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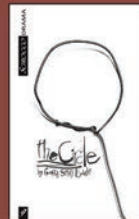
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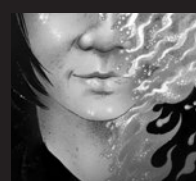
**FEATURE:
TAKING CARE**
The Sum of Us



7 **FICTION**
*The Left-handed
Dinner Party*



49 **YOUNG ADULT
& CHILDREN**
Strangers



PUBLISHING FEATURE

- 28 *NOT JUST FOR PROFESSORS:*
The University of Calgary Press
has lots to offer

FEATURE: TAKING CARE

- 31 *DIFFERENT WAYS OF CARING:*
Speculative fiction anthology
explores caregiver relationships
- 32 *LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS:*
Words and pictures describe
family experience with
schizophrenia
- 33 *PERSPECTIVES ON CARE:* Weyburn
Mental Hospital in focus
- 35 *MEDICINE OR MIRACLE:* How do
you treat a Messiah Complex?
- 36 *SAFE HAVENS:* The origins of
the women's shelter movement
in Canada

FICTION

- 4 *COPING AND COURAGE:* Stories
explore the reasons people tell
secrets and lies
- 5 *WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING:*
Joanne Kilbourn can't getting
away from murder
- 6 *HOMETOWN HEROINE:* A year
in the life of a city
- 7 *MAKING THINGS UP:* Long
gestation for story collection

- 8 *VET EXPECTATIONS:* Grandmother
and grandson make a family
- 9 *PRAIRIE LAUGHTER:* The return
of some favourite characters

NON-FICTION

- 13 *MÉTIS AND MISSIONARY:*
New Book Tracks Catholic
Influence in Early Canada
- 14 *PRAIRIE CANVAS:* Photographs
capture Saskatchewan skies
- 15 *CARRY THAT WEIGHT:* The guys
in the moving van
- 16 *LIFE AFTER GANGS:* Stories of
regret, strength, and courage
- 17 *DISCOVERING CANADA:* A personal
look at an eighteenth-century
mapmaker
- 18 *DIVE RIGHT IN:* Lake Agassiz,
the world's greatest lake
- 19 *BECOMING MÉTIS:* Correcting
misunderstandings about
culture and identity

POETRY

- 37 *BATTLE ZONES:* Poems from the
war in Afghanistan
- 38 *LEARNING BY WATCHING:* Verses
depicting birds, flowers, fish,
trees find a home

- 39 *LAND AND BELONGING:* Poetry
collection personal, grounded
in Indigenous history
- 40 *TURNING TO POETRY:* A story of
survival and recovery

DRAMA

- 41 *ACTING OUT HISTORY:* Red River
Settlement trial transformed
into theatre

YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN

- 45 *BEST OF BOTH WORLDS:* Two young
friends team up at art camp
- 46 *FOX, RENARD, MAHKÊSIW:*
Trilingual picture book names
animals in English, French,
and Cree
- 47 *SPIRITED ANIMAL:* YA novel
presents adventure close to home
- 48 *NEW KID IN TOWN:* Fitting in
can be hard when you have
supernatural powers
- 49 *COLE AND THE TRICKSTER COYOTE:*
New young adult novel is first
in a trilogy
- 50 *TAKING CHANCES:* Unfinished
screenplay adapted into YA novel

-
- 42 French Language Titles
- 53 Bookends/About Our Contributors

Coping and Courage

Stories explore the reasons people tell secrets and lies

by Laura Kupcis

Self-doubt, pain, and loneliness are a recipe for secrets and lies, and the focus of the latest anthology from At Bay Press; but through brave work and acceptance, pride and strength can be found.



The stories in *At Bay Press Fiction Annual: Secrets and Lies*, edited by Sabrina Neri Lightstone, are about good and evil, abuse, trauma, family relations, addictions, sin, self-perception; they are stories about facing head on that which holds us back and breaking free from the shackles of the secrets and lies.

With suffering comes pain and, as a byproduct, loneliness. These stories show how suffering and pain can create in someone the need to keep a secret or tell a lie as a means of coping.

“Those who are in pain are not likely to disclose it; they are often going about in disguise,” Lightstone says. “They are likely to choose secrets or lies as a way of being.”

For example, in the story “Lost Truth Found” by Lucy Haché, a young woman keeps her trauma a secret even from herself and must confront it in order to heal and to connect with those who want to love her.

