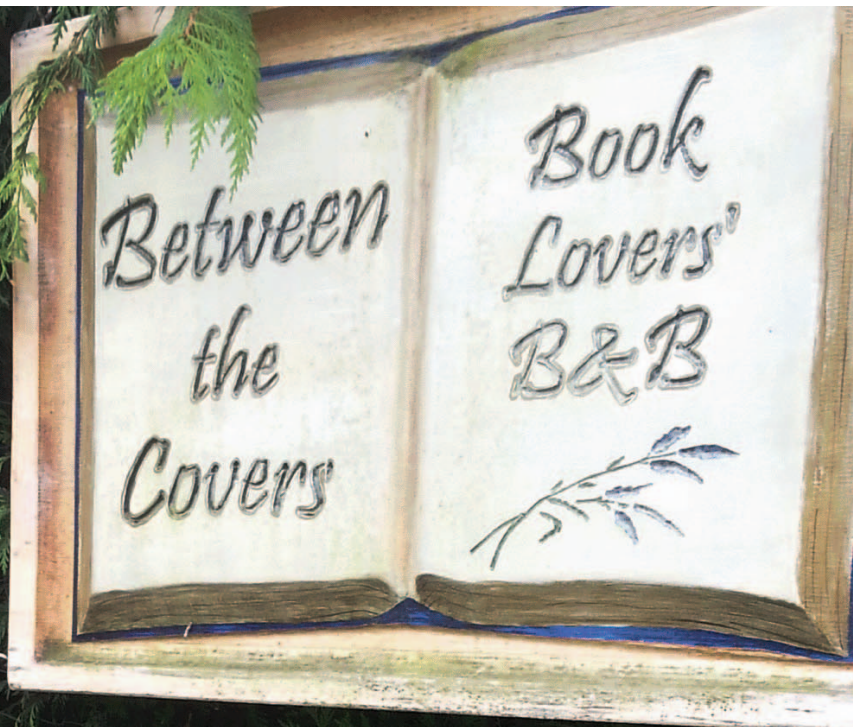
DAWN GREEN'S IN THE SWISH (Red Deer Press) won the \$5,000 Bolen Books Children's Book Prize at the Victoria Book Prizes gala in October.

It's the story of a talented basketballer, Bennett Ryan, who, in her last year of high school, has to switch schools. She must make friends with the team she helped defeat the year before. A new friend is on the autism spectrum and many of her new teammates are from different cultures. Ryan has to face her old team in the process.

Dawn Green is a high school Spanish and English teacher, a basketball coach, and a volunteer with Special Olympics B.C.



ALEX VAN TOL



"I am here because, in World War II, the Americans and Canadians helped us."

MARGRIET RUURS

ALEX VAN TOL PHOTO

ROUND-UP

Gary Geddes

Geddes & Thanh at Galiano Literary Festival

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 Victoria 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 Unbundled: 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 usu-



Yasuko Thanh

ally run for 50% of the cost for 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.

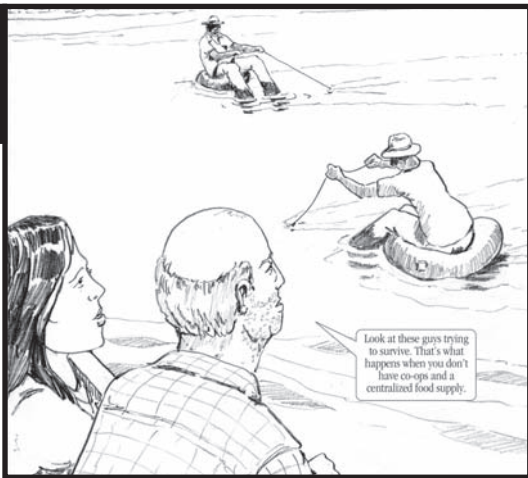
The hospitals, in cahoots with residential schools, were responsible for forced sterilizations, gratuitous drug and surgical experiments, and electric shock treatment to destroy the short-term memory of sexual abuse. Geddes claims, "The big presses [in Ontario] all said this is a great idea and an important project, but they wouldn't 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. Medicine: 978-1772031645

Post-Apocalypse now

AS 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 Press / 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 the trail of a murderer in a ruined landscape. Sort of like *Walking Dead Lite* meets **Raymond Chandler** meets cautionary environmentalism. You can't say it ain't original.

