

BC

BOOKWORLD

VOL. 31 • NO. 2 • SUMMER 2017

TANYA
LLOYD KYI

Eyes and Spies
on the web

PAGE 35



Tanya Lloyd Kyi

WADE'S WORLD

Three million people have seen **Wade Davis'** five TED Talks.
Now the public is invited to hear the National Geographic explorer in person.
He will accept the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness
at the Vancouver Public Library for **Wade Davis: Photographs**.

See pages 22-23



Placid Kindata

HELP US HELP A VILLAGE IN AFRICA P.37

RESOLUTE



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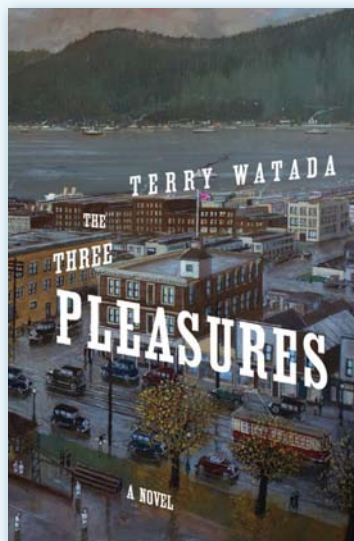


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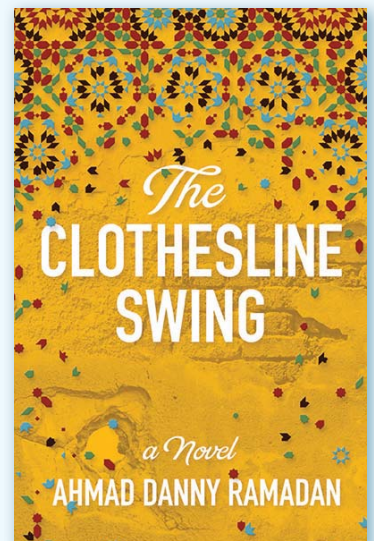
A SHORT SAD BOOK
by George Bowering
New Star Books



THE THREE PLEASURES
by Terry Watada
Anvil Press



**TIMBERTOWN TALES:
CHESTER GETS A PET!**
by Judson Beaumont with
Joanna Karaplis, illustrated by
Breanna Cheek
McKellar & Martin
Publishing Group



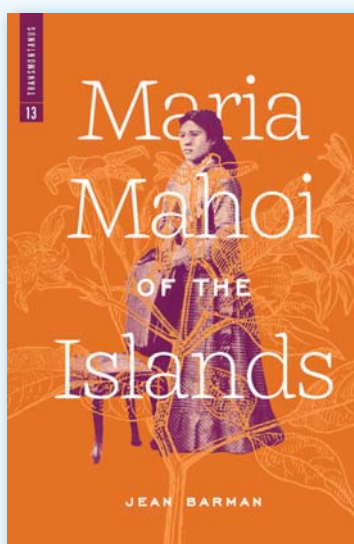
THE CLOTHESLINE SWING
by Ahmad Danny Ramadan
Nightwood Editions



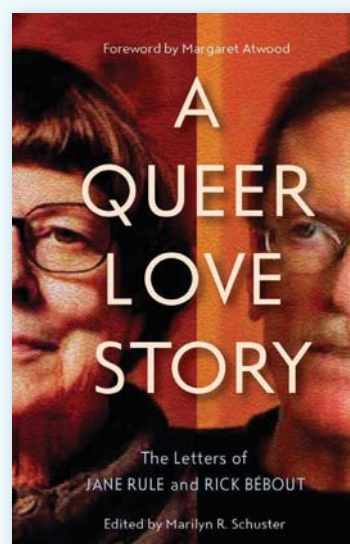
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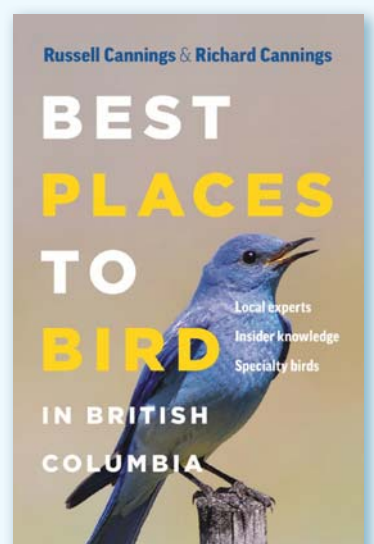
**MY HEART FILLS
WITH HAPPINESS**
by Monique Gray Smith,
illustrated by Julie Flett
Orca Book Publishers



**MARIA MAHOI
OF THE ISLANDS**
by Jean Barman
New Star Books



A QUEER LOVE STORY
**The Letters of Jane Rule and
Rick Bébout**
edited by Marilyn R. Schuster
UBC Press



**BEST PLACES TO BIRD IN
BRITISH COLUMBIA**
by Russell Cannings
and Richard Cannings
Greystone Books

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TOPSELLERS*

Lynn McCarron
British Columbia Lullaby
(Sandhill Book Marketing \$12.95)

Pat Carney
On Island: Life Among the Coast Dwellers
(TouchWood Editions \$22.95)

Richard Wagamese
Embers: One Ojibway's Meditations
(D&M \$18.95)



John Armstrong
A Series of Dogs
(New Star \$21)

Roy Henry Vickers & Robert Budd
Hello Humpback!
(Harbour \$9.95)

Alice Jane Hamilton
Finding John Rae
(Ronsdale Press \$21.95)

Margriet Ruurs & Nizar Ali Badr
Stepping Stones:
A Refugee Family's Journey
(Orca \$20)

Marilyn Schuster, ed.
A Queer Love Story: The Letters
of Jane Rule and Rick B  bout
(UBC Press \$50)



Sage Birchwater

Sage Birchwater
Chilcotin Chronicles:
Stories of Adventure and Intrigue from
British Columbia's Central Interior
(Caitlin \$26.95)

Carleigh Baker
Bad Endings
(Anvil Press \$18)

Joel Solomon
The Clean Money Revolution
(New Society \$29.99)

Deborah Griffiths
The Grant Writing & Funding Coach:
Target & Acquire the Funds You Need
(Self-Counsel Press \$17.95)

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



Eve Lazarus
Blood, Sweat, and
Fear: The Story of
Inspector Vance,
Vancouver's
First Forensic
Investigator
(Arsenal Pulp Press
\$21.95)

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

PEOPLE

A collage by
Terri-Lynn Williams Davidson
from her *Out of Concealment*.



HAIDA WAYS

Surreal images accompany Haida artist **Terri-Lynn Williams-Davidson's** new book **Out of Concealment: Female Supernatural Beings of Haida Gwaii** (Heritage \$29.95), a book of origin stories. In more than 30 photo collages, Williams-Davidson illustrates Haida mythological beings that encourage readers to see the feminine and the powerful in land and seascapes. It is also a call to respect the environment. The book will accompany an exhibition of Williams-Davidson's art work at the Haida Gwaii Museum, opening in June. Born in Haida Gwaii and married to carver **Robert Davidson**, she is a lawyer who has represented the Haida Nation all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. In 2014, she received the West Coast Environmental Law People's Choice Andrew Thompson Award for environmental advocacy.

978-1-77203-160-7

HARASSMENT DAZE

Nicola Peffers has emerged as the lead plaintiff in a class-action lawsuit filed against the Canadian Armed Forces by a collection of sexual trauma survivors. Peffers had left the Royal Canadian Navy five years earlier after five years of service at the rank of Ordinary Seaman. In her memoir, **Refuge in the Black Deck: The Story of Ordinary Seaman Nicola Peffers** (Caitlin \$24.95), she describes feeling isolated and threatened aboard the *HCMS Winnipeg*, often taking refuge by hiding in the black deck, a dark and cramped area of the ship that nobody else wanted to visit. At age 26, having graduated near the top of her training class, she had optimistically boarded the ship in 2009, only to soon discover she would be mistreated by superiors and sexually harassed. After years of struggling with post traumatic stress, Nicola Peffers was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and put in a permanent medical category by the navy. The categorization meant that she could not be promoted or receive any more training, resulting in the end of her naval career. She was honourably discharged in 2012. 978-1-987915-43-3



Nicola Peffers

PRIZES APLENTY

Former *Vancouver Sun* dance critic and author **Max Wyman** has received a lifetime achievement award—also named in his honour—at a Vancouver Playhouse event at which **Yosef Wosk** announced his endowment of a new Max Wyman Award for Cultural Commentary. This \$5,000 biennial prize will celebrate critical writing on the arts.

★

Sculptor and writer **Carole Itter** has been selected as the 13th recipient of the \$30,000 Audain Prize for Lifetime Achievement in the Visual Arts, as selected by an independent jury.

★



Carole Itter

This year's \$2,500 BC Lieutenant Governor's Medal for historical writing has been awarded to **Anthony Kenyon** for his comprehensive, self-published *The Recorded History of the Liard Basin 1790-1910* (Fort Nelson News Ltd.). It was a runner-up for the Roderick Haig-Brown Prize earlier this year. Second prize went to Williams Lake's **Neil J. Sterritt** for *Mapping My Way Home: A Gitksan History* (Creekstone Press), the winner of the Roderick Haig-Brown Prize. **Michael Layland** took third prize for *A Perfect Eden* (Touchwood), also shortlisted for the Haig-Brown Prize and the Duthie Booksellers Choice Award.

★

The British Columbia Historical Federation introduced a new award this year, the Community History Award, and it went to *Where Mountains Meet the Sea: An Illustrated History of the District of North Vancouver* by **Daniel Francis** (Harbour).

For more news on book prize winners see pages 19-25.



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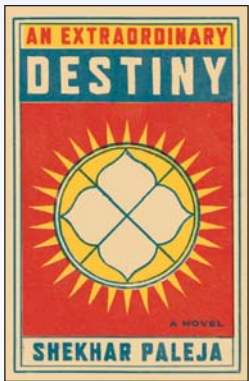
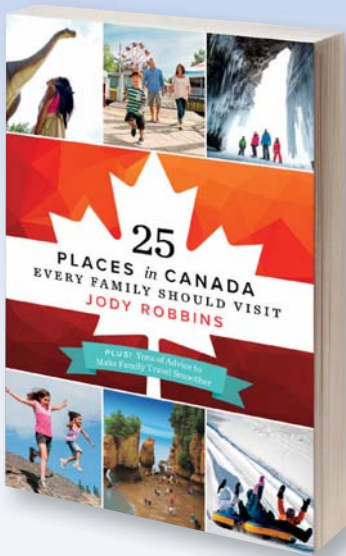
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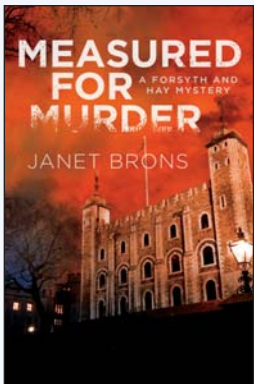
LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

25 Places in Canada Every Family Should Visit Jody Robbins

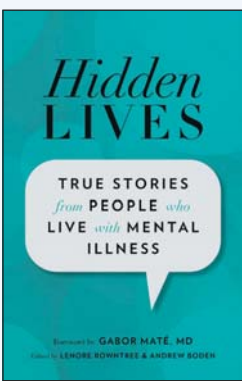
For families planning to explore Canada during the sesquicentennial anniversary celebrations, there is no better guide. Visit the 25 best destinations for all ages across Canada, starting with Victoria, Parksville–Qualicum Beach, Vancouver, and Penticton.
TouchWood Editions | \$24.95 pb | \$12.99 ebook



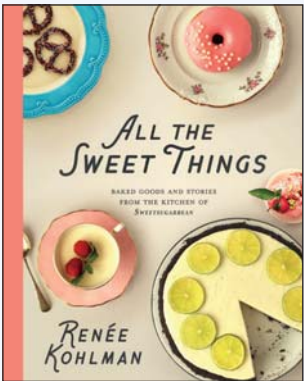
An Extraordinary Destiny
Shekhar Paleja
An intriguing and traumatic narrative interlacing three generations of an Indian family.
“Epic . . . fulfills all the checkmarks for great summer reading.” —Minelle Mahtani, *Sense of Place*, Roundhouse Radio
Brindle & Glass | \$19.95 pb | \$7.99 ebook



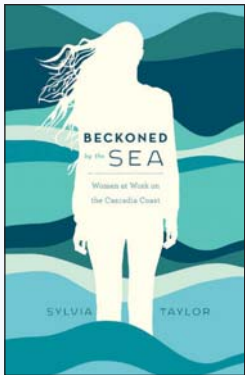
Measured for Murder
A Forsyth and Hay Mystery
Janet Brons
In the third instalment of this Arthur Ellis Award-nominated series, DCI Hay of Scotland Yard doggedly tracks a murderer targeting young women in London.
TouchWood Editions | \$14.95 pb | \$7.99 ebook



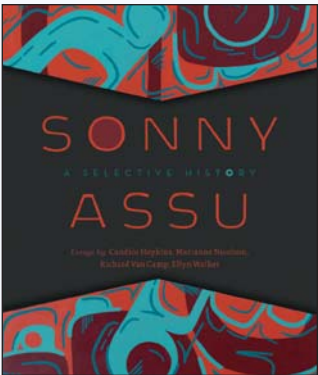
Hidden Lives
True Stories from People Who Live with Mental Illness
Edited by Lenore Rowntree and Andrew Boden
A collection of personal essays that illuminate what life is like for those who live with mental illness, and how it impacts their loved ones.
Brindle & Glass | \$19.95 pb | \$7.99 ebook



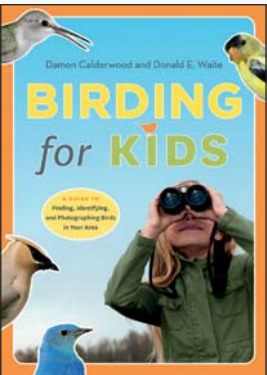
All the Sweet Things
Baked Goods and Stories from the Kitchen of Sweetsugarbean
Renée Kohlman
A collection of delicious recipes, heartwarming essays, and gorgeous food photography by one of Canada's top food bloggers.
TouchWood Editions | \$39.95 hc | \$17.99 ebook



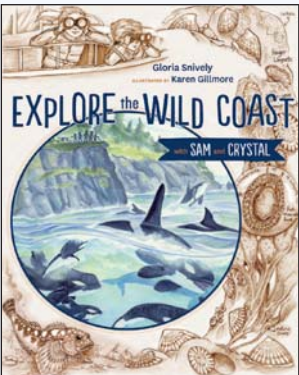
Beckoned by the Sea
Women at Work on the Cascadia Coast
Sylvia Taylor
A fascinating exploration of the lives of 24 women who work with the sea—as fishers, boat captains, engineers, artists and passionate protectors of our endangered marine resources.
Heritage House | \$19.95 pb | \$15.99 ebook



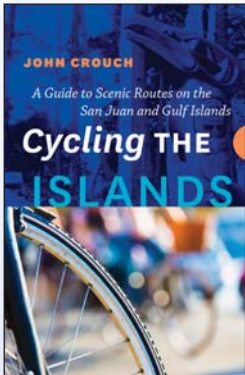
Sonny Assu
A Selective History
Sonny Assu, with Candice Hopkins, Marianne Nicolson, Richard Van Camp, and Evelyn Walker
This stunning retrospective includes over 120 full-colour works by acclaimed artist Sonny Assu, with commentary by leading observers of contemporary Indigenous art.
Heritage House | \$34.95 pb



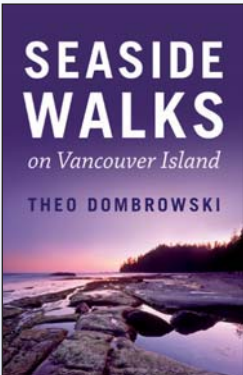
Birding for Kids
A Guide to Finding, Identifying, and Photographing Birds in Your Area
Damon Calderwood and Donald E. Waite
Filled with dozens of tips, tools and ideas, this colourful guide provides kids with everything they need to become successful birders.
Heritage House | \$14.95 pb



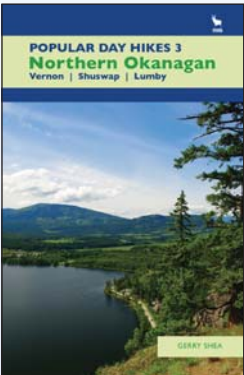
Explore the Wild Coast with Sam and Crystal
Gloria Snively; illustrated by Karen Gillmore
Children aged 8 to 11 will delight in this beautifully illustrated story about a sister and brother who learn about the marine environment while cruising the coast with their aunt and uncle.
Heritage House | \$22.95 hc



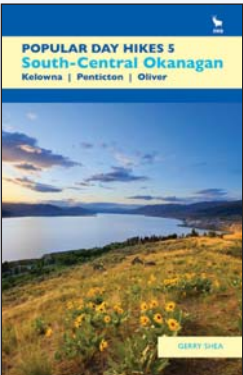
Cycling the Islands
John Crouch
The ultimate resource for cyclists looking to explore the beauty and splendour of BC's Gulf Islands and the American San Juan Islands.
RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$20 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Seaside Walks on Vancouver Island
Theo Dombrowski
This bestselling guidebook is the perfect year-round companion for those looking to explore beaches, coastal forests and seaside meadows.
RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15 pb | \$7.99 ebook



Popular Day Hikes 3
Gerry Shea
Northern Okanagan
Essential hikes stretching from Grindrod in the north to Vernon in the south, situated between the Okanagan Valley and the Shuswap.
RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15 pb | \$9.99 ebook



Popular Day Hikes 5
Gerry Shea
South-Central Okanagan
A full-colour guide with 35 accessible treks around Kelowna, Penticton, Naramata, Oliver, Osoyoos, Summerland, Peachland and Keremeos.
RMB | Rocky Mountain Books | \$15 pb | \$9.99 ebook



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A RARE HAPPY ENDING IN SYRIA



If **Donald Trump** was capable of reading a book, probably the best one to send him from among the seven that received BC Book Prizes this year would have to be **Deborah Campbell's A Disappearance in Damascus: A Story of Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War** (Knopf, 2016)

Seven years in the making, Campbell's story recalls the 2007 disappearance of her guide and friend, **Ahlam**, an undercover journalist who was forcibly taken from her home in Damascus by secret police. It has won the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize, having also received the 2017 Freedom to Read Award and the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize.

Campbell was in Syria reporting on Iraqis who had fled

their homeland after the overthrow of **Saddam Hussein**. She was also assisting in the founding of a school for displaced girls. She spent months searching for her friend, leading to a hoped-for outcome.

"There is so much to admire in the work of Deborah Campbell," wrote **George Fetherling**, one of the three Evans Prize jurors. "Whether she is writing about war artists, international care-givers, the bafflingly complex politics of nuclear arms, or the ongoing refugee crisis in the Middle East, she does not shy from controversy, and is devoted to letting all voices find a place on her page."

Of the seven B.C. Book Prizes, the Evans Prize is by far the most difficult to win because it attracts the most entries. For more on the BC Prizes, see pages 19-25. 9780345809292

THE BEAUTY BURDEN

SURELY ONE OF THE MOST HARROWING AND riveting tales of being raised by back-to-the-land idealists during the so-called counter-culture movement has to be **Cea Sunrise Person's North of Normal: A Memoir of My Wilderness Childhood, My Counterculture Family, and How I Survived Both** (HarperCollins, 2014). It took much of her adult life to get her bearings.

She was removed from the outside world and raised in a canvas tipi by her naive, teenage mother and her grandparents, Grandma Jeanne and Papa Dick. Hunting and scavenging for food, her free-range childhood left her vulnerable to abuse.

Her recovery period from adolescence to motherhood has now been outlined in a second memoir, **Nearly Normal: Surviving the Wilderness, My Family and Myself** (HarperCollins \$24.99)

Neglect and cruelties had led her to confusion: what the heck was normal? Her face led her to a modeling career at age thirteen, but what could trading on her good looks teach her?

Predators abound, in the bush or on runways, and no amount of idealistic clap-trap and self-righteous philosophizing is going to protect someone with the beauty burden.

978-1443449052

Cea Sunrise Person



Grant Lawrence

HIGHWAY HIJINKS

As a pop music aficionado, **Grant Lawrence** must have known before he decided to publish his memoir of being lead singer for his widely-travelled, never widely-touted rock band, The Smugglers, that he had some hard acts to follow. Having co-founded the Hard Rock Miners in 1987, **Michael Turner** had already set the bar high with *Hard Core Logo* (Arsenal, 1993, 2009), later made into a movie. **John Armstrong's Guilty Of Everything** (New Star, 2001) was shortlisted for a B.C. Book Prize for recalling his exploits as Buck Cherry in Vancouver's old-school punk scene with The Modernettes. And Lawrence would have been aware of the shadow cast by D.O.A. frontman **Joe Keithley's** memoir *I, Shithead* (Arsenal, 2004), now into its third printing. The good news is Lawrence's reworking of his tour diaries for **Dirty Windshields: The Best and Worst of the Smugglers Tour Diaries** (D&M \$26.95) contains some of the best and funniest writing you're going to find just about anywhere. Of course, there's no shortage of dismal circumstances and raucous tomfoolery, but Lawrence's description of the band's arrival in Los Angeles during the aftermath of race riots, in response to the acquittal of police for beating **Rodney King**, is riveting. "Los Angeles reeked. The stench was a disturbing combination of exhaust fumes, campfire smoke and burning plastic..."

Dirty Windshields cannot be dismissed as a paean to boy-band glory days; it's a finely edited, very smart and wholesome *On The Road*. Okay, so **Jack Kerouac** didn't come home to his doting Mom and Dad, but Lawrence has his own style, his own adventures. The Smugglers never topped the charts but this writing deserves a chorus of praise.

978-1-77162-148-9

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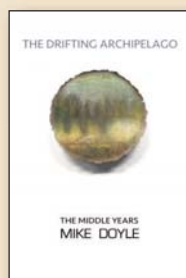
The Drifting Archipelago

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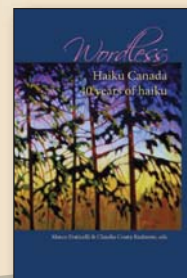
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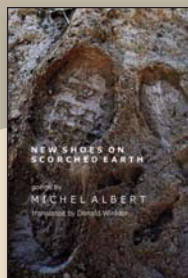
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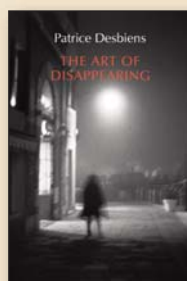
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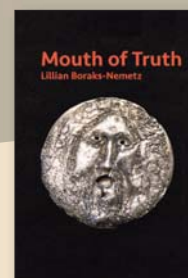
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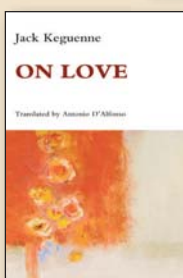
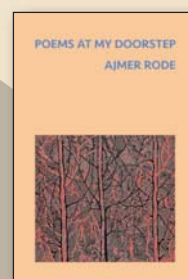
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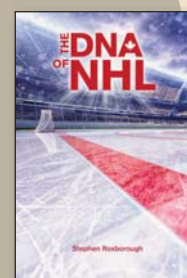
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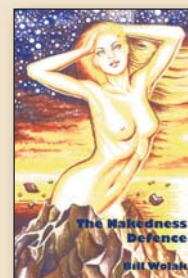
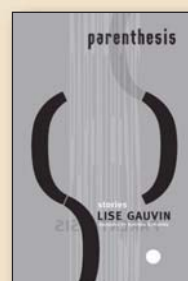
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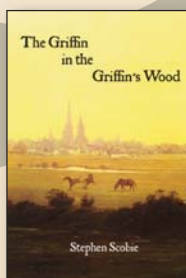
The Griffin in the Griffin's Wood

STEPHEN SCOBIE

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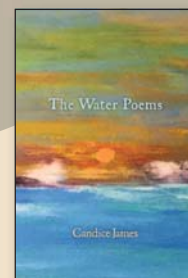
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Intrigue and heroism at the Commonwealth Games of 1954

HOW VANCOUVER CAME OF AGE

Roger Bannister surges past John Landy at Empire Stadium, Vancouver, 1954

The Miracle Mile: Stories of the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games by Jason Beck
(Caitlin \$29.95)

IN THE MIRACLE MILE: STORIES OF THE 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, Jason Beck explores the planning, hitches and setbacks involved in hosting an event that turned the world's attention to Vancouver for the first time. He revisits the stories of the athletes who made those ten days a watershed in B.C. history. Reviewer **Roger Robinson** insists the 1954 games helped transform Vancouver from a colonial outpost to a multicultural metropolis.

FROM JULY 30 TO August 7, 1954, a little Canadian city tucked away on the very edge of the western world hosted a previously minor sporting festival quaintly called the "British Empire and Commonwealth Games." The previous Empire Games had occurred in drab New Zealand in 1950, and nobody had noticed.

Even now, history still drags its academic feet in recognizing the social and cultural importance of sport, so it's a treat to read a fine book that fully records how important those Games were for Vancouver and the history of sport.