“Loneliness,” Lightstone says, “whether physical loneliness, cultural alienation, or being lost – these often accompany such feelings of pain, they take root alongside it, they strip us of comfort.”

But it is not the lie that creates the loneliness. Instead it is the loneliness the characters feel that forces them to lie.

“The characters reveal themselves, but they slant the mirror in an interesting way...”

“The need for disguise is directly related to the pain of the experience,” Lightstone says. “And, in each story, this pair occurs, uniquely and sometimes more than once. The characters create myths to match their pain.

“What’s interesting, too, is how the characters blend imagination and experience to create manageable myths for themselves,” she adds. “They lie – they must lie – but they don’t abuse the privilege. They do reveal themselves, but they slant the mirror in an interesting way, like saying, ‘Now this is how I’ve told the story to myself, this is how I have to live now. Do you see why I need to?’”

The loneliness found in these stories, however, is not overcome by making a friend or starting a family.

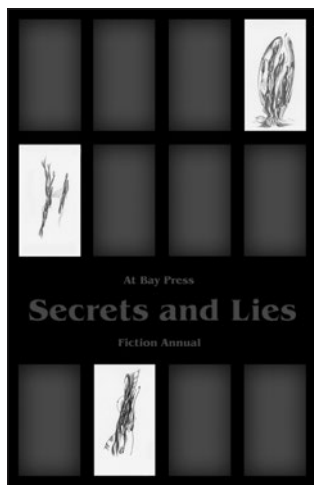
“They overcome loneliness by breaking through their lies into truth,” Lightstone says.

“Because in truth, there is always the potential for a softening, a softening of the heart, a more compassionate view of the self, a more grateful approach to the natural world.”

The protagonists in these stories conquer, overcome, or question the very secrets and lies they have clung to for so long.

“Even if one remains broken in a certain way, or even if one chooses not to externally engage, one can nonetheless open up to a personal understanding, a conceptual breaking out, and I think that’s what happens when our own lies disappear,” Lightstone says.

“I think that’s what’s happened for the characters in these works; I think that’s what these authors can show us.” 🌿



AT BAY PRESS FICTION ANNUAL: *Secrets and Lies*

Edited by Sabrina Neri Lightstone

At Bay Press

\$14.95 pb, 112 pages

ISBN: 978-1-988168-11-1

Winning Isn't Everything

Joanne Kilbourn can't get away from murder

by Yvonne Dick

Gail Bowen is the seasoned author of 19 mystery novels who has never lost touch with her readers. She is relieved that her latest book, *The Winners' Circle*, is keeping her readers happy.

"You never want to disappoint your fan base. It is a great relief because with a series you are particularly worried," says Bowen.

Bowen spends a good deal of time meeting her fans face to face. She says she enjoys the longer book tours, although they take a fair bit of time out of each year, and she has been doing a book tour a year for 27 years now.

The Winners' Circle is the 17th book in Bowen's bestselling Joanne Kilbourn series. That's a long time to stick with one protagonist. But Bowen and her character are kindred spirits.

"In some ways [Joanne is] very much like me. She was 43 when she started and is now 58 – I got old faster than she!" laughs Bowen.

THE WINNERS' CIRCLE

Gail Bowen
McClelland & Stewart
\$32.00 hc, 272 pages
ISBN: 978-0-7710-2406-1



MADELINE BOWEN-DIAZ

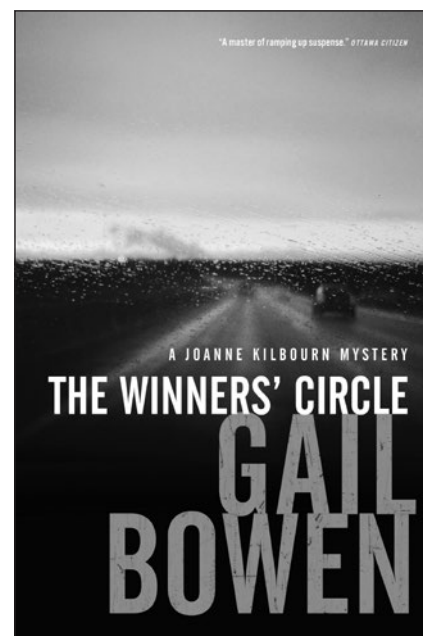
"As in my own life, family plays an important role. It is nice to see the children and now grandchildren continuing on with family traditions and obligations. In *The Winners' Circle*, her girls play more of a role than in previous books."