The genesis, according to Kluckner, was a trip to Cuba in 2012 mixed with the onslaught of news stories about humans wrecking the planet. Impressed by Cuban propaganda, Kluckner created a charismatic Great Helmsman along the lines of **Castro** or **Mao**, only his dictator is a Sensei, whose strict environmental laws, including population



MICHAEL KLUCKNER ILLUSTRATION

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

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." 9781988242187

I'M RIGHT AND YOU'RE AN IDIOT

GIVEN THE OBNOXIOUS MALARKEY OF **DONALD TRUMP**, IT'S HARD not to argue that the title of **James Hoggan's** long-in-progress book about the devolution of public discourse, co-written 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 stifled 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."



James Hoggan

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 savvy 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 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 over-whelmingly rich, of the corporations and the wealthy... And so it does what they want." 978-0-86571-817-3

FINDING THE WORDS by Inge Israel

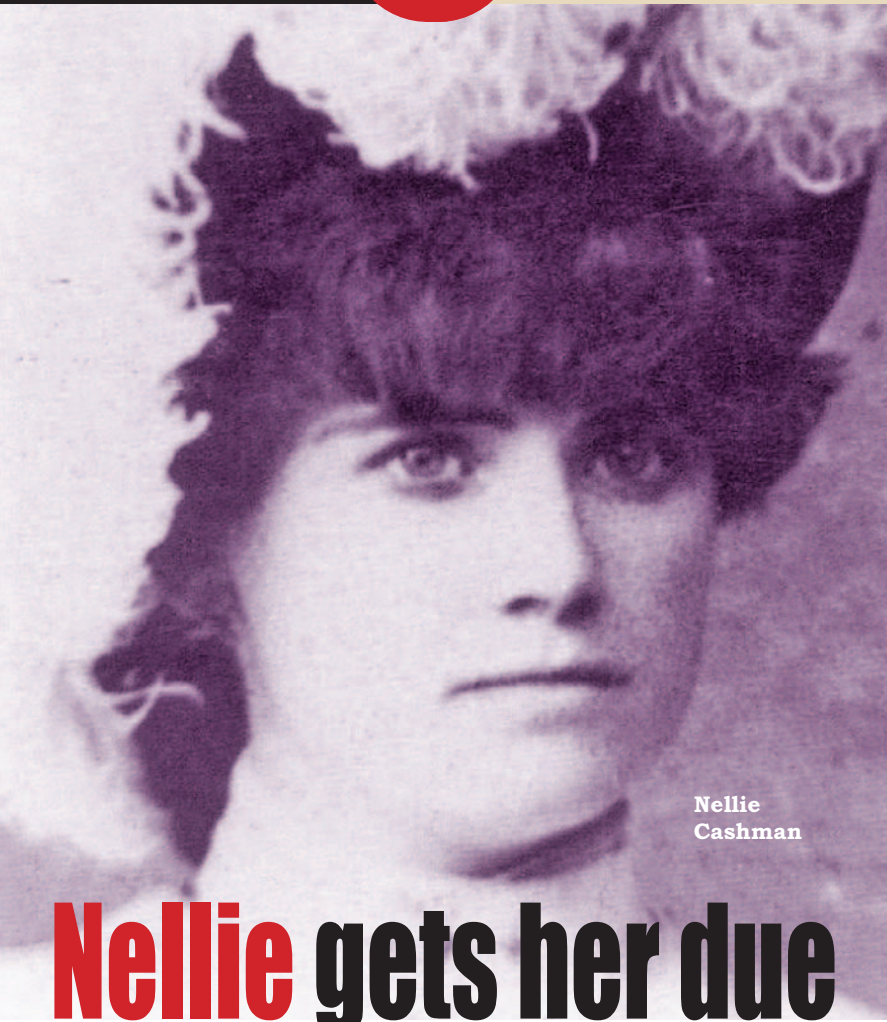
In her latest book, *Finding the Words*, **Inge Israel** recalls with humour and poignancy the events and people who helped shape her life. Her Russian mother and Polish father met in Siberia then settled in Germany where Inge was born. Fleeing the Nazis, the family escaped to Belgium, France, then Ireland.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



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Inge Israel, Copenhagen, 1948

ROUND-UP



Nellie
Cashman

Nellie gets her due

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** (Touch-Wood \$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.

One of her famous feats was hiking into northern B.C.’s Dease Lake under frigid winter conditions to get to the Cassiar mining area where miners were trapped without sufficient food and dying of scurvy. It took Cashman and six men she hired 77 days to get to the mining site, each on snowshoes pulling a laden sled because the snow was too soft and deep for dogs. They were just in time to save most of the miners.