Beck had no choice but to call his book *The Miracle Mile* and put the familiar, iconic **Roger Bannister/John Landy** image on the cover. As Landy glimpses over his left shoulder, Bannister passes

on his right—and for the first time two men ran a mile under four minutes.

Beck provides gripping, in-depth accounts of how Bannister triumphed gloriously, Landy lost admirably. Equally riveting is his description of the poor, heat-exhausted marathoner **Jim Peters** who staggered, collapsed and nearly died. The appalling footage of Peters' failure nearly matched the notoriety of the Bannister/Landy mile at the time.

Along the way, Beck entertains us with characters and stories we (in my case) never or barely knew. To open, we get the loud and bullheaded **Erwin Swangard**, the sports editor who first conceived, announced, and shoved into existence the whole idea of bidding for the Games. "Screw Hamilton," he reportedly said, "Let's get them for Vancouver."

Then we meet the irrepressibly inventive **Jack Diamond**, the meat-packing entrepreneur who thought up fundraising ideas, from cattle sales to celebrity dinners with **Bob Hope**, from pre-season hockey games to a bowling-alleys-for-the-Games Sunday that nearly got him arrested for breaking the Lord's Day Act.

We follow the baby-faced workaholic general chairman of the Games, **Stanley Smith**, as he somehow steers the whole turbulent process of preparation. The stadium construction is a teetering tale of delays, design errors, and sheer screw-ups.

Once the first gun goes, Beck reveals the competitors as real people, not face-

less sportsniks. He lets us glimpse the charmingly dashing, gold medal-winning Trinidad sprinter **Mike Agostini** as he cuts a Casanova swathe through the women of the Games village.

He provides a deservedly full portrait of **Jackie MacDonald**, who combined **Marilyn Monroe** blonde beauty with the power and dedication of one of the first women ever to lift weights in training, also giving Canada a silver medal in the shot put. She was dumped from the discus by Canadian officials for supposedly infringing amateur rules — in effect, for looking too sexy.

Through Beck's careful

research, we learn about tiny, feisty **Marjorie Jackson-Nelson** who went from poverty in outback Australia to four gold medals in Vancouver, followed by a happy marriage, work in charities and eventually six years as governor of South Australia.

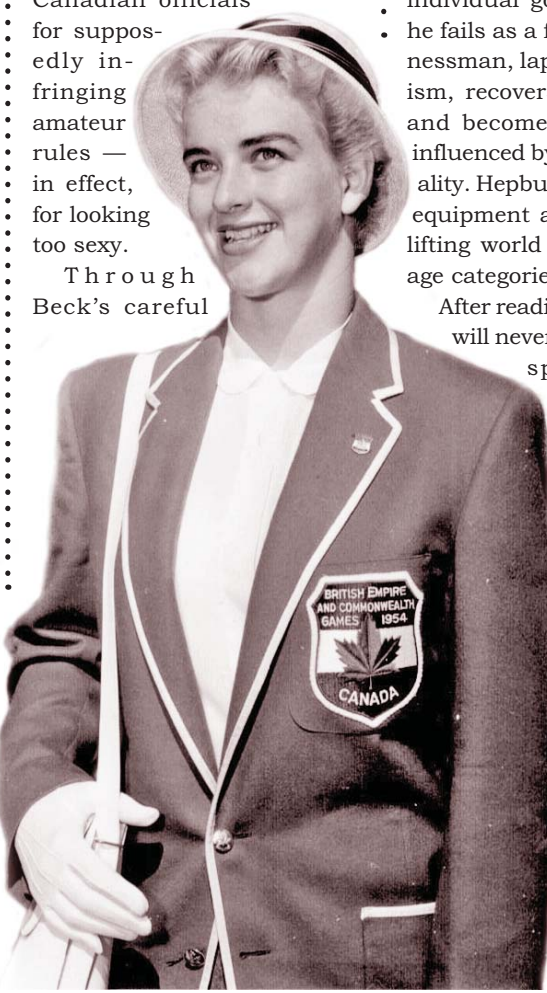
Doug Hepburn, born in Vancouver with a clubbed foot and alcoholic father, somehow develops his own new techniques for weight-lifting training and becomes the strongest man in the world, winning Vancouver's only individual gold medal. Later he fails as a fitness gym businessman, lapses into alcoholism, recovers, writes poetry, and becomes a philosopher influenced by Eastern spirituality. Hepburn invents fitness equipment and breaks more lifting world records in older age categories.

After reading this book, you will never think again that sports stars are all brainless and boring.



JASON BECK, curator of the BC Sports Hall of Fame in BC Place Stadium, has proven himself to be a meticulous researcher, a compelling story-teller

Jackie MacDonald: a star of the shot put and discus



and a crafty realist who knows how to hook his readers.

Having written articles on the Bannister and Peters races, I am envious and admiring of how much Beck manages to add to previous knowledge, and how vividly he recounts what he has discovered. His Chapter 10 about Jim Peters, "Saturday August 7, 1954," is as good as historical sports writing gets.

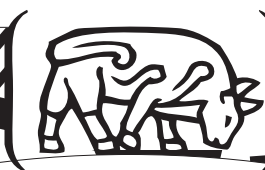
Beck provides an almost mile-by-mile account of the heat and horror of that marathon in which Peters was filmed, dazed and confused, staggering, unable to get to tape, even though he had entered the stadium far in the lead. **Stan Cox**, the second English runner, also ended unconscious in a ditch.

This book shows the Games were a seminal event in the history of Vancouver. Beck asserts the community (despite pre-Games intrigues and squabbles) came together in volunteer unity and found confident, communal energy.

Beck documents how a city where few residents had ever before seen a black African or a Fijian opened their homes to all athletes. He suggests that the Games-long atmosphere of genuine international goodwill was "perhaps one of the earliest signs of Vancouver's future of pervading multiculturalism."

978-1-987915-00-6

Roger Robinson lives in New Zealand and New York. His books include Running in Literature, Spirit of the Marathon, and the Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature.



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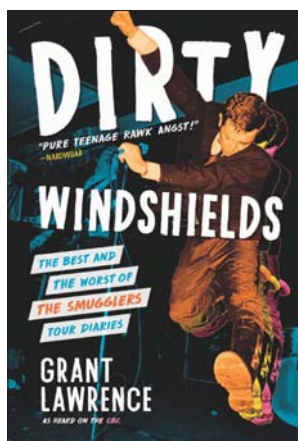
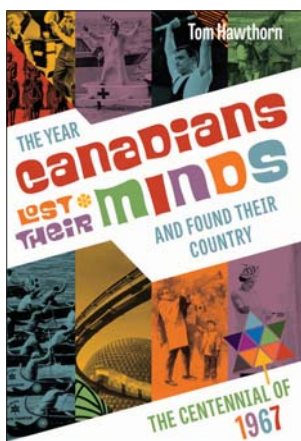
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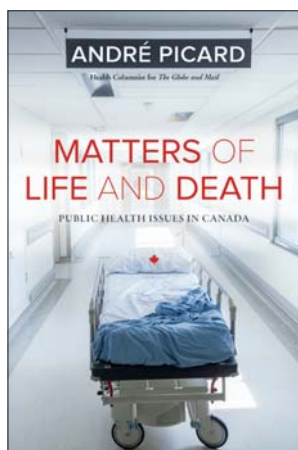
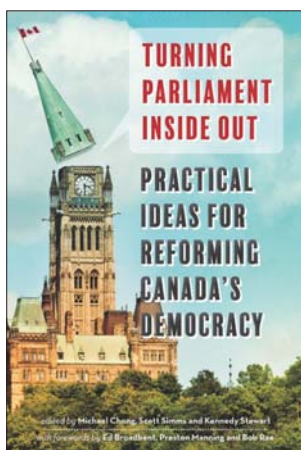
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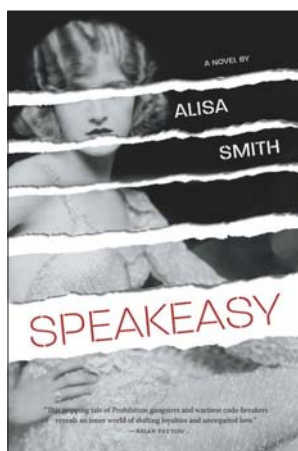
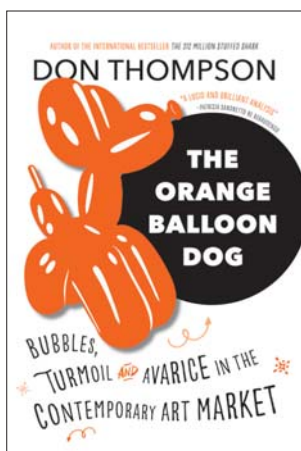
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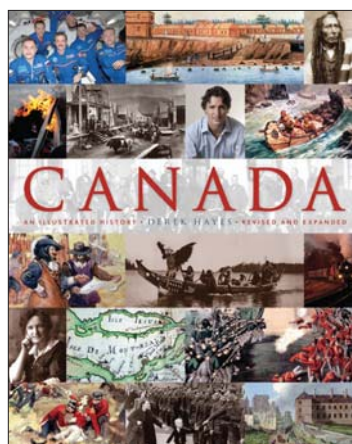
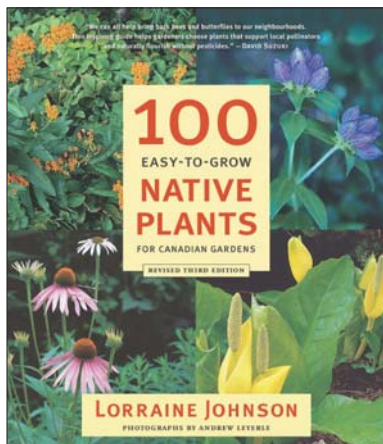
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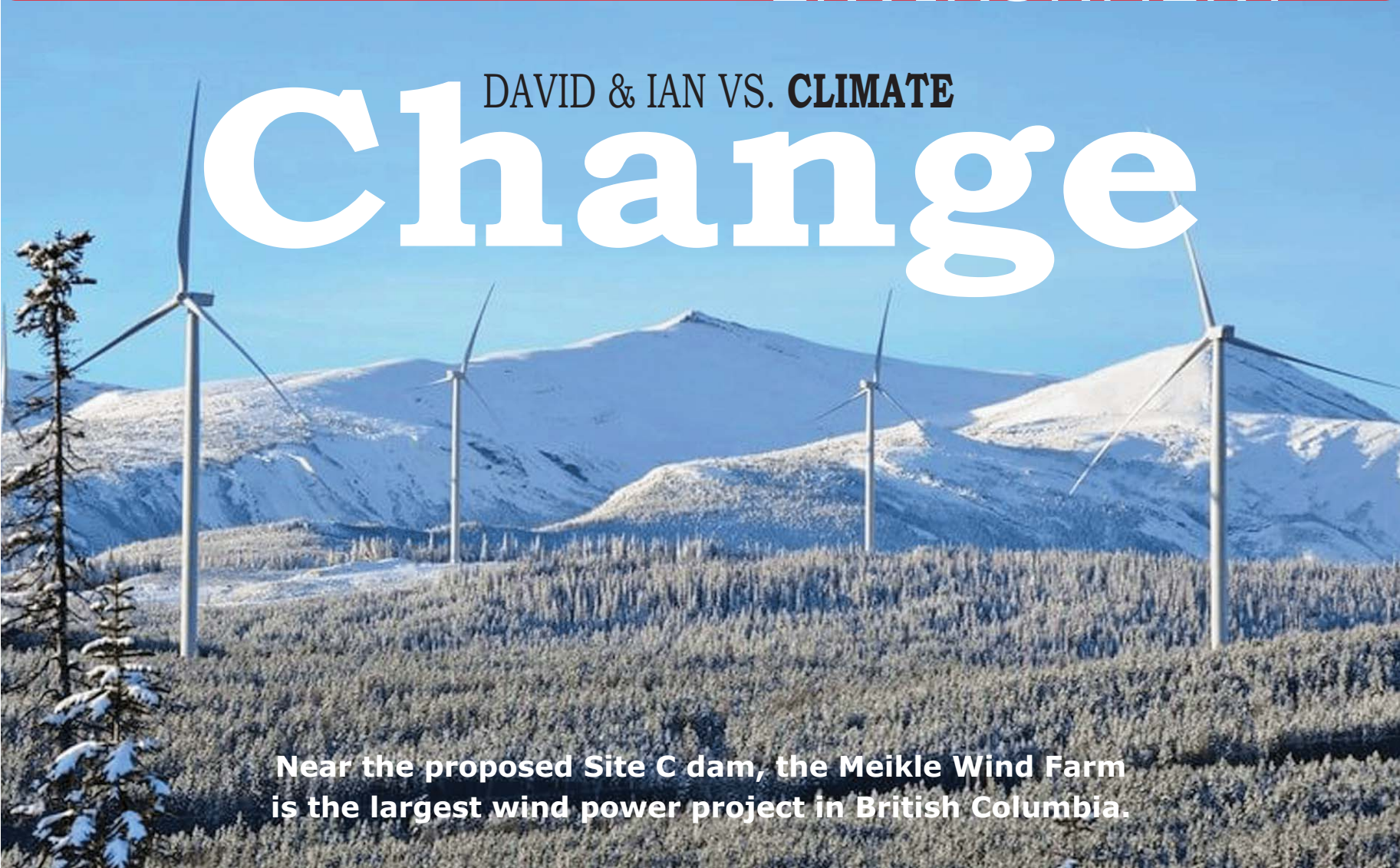
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DAVID & IAN VS. CLIMATE

Change

Near the proposed Site C dam, the Meikle Wind Farm is the largest wind power project in British Columbia.

Just Cool It: The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do by David Suzuki and Ian Hanington (Greystone Books \$24.95)

THE ORMSBY REVIEW

BY JOHN GELLARD

A CATASTROPHICALLY NARCISSISTIC president in the U.S. believes climate change is a Chinese hoax and other politicians are being accused of taking illegal donations from energy companies via surrogates, so **David Suzuki** and **Ian Hanington** have provided realistic solutions in **Just Cool It: The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do**. If we can put a man on the moon, Suzuki says we can change the outcome of the dire crisis that is upon us.

HUMAN ACTIVITY IS profoundly altering the biosphere and, by extension, the very geology of the planet. The atmosphere is heating up. It's a result of human greed and wilful ignorance. If we don't do something about it, the human species is done for by the end of the century.

The bulk of *Just Cool It: The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do* is taken up with solutions—things we can do individually and collectively—but first we must understand what global warming is. What is meant by calling carbon dioxide a “greenhouse gas”? Why is methane a much more potent greenhouse gas than CO₂?

What is a “positive feedback” mechanism? What is the “albedo effect” that should keep the Arctic Ocean cold but doesn't? Why is this particular geological epoch called the Anthropocene?

Everything is connected. So *Just Cool It* gives exhaustive details about the effect of our addiction to fossil fuels, our profligate use of fertilizers, deforestation, overfishing and the “massive swirling islands of plastic waste in the oceans.”

If the oceans are being ruined, can the land be far behind? The book gives vivid accounts of desertification of grasslands, massive insect invasion of forests, catastrophic storms and floods, and migrations of people escaping starvation when droughts cause crops to fail.

Do you make fun of **Al Gore**? Are you a climate change denier or skeptic? *Just Cool It* examines how The Heartland Institute falsely argues that “global warming is a myth; that it's happening but it's natural ... that it's happening but we shouldn't worry about it, that global cooling is the real problem ... that CO₂ is a benign gas that stimulates plant growth.”

David Suzuki and **Ian Hanington** carefully point out fallacies in such arguments, including the “false dichotomy” that pits “the natural environment against the human-invented economy.” They convincingly dismiss the notion that “economic growth” necessarily offers happiness.

So what is to be done? As individuals we can resist an economic system that encourages waste and consumption and the careless use of fossil fuels.

- We can divest from the fossil fuel industry and invest in renewable energy.
- We can use fuel-efficient cars or electric cars.

- We can cultivate habits of bicycling, walking, and using public transportation instead of cars.
- We can resist anti-transit campaigns.
- We can insulate our homes and use energy-efficient lighting.
- We can install solar panels on our houses.
- We can buy less “stuff” and waste less.
- We can eat less meat and, by composting, waste less food.

will flood 80 square km of the Peace River Valley containing valuable farmland and essential wildlife habitat. The justification for it is that we need another reliable “base-load” power station. The authors argue that the base-load idea is obsolete and that we should take advantage of the versatility of “variable renewables” hooked up to a “smart nimble grid” that can co-ordinate supply and demand.

Renewables would include



David Suzuki and Ian Hanington

In our agriculture, we can get away from factory farming and monocultures that use GMO seeds requiring chemicals. We can “design an agro-ecosystem that mimics the structure and function of local ecosystems and replace GMOs with “evolutionary plant breeding.” The authors praise the urban agriculture movement which uses space within cities to grow food and keep livestock.

Technological solutions are most important. We must revolutionize the way we produce electricity. Right now, in northern B.C., construction has begun on the 1100 megawatt Site C dam. The reservoir

solar, wind, tidal, and geothermal. Development of these systems is growing by leaps and bounds, and the costs are coming down. The Meikle wind farm, for example, near Site C, now generates close to twenty percent of the expected power of the dam at about a quarter of the cost per megawatt. And the sixty-one beautiful turbines have a far smaller “footprint.”

IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT *JUST COOL IT* was completed before the election of **Donald Trump** whose new U.S. administration is packed with climate change deniers. Administrative orders have gutted the Environmen-

tal Protection Agency, removed restrictions from dumping highly toxic coal mining waste into streams and rivers and sent troops to clear Native American protestors away from construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Our own government of Canada has approved the Site C dam, and the Kinder-Morgan pipeline which will bring diluted bitumen to the coast to be shipped off in supertankers—400 a year. The loaded tankers will inevitably destroy the coastal ecosystem whether or not they run aground.

SO WHAT IS TO BE DONE WHEN WE have governments that are so in thrall to the powerful, impersonal force field of Capital that they are incapable of acting in the best interests of the people and of the planet?

It's as if we were on a runaway train. The First Class passengers are feasting and celebrating, and there's a mad engine driver at the controls. How do we stop the train before it reaches the bridge that isn't there?

Is revolt our only hope? Marches? Petitions? Civil disobedience? David Suzuki and Ian Hanington have done such a thorough job of offering solutions.

The Epilogue in *Just Cool It* begins to suggest some of our next steps.

John Gellard is a retired teacher whose articles have appeared in the Globe and Mail and the Watershed Sentinel. He was named Canada's “Best High School Teacher” in a Maclean's poll in August 2005.

**Medicine Unbundled:
A Journey Through the
Minefields of Indigenous
Health Care** by Gary Geddes
(Heritage House \$22.95)

THE ORMSBY REVIEW

BY MARY-ELLEN KELM

HAROLD CARDINAL’S ASSESSMENT of Canada’s Indigenous policy in 1969 as “a thinly disguised programme of extermination” in *The Unjust Society* is born out almost fifty years later in **Gary Geddes’** non-fiction work of research and listening, **Medicine Unbundled: A Journey Through the Minefields of Indigenous Health Care.**

Along the way, Geddes coins the useful phrase “genocide in slow motion.”

By collecting first-hand testimonies from survivors of Indian Hospitals, primarily in Western Canada, Geddes has generated a valuable and necessary work, a non-academic complement to **Maureen K. Lux’s** new study, *Separate Beds: A History of Indian Hospitals in Canada, 1920s-1980s* (UTP, 2016).

SANDY MORRIS WAS worried when his brother **Ivan** did not return from surgery at the Nanaimo Indian Hospital. Sandy went to Ivan’s cot on a ward in the hospital where he found two orderlies stripping it.

Sandy recalls asking them what they were doing and where was his brother? They responded by twisting his arm behind his back to punish the impertinence of speaking to them at all.

As they walked away, one orderly said, over his shoulder, that Ivan would be of no use to Sandy now; he was in the morgue.

Tearfully Sandy ran to the basement of the hospital. He found Ivan on a gurney.

Terrified and heartbroken, he pulled back the sheet to reveal Ivan’s face. Leaning forward to kiss his brother one last time, he felt the subtle feathering of breath against his cheek.

And he realized Ivan was alive—and so his life was saved.

Clamouring noisily up the stairs as only a little boy can, Sandy confronted the orderly asking him to bring his brother back up to the ward—he was not dead.

The orderly responded: “If you want your brother so badly, bring him up yourself.”

★
SUCH STORIES NO LONGER SURPRISE many of us Canadians as we learn more about what happened in residential schools.

But **Medicine Unbundled** is necessary nonetheless because Canadians know little of the Indian Hospitals; their history is only now being documented.

There were once twenty-two segregated hospitals along the lines of the Nanaimo Indian Hospital, mostly in the West,

Gary Geddes tells it like it was: sterilization, starvation, botched operations, sexual abuse, medical experiments, absence of family and neglect.

Genocide IN SLOW MOTION



Mary Theresa Morris in Nanaimo Indian Hospital. She spent seventeen years there.

with only three in Ontario. They were opened in an era when health officials worried that intransigently high rates of tuberculosis among Indigenous people (status and non-status Indians, Métis, and Inuit) would undermine the control over the disease that public health measures were gaining among Canadians.

The Indian Act made treatment compulsory for status

Indians with communicable diseases and so they had little choice but to go to these hospitals, often far from home and sometimes on a moment’s notice.

Their hospital stays could be long, lonely and traumatic. Geddes writes that the treatment offered in Indian Hospitals was outdated. There surgeons continued to perform procedures, including the re-

moval of bone, gland and lung tissue, long after such surgery was considered ineffective treatment.

Not surprisingly, Geddes notes, few Indigenous people today are not wary of the Canadian medical system.

★
MEDICINE UNBUNDLED IS NOT SO much about medicine as it is about human relationships, about conversations

and about listening. It begins with a conversation between Geddes and **Joanie Morris**, a Songhees elder and survivor of Kuper Island Residential School. A photo of her mother, **Mary Theresa Morris**, who spent seventeen years in the Nanaimo Indian Hospital, is featured on the cover of *Medicine Unbundled*.

As Joanie Morris learns to trust Geddes, she opens the door to others who might wish to share their stories with him. They, in turn, introduce him to more people until he has travelled halfway across this country. They talk and they challenge Geddes, and us, to listen.

Listening, as it turns out, can be a problem for Canadians. As Joanie Morris puts it, “the problem I have with white people is that they don’t listen.”

For decades, Canadians dismissed the testimony of residential school survivors or simply refused to hear it. Some still wish to see the “good” in the schools.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its public events across the country offered all Canadians a chance to hear survivors’ testimony and many thousands did just that. Through the massive TRC report, we can hope that the weight of such testimony has removed disbelief.

Nonetheless some publishers told Geddes, when he was looking for a publisher for

Medicine Unbundled, that “no one in Canada cares about Indians.”

As in his previous books on violence and reconciliation in sub-Saharan Africa, Geddes is fascinated by healing. Repeatedly, he asks the people he speaks

with why they are not angry, why they do not hate. They respond that in healing they have let go of their anger. They are turning inward to their own cultures, their languages, their foods, and their medicines.

This is what Indigenous writers like **Taiiike Alfred** and **Lee Ann Betasamosake Simpson** call resurgence. It is healing for Indigenous people by Indigenous people.

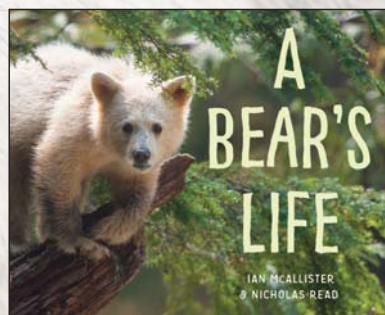
When Geddes wonders whether he, as a white man, should be doing this work, Joanie Morris responds, “Hey, Gary, no one has listened to us for the last two hundred years, so why don’t you get off your butt and be the first?”

978-1-77203-164-5
Mary-Ellen Kelm is a professor of history at Simon Fraser University specializing in medical history and settler colonialism in the West.