Readers of *The Winner's Circle* may feel as though they are attending an extended family gathering. For someone who was not a reader from the beginning of the series, it is a bit awkward, but readers quickly pick up on who is likely to drink too much and which ones have the best gossip. The books create a cozy, familial way of relating to the main characters in the Kilbourn-Shreve family.

In this latest novel, Joanne and family will face the murders of three loved ones and the perplexing suicide of another. Did Christopher Altieri find he could not live with something that others had done? Leave it up to Joanne, Zack, Taylor, and others to get to the bottom of things and answer Joanne's primary question of Why?

Bowen says she treats her writing as a business and takes the duty of producing a quality, true-to-character book very seriously. Her day starts at about 4:40 a.m. when she does yoga with her beloved Bouvier, Esmée. Next is breakfast, followed by a solid four hours of work. In the afternoon she writes until her grandson stops in after school. "You have to have a real life," Bowen says.

Fans of the series do not have to worry about it ending any time soon. Bowen does not appear to be losing interest



"You never want to disappoint your fan base."

in Joanne and her circle of family and friends, so it is safe to expect more. Despite their long history together (or perhaps because of it), Joanne continues to fascinate Bowen. She says, "I still don't know Joanne very well at all."

About the 18th novel, due out next year, Bowen says, "I continue to wrestle with the woman inside all those walls, and I think readers will enjoy the insights Joanne (and her creator) come to in that book." 🍷

HOMETOWN HEROINE

A year in the life of a city

by Margaret Goldik

Every life has a story.

Méira Cook's latest novel mesmerizes with glimpses into the lives of people in a Winnipeg neighbourhood over the course of a year. Cook's plan, she says, was "to create a slowly unfolding, month-by-month narrative of a particular city, that city being Winnipeg."

Once More with Feeling opens with Max Binder picking up a truly amazing birthday gift for his prickly and beloved wife, Maggie. In the following chapters, people linked to the Binders and their two sons, Lazar and Sams, are protagonists in their own stories.

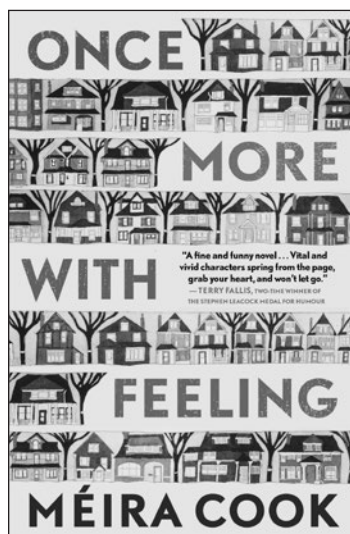
Sams, the older Binder son, is Maggie and Max's "best mistake." Cook explains, "Sams is meant to be special, almost magical. He suffers from all sorts of undiagnosed (at least by me) ailments but I think what he suffers from most is reality."

"Sams is certainly a puzzle. He likes word games and lists, and he lives almost exclusively in the allusive world of movies. He often mistakes real worlds for imaginary ones, but on the other hand is able to live fully and creatively in these imagined worlds. I would expect nothing less of him than being able to see ghosts!"

And ghosts, or their possibility, show up in *Once More with Feeling*. Theresa Tergusson, who had died in the previous year, believed that "Dead is dead," and that "Ghosts are what other people can't let go of."

Cook says, "Certainly, as she implies, ghosts are what remain unresolved and mournful in the human psyche no less than in the unconscious of a city. And perhaps my having come here from another city, Johannesburg, gives me a wavering perspective, a sense of the instability of landscape, of time and place when intersected with displacement."

One chapter is made up of mothers' voices – proud of their growing children, lamenting their lost childhood. But there are children who are truly lost, along with missing women. Cook does not pull punches, describing the dragging of the Red River, looking for bodies, now that the women "were important enough to care about."



ONCE MORE WITH FEELING

Méira Cook

House of Anansi Press

\$22.95, pb, 304 pages

ISBN: 978-1-4870-0296-1

There are teens in *Once More with Feeling*, all the raw angst and misery of those who do not fit in to the cruel adolescent world, and old people. Some of these feel invisible.

"Many of these lost souls feel invisible either perpetually or at certain times," says Cook. "Writing about adolescents and elderly people allows you to experience – to remember and anticipate – that sense of not mattering very much."