This story passed into legend and Cashman was frequently referred to thereafter as the ‘Angel of the Cassiar.’ Cashman remained tough into her later years and at the age of 77, she

earned the title of champion musher of the North. She died in the St. Joseph’s Hospital in Victoria from double pneumonia.

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. 978-1-77151-159-9



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.

978-0-9880387-2-1



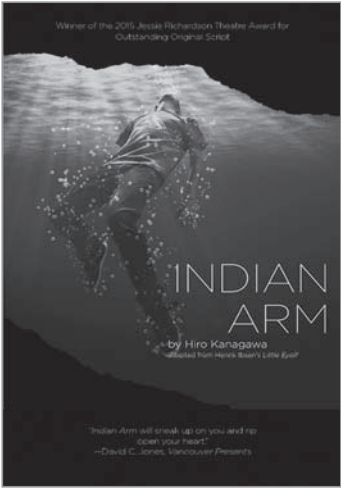
IVAN E. COYOTE HAS INCREASINGLY INCORPORATED music into their public appearances and encouraged the use of the pronoun ‘their’ in place of the gender-specific ‘her’ or ‘his.’ As well, Coyote has become a community leader and a role model for LGBTQ constituents, frequently providing heartfelt advice and 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.

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

ADAM PW SMITH PHOTO



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Kris Krug

Dreams & smiles

I’VE BEEN DREAMING OF BEING ON THE COVER on *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 Book-Thug!

Chelene Knight
Vancouver



A HUGE THANK YOU FOR THE VERY STRIKING Moby Doll cover for the BC Ferries print run. Mark Leiren-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

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.

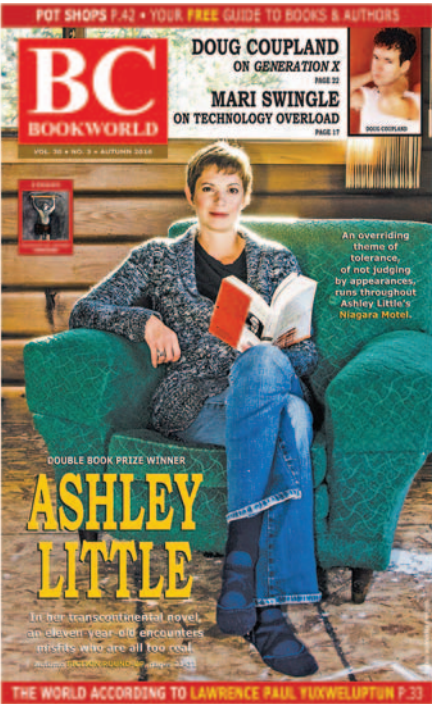
Shelley Hrdlitschka
North Vancouver

Site C-eeing

YEARS AGO, WHEN CLIMATE CHANGE DISCUSSIONS were done in a whisper, a good friend on Salt Spring Island bought enough copies of Robert Hunter’s book on the subject to gift every MP in Canada. She drove across Canada to deliver the books personally.

Now we have the Site C dam looming. The new book *The Peace in Peril* should be hand-delivered to Premier Christy Clark, her cabinet and the Trudeau government now that they’ve issued two permits to proceed.

Rosemary Baxter
Courtenay



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 Purtell
Sechelt



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



Literary Map of B.C.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR LITERARY LANDMARKS initiative. If he is not yet under consideration, I wanted to suggest George Fetherling. As for the associated location of the plaque, I think the Sylvia Hotel would be the perfect location.

Harry Karlinsky
Vancouver

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

Kelp help

I ALWAYS ENJOY YOUR INFORMATIVE AND entertaining publication. But, regarding 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 2 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.

(The 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 enthusing. 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.

Jayne Seagrave
Vancouver

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Letters may be edited for clarity & length.