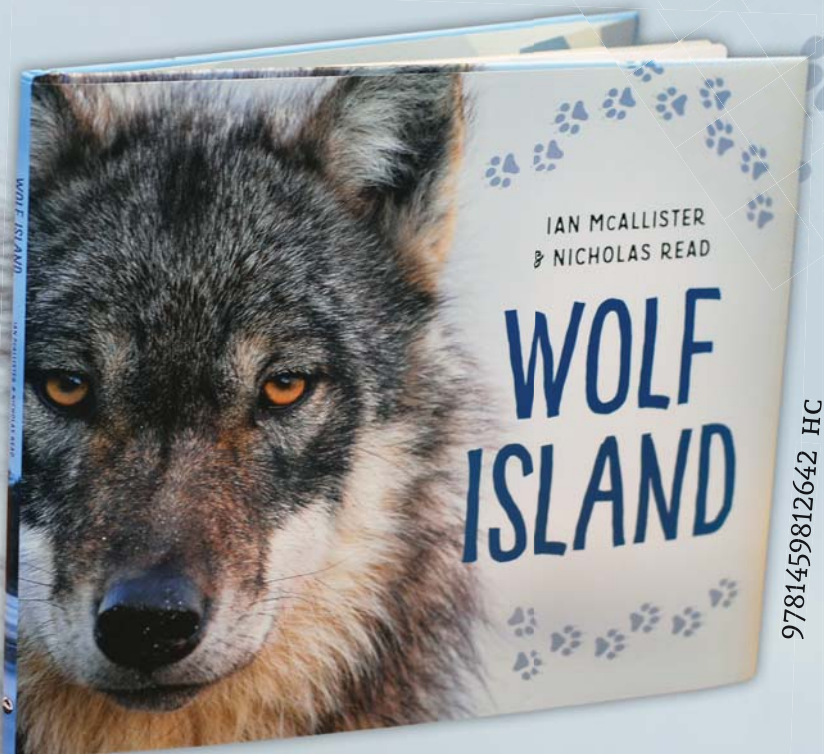
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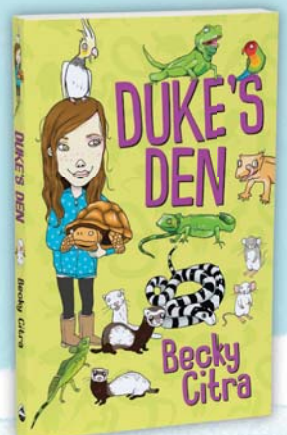
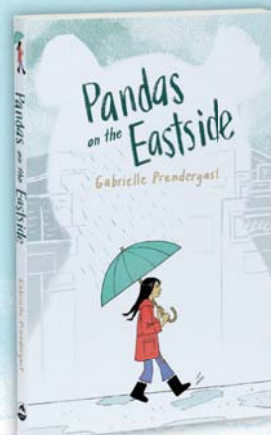
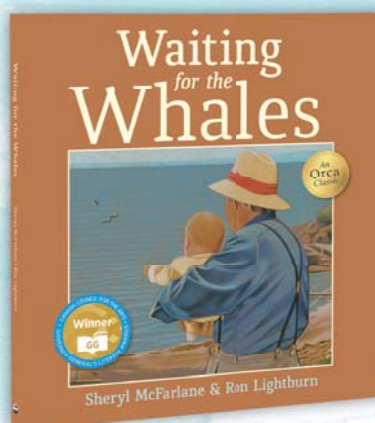
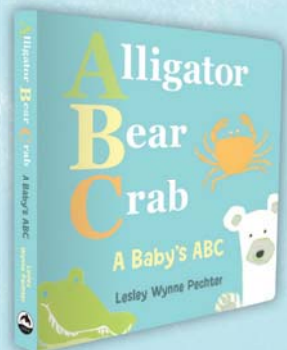
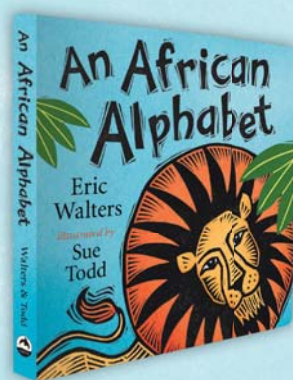
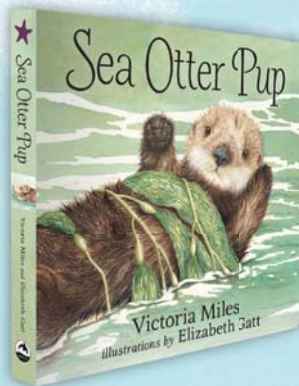


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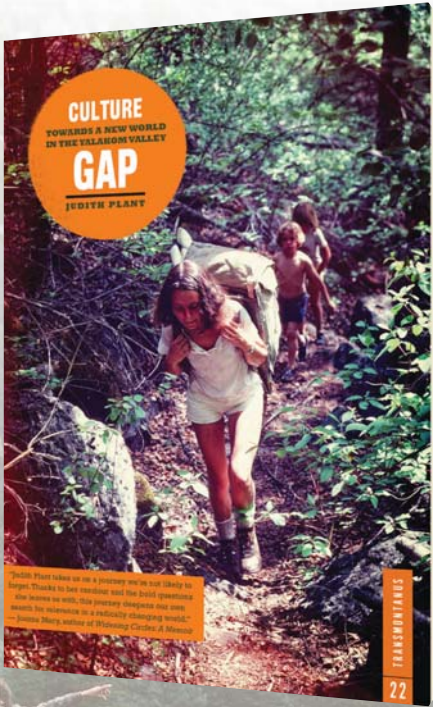


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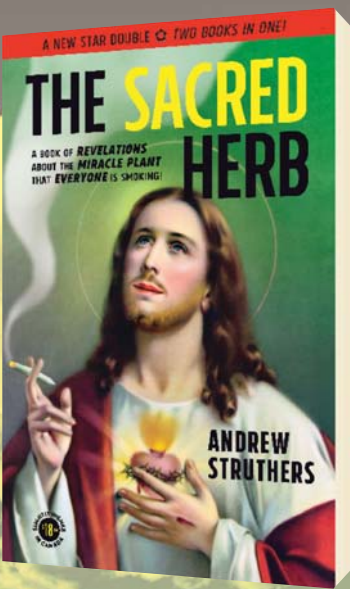
—Stephanie Mills, author of *Epicurean Simplicity* and *In Service of the Wild*

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—Tom Sandborn, *Vancouver Sun*



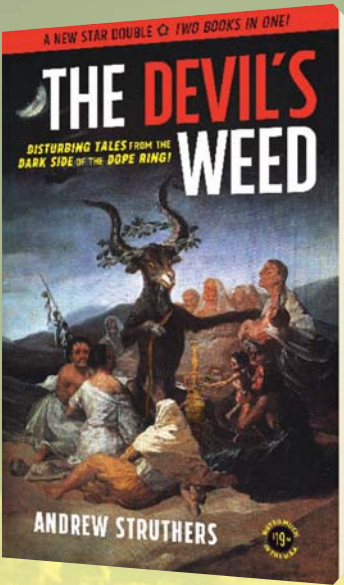
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—Amy Reiswig, *Focus Magazine*



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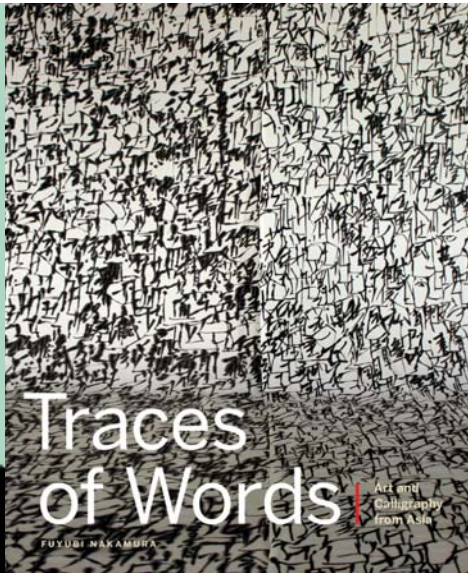
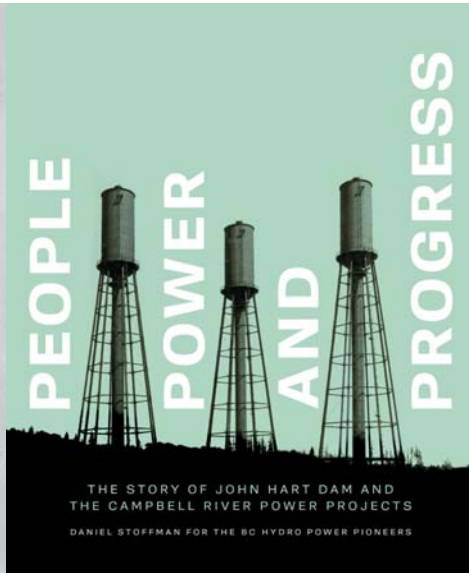
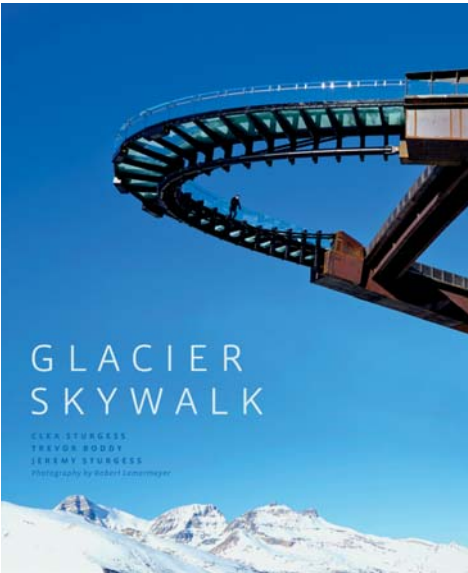
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The Clean Money Revolution: Reinventing Power, Purpose, and Capitalism by Joel Solomon with Tyee Bridge (New Society Publishers \$29.99)

Joel Solomon is a committed capitalist with the heart and soul of a 60s socialist. His newly published memoir, **The Clean Money Revolution** is also a manifesto for changing the world through Socially Responsible Investments (SRIs). That translates as ethical, sustainable and aligned with values—at above market returns. Here **Mark Forsythe** reviews his new book co-written by **Tyee Bridge**.

HERE ARE TWO things to know right off the top: Joel Solomon chairs Renewal Funds, a \$98 million mission venture capital firm, created in partnership with now B.C.-based Rubbermaid heiress, **Carol Newman**.

He was an early backer of **Gregor Robertson's** Happy Planet organic juice company, and later backstopped Robertson's mayoralty campaign

Solomon's life story is something of a history lesson on clashing values during the rise of the civil rights movement, anti-war dissent and environmental awakening.

As a Jewish kid from Chattanooga, Tennessee, he had a father who was shut out of the inner business circle but proceeded to build strip malls across the U.S. South.

Solomon was groomed for

JOEL'S ODYSSEY

From Nashville strip malls to Cortez Island to Gregor's election

the family business, so he attended Baylor Military School where, "racism and misogyny were the norm" and later graduated from Vassar College with a political science degree.

He became a foot soldier in **Jimmy Carter's** 1976 presidential election campaign, and marvelled at how a peanut farmer who came from nowhere could win the White House.

THE NOW ALMOST-FOROTTEN POWELL Memo of 1971 was pivotal for Solomon, for it revealed how business directly influenced politics. **Lewis Franklin Powell Jr.** was a lawyer for tobacco giant Philip Morris (among others). His memorandum asserted that business interests must shape national thinking. This was in reaction to a rising consumer public interest movement led by **Ralph Nader**, new environmental laws and occupational safety regulations.

Powell wrote, "the American economic system is under broad attack." His plan was specific, with a 50-year time horizon. Influential conservative think tanks like the Heritage Foundation, Business Roundtable and the Cato Institute emerged as a result.

Business moved on Washington to lobby government head on, and CEOs got to know their senators. And it paid off. Lower taxes, business friendly legislation and less government were the result.

So that's partly how Solomon came to believe and understand that the socially progressive left should "play bigger" in the corridors of power. Meaning: Clean money could overcome dark money.

IN HIS TWENTIES SOLOMON LEARNED he had the same kidney condition (Polycystic Kidney Disease) that would soon take his father's life, at age 63. He faced, "dialysis, transplant or death." This predicament placed him on a path, searching for clean food, air and water.

Consultation with alternative health guru **Andrew Weil** followed, with an emphasis on non-toxic foods, reduced stress and pursuit of a spiritual purpose. This would become his mantra for doing business: "Helping to promote clean organic food, healthy environments and a just society would be my life's work."

His quest for meaning and health included learning how to be an organic gardener and a self-described "soil freak."

Solomon lived on Cortes Island at a hippie farm, a forerunner to the non-profit educational institute Hollyhock. When his mother visited she remarked that she had, "never seen people living this way by choice."

One of Hollyhock's founders, **Shivon Robinsong**, donated a kidney in 2005 to help save Solomon's life.

Later Solomon worked for scientist and Greenpeace activist **Paul Spong** at OrcaLab on Hanson Island. He

was exposed to local Indigenous culture, read mountains of books on spirituality and psychology, fought depression and spent hours alone.

"Living meaningfully became my goal."

In 1983 he received a \$50,000 payout from a family investment and injected half into Hollyhock, the remainder into Stonyfield, an non-profit organic farm.

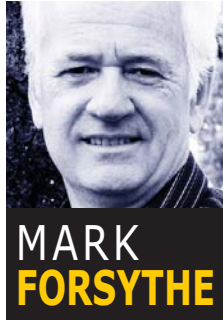
Stonyfield broke ground in the U.S. organic natural yogurt market and was later bought for \$180 million.

A year later his father was on his deathbed with renal failure, pleading with his son to not reject what the family business had created, imploring him to, "do something with it."

Solomon inherited \$3 million, moved to Nashville and invested money in small businesses and grassroots organizations that helped revitalize the urban core. He calls this a "family legacy cleanup," pretty much the opposite of building strip malls that suck the life out of city centres.

In Nashville he helped get a city councillor elected and expanded his network of like-minded people who invested in "higher purposes."

The Threshold Foundation (created with Carol Newman) spawned the eco-



MARK FORSYTHE



Joel Solomon (at right). One of Hollyhock's founders, Shivon Robinsong, donated a kidney in 2005 that saved Soloman's life.

monic activist Social Venture Network. He launched Renewal Partners in B.C. and invested in budding green ventures like Happy Planet, Capers, SPUD home organic food delivery service and 7th Generation, makers of non-toxic cleaning products.

"Less harm, more good."

SOLOMON IS ALSO CO-FOUNDER of Tides Canada which the Harper government accused of being comprised of "foreign radicals" laundering money in Canada and highjacking the country's need to develop natural resources.

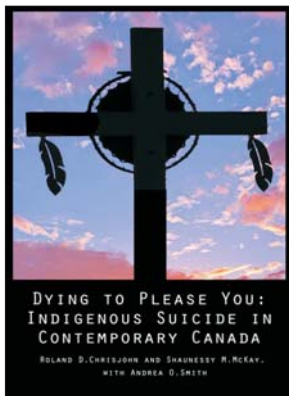
Tides was instrumental in helping generate donations to make the Great Bear Rainforest agreement a reality, and has provided some \$158 million in grants.

The Clean Money Revolution often reads like the script for a Renewal Funds promotional video. We meet "change agents" using "angel networks" for "impact investing" viewed through an "ethical screen" to create "social mission based businesses." A "gold mine of opportunity" awaits as \$50 trillion is expected to change generational hands over the next 33 years.

Meanwhile, the concept of clean money is now embedded in business schools; ethical investing through banks is a common option and the world's largest asset manager has started an Impact US Equity Fund.

Solomon has clearly achieved his goal of living meaningfully.

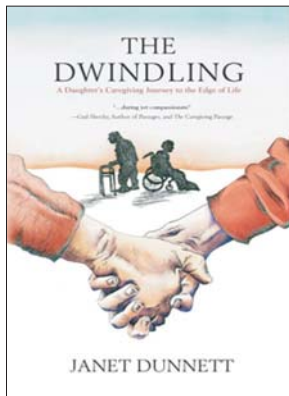
Mark Forsythe is the former host of CBC radio's *Almanac*.



Dying to Please You
Indigenous Suicide
in Contemporary Canada
Roland Chrisjohn et al

This compelling new book offers ground-breaking insights into the causes of indigenous suicide, homicide and treatment by examining current systems, bureaucratic treatments and government policies that do more harm than good. The authors offer in-depth arguments and alternative solutions to these grave and increasing problems.

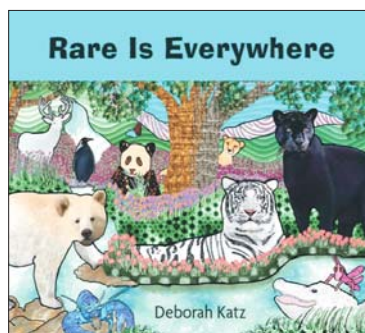
9781926886466 \$32.95 pb Theytus Books



The Dwindling
A Daughter's Caregiving Journey
on the Edge of Life
Janet Dunnnett

This impassioned story tells of twin sisters who had to deal with two aging parents. They learn to recognize both excellence and imperfections in doctor's offices, emergency wards, dementia lockups, assisted living and long term care institutions, and finally hospices. It raises the question, "What will happen when the boomer generation begins to dwindle?"

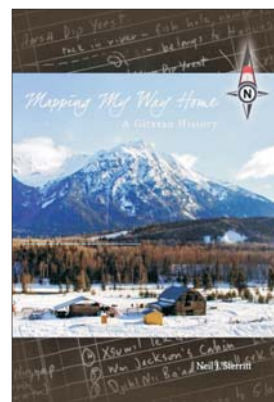
9780995864412 \$20 pb Journeys Press



Rare is Everywhere
Deborah Katz

Rare is Everywhere takes readers on a journey through the animal kingdom, revealing that tigers can be white, grasshoppers can be pink and lobsters can be blue. Showcasing eleven incredible animals through vibrant mixed media illustrations and playful rhymes, the book teaches children not only about animals, but also about self acceptance, diversity and how our differences make us spectacular.

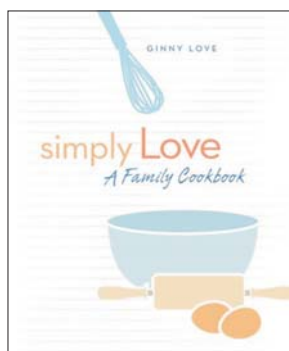
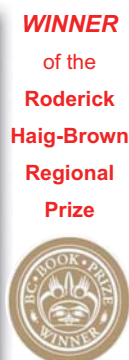
9780995826106 \$19.95 hc
Miss Bird Books



Mapping My Way Home
A Gitksan History
Neil Sterritt

This important book shares stories of the Gitksan people and their struggles with the arrival of European explorers and settlers. Author and Gitksan leader Neil Sterritt, also shares his own journey from 1940s Hazelton into the international mining world and back to the ancestral village site of Temlaham where he helped his people fight for land in the ground-breaking Delgamuukw court case.

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9781928195016 \$39.95 hardcover
Creekstone Press



Simply Love
A Family Cookbook
Ginny Love

Reprinted by popular demand! Simplicity is the key in a busy world. Forget exotic ingredients, elaborate preparation, elegant plating: this is all about healthy, delicious food, prepared and served with a minimum of fuss. A busy mother of four, with a background in catering and running a restaurant, Ginny has developed recipes and methods for making food preparation simple - and delicious.

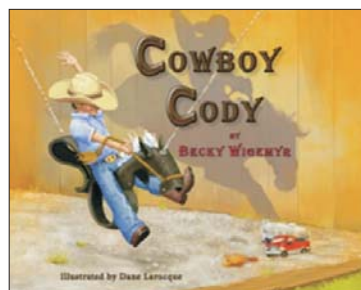
9780973688276 \$24.95 pb Love Publishing



Inspired Cooking
Featuring Michael Smith, Ned Bell,
Roger Mooking + 17 more celebrity chefs

Featuring an all-star cast of 21 of Canada's finest chefs coupled with inspirational stories of cancer survivors. In addition to the chefs' stories about how cancer has touched their lives, are their recipe contributions with delicious and super healthy recipes that range from vegetarian, poultry and fish, to desserts and drinks. The book is intended to inspire everyone to eat healthfully with proceeds from the book going to InspireHealth Supportive Cancer Care.

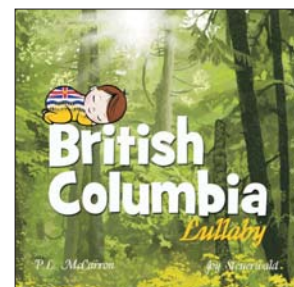
9780981228112 \$35 pb FreshAir Publishing



Cowboy Cody
Becky Wigemyr

Written for the countless children who dream of riding, roping and rodeo, *Cowboy Cody* is the inspiring story of a boy who wants more than anything to be a cowboy, but there's just one problem: Cody lives in the city. How he goes from being a make-believe cowboy to a real 'mutton buster' is an awesome tale where Cody discovers that with grit and determination, our wildest and wooliest dreams can come true.

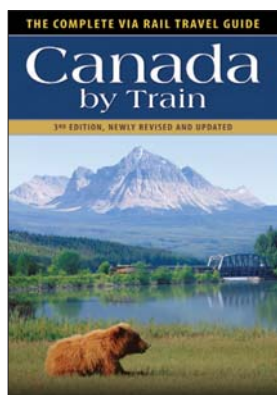
9780995905108 \$14.95 hc Ample Publishing



British Columbia Lullaby
P. L. McCarron

Over 33 weeks on the BC Bestsellers List – British Columbia Lullaby is the perfect baby gift for new parents! 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 regional paintings to introduce young children to the wonders of BC.

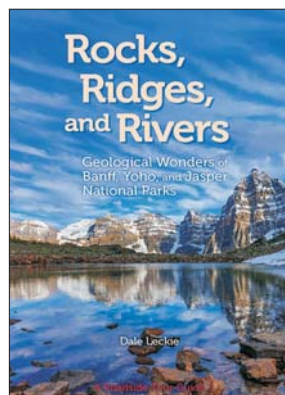
9780991946389 \$12.95 hc Baby Lullaby



Canada By Train
The Complete Via Rail
Travel Guide 3rd Edition
Chris Hanus

Back in print! This is the only comprehensive guide to riding the rails throughout Canada's VIA Rail network. Recommended by professionals from on board attendants to travel agents and tour operators, it includes history, information on railway cars, signs and signal interpretation, travel tips, as well as a detailed mile-by-mile route guide - with over 500 colour illustrations, photographs and maps. Don't leave home without it!

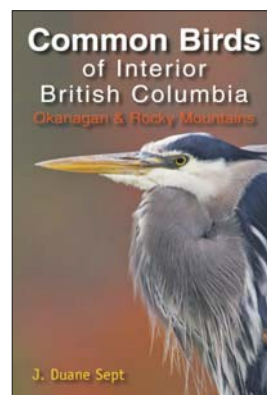
9780988160200 \$29.95 pb Way of the Rail



Rocks, Ridges and Rivers
Geologic Wonders of Banff, Yoho
and Jasper National Parks
Dale Leckie

Planning to tour our three National Parks this summer? This guide is designed to take you to the best places to view and experience the natural wonders of mountains, rivers, glaciers and 50 million year old fossils in the Rockies – all from easily accessible sites and viewpoints. The book includes explanations, colour illustrations, photos and maps for over 50 sites. Leckie is an internationally recognized geologist living in Calgary.

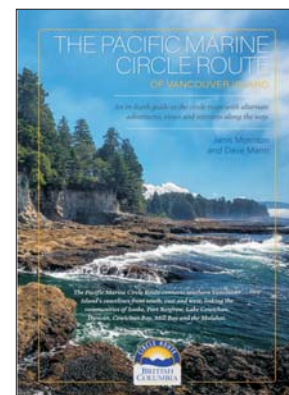
9780995908208 \$27.95 pb Dale Leckie



Common Birds
of Interior British Columbia
Okanagan & Rocky Mountains
J. Duane Sept

The latest in the *Calypso Nature Series* features 156 bird species identified with full colour images, interesting facts and useful information. It includes a Quick-Photo guide to bird groups to help locate birds in the book quickly. This is a companion book to *Common Birds of Southwest British Columbia* – both great guides for everyone from backyard birders to serious hobbyists. Collect the whole series!

9780995226609 \$14.95 pb
Calypso Publishing



The Pacific Marine
Circle Route
of Vancouver Island
Janis Morrison and Dave Mann

This in-depth new guide offers alternate adventures, views and interests for everyone. Explore the beaches and waterfalls all along the coast by car and on foot – look up at some of Canada's largest and most unique trees – hike in the back country or walk in a rainforest – seek out tidal pools full of sea life – find the local herd of elk. There is something for all ages and abilities to explore and enjoy on this Vancouver Island route.

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review

FICTION



Ahmad Danny Ramadan at Vancouver Gay Pride

EXODUS FROM

BRUTALITY

The Clothesline Swing
describes a series of escapes to
reach freedom in Vancouver.

The Clothesline Swing
by Ahmad Danny Ramadan
(Nightwood Editions \$19.95)

AHMAD DANNY RAMADAN HAD two collections of Arabic short stories under his belt, *Death and Other Fools* (2004), and *Ary* (2008), when he was among the first wave of 1,300 Syrian refugees who arrived in Canada in 2014.

His first book in English was a translation of texts by Saudi Arabian blogger, **Raif Badawi**, who was lashed for his criticisms of Saudi Arabian society, *1000 Lashes: Because I Say What I Think* (2015).

An activist for refugees and LGBTQ communities, Ramadan served as grand marshal for last year's Vancouver Gay Pride parade and his fundraiser, Evening in Damascus, raised

• \$80,000 to assist Syrian refugees to
• come to Canada.

• His first novel in English, **The
• Clothesline Swing**, is reviewed here
• by **Cherie Thiessen**.