And there is hope and kindness. Some of the linked stories are sad and some are laugh-out-loud funny, but all engage the reader, and will do so long after the book is closed. And the book is made up of linked stories for a reason.

"I've always loved the idea that Winnipeggers have of themselves as being separated by only a couple of degrees," says Cook. "It's a generous and wonderfully inclusive statement of connectedness. Really I think it's a way of recognizing what is human in others, which is truly a hopeful thought." 🌿



"I've always loved the idea that Winnipeggers have of themselves as being separated by only a couple of degrees."

Making Things Up

Long gestation for story collection

by Bev Sandell Greenberg

Myrle Coulter made her name with her non-fiction, but her debut short fiction collection, *The Left-Handed Dinner Party and Other Stories*, attests to her storytelling prowess; it consists of ten stories about flawed characters blindsided by a sense of absence. “This theme came naturally as the tales unfolded,” says Coulter. “Perhaps they were influenced by a few absences that occurred in my own life along the way.”

Born and raised in Winnipeg and now living in Edmonton, Coulter has written two award-winning non-fiction books: *The House with the Broken Two*, a memoir about pregnancy and adoption, and *A Year of Days*, essays about her mother’s Alzheimer’s disease.

For Coulter, the challenge in completing her new collection was putting it together. “I had to figure out how all the pieces fit together. I took it apart and re-assembled it several times before I got it right.”

“Limbo,” a powerful six-part story, features protagonists connected by their loss of two people 20 years earlier.



RUMMY DARGOTEA

“I’ve been writing some of these stories for a long time, as long as 20 years for a couple of them.”

Other stories revolve around the abrupt exits of relatives and the ensuing void and sense of disconnection for those who remain. In “Grad School,” a recent Arts graduate feels unmoored after her parents split up and move away. “The Ballad of Jake and Janet” and “The Scream” tell of the fatal departures of parents, leaving their daughters behind.

The titular story tells of an 18-year-old woman set adrift for a year while her parents are travelling – a circumstance that makes her independent, but years later the need for connection surfaces. Some

connections remain across time and even death, as in “Uncanny” and “Estate Planning.”

Coulter admits that this collection took years to complete. “I’ve been writing some of these stories for a long time, as long as 20 years for a couple of them,” says Coulter. “The characters took up residence in my mind gradually over the years and slowly revealed their connections and stories to me.”

Often, poems or fragments of poems serve as the impetus for Coulter’s stories. “Phrases or images float around in my mind, nagging me until I write them down. I find that those beginning words are seeds for characters or situations, story beginnings or novel endings.”

Less daunting for Coulter was the transition from one genre to another. “The transition was actually from fiction to non-fiction and back again. Switching back and forth between the two genres is not difficult for me. The writing muscles are different,” she states. “Non-fiction is situational, its direction set by a careful exploration of social and cultural contexts. My fiction is character driven, thus the characters determine where the story will go.”

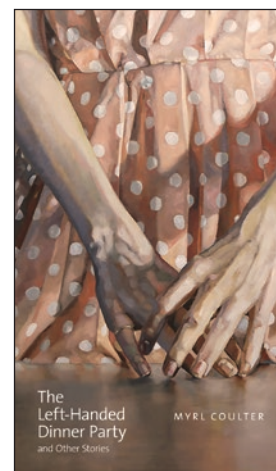
Connections with others is the key to all of Coulter’s writing.

“Stories connect us,” she says. “Without them, we are as adrift as islands that are within sight of each other, yet remain isolated.

“Any meaning that resonates with my readers is fine,” she adds. “If, along the way, my readers glimpse lives unlike theirs and still feel contact with them, all the better!” 🌿

THE LEFT-HANDED DINNER PARTY AND OTHER STORIES

Myrle Coulter
University of Alberta Press
\$19.95 pb, 236 pages
ISBN: 978-1-77212-328-9



VET EXPECTATIONS

Grandmother and grandson make a family

by Quentin Mills-Fenn

Jim Nason can recall the moment he decided on his latest novel – when he presented on a poetry panel at Edinburgh’s Fringe Festival a few years ago.



“The event took place in the amphitheatre of what was once the dissection room of an old veterinary college. As it goes with many of the old buildings in Scotland, there was a gothic, surreal atmosphere, and a particular smell that reminded me of ether. As the moderator brought us to the stage, he announced that the room we were about to present in was once a dissection room probably filled with the spirits of a hundred thousand dead animals – I knew immediately I had a novel.”