Literary Landmarks: Sylvia Hotel

Then more permanent plaques have been erected around Vancouver by the Vancouver Public Library in association with *BCBW’s* Literary Map of B.C. With more than 190 allocations to date, the on-line project has most recently accorded a designation for prolific man-of-letters **George Fetherling** at the Sylvia Hotel, 1154 Gilford Street, on English Bay near Stanley Park. The ivy-clad Sylvia Hotel is where literati over decades (including **Malcolm Lowry**, **Earle Birney** and legendary M&S publisher **Jack McClelland**) have chosen to imbibe or stay. It’s also a favoured haunt of Fetherling’s who has lived nearby since 2000. In 2010, he published *The Sylvia Hotel Poems* (Quattro Books). Fetherling writes: “The Sylvia Hotel is a cherished eight-storey Vancouver landmark that might, in general terms, be compared to the Chelsea in New York or the Chateau Marmont in Hollywood... The beach can be viewed from the big windows in the Sylvia’s storied bar, which in 1954 became the first American-style cocktail lounge in Vancouver and which some patrons treat as though it were their office or house of worship. “Like so many of the city’s most comfortable buildings, the hotel was built in 1911, the year that the great Vancouver real estate bubble was about to burst,



Sylvia Hotel, Vancouver

as British capital was redirected to other opportunities. Originally it was a block of flats called the Sylvia Court Apartments, named for the owner’s young daughter, **Sylvia Goldstein**, who lived until 2002, aged 102 (whereupon the flag on the roof was flown at half staff). In 1936, during the Depression, it was made into an apartment-hotel. Only during the Second World War, when it was a haunt of merchant seamen, was it carved up into more or less standard hotel rooms. There are 120 of them in all, including a few that are actually small suites and the two so-called coffin rooms, which are tiny spaces left over when the floor space was reapportioned. It is an independent family-owned hotel and most certainly not a subscriber to any chain aesthetic. The property has been husbanded carefully. It is, however, proudly old-fashioned, resolutely more economical than most hotels that are larger, and indescribably cozy, in a bohemian sort of way. Its policy of accepting dogs as guests probably helps account for the patronage of numerous middle-class English couples of mature years. They co-exist uneasily with the artists and journalists who cause them to wander about looking slightly perplexed... The bar was one of the last spots visited in the life of **Errol Flynn**, who died in a West End apartment in 1959.” Next to be added: **Ivan E. Coyote** Visit The Literary Map of B.C. at www.literarymapofbc.ca

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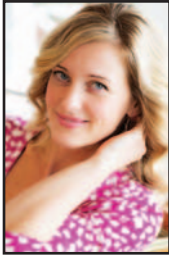


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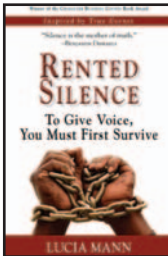
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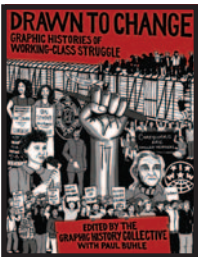
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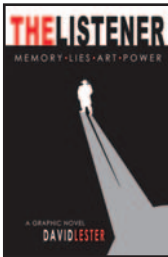


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Jim Douglas, with his wife Heather, upon receiving the Order of Canada.

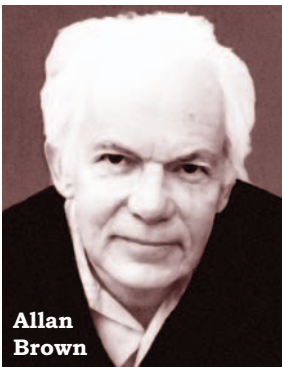
JIM DOUGLAS, publisher (1924-2016)
Jim Douglas founded J.J. Douglas in 1970 as a national book distributor, and entered the publishing field by releasing a cookbook. From this modest beginning the company evolved to the forefront of publishing books about First Nations, as well as guidebooks and histories. J.J. Douglas became Douglas & McIntyre in 1979.

ALLAN BROWN, poet (1934-2016)
Longtime Powell River resident and teacher, Allan Brown published a poet since 1962, including *Winter Journey* (Quarry Press, 1984), *Divinations* (Ekstasis Editions, 1998), and *Before the Dark* (Leaf 2014).

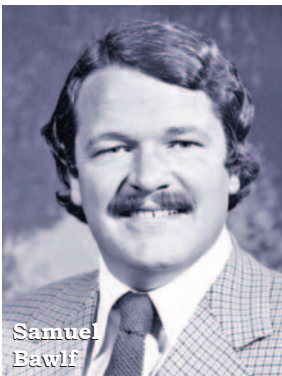
SAMUEL BAWLF, historian (1944-2016)
Samuel Bawlf of Salt Spring Island was a former Social Credit cabinet minister who later published a bestselling biography of Sir Francis Drake in 2004.