• "ONE OF THE DEAREST MEMORIES I HAVE OF
• my childhood," says Ahmad Danny
• Ramadan, "is when I snunk onto a
• neighbouring rooftop and cut down the
• clotheslines and used them to
• build myself a swing on my
• family's balcony."

• "It didn't last for long, and
• it fell down within days, but
• I really felt proud of it. It was
• always a joyful memory of
• mine that I built something
• out of something entirely dif-
• ferent."



• THE CLOTHESLINE IN RAMADAN'S NOVEL IS A
• symbol that reflects one of the few
• times the sun got through; it's a slice
• of his past life that sustains him. The

continued on page 17



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Zoe **Whittall**
Clea **Young**

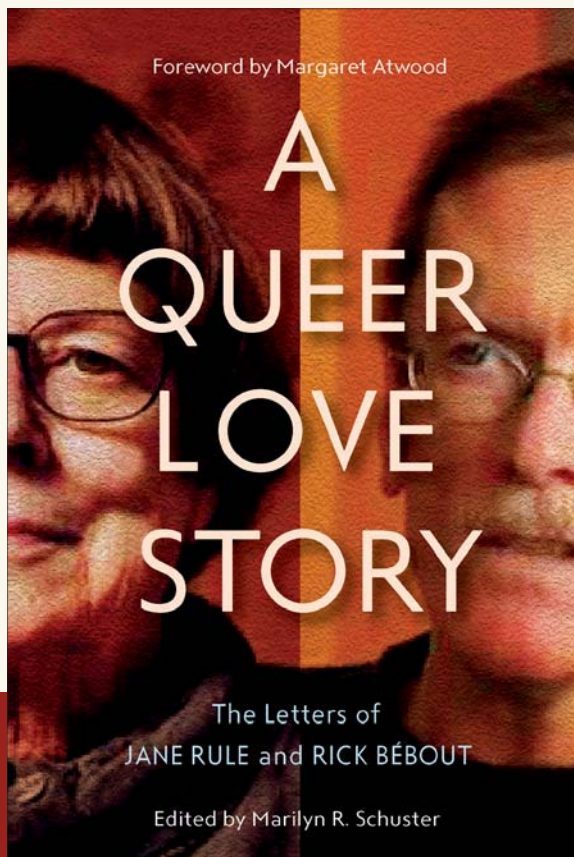
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A Queer Love Story

The Letters of Jane Rule and Rick Bébout

Edited by Marilyn R. Schuster



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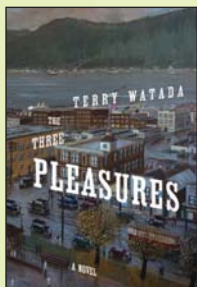
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SUMMER '17



THREE PLEASURES by Terry Watada

The Three Pleasures is an intimate and passionate novel concerning an unsightly and painful period in Canada's history.

"Terry Watada's literary tour de force, *The Three Pleasures*, lifts the Japanese Canadian internment experience beyond passive victimization by giving life to a host of historical figures—heroes, villains and tragic characters—in a fascinating yet little-known resistance movement within the camps. An absolute page-turner and worthy read."

—Jim Wong-Chu, Director, literASIAN Festival

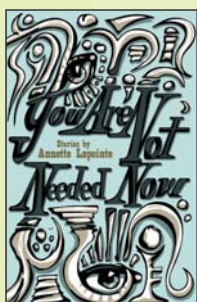
\$24 | 384 PGS. | 978-1-77214-095-8 | NOVEL | JULY



LONG RIDE YELLOW by Martin West

The debut novel from the author of *Cretacea & Other Stories from the Badlands*, *Long Ride Yellow* explores the limits of sexual desire. Nonni is a dominatrix who likes to push the boundaries; she is also easily bored. Her disdain for all that is conventional and "vanilla" launches her on a journey of personal discovery.

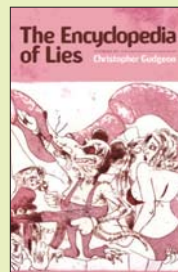
\$20 | 256 PGS. | 978-1-77214-094-1 | NOVEL | JUNE



YOU ARE NOT NEEDED NOW by Annette Lapointe

You Are Not Needed Now is a brilliant new collection of stories from Giller-nominated author Annette Lapointe. Often set within the small towns of the Canadian prairies, the stories in *You Are Not Needed Now* dissect and examine the illusion of appearances, the myth of normalcy, and the allure of artifice.

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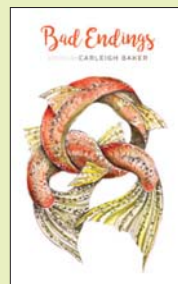
RECENT RELEASES:

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LIES by Christopher Gudgeon

At once bitterly funny, provocative and poignant, this remarkable collection—follow up to *Greeting from the Vodka Sea*, Gudgeon's short story debut—*The Encyclopedia of Lies* builds on his growing literary reputation, offering up the work of a great storyteller at his very best.

"Gudgeon's penchant for conjuring vulnerable, dynamic characters is clear in *The Encyclopedia of Lies*, perhaps most vividly in 'Jericho'—a bewildering tragedy about a burgeoning friendship that recalls Gus Van Sant's queer cult classic *My Own Private Idaho*."—Xtra

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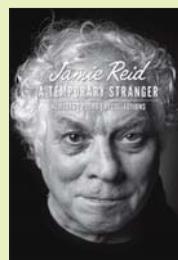


BAD ENDINGS by Carleigh Baker

"Things are on the edge, askew, as they are in every story in Carleigh Baker's debut collection, which features rushing rivers and waves splashing on the shore ... Because bad endings make for good endings, story-wise, leaving possibilities open, the characters on the cusp of something, always something around the next corner, a blessing and a curse."

—Kerry Clare, *Pickle Me This*

\$18 | 168 PGS. | 978-1-77214-076-7 | STORIES



A TEMPORARY STRANGER by Jamie Reid

A Temporary Stranger is the final manuscript that Jamie Reid was working on when he died unexpectedly in June of 2015. The book is comprised of three sections: "Homages," "Fake Poems," and "Recollections."

"Jamie Reid is a writer of significant powers. ... Like the man himself, vibrating still, this superb posthumous collection is a rare and wondrous pleasure."—Stephen Roxborough

"Reading these poems, as they oscillate between conveying and receiving, we are placed in fields of significance, of precision, Jamie's thinking translating the ineffable as waves that slap the sides of our ever-departing boat."—Lary Bremner

\$18 | 160 PGS. | 978-1-77214-098-9 | POETRY/ESSAYS

review

FICTION

continued from page 15

clothesline swing is a refuge for his deeply troubled mother, and a reminder that life can be idyllic.

“On the balcony,” recalls the narrator Hakawati, “my father built her a swing using old clotheslines and an abandoned pillow... every morning my mother sat on the pillow...enjoying the warmth of the sun as it filled Damascus with life...She used to pick me up in her arms in the early afternoon hours, sit me on the clothesline swing and push me higher.”

Life becomes a nightmare for Hakawati (Arabic for storyteller) when his mother becomes bi-polar. Scars from these abusive years will never fade. The love between his father and his mother fades. His mother’s illness grows and his father’s interest in the family dwindles until he is rarely there, leaving the narrator to endure years of fear for his life.

After Hakawati unsuccessfully runs away, his father takes him to his grandmother’s home where he comes to love her as

a surrogate parent. His grandmother manages to squeeze enough affection out of her already busy family life to sustain her grandson.

From an early age the beleaguered youth has been attracted to males. As a 15-year-old, his coming-out is brutal. After he suddenly blurts out to his father that he’s gay, he is locked in his room and routinely beaten by his father who is deaf to the grandmother’s entreaties.

The grandmother eventually helps him escape. He commences a peripatetic life: begging on the streets, working in a sandwich shop. In Egypt,



Ahmad Danny Ramadan

Then the storyteller returns to Syria where he finds employment at a newspaper. Surrounded by friends, he creates a life largely fueled by parties, promiscuity, alcohol and drugs.

he finds employment and friends—he thinks—until he is attacked and beaten almost senseless after they learn of his homosexuality.

The character of Death visits him in the hospital, wearing a black hood, smoking dope, drinking coffee and chatting with Hakawati. Later in the novel this character of Death will move in with the storyteller.

Meanwhile Hakawati begins a sheltered life with a lover who is in a secure financial position. After two years, this begins to feel more like a prison than a loving relationship.

Then the storyteller returns to Syria where he finds employment at a newspaper. Surrounded by friends, he creates a life largely fueled by parties, promiscuity, alcohol and drugs.

In this violent and dissipated world, he meets the love of his life through a dating website. He convinces this new love—known only as The Listener—to come with him to Beirut to get away from the violence, fear and torture of the Syrian Civil War.

A chance on-line meeting with a Canadian who wants to help fuels his plan for a final exodus to North America.

His entire life can be viewed as a series of escapes from violence.

ON THEIR GRUELING JOURNEY towards freedom, Hakawati tries to keep up the spirits of The Listener much as Scheherazade did in *One Thousand and One Nights*.

Just as Scheherazade told interesting tales so that the sultan would spare her life, the storyteller is keeping his partner alive with 17 stories of his past, their shared memories and of a dying Syria.

No personal names are ever given. The third main character in the story is Death.

“There are many stories in the novel that reflect and mirror my own experiences,” Ramadan told *BC BookWorld*, “and others that I sewed together from the stories I know of, or heard through friends and family members.

“Hakawati has some of my insecurities and represents the very real abandonment issue that I realize within myself.”

This is a story of modern Syrian refugees that takes us far deeper than news reports of tearful, welcoming hugs at airports.

978-0-88971-332-1

Cherie Thiessen reviews fiction from Pender Island.

NEW from the Royal BC Museum

The Language of Family

Stories of Bonds and Belonging

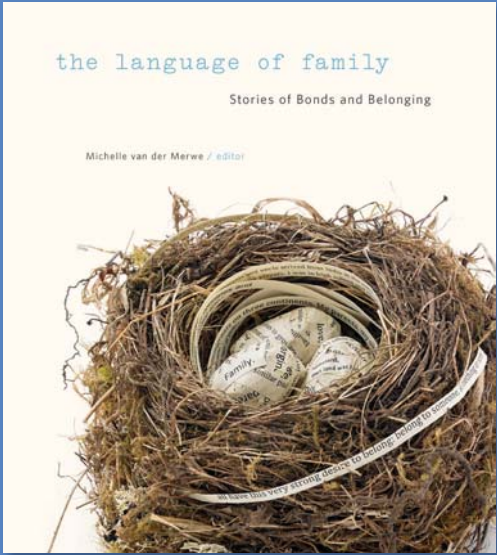
Edited by Michelle van der Merwe

In *The Language of Family*, twenty contributors from across British Columbia—museum curators, cultural luminaries, writers and thinkers young and old from our First Nations, LGBTQ, Japanese Canadian and Punjabi communities, amongst others—share their vastly differing perspectives on what family means.

This superb collection of personal narratives, poems and essays will provoke, tease, enlighten and infuriate. Isn’t that what family does best?

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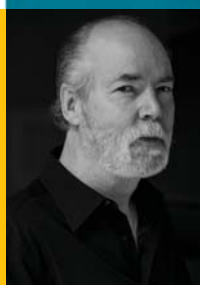
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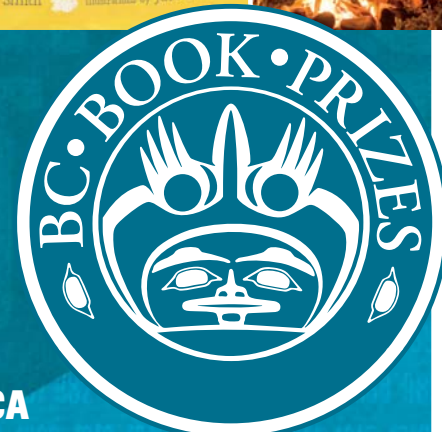
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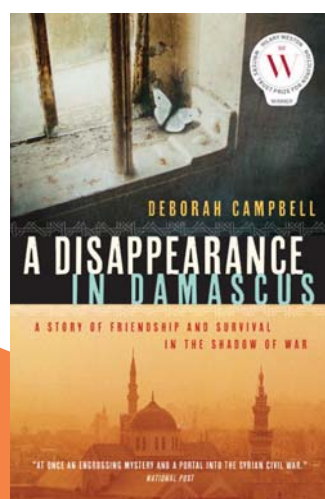


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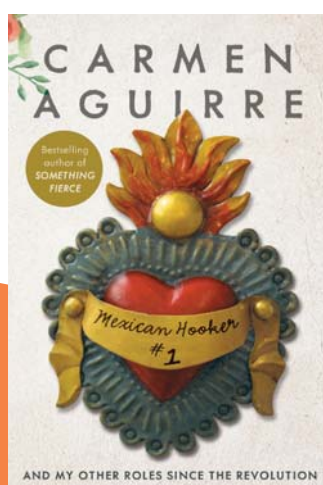
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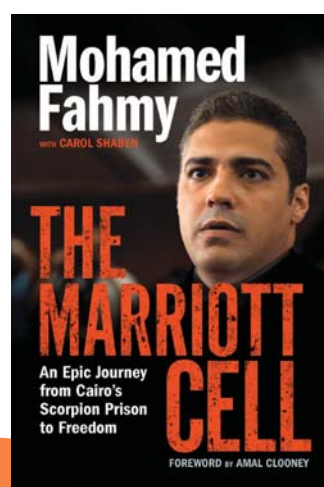
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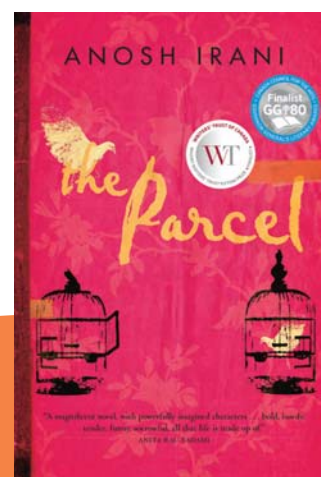
WINNER
Hubert Evans
Non-Fiction Prize



Hubert Evans
Non-Fiction
Prize Nominee



Hubert Evans
Non-Fiction
Prize Nominee



Ethel Wilson Fiction
Prize Nominee



WINNER
Sheila A. Egoff
Children's
Literature Prize



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BC BOOK PRIZES



Richard Wagamese's novel *Indian Horse* has reportedly sold 60,000 copies. For his obituary, visit abcbookworld.com

GETTING WAGAMESE INTO THE CIRCLE

At the 33rd annual **B.C. Book Prizes**, four awards out of seven went to books with Indigenous content



Douglas Coupland with Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of B.C.

Facebook posts, White suggested Wagamese should recalibrate his on-line meditations, giving rise to *Embers*, a non-fiction collection that topped the BC Bestsellers List for weeks prior to winning the Duthie Prize.

"I love accepting this award," White continued, "because I get to remember **Bill Duthie** who presided over his famous bookstore at Robson and Burrard." He recalled that although **Andy Wright** at Eaton's nearby, in downtown Vancouver, was selling more books, it was Duthie who was beloved and became legendary.

In 1973, as a first-time book publisher with 3,000 copies of his first book, White was rebuffed by several bookstores before he entered Duthie's with trepidation.

As Bill Duthie sat on his stool and thumbed through the new book, White's heart sank. Duthie's gruff manner could be intimidating. But Duthie bought one hundred books on the spot, paying White in cash, up front.

"He just wanted to give a shaggy kid a break," White recalled.

Douglas & McIntyre and Harbour Publishing have won 19 of the 33 Duthie Booksellers' Choice Awards since 1985.



HAVING NEVER RECEIVED A B.C. Book Prize, the province's most successful author worldwide, **Douglas Coupland**, ended up accepting his Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence sooner than he expected.

Rather than serving as the evening's finale, as he had anticipated—Coupland was introduced at the outset of the ceremonies. He good-naturedly recalled his visits to remote B.C. locations with his father who had his own Beaver airplane.

"We all come from this place, which really is a place," said the author of *Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture* (1991). "It's a very small province," he said, "but it's large at the same time. Your B.C. is not my B.C."

During his opening acceptance speech, Coupland also thanked Alma Lee, Alan Twigg and Hal Wake for their roles in promoting literary awareness.



DEBORAH CAMPBELL RECEIVED THE HUBERT EVANS NON-FICTION Prize for her second book, **A Disappearance in Damascus: A Story of Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War** (Knopf).

Campbell did not speak much about her book which recalls the 2007 disappearance of her Syrian guide and friend, undercover journalist **Ahlam**, "It's easy for us to feel we are on the edge of the world in B.C.," she said, "but I think this is our strength."

continued on page 21

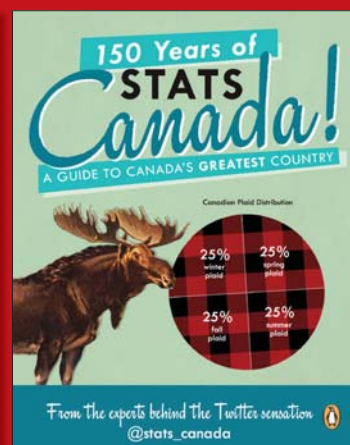
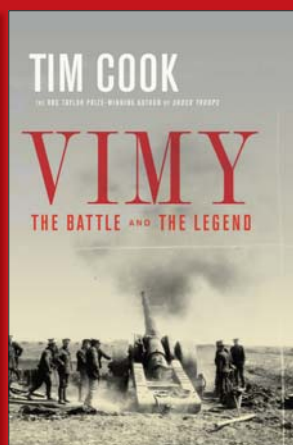
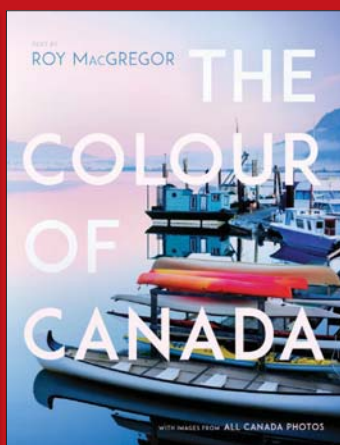
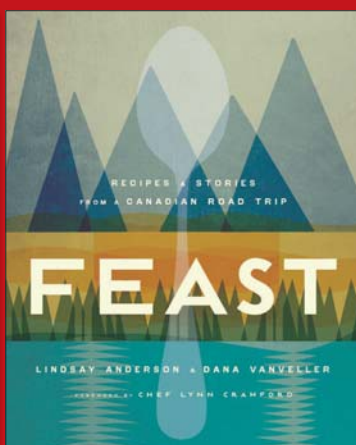
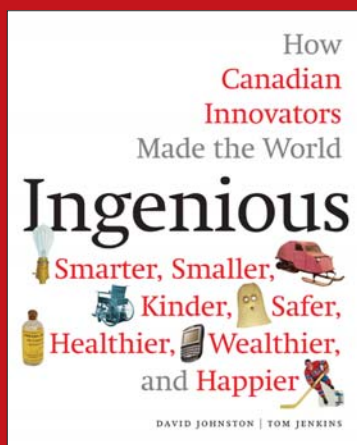


Ashley Little, a previous Book Prize winner; **Cynara Geissler**, marketing manager at Arsenal Pulp Press; and **Aaron Chapman**, Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award nominee

CANADA 150



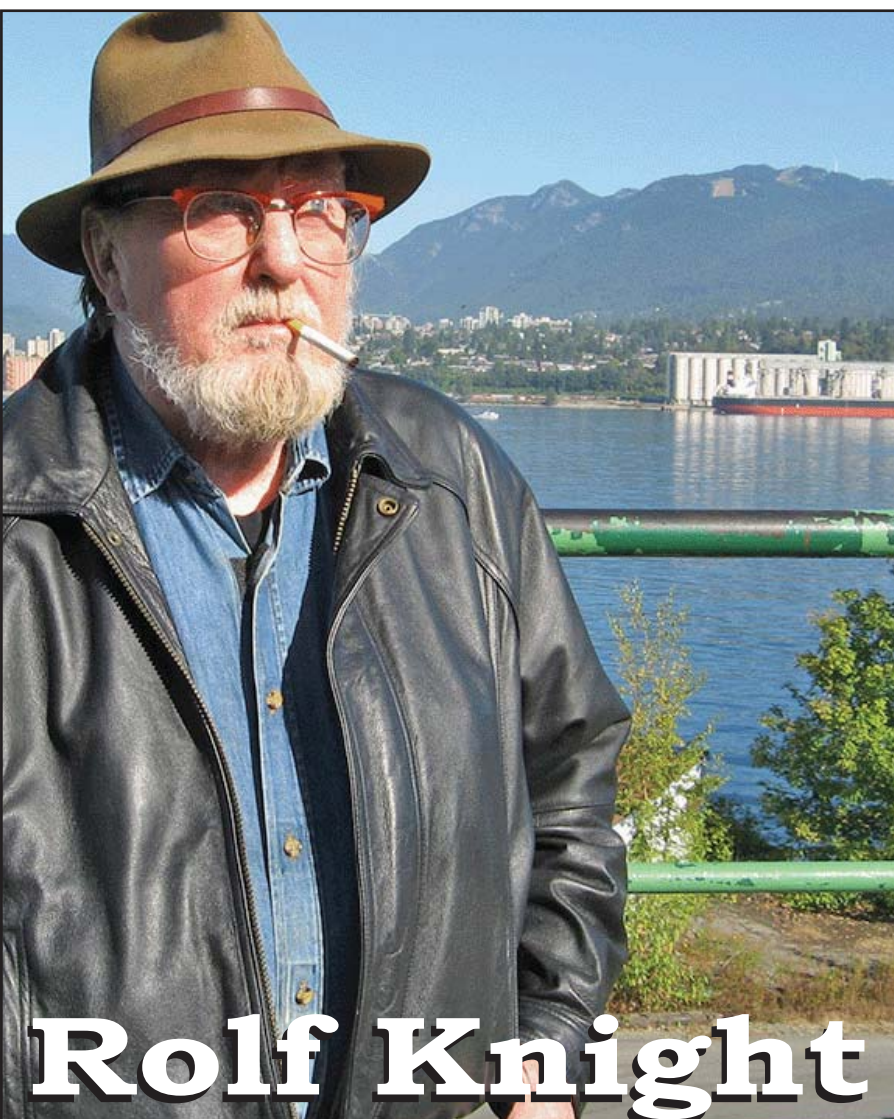
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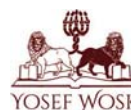
Rolf Knight

BIBLIOGRAPHY: *A Very Ordinary Life* with Phyllis Knight (New Star, 1974) • *Work Camps & Company Towns in Canada & the United States* (New Star, 1975) • *A Man of our Times: A Life-History of a Japanese-Canadian Fisherman* with Maya Koizumi (New Star, 1976) • *Stump Ranch Chronicles & Other Narratives* (New Star, 1977) • *Indians at Work: An Informal History of Native Indian Labour in B.C. 1858-1930* (New Star, 1978, 1996) • *Along the No. 20 Line: Reminiscences of the Vancouver Waterfront* (New Star, 1980; 2011) • *Traces of Magma: An Annotated Bibliography of Left Literature* (Draegerman, 1983) • *Voyage Through the Mid-Century* (New Star, 1988; 2013) • *Homer Stevens: A Life in Fishing* with Homer Stevens (Harbour, 1992) • *Voyage Through the Past Century* (New Star, 2013)

George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award

Rolf Knight, B.C.'s foremost historian of the working class, has hitherto been largely unheralded. A steadfast enemy of the notion that there exists such a phenomenon as the common man, Knight grew up in B.C. logging camps, gained his M.A. in anthropology at UBC in 1962, and a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1968. Disaffected by the narrowness of his fellow academics and the ignorance of his students, Knight left his teaching job at SFU and drove a taxi in Vancouver, simultaneously producing a string of books that dignified workers. In particular, his **Indians at Work: An Informal History of Native Indian Labour in British Columbia 1858-1930** (New Star, 1978) documented the integral role of Indigenous people in the B.C. economy since Confederation. New Star Books released nearly all of his books with the noteworthy exception of the biography, **Homer Stevens: A Life in Fishing** (Harbour, 1992).

The public is welcome to hear Rolf Knight's remarks when he receives the 24th George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award at the
Vancouver Public Library, 350 West Georgia Street,
7 pm, Thursday, June 29.



PRIZES

continued from page 19

HAVING PREVIOUSLY WON BOTH THE 2016 LITPOP AWARD FOR Poetry and the 2016 Walrus Reader’s Choice Award for Poetry, another neophyte author, **Adèle Barclay**, took home the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize for her debut collection, **If I Were in a Cage I’d Reach Out for You** (Nightwood). “Poetry exists outside of capitalism and colonialism,” she said, during another brief acceptance speech.



DEBUT NOVELIST **JENNIFER MANUEL** ACCEPTED THE ETHEL WILSON Fiction Prize for **The Heaviness of Things That Float** (D&M), a modern drama set on a remote West Coast First Nations reserve. Manuel, too, also spoke briefly, thanking Indigenous writer **Monique Gray Smith** for inspiring her and also confiding she wrote to “honour the relationship between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people.”



Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize winner **Adèle Barclay** (right) and friend.



Neil J. Sterritt of Williams Lake won the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize



NEIL J. STERRITT, ANOTHER FIRST-TIME AUTHOR, MADE A similar comment when he won the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize for **Mapping My Way Home: A Gitxsan History** (Creekstone), a multi-faceted look at the history, culture and politics in his northern Kispiox territory.

“When I was asked to write this book in 2008,” he said, “I wanted to respect all of the cultures.”

Sterritt delivered one of the few speeches that included personal details.

“The first time I came to Vancouver in 1955,” he recalled, “I spent all my time in the library trying to get in touch with my people.” Sterritt moved back to the Kispiox in 1973.

From 1975 to 2009, he and his family lived at Temlaham Ranch, the site of a Gitxsan ancestral village on the Skeena River (a.k.a. Temlaxam or Dimlahamid), during which time he was hired as land claims director for the Gitksan-Carrier Tribal Council.

In *Mapping My Way Home*, he traces the history of the area at the junction of the Skeena and Bulkley

Rivers, the resiliency of the First Nations residents who have maintained the villages of Gitanmaax and Hazelton, as well as his own personal story of growing up in Hazelton and helping his people fight the Delgamuukw court case.

Sterritt’s overview stretches from the creation tales of Wiigyet to the advent of oil and gas pipeline proposals, including tales of the Madiigam Ts’uwii Aks (supernatural grizzly of the waters), the founding of Gitanmaax, Kispiox and Hagwilget and the coming of the fur traders, miners, packers, missionaries and telegraphers.



AN AWARD THAT STRESSES THE ROLE OF THE ILLUSTRATOR, THE Christie Harris Illustrated Children’s Literature Prize was presented to author **Monique Gray Smith**—who contributed the brief text—and Cree-Métis illustrator

Julie Flett for their collaboration on **My Heart Fills With Happiness** (Orca).

This was Flett’s third win in the category in seven years. She won the Harris Prize in 2011 for *Owls See Clearly at Night* and again in 2015 for *Dolphin SOS*, co-authored with **Roy Miki** and **Slavia Miki**.



Julie Flett

The Sheila A. Egoff Children’s Literature Prize for the best non-illustrated book for children went to **Iain Lawrence** for **The Skeleton Tree** (Tundra Books) but the Gabriola Island resident was not present to accept it.



WINNERS OF THE PRIZES RECEIVED \$2,000 EACH; the recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Award received \$5,000, courtesy of the Government House Foundation.

The gala was amicably hosted by **JJ Lee**, author of *The Measure of a Man*, and was attended by the Honourable **Judith Guichon**, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia at the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel in Vancouver on April 29.



JJ Lee, master of ceremonies charms the crowd at the BC Book Prizes.

Poetry prize nominee **Julianne Okot Bitek**; poets **Dina Del Bucchia** and **Adèle Barclay**; Caitlin Press marketing director **Michael Despotovic**

PRIZES

EXPLORER-PHOTOGRAPHER

EXTRAORDINAIRE

Wade Davis has spoken from the main stage at TED five times and his talks online have been viewed by three million people.

The public is invited to a presentation by Wade Davis when he receives the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness at 7 pm on June 29 at the Vancouver Public Library for his latest book, **Wade Davis: Photographs**. This B.C.-published book has since been picked up by *National Geographic* for re-publication worldwide.

For **Wade Davis: Photographs** (D&M \$39.95), Davis selected 140 of his favourite photographs from the thousands he has taken during his forty-year career. These intimate portraits of family and community life are universal in tone, and yet represent countless geographical and cultural spaces, telling the story of the human condition across the globe.

Born in West Vancouver, in 1953, Wade Davis is a widely-travelled Harvard ethnobotanist, anthropologist and biologist who grew up in Quebec and attended Brentwood College in Mill Bay on Vancouver Island.

“I was a product of the Sixties,” he says. “I had a strong sense of adventure and wanted to experience the world.”

WADE DAVIS IS PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE BC Leadership Chair in Cultures and Ecosystems at Risk at UBC.

Between 1999 and 2013 he served as Explorer-in-Residence at the National Geographic Society. He was named by the NGS as one of the Explorers for the Millennium, “a rare combination of scientist, scholar, poet and passionate defender of all of life’s diversity.”

In 2014 Switzerland’s leading think tank, the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute of Zurich, ranked him 16th in their annual survey of the top 100 most influential global Thought Leaders.

An ethnographer, writer, photographer and filmmaker, Davis holds degrees in anthropology and biology and received his Ph.D. in ethnobotany, all from Harvard University. Mostly through the Harvard Botanical Museum, he spent over three years in the Amazon and Andes as a plant explorer, living among fifteen indigenous groups in eight Latin American nations while making some 6000 botanical collections.

His work later took him to Haiti to investigate folk preparations implicated in the creation of zombies, an assignment that led to his writing *The Serpent and the Rainbow* (1986), an international best seller later released by Universal as a motion picture.

In recent years his work has taken him to East Africa, Borneo, Nepal, Peru, Polynesia, Tibet, Mali, Benin, Togo, New Guinea, Australia, Colombia, Vanuatu, Mongolia and the high Arctic of Nunavut and Greenland.

Davis is the author of 275 scientific and popular articles and 20 books. His books have appeared in 20 languages and sold approximately one million copies.

His photographs have been widely exhibited and have appeared in 30 books and 100 magazines, including *National Geographic*, *Time*, *Geo*, *People*, *Men’s Journal*, and *Outside*.

His many film credits include *Light at the*



Wade Davis, early years

Edge of the World, an eight-hour documentary series written and produced for the National Geographic.

In 2009, he delivered the CBC Massey Lectures and he is the recipient of 11 honorary degrees. His book, *Into the Silence*, received the 2012 Samuel Johnson prize, the top award for literary nonfiction in the English language. In 2016 he was made a Member of the Order of Canada.

978-1-77162-124-3



SHORTLISTED FOR THE GEORGE RYGA Award for Social Awareness were **Stephen Collis** for *Once in Blockadia* (TalonBooks), and **Eric Jamieson** for *The Native Voice: The Story of How Maisie Hurley and Canada’s First Aboriginal Newspaper Changed a Nation* (Caitlin). At the Wade Davis presentation on June 29, historian **Rolf Knight** will receive the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award.

Selected bibliography

The Serpent and the Rainbow:

A Harvard Scientist’s Astonishing Journey Into the Secret Societies of Haitian Voodoo, Zombies and Magic (Simon & Schuster, 1986)

Passage of Darkness: The Ethnobiology of the Haitian Zombia (UNC Press, 1988)

Nomads of the Dawn: The Penan of the Borneo Rainforest, with Ian Mackenzie and Shane Kennedy (Pomegranate, 1995)

One River: Explorations and Discoveries in the Amazon Rain Forest (Touchstone, 1996)

Shadows in the Sun: Travels to Landscapes of Spirits and Desire (Pomegranate, 1998)

Rainforest: Ancient Realm of the Pacific Northwest, with photos by Graham Osborne (Greystone, 1998)

The Clouded Leopard: Travels to Landscapes of Spirits and Desire (D&M, 1999)

Light at the Edge of the World: A Journey through the Realm of Vanishing Cultures (D&M, 2001, 2007).

The Lost Amazon: The Photographic Journey of Richard Evans Schultes (D&M, 2004)

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The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in the Modern World (Anansi, 2009)

The Sacred Headwaters: The Fight to Save the Stikine, Skeena, and Nass (Greystone/Suzuki Foundation 2011; Greystone, 2015)

River Notes: A Natural History of the Colorado (Island Press, 2012)

Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory, and the Conquest of Everest (Vintage, 2012)

Wade Davis: Photographs (D&M, 2016)

Cowboys of the Americas, with photos by Luis Fabini (Greystone Books, 2017)



WADE DAVIS PHOTO

THE MYTH OF MODERNITY

Excerpt from **Wade Davis: Photographs**

Just before she died, anthropologist **Margaret Mead** spoke of her concern that as we drift toward a more homogenous world, we are laying the foundations of a blandly amorphous, generic modern culture that will have no rivals. The entire imagination of humanity might be confined, she feared, to a single intellectual and spiritual modality. Her nightmare was that we might wake one day and not even remember what had been lost. Our species has been around for some 200,000 years. The Neolithic Revolution, which gave us agriculture, occurred only 10,000 years ago. Modern industrial society is scarcely 300 years old. This shallow history should not suggest that we have all the answers for all the challenges that will confront us in the coming millennia.

All cultures are ethnocentric, fiercely loyal to their own interpretations of reality. Indeed the names of many indigenous societies translate as “the people,” implying that every other human is a savage. We too are culturally myopic, often forgetting that modernity is but an expression of our cultural values. It is not some objective force removed from the constraints of culture. And it is certainly not the true and only pulse of history. It is merely a constellation of beliefs and paradigms that represent one way of doing things.

Our achievements have been stunning. The development within the last century of a modern, scientific system of medicine alone represents one of the greatest episodes in human endeavour. Sever a limb in a car accident and you won’t want to be taken to a herbalist. But these accomplishments do not make the Western paradigm exceptional or suggest that it ought to monopolize the path to the future.

An anthropologist from a distant planet landing in the United States

The Croatian citizens of Dubrovnik believed that their city’s status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, heralded for its architecture and historic beauty, would insulate it from the ravages of war in the Balkans. The attacking Yugoslav People’s Army, backed by Serbia, could not have cared less, destroying much of the ancient city in a siege that lasted many months.

would see many wondrous things. But he, she or it would also encounter a culture that reveres marriage, yet allows half of its marriages to end in divorce; admires its elderly, yet has grandparents living with grandchildren in only 6 per cent of its households; loves its children, yet promotes 24/7 devotion to the workplace at the expense of family. By the age of eighteen the average American youth has spent three years watching television or playing video games. One in five adults is clinically obese. The nation consumes two-thirds of the world’s production of antidepressant drugs, even as it spends more money on armaments and war than the collective military budgets of its seventeen closest rivals. Technological wizardry is balanced by the embrace of an economic model of production and consumption that challenges the very life support systems of the planet. Our way of life, inspired in so many aspects, does not represent the supreme achievement of human endeavour.

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to our

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WINNERS & NOMINEES

Douglas & McIntyre

THE HEAVINESS OF THINGS THAT FLOAT
by Jennifer Manuel
Winner of the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize

EMBERS: ONE OJIBWAY'S MEDITATIONS
by Richard Wagamese
Winner of the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award

WADE DAVIS: PHOTOGRAPHS
by Wade Davis
Shortlisted for the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award

HARBOUR PUBLISHING

PEACE DANCER
by Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd
Shortlisted for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize and the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award

CROSSING HOME GROUND: A GRASSLAND ODYSSEY THROUGH SOUTHERN INTERIOR BRITISH COLUMBIA
by David Pitt-Brooke
Shortlisted for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize

THE PEACE IN PERIL: THE REAL COST OF THE SITE C DAM
by Christopher Pollon with photos by Ben Nelms
Shortlisted for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize

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IF I WERE IN A CAGE I'D REACH OUT FOR YOU
by Adèle Barclay
Winner of the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize

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978-1-55152-671-3; \$24.95 list

NIAGARA MOTEL
Ashley Little
Finalist, Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize
978-1-55152-660-7; \$17.95 list

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Mapping My Way Home: A Gitxsan History

Winner of the the
2017 Roderick Haig-Brown
Regional Book Prize

In **Mapping My Way Home**, Gitxsan leader **Neil Sterritt** shares the stories of his people, both ancient and recent, to illustrate their resilience when faced with the challenges that newcomers brought. **Stephen Hume** calls this account from one of the Gitxsan architects of the Delgamuukw court decision a “remarkable, unique and articulate history...a powerful, accessible and cultural tour de force. It deserves to be on every British Columbian’s bookshelf.”

Mapping My Way Home: A Gitxsan History (Creekstone 2016)
978-1-928195-01-6 (Hardcover) \$39.95; 978-1-928195-02-3 (Paper) \$29.95

Both editions are 7" wide x 10" high, 384 pages with over 100 B & W photos, 13 maps, family trees, a glossary and index

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 BCHF
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Anthony Kenyon
The Recorded History of the Liard Basin 1790-1910
Fort Nelson News Ltd.
Winner of the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Historical Writing

2nd Prize, \$1,500
Neil John Sterritt
Mapping My Way Home: A Gitxsan History
Creekstone Press

3rd Prize, \$500
Michael Layland
A Perfect Eden
Touchwood Editions

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See full list of winners and photos at
www.bchistory.ca

PRIZES

Claudia Casper wins Philip K. Dick Award

Claudia Casper’s post-apocalyptic novel, *The Mercy Journals* (Arsenal, 2016), first reviewed by **Joan Givner** in *BC BookWorld*, has won the 2017 Philip K. Dick Award for the best work of science fiction published in paperback in the USA. A former soldier nicknamed Mercy is one of the few survivors after a third world war is waged over a water crisis. His long-lost brother Leo arrives with news that Mercy’s children have been spotted, setting him off on a long journey to find them.

Bazzie winner

Aboriginal Rights Claims and the Making and Remaking of History (McGill-Queen’s, 2016) by **Arthur J. Ray** has been chosen as this year’s winner of the Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize. Presented at UBC Library in early June, the “Bazzie” goes to the best academic book pertaining to B.C.

Ray’s unprecedented, comparative overview looks at how Indigenous people’s rights have been handled in Canada, the U.S., New Zealand, Australia and South Africa. Ray has garnered the 2017 Canada Prize in the Humanities and Social Sciences for the same book.

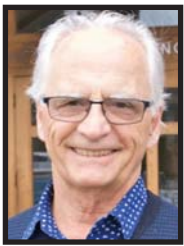


Claudia Casper

Co-sponsored by UBC Library and Pacific BookWorld News Society, the Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize for Outstanding Book on B.C. was established in memory of **Basil Stuart-Stubbs**, a bibliophile, scholar and librarian who died in 2012.

Labour love not lost

Drawn To Change: Graphic Histories of Working Class Struggle (Between The Lines, 2016) has won both the Canadian Historical Association’s Public History Prize and the \$10,000 Wilson Prize, an award that goes to the book that succeeds in making Canadian historical scholarship accessible to a wide and transnational audience. *Drawn To Change* was edited by **Paul Buhle** and the Graphic History Collective. B.C. contributors include **Kara Sievwright, Sam Bradd, Robin Folvik, David Lester, Mark Leier, Tania Willard, Dale McCartney**, and **Ron Verzuh**.



Arthur J. Ray

BC Short Story winner

Alix Hawley has won the \$6,000 CBC Short Story Prize for *Witching*. She was runner-up in this contest in 2012 and 2014. Her first novel, *All True Not a Lie In It* (Knopf, 2015), won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and the Amazon.ca First Novel Award.

The broken promises of Canada

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SURVIVING CANADA

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CELEBRATE 150 YEARS OF BETRAYAL

THE Ormsby REVIEW

A journal of serious non-fiction about B.C.

Advisory Panel: Jean Barman, Wade Davis, Cole Harris, Hugh Johnston, Patricia Roy, David Stouck, Graeme Wynn

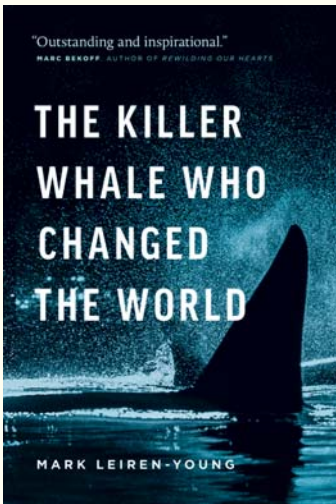
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Richard Mackie,
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Greystone Books congratulates Mark Leiren-Young, author of *The Killer Whale Who Saved the World*, and nominee for the BC Book Prizes’ Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize!

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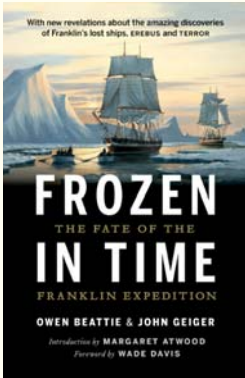
MARC BEKOFF, author of *Rewilding Our Hearts*



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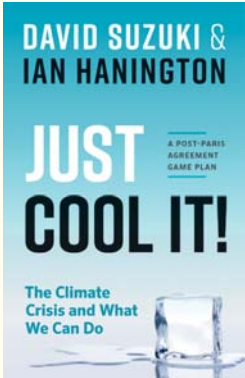
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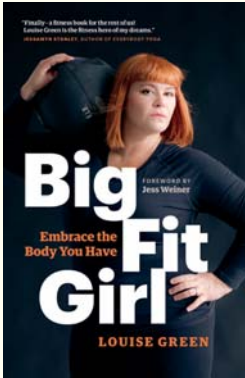


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Foreword by **JESS WEINER**

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Light Within the Shadows: A Painter's Memoir by Pnina Granirer (Granville Island \$24.95)

LIGHT WITHIN THE Shadows: A Painter's Memoir by Pnina Granirer

deftly weaves together two narratives: Granirer's journey as a Romanian Jew who survives World War II and immigrates to North America, as well as her awakening as an artist who develops into a celebrated painter.

Born in the port city of Braila in 1935, Pnina Granirer grew up under the brutal, fascism of the Iron Guard, an ultra-nationalist, anti-semitic, orthodox Christian movement under the dictatorial direction of **Horia Sima**. When **Ion Antonescu** came to power in September, 1940 and soon destroyed the Iron Guard, the Romanian Jewish community were seemingly less endangered than other Eastern European Jews.

But freedoms were steadily eroded. Ownership of telephones and radios was forbidden, cars and finally homes and libraries were plundered. Only much later, when she read **I.C. Butnaru's** *The Silent Holocaust: Romania and Its Jews*, did Granirer understand the full extent of the devastation: half the Jewish population had been slaughtered.

Cattle trucks stood ready to deport the remaining Jews to the death camps, even as the country was "liberated" by the Russian army. This salvation, greeted rapturously at first, turned into another form of persecution. Under Communist rule, Granirer's father, a committed socialist, was forced into hiding until he could be smuggled out to Israel. The rest of the family eventually followed him, their emigration made possible by Israel's willingness to pay ransom for Romanian Jews. Granirer and her mother were each ransomed for \$100.

She describes her adolescent years in Israel as relatively happy ones, in spite of the poverty and crowded conditions. As an immigrant who didn't know the language she worked hard to gain an education, met a fellow Romanian who became her husband and, until marriage exempted her, did the required military service. The young couple hoped to remain in Israel but their departure, like that of most "brain drains" world-wide, resulted from the lack of jobs. The Hebrew University had no position for her husband, who had earned his Ph.D. in mathematics there. The U.S., on the other hand, propelled into the space race by the Russian success of Sputnik, was recruiting mathematicians.

Her husband's career

ALL ABOUT EVE & PNINA

Living through the Holocaust and escaping Stalinism led to Pnina Granirer's life of making art.

brought them first to the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, later to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and finally to Vancouver, where Granirer began to find her way as an artist. As a schoolgirl she had been assigned the dubious and frightening task of producing a portrait of **Stalin**; in Israel she

Myfanwy Pavelic and others. She was honoured that architect and expressionist painter, **Maxwell Bates** bought one of her woodprints.

During a year in Montreal, her camaraderie with artists living bohemian



JOAN GIVNER

other female artists and by attending a workshop in 1980 with **Judy Chicago**, whose sensational work *The Dinner Party* was drawing crowds. Judy Chicago's statement that no woman artist can ever make it big if

Burnaby and at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, *The Trials of Eve* became the basis of an award-winning book and was made into a film, shown at two international festivals. It is now part of the permanent collection at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary.

Her next project, *The Carved Stones* series (1985-90), mixed-media works on paper and canvas, was inspired by the rocks and stones of the Gulf Islands that display wild nature in its purest form, and by her contemplation of the contrast between them and the man-made statues of historical figures she saw in Paris.

Her involvement with an international organization, Fear of Others: Art Against Racism, inspired *Out of the Flames*, a triptych depicting war, destruction and survival. This was accepted by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem for its permanent collection and later included in the exhibition *Virtues of*



Pnina Granirer in her studio.

had found employment in factories that produced painted clocks and lampshades but, lacking a green card in the U.S., she was unable to work. Instead, she discovered a new freedom in drawing and painting to please herself, practising art for art's sake.



IT WAS IN VANCOUVER IN 1965 that she made her first association with a gallery—the small Danish Art Gallery run by **Peder Bertelsen**. There, at the age of thirty, she had her debut exhibition. A year later, a second exhibition was scheduled in Victoria at a small gallery on Pandora Street. This brought her into contact with the artists who in 1971 formed The Limners Group—**Pat Martin Bates**, **Herbert Siebner**, **Karl Spreitz**,

lives devoted exclusively to their art made her question the effect on her work of her own conventional life as a wife and a mother. Her doubts were reinforced by talking to

she has a family resonated and propelled Granirer into her most ambitious work.

The Trials of Eve (1983) is a series of twelve mixed-media paintings that examine the subjugation of women, beginning with the creation myth in the first two chapters of Genesis. Her model for the figures of Adam and Eve was a wooden marionette—face blank, race undefined, sex ambiguous, limbs easily manipulated. For the voice of Eve she chose the symbol of the Cannibal Bird of First Nations mythology. The structure of the series, to which she added lines of verse, echoed that of a play in three acts.

After exhibitions in

Memory: Six Decades of Holocaust Survivors' Creativity.

For this memoir, each step in Granirer's career is illustrated with her work—from the drawings she made of places and people in Israel and the American mid-west to the ambitious paintings of her most recent period. The paintings, many from *The Carved Stones* series, are reproduced in full colour. The visual component adds a rich dimension to this artist's account of living and creating through eight decades of monumental upheaval and change.

978-1-926991-83-2



A MAJOR RETROSPECTIVE OF Pnina Granirer's work was published in **Ted Lindberg's** *Pnina Granirer: Portrait of an Artist* (Ronsdale, 1998).

Biographer and novelist Joan Givner writes from Victoria.



The Trial from Pnina Granirer's series The Trials of Eve.

**Traces of Words:
Art and Calligraphy from Asia**
(Figure 1 \$45)

THE GIST OF AN EXHIBITION (May 11 to October 9) at UBC's Museum of Anthropology that explores the practice of calligraphic art, **Traces of Words: Art and Calligraphy from Asia** has been condensed into a 176-page book with the same title.

One of the most courageous artists in *Traces of Words* is **Shamsia Hassani**, who has been called the first female graffiti artist in Afghanistan.

Not yet 30, she spray paints over structures ravaged by war in her home city of Kabul.

Given the suppression of women in many parts of Afghanistan, Hassani frequently cannot visit sites that interest her. Instead, she creates what she calls "dreaming graffiti" by painting graffiti on photos of places she would like to visit.

Dreaming Graffiti—Words, depicts a bombed-out crater in front of a row of houses with graffiti painted on the photograph itself.

What about the Dead Fish? is a photo of real graffiti spray painted by Hassani of floating fish and a burka-clad woman on a shot-up, crumbling ma-



A rare image of Kabul activist Shamsia Hassani at work on a mural in public view.

AFGHAN SPRAYCANS

How calligraphy and graffiti go hand in hand

sonry wall. The woman appears to be seated on the actual steps. The spray painted words beside the female figure read: "The water can come back to a dried-up river, but what about the fish that died?"



HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS FEATURED in *Traces of Words* include Sumerian cuneiform inscriptions (some of the oldest writings in the world), Qur'anic

manuscripts, Chinese and Japanese calligraphy, calligraphic tools, as well as ceramic bowls, inkpots, and enamel incense burners marked with calligraphy.

Modern pieces tap into digital and interactive representations.

For instance, a digi-



BEVERLY CRAMP

tal installation called *What a Loving, and Beautiful World*, from Japan's teamLab—a collective that calls their members ultra-technologists—is a 360-degree, computer-generated projection that

lights up the walls of the gallery.

When the shadow of a museum visitor touches one of the projected characters on the walls, the world of that character comes to life and new events occur in real time.

The worlds created, as in nature, have no two identical moments.



IT IS NOT COMMONLY KNOWN THAT the UBC Library has one of the few major collections of pre-modern Asian books and manuscripts outside of Asia.

The Council on East Asian Libraries ranks UBC's Asian Library among the best in the world. And MOA itself holds a large collection of Asian artifacts—18,000 items.

A combination of both collections will be on display at UBC's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre.



WORDS, ACCORDING TO CURATOR, Dr. **Fuyubi Nakamura**, "are physical traces of time and space" that embody what is ephemeral and eternal in life.

"We leave traces of ourselves throughout life, be they visible or invisible. Words, whether spoken, written, imagined or visualized, are traces unique to humans."

978-1927958902

Beverly Cramp is associate editor of BC BookWorld.

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A Taste of Empire by
Jovanni Sy (Talonbooks \$16.95)

BY PAUL DURRAS

JOVANNI SY'S **A TASTE of Empire** was nominated for two Dora Mavor Moore Awards, including Outstanding New Play, when he first performed his one-man show in 2010.