That novel, *Spirit of a Hundred Thousand Dead Animals*, is a story that moves across decades and travels from small-town

Ontario to the Edinburgh Festival.

Skye Rayburn, a Scottish-born veterinarian in Kincardine, Ontario, lives with her grandson Duncan, a shy aspiring artist who grows into a gay man.

Nason says he knew his main character would be an older woman, perhaps because his stepmother, who is 95 now, is someone he’s close to and admires very much. (He dedicated the book to her.)

“I value the wisdom of age and have tremendous respect for the obstacles that women of Skye’s generation had to endure – in particular, the tough choices they had to make to maintain a sense of dignity and worth,” he says. “I wanted to capture that through the creation of a strong, vivid, and complex female character.”

Skye has a complicated relationship with her daughter Moira, and Magnus, Duncan’s father,

SPIRIT OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND DEAD ANIMALS

Jim Nason

Signature Editions

\$19.95 pb, 264 pages

ISBN: 978-1773240-21-3

has his own problems. After Moira’s death, when Magnus skips out on his son, Skye takes Duncan in.

“Magnus has insight into his shortcomings,” Nason says, “but just can’t seem to turn himself around for his son (or himself). Yet he is vulnerable and entirely lovable. I hope readers will empathize with him and see their own vulnerability in his character.”

Skye and Duncan form a family, and while she works with animals, he is keen to sketch them.

“Duncan’s a little embarrassed by Skye’s eccentricity, and yet he’s also inspired by her work with animals. He admires her strength and intelligence and, more important, he respects Skye’s uncompromising integrity and draws strength from her ability to be a force in the town where she lives,” says Nason.

“In his book *About Looking*, John Berger writes a wonderful essay titled, ‘Why Look at Animals.’ Skye knows animals through healing them. I wanted Duncan to know animals by drawing them.”

Nason has published both fiction and poetry. There’s a difference, he says, in writing in these two forms.

“Poetry requires being still and focused for a few hours or days,” he says. “Writing a novel involves the same skill set but its essence is more about being in the physical world of relationships, dialogue, and geography – in this case, small towns and big cities, both sides of the Atlantic.

“It took a couple of years to coax the characters onto the page, and spending time in Edinburgh, Kincardine,

and Montreal to experience the weather, taste the food, and talk to people were essential to building the story.” 🐾



“I knew immediately I had a novel.”

Prairie Laughter

Armin Wiebe returns to some favourite characters

by Margaret Anne Fehr

In his latest novel, *Grandmother Laughing*, Armin Wiebe picks up the thread of his characters Obrum and Susch, the husband and wife who appeared in an earlier short story, “Mary’s Creek.”

“I liked the short story very much,” says Wiebe. “However, there were unanswered questions raised by the story that motivated me to explore these characters further.”

But writing the novel was not a straightforward process. Wiebe took a playwriting course, using the characters and situations in various exercises, and started work on a play. He explains, “The Susch and Obrum novel was becoming unwieldy, and at the right moment, I received the encouragement to develop the script I was playing with. So writing the play allowed me to rein in the sprawl of the novel.”

The play became *The Moonlight Sonata of Beethoven Blatz*, which premiered at Theatre Projects Manitoba to great success.

The narrative for *Grandmother Laughing* traces the union of dour Susch Sudermann and free-spirited Obrum Kehler along with Beethoven Blatz, the musician/composer who arrived on the isolated homestead to fix their piano and never left, all set against the backdrop of the Manitoba tall grass prairie.

Throughout the novel, Susch is guided at opportune moments by the image of her grandmother Susch, whom Susch the younger had never met, sitting bolt upright in her coffin, bonnet askew and laughing with abandon.

“Susch’s experience of her grandmother’s presence is very real to her – a non-judgmental presence that allows her to laugh and ultimately make peace with the actions of her life,” says Wiebe. “Although Susch’s grandmother

speaks to her only once, her various appearances help Susch to find a larger perspective from which to interpret her life as it is happening and as she remembers it in her old age.”

Nature plays an important part in the novel’s setting and how the characters relate to and respect it. “One of the novel’s themes is learning to appreciate the experience of the tall grass prairie. The tract of virgin prairie the novel is set on is a mirage – no such tract of land exists in today’s present. For the past 150 years, the prairie has been looked upon as having no value unless ploughed and farmed,” says Wiebe.

In the time of the novel, what unbroken prairie remained was seen as waiting for exploitation. Individuals who saw other possibilities were viewed with suspicion.