CAT MAJORS, poet (1956-2016)
Born in Montreal, Cat Majors moved to Vancouver, becoming a fixture in the 1970s art scene as a performance poet at the Literary Storefront.

For full obituaries, see ABCBookWorld.com



Allan Brown



Samuel Bawlf



Cat Majors, with bill bissett at the Western Front, Vancouver, 2015.

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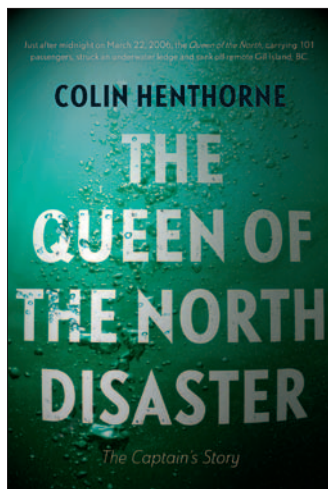
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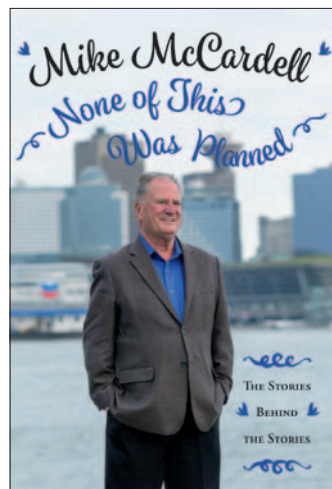


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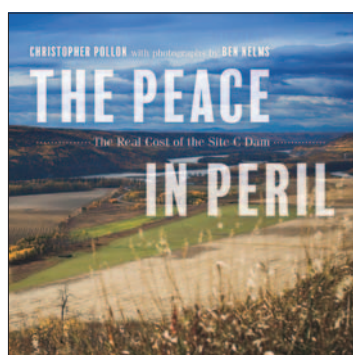


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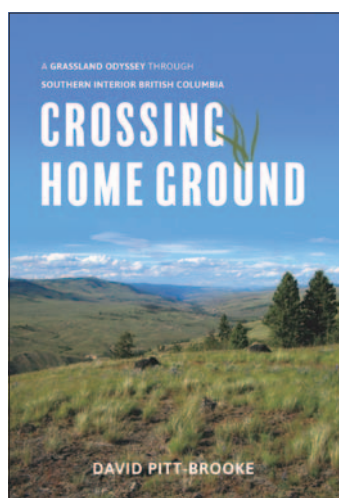


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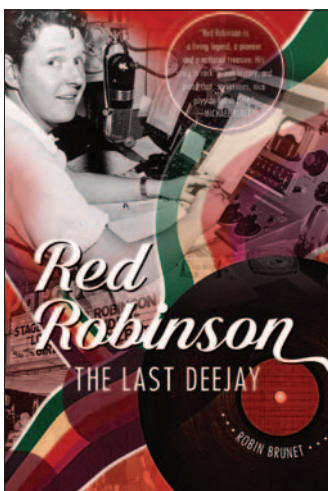


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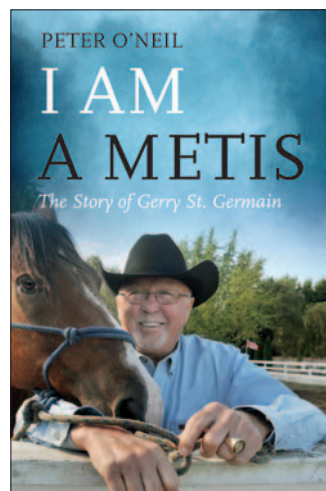


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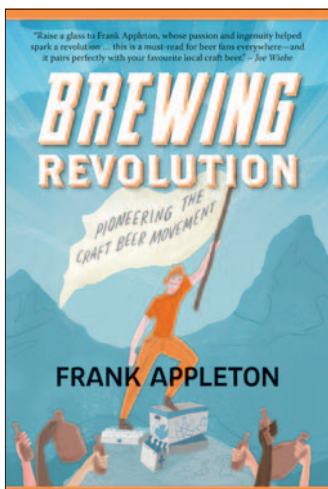


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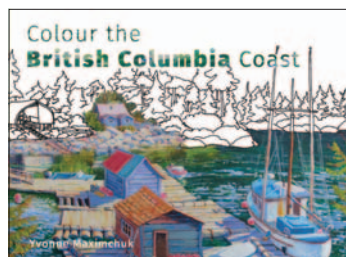


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