Remounted outdoors by Boca del Lupo Theatre at Granville Island Market in 2014, **A Taste of Empire** is an amalgam of cuisine and geo-politics. Although **A Taste of Empire** is limited to one character who cooks a fish for an hour-and-a-half, it's one of the most expansive evenings of Canadian theatre in terms of geographical reach and political scope.

It begins as a spoof. The canned voice of an overly enthusiastic emcee whips up enthusiasm for the entrance of Chef Maximo Cortez—Kitchen Gangsta! Ludicrous slides of this self-satisfied celebrity chef are part of the advance hype. Chef Maximo has an extensive product line. We learn this Messiah in an apron unabashedly favours Imperialist Cuisine—described as food made cheaper and more plentiful by mass production, combined with political oppression.

But the wunderkind Chef Maximo can't make it! Our kitchen guru has been called away to cook for one of his celebrity clients! Not unlike Disney's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, an underling sous-chef must simulate the presentation of the master.

At first it appears our substitute chef is the sort of sycophantic underling who would have followed **Jim Jones** to Guyana. He has drunk the kool-aid. The sous-chef is not at liberty to expose the identity of any of Chef Maximo's private customers, but he does say, "I can tell you that **Bono** just loves his empanadas."

He hasn't had a day off work for years, but Chef Maximo's primo lackey is ever-grateful just to be granted proximity to greatness. That one time when Chef Maximo locked him overnight in the freezer as punishment, well, he deserved it. And so the humble sous-chef proceeds to emulate his master by making a Filipino dish from Northern Luzon called "Rellenog Bangus" (stuffed milkfish).

The first clue that we can expect something more wide-ranging than comic satire occurs when sous-chef confides he has been in the service of Chef Maximo ever since he was rescued from a Romanian orphanage at age ten. This guy certainly doesn't look Romanian...

It turns out *A Taste of Empire* is largely about looking

Think KITCHEN

Funny, fishy and far-reaching,
A Taste of Empire is fascinating international fare.

beneath the surface of things.

As the sous-chef proceeds to dissect the origins of his monkfish recipe, he describes the Ita tribe that traditionally caught the fish. We are enthusiastically told it is surely a good thing that Ita fishermen were supplanted by a corporation called Imperial Seafood. It is a good thing fish farms have increased the yield more than a thousand-fold. "Everybody's a winner!"

The cooking narratives are spiced with history. Thousands of islands off the coast of Asia were named the Philip-

ines by **Ferdinand Magellan** in 1521 to honour **King Philip the Second** of Spain. You already knew that, right?

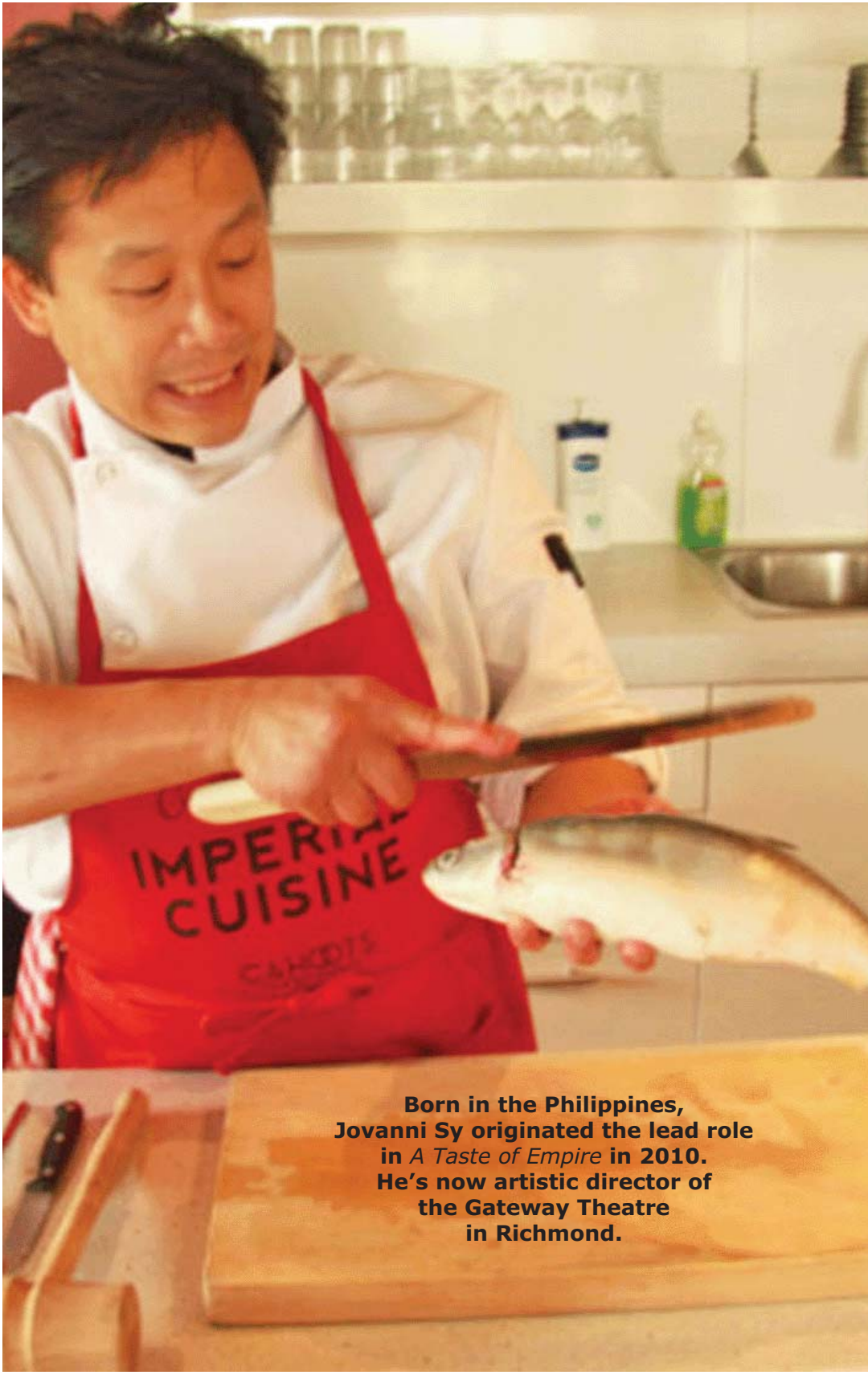
After the Spanish generously brought "the gift of eternal salvation and the gift of Christian modesty" to the heathens of the Philippines in the 17th century—as they had done for both Americas—there was fifty years of American domination in the wake of **Teddy Roosevelt's** propaganda-inflated victory in the so-called Spanish American war (actually it was the Cuban-Filipino-Spanish-American War but the

people upon whose homelands the wars were fought didn't get equal billing).

Then came the Japanese Occupation...

It has all worked out for the best. Our chef gleefully outlines how conquering cultures have enhanced the diversity of global cuisine. Did you know the tomato became popular in Spain only after seeds from Central America were first taken to the Philippines? And the Americans gave the Filipinos spam and Heinz ketchup?

Did you know 15% of Filipinos now have diabetes?



Born in the Philippines, Jovanni Sy originated the lead role in *A Taste of Empire* in 2010. He's now artistic director of the Gateway Theatre in Richmond.

It takes the sous-chef ninety minutes to prepare one dish that will ultimately be shared by the audience. Even someone who is foodie-phobic cannot help but marvel at the deft intricacies of the sous-chef's skill. This is not an actor pretending to be a chef; it's a chef doubling as an actor.

First, he massages the fish scales, making sure he doesn't puncture it. He loosens the flesh from the skin with a special knife. Then he carefully squeezes out the innards through a small slit. The fish meat is steamed on a banana leaf while the carcass is marinated in a soy sauce marinade.

Then the fish meat is added to the sofrito (garlic, olive oil, onion, tomato, raisin mixture) and cooled. At one point, he literally turns the fish outside in, the way one would unravel a sock from the dryer. The various fixings are all piped back into the empty fish skin, dredged in flour and panko breadcrumbs and fried golden, to be garnished with a tomato rose.

During this process we learn that most of the components of the Filipino milkfish recipe that are seemingly Spanish—such as the sofrito marinade, or stuffing—are derived from products that were originally Asian. And did you know 80% of the world's garlic comes from China?

While cooking, the sous-chef delivers a seamless monologue that doubles as a history lesson and a parody of the cooking show genre. The more he espouses the benefits of "imperial cuisine," essentially defending unbridled capitalism, the more we are being prepared for an ending that cannot be revealed.

Along the way there are unexpected asides about the nature of torture—specifically the evolution of waterboarding by the Americans—and yet somehow the protagonist manages to avoid didacticism by maintaining his façade of gleeful diligence.

The show hits home when the sous-chef starts telling us about Carlos, the Mexican tomato picker, who arrives in B.C. courtesy of the federal Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program.

Similarly vulnerable to exploitation are the thousands of Filipina nannies who come to B.C. under the federal Live-in Caregiver Program.

The extent to which Jovanni Sy's *A Taste of Empire* has anti-racist underpinnings is one of the fascinating aspects of the piece—clowning as a socially acceptable alternative to anger.



A TASTE OF EMPIRE WAS REMOUNTED for a Cantonese version in Richmond at the Gateway Theatre, translated and performed by **Derek Chan**, with Jovanni Sy directing, in 2016.

9781772011609

Staging Modernist Lives:
H.D., Mina Loy, Nancy Cunard,
Three Plays and Criticism
by Sasha Colby
 (McGill-Queens \$37.95)

RECOGNIZING THAT teaching and presenting papers are performances in themselves, **Sasha Colby** has fused her studies of three remarkable women into a fascinating triad of theatrical presentations for **Staging Modernist Lives**.

Although this volume lacks photos for its extraordinary subjects—**H.D.** (Hilda Doolittle), **Mina Loy** and **Nancy Cunard**—possibly that’s coherent with a mandate to inspire curiosity. After an obligatory and sometimes perplexing foreword, Colby ventures into fresh pedagogical territory, taking an unconventional approach to unconventional subjects—and that’s intriguing.

Rapunzel-like, Colby first let down her hair and escaped from the ivory tower of academe—where she is SFU’s director of the Graduate Liberal Studies program—when she wrote and performed a twenty-five-character one woman show about H.D. for the Vancouver Fringe Festival. She has since proceeded to fashion plays about the shipping heiress-turned-radical-publisher Nancy Cunard and the avant-garde poet and visual artist Mina Loy.

Readers of this volume will have a hard time picking a favourite from among the fascinating trio of trailblazers. H.D. and Loy were both connected to Freud, but Cunard’s life would likely make the best movie.

As the great-granddaughter of **Samuel Cunard**, founder of a transatlantic shipping line, she grew up in a 700-year-old castle but eschewed a life of privilege in favour of fighting for racial equality; founding the Hours Press in the 1920s; reporting on the Spanish Civil War; befriending **Ernest**



LAURA SAWCHUK PHOTO

FROM Ph.D. TO H.D.: Sasha Colby recently performed her one-woman show about H.D. (Hilda Doolittle) in Paris.

BOLD LIVES REVERED

Teaching is a performance, so **Sasha Colby** is staging scripted lessons about three literary women who defied convention.

Hemingway, Augustus John and **Aldous Huxley**; being photographed by **Man Ray**; having romantic involvements with **Ezra Pound**, **T.S. Eliot** and **Pablo Neruda**; and publishing **Samuel Beckett** and a landmark compilation *Negro: An Anthology* (1934). In 1965, this great beauty was found unconscious on a Paris street at age 69, destitute, dying soon after.

Most playwrights would not ask an actor to portray H.D. by saying: “Near the

birth of my baby in 1919, Ezra hurtled himself into the decorous St. Faith Nursing Home. Beard, black soft hat, ebony stick—something unbelievably operatic—directoire overcoat, Verdi.” But then most plays don’t come with footnotes.

The intent is to teach H.D., Loy and Cunard as much as it is to recreate them as characters, so Colby favours researched-based texts with direct quotes from her subjects’ literary works and letters.

If there’s a central link it’s Ezra Pound who also critiqued Loy’s poetry and was engaged to H.D (who maintained a female life partner, poet/novelist **Byher** while being married to poet **Richard Aldington**).

There have been many plays and movies about writers. Back in the 1970s, for instance, local playwright **Michael Mercer** gave us *Goodnight Disgrace* (Talon, 1986), an excellent drama about the real-life meeting between **Malcolm Lowry** and American

writer **Conrad Aiken**.

With her book, Colby presents flesh ‘n’ blood lectures delivered by the subjects being studied—making for very unusual theatrical fare. In the process, she illuminates the bravado of artistic and feminist pathfinding in the 20th century.

No doubt H.D., Mina Loy and Nancy Cunard would applaud Colby’s resolve to not merely break a mold, but to try and fashion a new one.

978-0-7735-4894-7

Should Auld Acquaintance
 Discovering the Woman Behind Robert Burns
 BY MELANIE MURRAY
 Robbie Burns’ wife, the “Belle of Mauchline” is given a voice in this lyrical and intimate depiction. NON-FICTION

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 BY MICHAEL V. SMITH
 In his first poetry book in over a decade, Smith explores how an altered perspective effects change and how stories can be recaptured and recast in dreams and prayers. POETRY

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SOMETHING IS HAPPENING

And you don't know what it is

Helpless Angels
by Tom Wayman (ThistleDown \$20)

WHEN WE DRIVE IN A CAR listening to any piece of music we want to hear, from anywhere in the world, we are richer than kings.

This is new. So **Tom Wayman** has been thinking a lot about the power and ubiquitous presence of music in our everyday lives, giving rise to **Helpless Angels**, a series of poetic meditations.

"The story behind the book," Wayman writes in his introduction, "is my realization that my generation is the first generation in human history that became able to hear any place our choice of music performed by someone else."

One of the points Wayman makes is to stress the long-standing connection between music and poetry—how English-language poetry begins as song lyric, and only migrates onto the page as literacy increases.

The book's longest poem, written long before **Bob Dylan** won the 2016 Nobel Prize for Literature, is about Bob Dylan's lyrics. "It wasn't intentional," Wayman told *BC BookWorld*, "but my poem and by implication my entire new book is an answer to those who were horrified by the awarding of the Nobel to Dylan."

"I know there were news items and essays pro and con right after it was announced. But my response is a poetic endorsement of the Nobel Prize committee's decision that worthy lyrics are unquestionably literature."

Wayman points to excerpts from Dylan lyrics—for example, "the times they are a-changin'"—that are referred to repeatedly in our culture the way phrases or sayings by time-honored authors are quoted in speeches and writing.

"Two of my Dylan favorites are 'when there's too much of nothing, / No one has control' from the song *Too Much of Nothing*, and 'Time is an ocean but it ends at the shore' from the song *Oh Sister*."

Wayman adds that he's impressed by how Dylan's lyrics can tell a complete and complex short story in a song like *Tangled Up in Blue* from 1975 and also relate a series of separate mini-stories that resemble contemporary flash fiction in his more recent work like *Floater* from the 2001 album *Love and Theft*.

Wayman grew up back when hearing music meant you had to make music yourself, or go to a particular place at a certain time to hear it. A sing-along was part of most adult parties. Music, including choir,

was compulsory in school.

"Every public meeting began with the crowd singing *O Canada*," he recalls, "and ended with the crowd singing *God Save the King*, and after 1953, *God Save the Queen*. We sang in Boy Scouts as we marched and when we sat around the campfire. Labour hymns sung by all were part of many union meetings."

Then came the LP, the 45 and car radios. Then came the radio disc jockey and the transistor radio and the jukebox. Then came 8-tracks and cassettes and Walkmans. "All meant that music made by others could be heard in more places," he says. "By then anyplace you went you could hear the music you wanted to hear when you wanted to hear it. So this book explores how this development has influenced our lives."

Some poems honour certain musicians who have been

important to his life; others capture something of the music found in nature. The online and print magazine for innovative music, *Musicworks*, based in Toronto, has an annual national literary competition focused on the sound of a place. Wayman's winning poem for its Sonic Geography literary contest deals with the differences in the music of wind in the subalpine and on the valley floor, and the different "musics" that are audible while a creek descends the mountainside toward the Slokan River.

Some poems are song-like; others are road-poems, others mourn the death of a dear friend. The book's title poem was originally published in *The Hudson Review*.

"We're the first people in the long cavalcade of human history ever to have access to so much music that we don't have to make ourselves, or go to a special place at an announced time to listen to," Wayman says.

"The obviousness of this fact makes it invisible to, or taken for granted by, most people. To me, having grown up during the era when access to music was so fundamentally changing, this fact is both a continuing inspiration and a wonder."

978-1-77187-131-0



Tom Wayman

Bob Dylan, Newport Folk Festival, 1964, the year *The Times They Are a Changin'* was released.

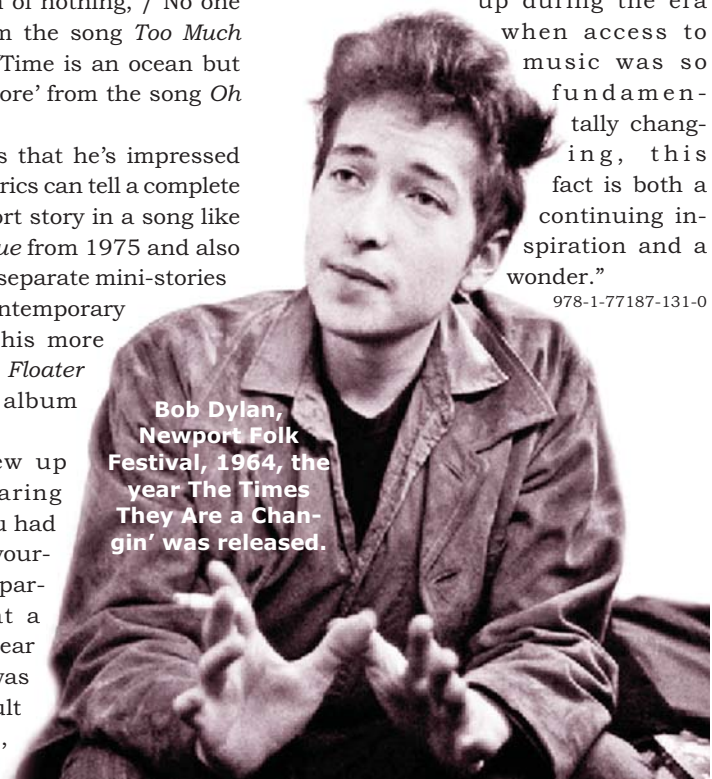


Photo credit: Jourdan Tymkow



IVAN COYOTE

FORMER RESIDENCE
3000 BLOCK, VICTORIA DR.

Here Ivan Coyote lived for fourteen years in an attic apartment during the rise of an unparalleled literary career. A devastating fire in the building forced Coyote to vacate. The rent had been \$316 per month. An electrical fire that destroyed Coyote's computer is described in *Loose End* (2006), a collection of Coyote's columns from *Xtra West*, a queer newspaper in Vancouver. The columns mainly described life in the East End of Vancouver. In 2009 Ivan Coyote was named as writer-in-residence for the Vancouver Public Library. Ten years earlier that would likely have been unthinkable for such an outspoken LGBT advocate. Less than ten years later Ivan Coyote had evolved into a mainstream headliner at events around the world, and a spokesperson who advocated for the use of the gender neutral pronoun 'they/them/theirs' instead of the gender specific terms 'his' and 'hers'. In 2007, Ivan Coyote won the ReLit Award for the novel *Bow Grip*.

"I LOST A FEW STORIES, BUT STORIES BREED LIKE BUNNIES AND GROW LIKE WEEDS. AND I HEARD SOMEWHERE THAT ASHES MAKE GREAT FERTILIZER."

FROM "DAMAGE DEPOSIT" IN *LOOSE END*

Ivan E. Coyote, whose 11th book, *Tomboy Survival Guide*, was released in September 2016, by Arsenal Pulp Press, will receive an honorary doctorate later this year from SFU. Coyote's literary landmark plaque (as shown) is one of ten more erected this year by Vancouver Public Library and BC BookWorld.

See more: vpl.ca/LiteraryLandmark



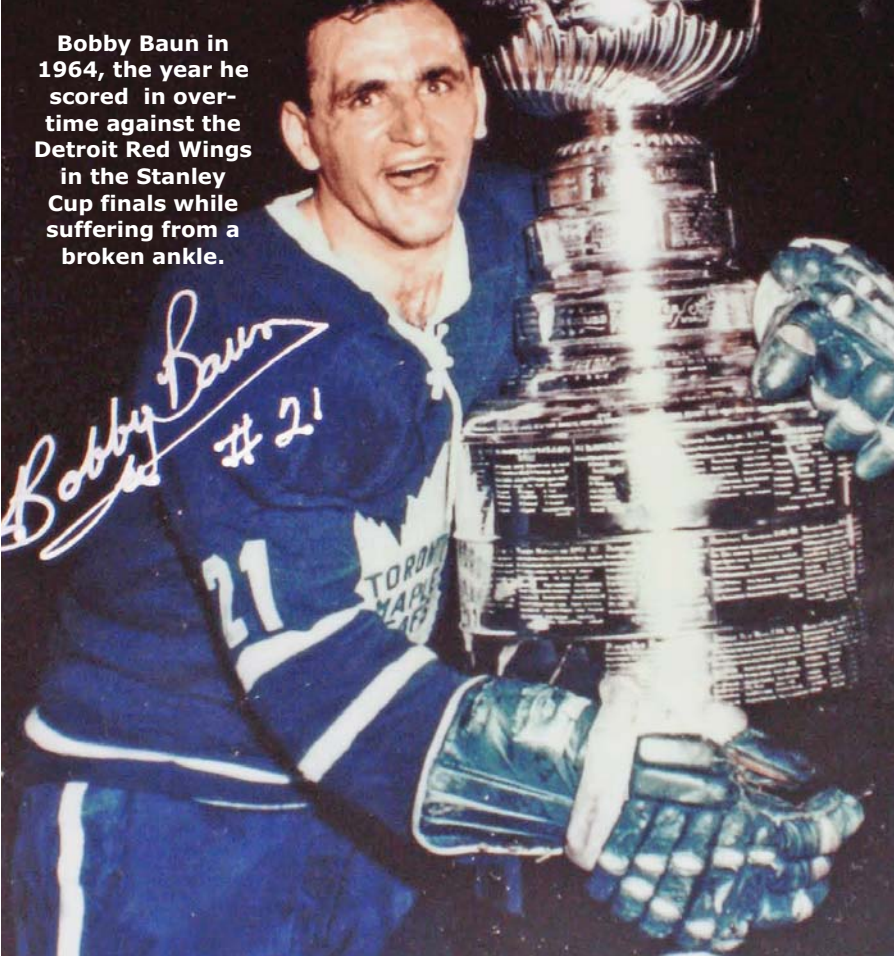
Vancouver Public Library



The Literary Landmark project is supported by the VPL Foundation.

review

POETRY



Bobby Baun in 1964, the year he scored in overtime against the Detroit Red Wings in the Stanley Cup finals while suffering from a broken ankle.

HOCKEY DNA

From Howe to Gretzky to McDavid

The DNA of the NHL
by Stephen Roxborough
(Ekstasis \$23.95)

HOCKEY AIN'T LIKE IT USED to be back in the good ol' days when there were only six teams in the NHL, rivalries were fierce, **Murray Westgate** did the Esso commercials between periods, **Foster Hewitt** couldn't pronounce the French players' names properly and **Bobby Baun** played on a broken ankle.

Canada's international superiority is gone. But the lure of the game is perpetuated by an onslaught of TV highlights and commercialism as **McDavid** replaces **Gretzky**, statistics abound, and the business of hockey is increasingly deemed newsworthy. Now, in synch with Canada's 150th birthday, we're apprised that the misnamed National Hockey League is marking its 100th anniversary.

That's as good a reason as any for **Stephen Roxborough's** series of poems that collectively serve as an homage to the game, **The DNA of the NHL**. This volume "deconstructs and illuminates the Canadian national sport of hockey in an extraordinary merger of sports and art." But perhaps you'd rather hear from literary critic Bobby Baun, a 17-year NHL veteran, three-time all-star, four-time Stanley Cup winner, whose autobiography is called *Lowering The Boom* (Stoddart, 2000). He body checks; he reads. While his more famous defence partner **Tim Horton** died in a car crash long ago, Bobby Baun is still around and he has praised *The DNA of the NHL* as "a quick and entertaining read. Stephen has the ability to use words to illustrate totally divergent meanings, in a way that makes one not only think, but

often also smile."

But a more persuasive reason to check out the NHL in our collective DNA is the extent to which Roxborough's family has been deeply entrenched in the game. He writes:

"My grandfather's electrical company wired Maple Leaf Gardens. My father was captain of his high school hockey team. My great uncle wrote the first book on the history of the Stanley Cup. My father always had a subscription to *The Hockey News*. My older brother received his monthly fix through *The Hockey News* pictorials. Pre-cable pre-expansion pre-widespread hockey acceptance in North America. We listened to games on the radio. In 1968 my family moved to Vancouver and my brother got a job as a statistician with the Western Hockey League (WHL) Canucks. Over the years my parents held season's tickets for the Maple Leafs and Canucks and [Florida] Panthers. When I went to University in Madison in the early 70s, **Bob Johnson** was hockey coach and Wisconsin became the best collegiate team in the USA."