“Even today, making art out of this place where we ‘lack’ mountains and towering trees is somewhat precarious,” he says. “Important art often still needs to come from away. And living a lifestyle such as that lived by the characters in the novel, different from that purported to be lived in the village, can be as perilous as stepping onto a moving lawn swing.”

That landscape may inspire yet more fiction. “The tract of mostly virgin prairie that is the setting for *Grandmother Laughing* still intrigues



LYNNE MARTIN

GRANDMOTHER, LAUGHING

Armin Wiebe
Turnstone Press
\$19.00 pb, 230 pages
ISBN: 978-0-88801-617-1

“There were unanswered questions ... that motivated me to explore these characters further.”



me,” Wiebe says. “The supporting characters have their own stories, so we’ll just have to wait and see which ones will refuse to leave me alone until I write them.” 🌿

MORE FICTION

NOVELS

BLEAK LANDING

Terrie Todd

In this Christian historical novel, Bridget O'Sullivan returns to the small Canadian town she left years before to claim her inheritance, but with no way to prove her stake, she must rely on Victor, town pastor and candidate for town mayor, who has maintained a secret affection for her. (Thomas Allen-Waterfall, \$18.95 pb, 318 pages, 978-1-542046336)

CHIEF LIGHTNING BOLT

Daniel N. Paul

This contemporary Mi'kmaq legend of a great figure, both warrior and peacemaker, with themes based on traditional tales, shows the beauty of Mi'kma'ki that once existed, and the culture that survived and is only now beginning to recover. (Roseway-Fernwood, \$21.00 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55266-969-3)

CHOCOLATE CHERRY CHAI

Taslim Burkowicz

Traversing the globe and historical eras, from Idi Amin's rule in Uganda to India's upper classes, this debut novel binds themes of familial pressure, immigrant experiences, motherhood, love, and loss. (Fernwood, \$21.00 pb, 300 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55266-962-4)

DAZZLE PATTERNS

Alison Watt

Beginning the day of the Halifax Explosion of 1917, this historical novel is a story about loss, the resilience of the human spirit, and the transformative power of art, as three people make their way through harrowing times. (Freehand Books, \$21.95 pb, 250 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988298-18-4)

FEW AND FAR

Allison Kydd

Jilted by her beau in England, Florence goes to visit her cousin in Saskatchewan in 1890, where notions of social class and breeding lead her to various misinterpretations and errors in judgment

and blind her to the possibilities of her new life.

(Stonehouse Publishing, \$19.95 pb, 400 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988754-01-7)

THE HEAVY BEAR

Tim Bowling

Philosophical and nostalgic, Bowling's new novel follows narrator Tim Bowling as he tries to come to terms with what his life has become, wandering the morning streets of Edmonton with the ghost of actor Buster Keaton and an imaginary bear imbued with the spirit of poet Delmore Schwartz.

(Buckrider-Wolsak and Wynn, \$20.00 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-928088-32-5)

HUNTING PIERO

Wendy MacIntyre

This haunting adventure intertwines the lives of Renaissance painter Piero di Cosimo and the Florence of dictator Savonarola with two modern-day young animal rights activists whose protests go fatally wrong.

(ThistleDown Press, \$19.95 pb, 504 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-147-1)

IN A WIDE COUNTRY

Robert Everett-Green

In the summer of 1961, 12-year-old Jasper, who narrates this novel, and his mother, Corinne, an out-of-work model, drive from Winnipeg to Vancouver, in a captivating exploration of story and searching. (Cormorant Books, \$22.95 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77086-500-6)

IN CASE I GO

Angie Abdou

In this new kind of ghost story, Eli and his parents return to their family home to escape their hectic city lives, where Eli meets a Ktunaxa girl who lives next door, and realizes they are the key to reconciling the misdeeds of their ancestors.

(Arsenal Pulp, \$17.95 pb, 272 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55152-703-1)

THE LAST CHANCE LADIES' BOOK CLUB

Marlis Wessler

Eleanor and the members of her book club choose a memoir about child abuse, but then the alleged perpetrator moves into

her retirement complex and a child goes missing.

(Signature Editions, \$16.95 pb, 176 pages, ISBN: 978-177324-018-3)

LEFT UNSAID

Joan B. Flood

Set in contemporary Ireland, this novel explores the secrets of the past that refuse to remain buried in a family drama that examines how choices and mistakes echo through generations.