STEPHEN ROXBOROUGH FIRST ATTENDED AN NHL game in 1964 when he was fortunate to witness the seventh game of the 1964 Stanley Cup final. That was the game after Baun broke his ankle and refused medical attention in order to help his team hoist the Cup when the Leafs bested the Red Wings, 4-0.

Eventually Roxborough met his hockey hero, Mr. Hockey, in Las Vegas, a couple of years before **Gordie Howe** died. "Gordie was playful and gracious," he recalls, "and especially nice to my son, Zachary." Although Roxborough never played the game growing up in Vancouver, he's been an ardent student of it since he was young. "It's in my DNA," he says. Hence the title.

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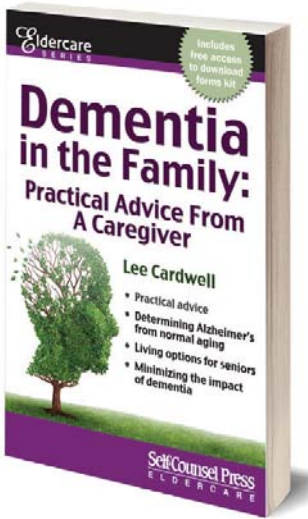


Dementia In the Family: Practical Advice From A Caregiver

by Lee Cardwell - spent several years caring for her mother as she slipped into Alzheimer's.

- Six million people in North America have some form of dementia, each averaging five care partners.
- This book provides clinical information in lay-terms within a true story of how dementia affects not just the person with the disease, but everyone around them.
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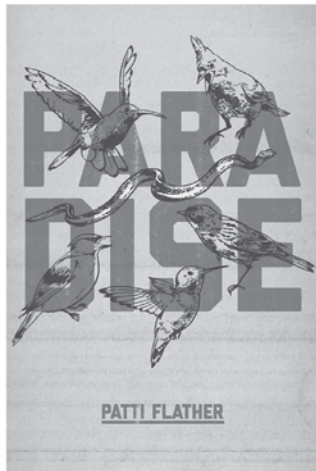
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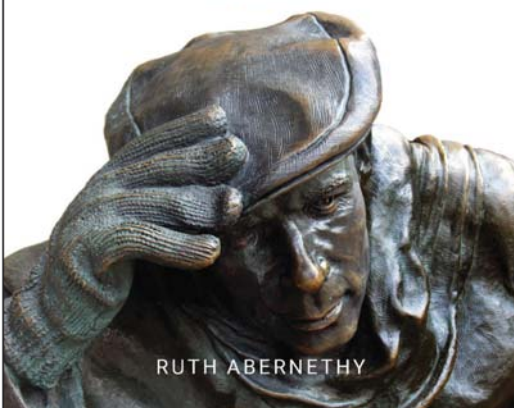
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review

YA FICTION

DOWN IN DOWN UNDER

Munro vs. The Coyote
by **Darren Groth** (Orca Books \$19.95)

AGES 12+

BY CAROL ANNE SHAW

SINCE THE SUDDEN DEATH OF his sister, sixteen-year-old Munro Maddux has been angry, depressed, and confused. Even worse, he can't get rid of a horrible voice in his head—the one he calls “The Coyote.”

Every time Munro takes a step toward healing his broken heart, Coyote is there to tell him not to bother. He's really just a loser. And let's face it: he's partly to blame for Evie's death.

Grief-stricken, and at a loss as to how to help their son, Munro's parents decide to send him on a six-month student exchange to Brisbane, Australia, hoping a change might do him good. Munro isn't exactly thrilled. The name of the program is YOLO and its pamphlet is chock-full of ALL-CAPS text and too many exclamation marks!

But soon after the plane lands in Australia, Munro begins to settle in. His host family is pretty cool, and he quickly makes friends with a group of kids at his new school, including Caro, whose eyes are big and wide. Her mouth always looks ready to break out in a smile, even when it's filled with ramen noodles.

But as soon as things begin to show signs of improvement, The Coyote shows up, doing his best to alienate Munro from his new friends. To make matters worse, Munro learns there is a volunteer component of his exchange experience — one

that will see him working as a “Living Partner” to a group of special needs residents at the Fair Go Community Village in Brisbane.

“No way!” he thinks. “I've got to get reassigned!”

Evie had Down Syndrome, and this is just a little bit too close to home.

Then Munro discovers that Fair Go is the one place where The Coyote actually keeps his mouth shut. Maybe this isn't going to be so bad after all. In fact, it's kind of great. Munro soon makes solid connections with his group of residents, including Blake, a Down Syndrome girl with a spirit almost as bright as Evie's had been.

As his volunteer hours grow, Munro finds himself spending more and more time with his Fair Go group. He is especially determined to connect with Shah, a group member who managed to escape the atrocities of civil war in the Middle East in the back of a

truck, only to become separated from his family.

Shah is distant and guarded, but to his delight, Munro slowly earns the boy's trust through brief conversations they share over a chessboard. Only when two members of Munro's group suddenly leave Fair Go does Munro's old nemesis, The Coyote, makes a return. Munro suffers a setback. What was he thinking? He should have known this was all a mistake.

Munro lets down two members of his group, just the way he let down Evie. He couldn't save her, and he can't fix things for Blake and Shah, either. He's useless, according to The Coyote, and the sooner he realizes it, the better.

The way out is to begin to trust the people around him—the people who want to help him find the old Munro again. With loving support and a strength he didn't know he had, Munro learns that often the best thing you can do when you're down is to get out of your own head and help someone else.



OBVIOUSLY AUSTRALIAN EX-PAT **Darren Groth** of Vancouver has spent considerable time in the company of young people. The dialogue between the teens is both engaging and completely authentic, a feat sometimes difficult for grown-ups to pull off.

The story moves quickly and we meet a host of characters along the way. I fell in love with the members of Munro's Fair Go group, all of them delightfully unique, while the adults who pepper the pages of the story are also wonderfully human.

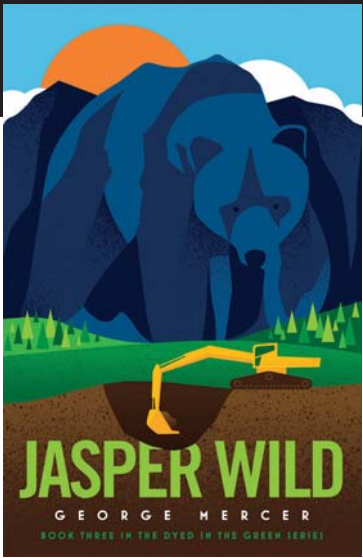
In addition to some laugh-out-loud humour, this page-turner has some heart-wrenching

moments, but the sentiment is never sloppy or gratuitous. While Munro vs. the Coyote is a book about loss, grief, despair, and the messiness of a sixteen-year-old's broken heart, ultimately it is an account of healing. It is a richly layered book about love, the tenacity of the human spirit, and our capacity to mend.

Darren Groth is a brilliant storyteller and readers will recognize the nagging voice of The Coyote—that alter-ego naysayer so many of us come up against during challenging times, and younger readers will certainly enjoy the growing romance that develops between Munro and the lovely Caro.

9781459814097

Carol Anne Shaw is the author of Hannah & the Spindle Whorl, Hannah & the Salish Sea, and Hannah & the Wild Woods (Ronsdale Press). She lives at Cobble Hill on Vancouver Island.



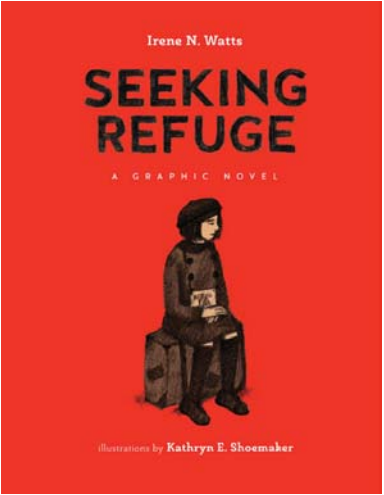
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Eleven -year-old Marianne is fortunate. It is 1938, and she is one of the first Jewish children to arrive in London, England in the heroic rescue operation known as the Kindertransport.

“An excellent tool for introducing xenophobia and the refugee crisis to upper-elementary and middle-grade readers.”
— *Booklist*

“A book that invites close reading, this will spark interest in the plight of all refugees.”
— *Kirkus Reviews*

Seeking Refuge is an excellent book that brings to life the story of refugee children during World War II.
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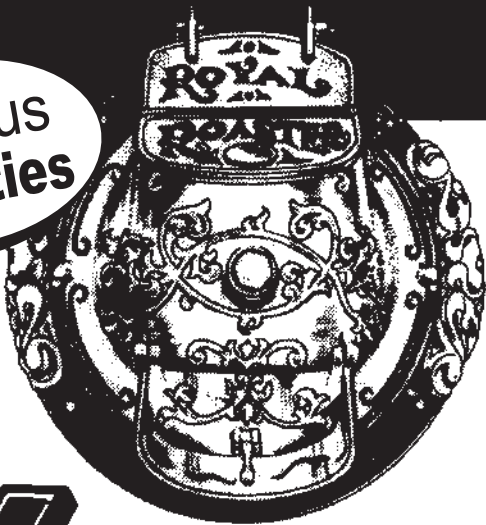
“Shoemaker's quiet, silvery-penciled panels soften this Holocaust narrative (and) offer (young readers) some hope.”
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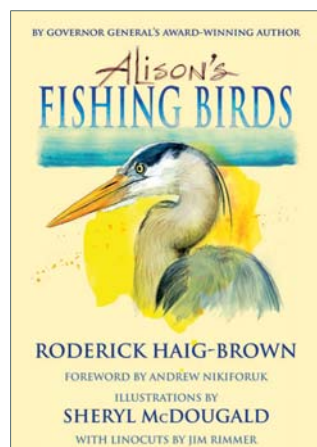
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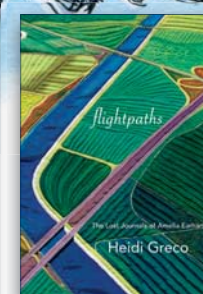
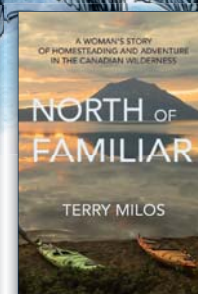
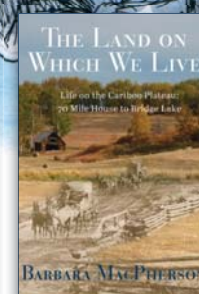
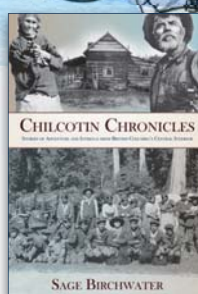
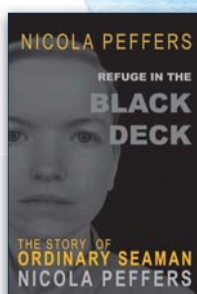
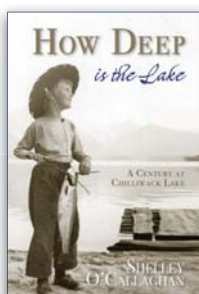
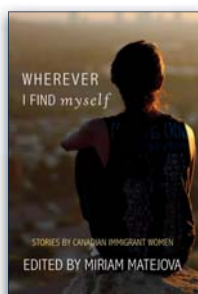


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THE HEAT IS ON



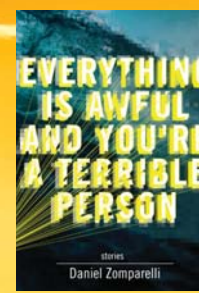
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"This is a bomb of a book wrapped up in 32 short stories ... It feels like an explosion of fresh air."
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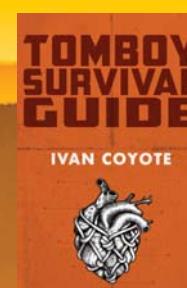
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Eyes & Spies:
How You're Tracked &
Why You Should Know
by Tanya Lloyd Kyi
(Annick \$14.95)

YOU DIDN'T PLAN YOUR route to tonight's party; you know Google Maps will get you there.

You found your dress at Le Chateau's Cyber Monday sale, and browsed tall boots on the Hudson Bay's website before scoring a great used pair on Craigslist. At the market, you swiped your Air Miles card for the crackers you're bringing.

You're ready to rock.

Congratulations. You just gave away a fistful of personal information. For the next month, your browser will be inundated with ads for dresses and boots, and the customized Air Miles coupons are in the mail.

Big data, digital tattoos and the ever-growing encroachment of the wired world on our personal privacy are the subjects for **Tanya Lloyd Kyi's *Eyes & Spies: How You're Tracked and Why You Should Know***.

Although it's written for kids in the 12-14 age range, every adult should get this book, read it five times, and then read it aloud to every child in their life throughout the duration of each meal, shower and toothbrushing session until the message sinks in.

Every time you hit like or agree, swipe a loyalty card or hell, even click on a link, you're sending out tiny bits of information about yourself that companies and governments can then use to map your preferences, habits and beliefs.

Sound a little paranoid? It did to Kyi, too, until she learned more about how data mining works. Her ***Eyes & Spies*** reveals how we've so blithely wandered into the yawning maw of the Zero Privacy Lifestyle, drawn by the siren songs of technological innovation.



Illustration by
Belle Wuthrich,
from *Eyes
& Spies*.

SMILE YOU'RE ON

CAMERA

"You think you're being paranoid and then you read the research and you realize you're not paranoid enough." —**Tanya Lloyd Kyi**

Kyi spells out how targeted marketing works, how increased security measures affect us all, which governments are in possession of what kind of tracking software and how we have brought much of this on ourselves with our naïve trust in the companies and platforms that make our lives easier.

"It's so easy to just keep clicking 'agree' and to not even think about what you're giving away," says Kyi.

Kyi also examines how our world has greatly changed in recent years, especially in

terms of the extent to which children have free range from home (concentrically smaller circles with each passing generation) and the extent to which we monitor their movements.

Eyes & Spies is written in straightforward language with heaps of real-world examples of privacy invasions—such as tracking mechanisms on kids' backpacks and shoes to ensure school attendance; and retailers texting you in real



ALEX
VAN TOL

time as you browse, to suggest other items you might like in the store.

Kyi examines borderline privacy situations in short sidebars called *The Creepy Line*. Examples include the American insurance

company that offers tiny in-car cameras that flick on when teen drivers are speeding or taking corners too quickly.

A Saudi tracking program was instituted in 2012 that alerted a woman's male guard-

ian if she left the country without his permission (a Saudi woman is considered a minor throughout her life; she must have a father, brother, husband or son act as her guardian). Saudi Arabia suspended the program in 2014, after vehement international protest.

"We, as a society, haven't made a decision yet about these situations," says Kyi, "so for now it's up to us where our creepy line lies and where we want to give up our privacy ... or protect it."

Vancouver-based **Belle Wuthrich's** astute, graphic-novelsque illustrations inject further insight into Kyi's messages, making it easy for readers to grasp commonalities between their lives and the situations depicted on the page.

At the book's end, there's a list of sources and suggestions for further reading to give teachers and parents ideas to keep the conversation going.

After finishing *Eyes & Spies*, her 20th book for young readers, Kyi put tape over all the webcams in her house.

"It's made me more determined to talk constantly to my kids about what they're doing online and how much they understand about it," she says. "Of course, we want to be online, and being online is a good thing, but we need to understand that everything we put out there is permanent."

A mother of two school-aged children, Kyi carves out her writing time in the morning, reserving afternoons for editing, appointments, or catching up on email.

Her non-fiction titles *DNA Detective* (Annick, 2015), *50 Body Questions* (Annick, 2014) and *When the Worst Happens* (Annick, 2014) have been nominated for Red Cedar, Silver Birch and Golden Oak awards.

9781554519101

Author Alex Van Tol travels to schools around B.C., speaking with students about biodiversity, as well as about anxiety and social media.

Book-cycle

Set in Vancouver, ***On My Bike*** (Tradewind \$15.95) with text by **Kari-Lynn**

Winters and illustrations by **Christina Leist** features a young child learning to ride a bike in the city.

Suitable for ages 3-5, *On My Bike* is a followup collaboration to *On My Walk* (Tradewind, 2010). Christina Leist was born and raised in Germany, and now lives in Vancouver. 9781926890135



Christina Leist

MYSTERY of the LEANING TOWER

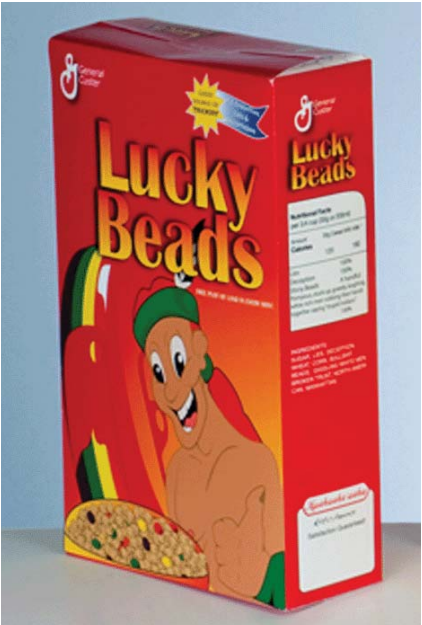
Trevor Newland's *Race to Pisa!* (Mosaic \$14.95) reveals the real reason why the Tower of Pisa leans a little to one side. It concerns the smallest king in history, Nasty King Nedward, who is jealous of his large royal tailor, Jolly Roger. The king's nasty plan to get rid of this tailor includes a balloon race involving clueless Scallywags, blistering blunderbuss balls, flimsy parachutes and Belarius, the notorious balloon master. It's about nasty revenge plans gone awry as the Scallywags once again revise history and remind us that you don't need to be very beautiful or extremely intelligent to make your mark in the world. You just need courage and the ability to make a parachute out of your trousers.

Race to Pisa is the second book in Newland's *Scallywag* series; and simultaneously **Mighty Melvin the Magnificent Mouse** (Mosaic \$14.95) is the first book in his new series about an obtuse mouse who thinks he's pretty tough. Everyone knows the world is divided into Biggies (who get whatever they want) and Smallies (who get whatever is left). Not content with his lot in life as a Smally, Melvin leaves Mouseville and sets out for the circus to find and conquer the Biggest of all Biggies. Armed with an outsized sense of confidence, he pushes past gorillas, lions and rhinos in his quest to prove he's a Biggie. Both titles are distributed by Fitzhenry and Whiteside.

Mighty Melvin: 978-1771611800 Race to Pisa: 978-1771612043

A is for Assu

RAISED IN NORTH DELTA, KWAKWAKA’WAKW contemporary artist **Sonny Assu** was eight years old when he first discovered his heritage. After graduating from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in 2002 he began creating work that merged the aesthetics of Indigenous iconography with a pop-art sensibility. **Sonny Assu: A Selective History** (Heritage \$34.95) highlights the playfulness and power in his art with essays by **Candice Hopkins, Marianne Nicolson, Richard Van Camp** and **Elyn Walker**. Assu and his family moved “home” last year to unceded territory in Campbell River. 978-1-77203-170-6



Sonny Assu: Breakfast Series, 2006 Cereal boxes, 12” x 7” x 3”

B is for Bartley

HAVING LONG MAINTAINED A FAMILY GET-away on Galiano Island, mother and daughter **Joan** and **Tracy Bartley** have written **Greening Your Cottage or Vacation Property: Reduce Your Recreational Footprint** (Self Counsel \$14.95). Joan Bartley is a potter; Tracy is an avid gardener and backyard chicken keeper who visits with her family from Los Angeles whenever she can. 978-1-77040-290-4

C is for Carney



PAT CARNEY OF SATURNA Island will be at both the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts (August 17-20) and the Sidney Literary Festival (Sept. 22-24) for her bestselling fiction collection, **On Island: Life Among the Coast Dwellers** (Touchwood \$21.95), in which the former Progressive Conservative Party cabinet member and longtime journalist describes life on an unnamed Gulf Island. Born in Shanghai, the highly assertive author served in the Senate from 1990 until 2008. 978-1771512107

D is for Dosanjh

IT TURNS OUT THERE ARE TWO VERSIONS OF **Ujjal Dosanjh’s** life story. In BCBW (Spring) we ran coverage of a smartly-packaged reprise called **Journey After Midnight: India, Canada and the Road Beyond** by Dosanjh, from the publishing enterprise Figure 1, an offshoot of **Scott McIntyre’s** former D&M domain. But two years ago, and ten years in the making, **Douglas P. Wellbanks’** biography, *Unbreakable:*



Elee Kraljii Gardiner (with book) marked the reprint of *Serpentine Loop* with an event at the Hillcrest Community Centre rink in Vancouver featuring her sister **Elin Schran** (far right) and skating choreographer **Douglas Webster** (front with beard). *Serpentine loop* is an ice-skating term referring to a series of footwork or field moves.

WHO'S BRITISH • COLUMBIA WHO

The Ujjal Dosanjh Story, covered the same territory, edited by **Naomi Pauls** and distributed by Sandhill Book Marketing. The biography obviously assisted Dosanjh in the re-release of his own story.

E is for Enns

IN HER THIRD COLLECTION OF POETRY, **CLOUD Physics** (University of Regina \$19.95), **Karen Enns** focuses on endings—cultural, ecological, and personal. Endings may be viewed as tragic but throughout the book Enns, a former



Karen Enns

pianist, peppers her lines with affirmations of love, music and language. Her second book, *Ordinary Hours*, was shortlisted for the Victoria Butler Book Prize. 978-0-88977-4612

F is for Fossen

PHOTOGRAPHER **AL FOSSEN** REFLECTS THE RESILIENCY of the human spirit in **Freedom in East Vancouver: The Photography**



Co-author of *Greening Your Cottage or Vacation Property: Reduce Your Recreational Footprint*, **Tracy Bartley** with kids on Galiano Island.



and Writing of Alan Fossen (Electromagnetic Print \$65), documenting “people, posters, protests and places” during the 1980s and 1990s in 110 colour pages. In that era citizens dealt with counteracting 20th century racism, colonialism, fascism and “the modern capitalist state which fuels war and criminalizes the poor.” 978-0-9959354-0-2

G is for Gardiner

ELEE KRALJII GARDINER OF VANCOUVER GREW up as the daughter of U.S. Olympic figure skating gold medalist **Tenley Albright**. Her first collection of poetry, **Serpentine Loop** (Anvil \$18), references ice skating and glides into gender issues as she explores ideas of femininity, control and language. Kraljii Gardiner is herself a former skater whose sister, **Elin Schran**, has skated professionally, co-founded Boston-based Frozen Frog Productions and created IceFlow, a yoga-inspired skating class. 978-1-77214-054-5

H is for Hayter-Menzies

GRANT HAYTER-MENZIES’S FORTHCOMING **Dorothy Brooke and the Fight to Save the Lost War Horses of Cairo** (Potomac Books: U. of Nebraska) is a biography of the **Florence Nightingale** for horses, **Dorothy Brooke**, a wealthy Scottish socialite who rescued elderly, abused and abandoned war horses and mules in Egypt following World War I, setting up a veterinary hospital in the slums of Cairo in 1934, staying there until she died in 1955. Still in operation, the Old War Horse Memorial Hospital in Cairo is now called the Brooke Hospital for Animals and is the largest equine charity in the world, sponsoring care for equines in eleven developing nations. 9781612347691

continued on page 38

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Luhombero photo by Placid Kindata

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Placid Kindata who has the agricultural know-how to greatly improve life in the Pluto of parishes in western Tanzania.

At the end of a perilous road, in a village called Luhombero, Father Placid is also planning to re-introduce an unprecedented rehabilitation program for epileptics who would otherwise be shunned.

The incidence of epilepsy in the

Morogoro region is ten times higher than the global norm.

Our goal is to purchase a tractor or a pick-up truck. A Swiss charity named MIVA will cover half of the costs.



Placid Kindata

All donors who give \$40 (or more) will receive a two-year subscription to *BC BookWorld*.

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Africa is by far the poorest continent. Luhombero is hard to spell and easy to forget.

But by working together, we can make a difference beyond our bubble of prosperity on the West Coast of Canada.

Alan Twigg
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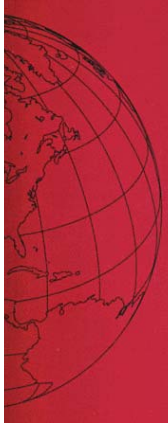
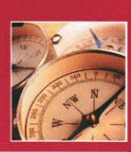
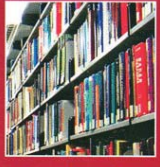
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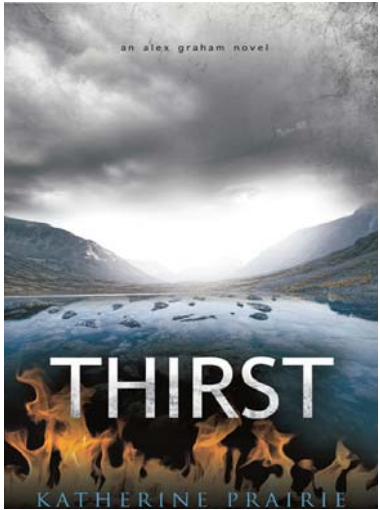
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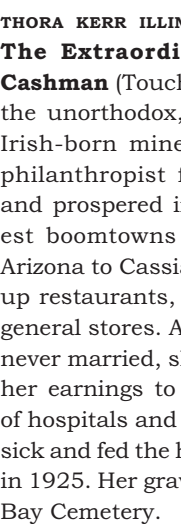
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WHO'S



Nellie Cashman, circa 1875.
She was known as the “Angel of the Cassiar” for saving the lives of miners stranded in a snowstorm on the Cassiar Mountains.

I is for Illing



THORA KERR ILLING'S GOLD RUSH QUEEN: The Extraordinary Life of Nellie Cashman (TouchWood \$18.95) recalls the unorthodox, altruistic, beautiful, Irish-born miner, entrepreneur and philanthropist from Cork who lived and prospered in some of the toughest boomtowns from California and Arizona to Cassiar and Alaska, setting up restaurants, boarding houses and general stores. A lifelong Catholic who never married, she gave away much of her earnings to support the building of hospitals and churches, nursed the sick and fed the hungry before she died in 1925. Her grave is at Victoria's Ross Bay Cemetery.

978-1-77151-159-9

J is for Julie



Julie Paul

AFTER OTTAWA VALLEY-raised **Julie Paul** moved to Victoria and published her first collection of fiction, *The Jealousy Bone*, in 2008, she has now released her first poetry collection, **The Rules of the Kingdom** (McGill-Queens \$16.95), as part of the Hugh MacLennan Poetry Series.

Julie Paul's second collection of twelve unsettling stories, *The Pull of the Moon* (Brindle & Glass, 2014), received the twelfth, \$5,000 City of Victoria Butler Prize. The title was also selected as one of the Top 100 Books of 2014 by the *Globe & Mail*.

9780773548992

L is for Louise



Louise Green: In 2016, she was named the recipient of a Women's Health and Wellness award by Body Confidence Canada.

PLUS-SIZE GIRLS AND WOMEN SHOULD FEEL welcome at the gym or aerobics classes and at the Sun Run. So Big Fit Girl: Embrace the Body You Have

(Greystone \$22.95) by **Louise Green** makes inroads beyond the fashion industry to grapple with inherent sexism within the fitness industry.

A plus-size athlete, Green relates her own experiences, along with those of other large women who got off the couch and into the gym, offering advice on how to choose an activity, set goals, choose the right clothes and address food issues to pursue better fitness and enhanced self-esteem. Green has also founded Body Exchange, “a plus-size fitness boot camp” with seven locations in Canada. If **Ron Zalko** and **Steve Nash** can do it....

978-1-77164-212-5

K is for Kanagawa



Hiro Kanagawa

A CONTEMPORARY adaptation of **Henrik Ibsen's Little Eyolf**, **Hiro Kanagawa's** play **Indian Arm** (Playwrights Canada \$17.95) presents the secrets and contradictions of an isolated family

WHO



Rafe Mair remembers the “horse buns” dropped by Percheron horses as they pulled wagons of milk, eggs and bread in Vancouver.

M is for Mair

FORMER CKNW RADIO TALK SHOW HOST AND Socred MLA **Rafe Mair** stopped contributing to the online publication *The Tyee* after a ten-year stint and has switched to the on-line *Vancouver Observer* instead. Along the way he’s released **I Remember Horse Buns** (Promontory \$14.95) about growing up in and around Vancouver, “the best place in the world.” It describes his youthful adventures around Howe Sound and Indian Arm, as well as Stanley Park and other coastal environs.

978-1-987857-25-2

N is for Nilsen

WE GET OUR BALANCE FROM OUR EARS. An otolith is a series of bones in the ear that enable us to be oriented within the context of physical space, our environs. In her debut book of poems, **Otolith** (Goose Lane \$19.95), **Emily Nilsen** of Nelson examines the ache of nostalgia in the world’s passage of time.

Born and raised in Vancouver, Nilsen was a finalist for the CBC Poetry Prize in 2015, after having been longlisted for the prize on three other occasions, and her work has been longlisted for the UK National Poetry Competition.

978-0-864929-62-4

O is for Oghma

AFTER A SEVERE ACCIDENT CAUSED AGNOSIA—the inability to recognize and identify objects or persons—**Emisch Oghma** of Victoria began studying and modern-

izing the ancient Chinese face reading system called siang mien. By being more observant and interested in people’s faces, Emisch was able to reduce the effects of agnosia, giving rise to his book, **In Your Face** (Agio \$19.95), designed to show how anyone can quickly “read” their own face, their friends, family or co-workers. 978-1-927755-54-9

P is for Poelzer

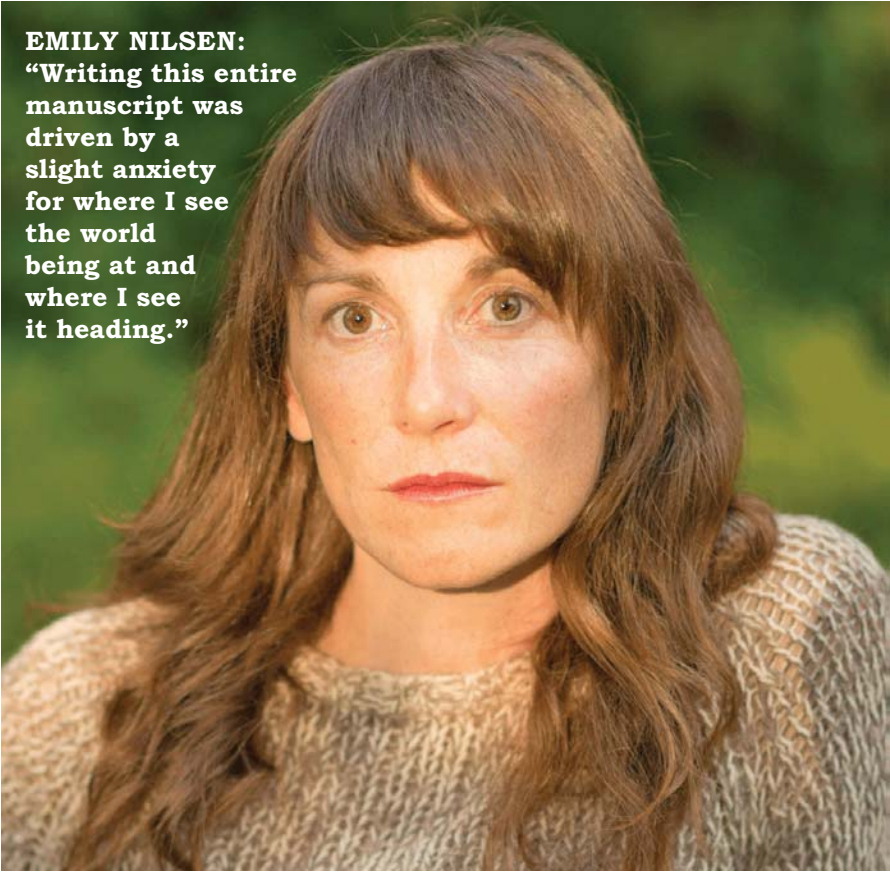


Greg Poelzer

UBC PRESS HAS sold out the hardcover print run for **Greg Poelzer** and **Ken S. Coates’** *From Treaty Peoples to Treaty Nation: A Road Map for All Canadians* (UBC Press, 2015) but the paperback version is still available at \$32.95. It’s Coates’ 32nd book since 1982 when he co-wrote *Pacific National Exhibition: An Illustrated History* and *Vancouver’s Fair: A Political and Administrative History of the Pacific National Exhibition*, both with UBC Press.

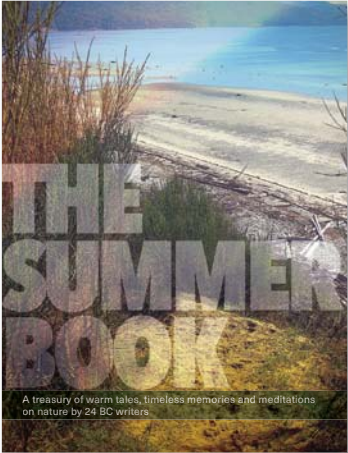
Q is for Qureshy

NOW THAT POSTMEDIA HAS ABOLISHED local B.C. book coverage by **Tracy Sherlock** at the *Vancouver Sun*, as Canada hits the 150 mark, so does *The Ormsby Review*. Editor **Richard Mackie** reports that the 150th contributor to his fledgling undertaking that promulgates in-depth reviews of B.C. books in the age of Twitter is Pakistani-raised Muslim **Jawad Qureshy**. Currently at UBC, with degrees from U. of T. and Queens, Qureshy will review **The Clean Money Revolution** (New Society \$29.99) by **Joel Solomon** and **Tyee Bridge**. Those of you looking closely will see that **Mark Forsythe** has reviewed *The Clean Money Revolution* on page 13 of this issue. *The Ormsby Review*, with different content from *BC BookWorld*, is now producing an in-depth review every second day at bcbooklook.com



KARI MEDIG PHOTO

STUNNING NEW BOOKS!

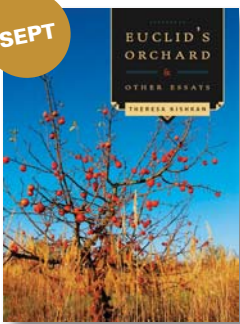


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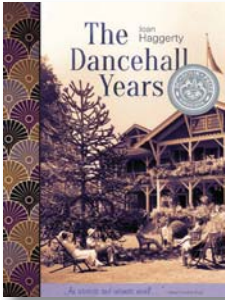
Luanne Armstrong, Kate Braid, Brian Brett, Anne Cameron, Trevor Carolan, Claudia Cornwall, Sarah de Leeuw, Daniela Elza, Carla Funk, Jane Eaton Hamilton, Eve Joseph, Des Kennedy, Theresa Kishkan, Chelene Knight, Fiona Tinwei Lam, Grant Lawrence, JJ Lee, Peter Levitt, Christine Lowther, Pearl Luke, Susan McCaslin, Briony Penn, DC Reid and Harold Rhenisch.

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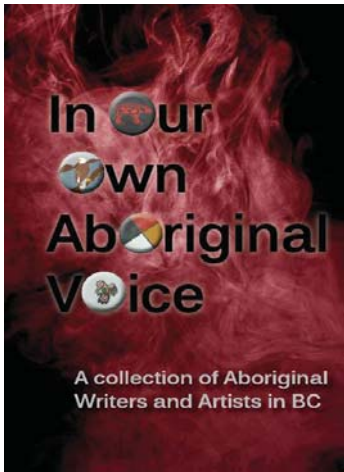
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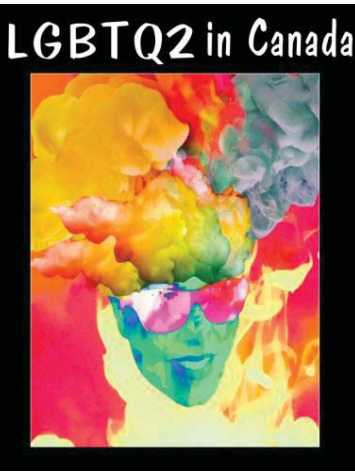
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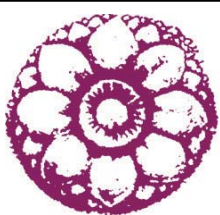
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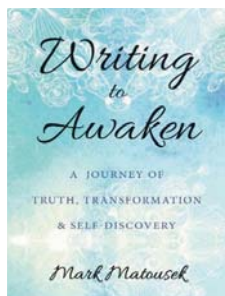
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WHO'S WHO BRITISH COLUMBIA

R is for Rafique

FAUZIA RAFIQUE—ORIGINALLY FROM Pakistan—writes fiction and poetry in English, Punjabi and Urdu. Endorsed by literary friends **Susan Crean** and **Heidi Greco**, her second novel, **The Adventures of SahebaN: Biography of a Relentless Warrior** (Libros Libertad \$20), interprets and responds to various kinds of oppression that she has witnessed in Pakistan and Canada, in accordance with **Simone de Beauvoir**'s statement in *The Second Sex*: "All oppression creates a state of war."

The heroine of the story, SahebaN, rebels against her family in Pakistan by refusing an arranged marriage. Embarking on a new life in Canada, SahebaN encounters oppression in the form of racism and economic disparity.

Rafique is a co-founder and the co-ordinator of Surrey Muse, an interdisciplinary art and literature presentation group in Surrey. Her first novel was *Skeena* (Libros Libertad, 2011).

978-1-926763-44-6

S is for Sommer

IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR, BRITISH COLUMBIANS enlisted with gusto. In fact, B.C. had the highest per capita enlistment rate in Canada. Almost 400 soldiers and nurses enlisted from Langley in the Fraser Valley. In his sixth book on Langley, **Warren Sommer** provides an in-depth social and military history of Langley's "Great War" participation with **Canucks in Khaki: Langley, the Lower Mainland, and the Great War of 1914 to 1918** (Legacy Heritage Consultants \$39.95). The foreword is by Fort Langley resident and *BC Book-World* reviewer **Mark Forsythe**.

978-0-9958037-0-1

T is for Takach

COINCIDENTAL WITH THE RESURGENCE OF THE Keystone XL pipeline project, **Geo Takach**, Ph.D, a writer, filmmaker, workshop leader and Associate Professor of Communication and Culture at

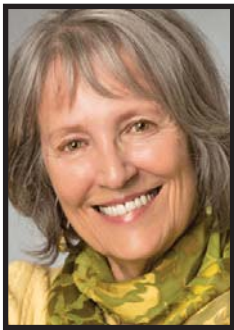


Mark Warrior as a landing bucker in Port Douglas, Harrison Lake in 1980

Royal Roads University in Victoria, has published **Tar Wars: Oil, Environment and Alberta's Image** (University of Alberta Press \$34.95), an assessment and documentation of how "image-makers" manage the tensions and conflict between the continuous growth mandated by a globalized economic system and its unsustainable environmental costs.

978-1-77212-140-7

U is for Ulrike Narwani



Ulrike Narwani

OF BALTIC-GERMAN heritage, North Saanich's **Ulrike Narwani** believes that when we are silent, our deepest experiences talk to us in a language that we know without speaking. The arc of her life from youth to maturation is reflected in her first collection of poems, **Collecting Silence** (Ronsdale \$15.95), including her response to the *Mona Lisa*: "who does not know you/ iconed/ xrayed on history's gurney, flesh cold/ measured/ the droop or lift/ of left or right upper lip/ or lower/ cameras on selfie sticks bristle-strut/ send portraits home." Narwani's family was forced to emigrate from their homeland, Latvia, at the onset of WWII. She grew up in Edmonton before completing a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto. Her poems explore the power of silence to size-up, reshape and transform.

978-1-55380-487-1

V is for Veness

KIMBERLEY VENESS OF ADAMS LAKE learned to love land, animals, growing food and the smell of manure on a ninety-acre family farm in Saskatchewan. In her first book, **Let's Eat: Sustainable Food for a Hungry Planet** (Orca Footprints \$19.95), she uncovers the secret lives of our groceries, explores alternative farm technologies and tours gardens on corporate rooftops and military-style bunkers below streets. With facts about agriculture around the world, Veness covers everything from the biggest farm in the world to how many pesticides are in a single grape.

978-1-459809390

W is for Warrior

"WHEN ONE READS OTHER ACCOUNTS OF THE history of British Columbia since the Second World War," says **Mark Warrior**, "the role of unions generally receives short shrift." So he's done something about it. Warrior's history of the Labourers' International Union of North America (LiUNA!) in B.C. since its first local was chartered in 1937 is **Building the Power: The Labourers' Union in British Columbia** (LiUNA! Local 1611). *Building the Power* can be downloaded without charge at: www.scwu1611.org/book

X is for ebooks

HARDLY ANYBODY WOULD LISTEN. BUT WE DID tell you that ebooks were a trumped-up fad, mostly promulgated by self-interested parties, and the format is so obviously inferior to the feel of a

printed book that it couldn't possibly replace real books. According to *Publishers Weekly*, ebook unit sales from reporting publishers were down 16% in 2016 from 2015. The sky has not fallen.

Y is for Yardley

MEDICAL HERBALIST **KATOLEN YARDLEY** HAS published her first book, **The Good Living Guide to Natural and Herbal Remedies: Simple Salves, Teas, Tinctures, and More** (Good Books \$22.99) with color photographs plus tips, tools and techniques for using plants for first aid, common health ailments (such as arthritis, dermatitis, inflammation, indigestion, insomnia), cosmetic and body care use, and home cleaning.

The 310 pages contain recipes, an extensive guide for preparing common herbal medicines at home (including teas, tinctures, poultices, salves and herbal honeys) plus in-depth descriptions of over 40 medicinal plants including their numerous applications for internal and external use.

Yardley is perhaps best known for her appearances on Global TV News "Ask an Expert Segment."

978-1680991574

Z is for Zimmerman

STATISTICS CANADA MADE HEADLINES THIS YEAR when it was reported that for the first time since Confederation people over the age of 65 in Canada outnumber the 15-and-younger demographic. "I deplore the 'population aging as a crisis' story that is so often found in the media," writes **Lillian Zimmerman**, "portraying those of us who are old as a threat and future burdens. This is both untrue and harmful. Such thinking robs people of self-respect and constitutes a failure to recognize what most older people have achieved." In **Did You Just Call Me Old Lady?** (Fernwood \$18), the 92-year-old asserts long-livers can have fulfilling lives and make valuable contributions. She exposes how negative attitudes can arise from jokes about memory loss and sexual infirmity. Ageism, like sexism and racism, needs to be more widely addressed. Zimmerman has established a scholarship to annually support a graduate student in SFU's Department of Gerontology.



Lillian Zimmerman

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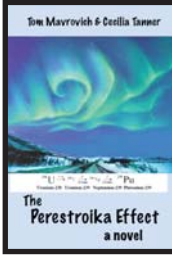


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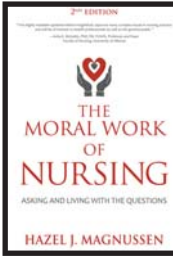


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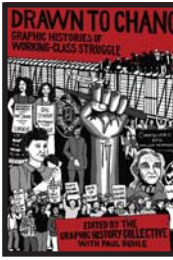


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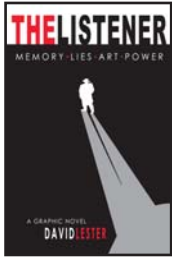


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LETTERS

In passing

YOUR RECENT TRIBUTE TO THE LATE W.P. Kinsella helped me appreciate the hard work, dedication and drive he put into his seemingly effortless stories. In 2016, I saw him give a reading at Shelf Life Books, a great Calgary independent bookstore. Only about eight people showed up. I was shocked at the low turnout but he was in good spirits and gave a great performance anyway. I'm glad I had the chance to see him.

Graham Chandler
Calgary

THANK YOU FOR THE EXTENSIVE AND CLEAR memorial piece on Richard Wagamese in BCBookLook. I was lucky and empowered by his wisdom and humour—open acceptance and support of all the writers—at a “Words on Water” Festival in Campbell River in 2015. His going does hurt.

Bernice Lever
Bowen Island

From writers

IT WAS A TREAT TO SEE THE FULL-PAGE REVIEW of *The Performance* in the spring 2017 issue. I'm humbled to be included in the company of so many wonderful B.C. writers like Gail Anderson-Dargatz, Madeleine Thien, Anosh Irani, Clea Young and others. Thank you for the great service you provide for B.C. writers, publishers and readers. You are truly a ‘home’ for literature in the province.

Ann Eriksson
Thetis Island

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE PERFECT article on my memoir, *Culture Gap*. It's really stirring interest in the book.

Judith Plant
Gabriola Island

WE B.C. WRITERS APPRECIATE SEEING OUR names in print. Those Rocky Mountains are so damned high they block

the view from the east. So many, many thanks, as usual, for including my novel, *The Cadaver*, in your recent issue. Your reader numbers are considerable in B.C., as you know, and I immediately had some of the Gabriola literati comment.

Roy Innes
Gabriola Island

Critical eye

ON PAGE 33 OF YOUR SPRING ISSUE IN A WRITE-up regarding *The Clothesline Swing*, the Persian classic *One Thousand and One Nights* was misguidedly referred to as *Arabian Tales*. As a woman of three different literatures, including English, I'm aware that literary works travel and influence new writings, but the difference between inspiration and literary piracy is in the act of NOT acknowledging the original source of work (*1001 Nights*), where it had been created, and printed, existed in its cultural context, and survived historical situations. Of course, this book of tales from the Iran region has been translated into other languages, such as French, but it doesn't make it a French tale. *One Thousand and One Nights* was originally written in Farsi.

Naria Yaraee
Vancouver

[Thanks for your critical eye. ‘Arabian Tales’ was from the publisher’s promotional material. The publisher has been notified. – Ed.]

Send letters/emails to: BC BookWorld, 3516 W. 13th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6R 2S3 or bookworld@telus.net. Letters may be edited for clarity & length.

OBITS

Richard Wagamese, author (1955-2017) • **Rhoda Moss**, bookseller (1930-2017) • **Howard Overend**, librarian, author (1919-2017) • **Cullene Bryant**, minister, poet, author (1941-2017).

For full obituaries: abcbookworld.com

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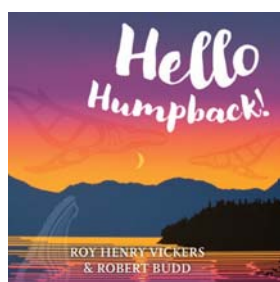


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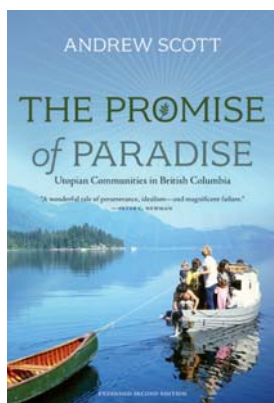
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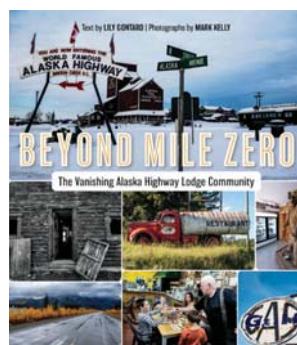
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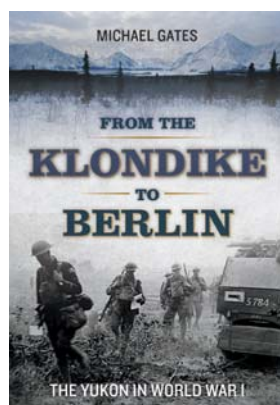
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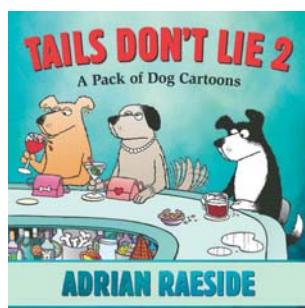
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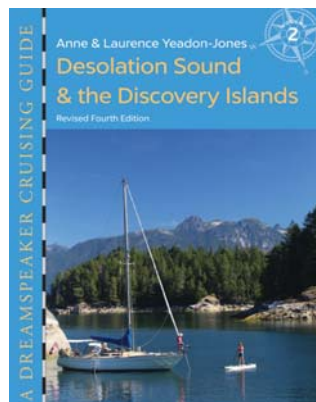
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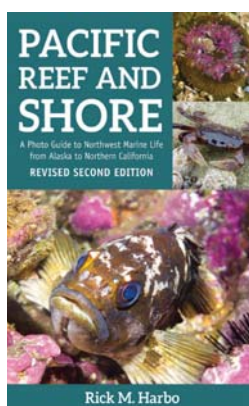
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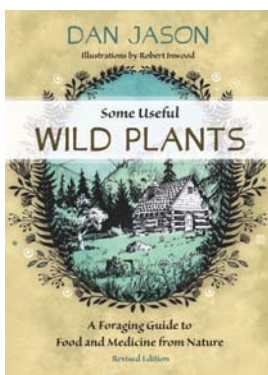
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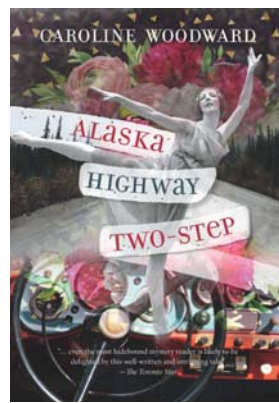
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