(Signature Editions, \$19.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77324-009-1)

MY TRUE AND COMPLETE ADVENTURES AS A WANNABE VOYAGEUR

Phyllis Rudin

This coming-of-age story melds Canada's frontier history with the madcap adventures of a young man living in modern-day Montreal who dreams of being an eighteenth-century voyageur.

(NeWest Press, \$19.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988732-12-1)

A PLACE YOU'LL NEVER BE

Rick Hillis

A "pre-release" pilot project canoe trip down the Northern Saskatchewan River for five future ex-convicts finds them grappling with violence, mutiny, criminal temptation, and a menacing natural presence.

(Coteau Books, \$21.95 pb, 304 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55050-919-9)

REDEMPTION: A STORY OF THE OREGON TRAIL AND THE FRASER RIVER GOLD RUSH

Yvonne Harris

This sweeping historical novel, based on historical accounts, is about two young people who join a wagon train to the West Coast, encountering US American militia, deadly weather, and gold prospectors.

(Dragon Hill Publishing, \$22.95 pb, 448 pages, ISBN: 978-1-896124-65-0)

THE SCARLET FOREST: A TALE OF ROBIN HOOD

A. E. Chandler

Blending history with new stories, popular inaccuracies, and almost forgotten legends, this is a fresh retelling of Robin Hood's struggles and adventures, from

an author with a background in medieval English studies.
(ThistleDown Press, \$19.95 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-138-9)

SONG OF BATOCHÉ

Maia Caron

This historical novel reimagines the North-West resistance of 1885 largely from the perspective of the Métis women involved, particularly that of Josette Lavoie, who is not a believer in Louis Riel, especially at this stage of his career.

(Ronsdale Press, \$18.95 pb, 382 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55380-499-4)

THIS IS ALL A LIE

Thomas Trofimuk

Ray's infidelity, Nancy's insecurity, and Tulah's obsession with snow interweave in this search for truth in a story of lies told unreliably, unconventionally, and compellingly.

(Enfield & Wizenty, \$19.95 pb, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927855-77-5)

THROUGH DIFFERENT EYES

Karen Charleson

In this debut novel set in a small fishing community on the BC coast, when young Brenda Joe fears she might be pregnant, her favourite aunt aims to set things straight, against a backdrop of family secrets and betrayals.

(Signature Editions, \$19.95 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77324-006-0)

TO ME YOU SEEM GIANT

Greg Rhyno

This debut novel is about a young man who couldn't wait to leave Thunder Bay after high school in order to achieve rock and roll fame, but finds himself teaching in his home town while his best friend and bandmate is a bona fide rock star.

(NeWest Press, \$19.95 pb, 264 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988732-00-8)

TWO ROADS HOME

Daniel Griffin

This fast-paced literary eco-thriller, about a group of idealistic young activists whose protest results in an accidental death, reimagines what would have

happened if the peaceful Clayoquot Sound protests of the 1990s had gone too far.
(Freehand Books, \$21.95 pb, 250 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988298-21-4)

UNDER HER SKIN

Stephen Law

A young tattoo artist in Halifax is forced to confront the racial divides in her city after the ransacking of her house, an attack on a friend, and the reappearance of her white father, but a chance encounter with a Sri Lankan refugee proves to be a stabilizing counterpoint.

(Roseway-Fernwood, \$21.00 pb, 224 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55266-847-4)

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT

Karen Hofmann

This novel pieces together the lives of five members of a family, exploring their doubts and aspirations, following their enforced dispersal after the death of the father and hospitalization of their mother in a remote West Coast community.

(NeWest Press, \$19.95 pb, 344 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988732-06-0)

SHORT FICTION

ANNIE MUKTUK AND OTHER STORIES

Norma Dunning

These stories that blend contemporary realities and traditional ways of thinking are tough, hilarious, sexy, and full of heart, reflecting and exploring who the Inuit people are.

(University of Alberta Press, \$19.95 pb, 216 pages, with glossary, ISBN: 978-1-77212-297-8)

RAGE

John Mavin

This chilling collection of stories, unravelling the consequences of longing, broken trust, and deceit, follows a loosely interwoven group of people in a fictional Ontario town living lives based on lies and abuse, conflict and uncertainty.

(ThistleDown Press, \$18.95 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-141-9)

SMELLS LIKE HEAVEN

Sally Cooper

These 14 stories are set in and around the fictional town of Fletcher, as it follows

sisters Devon and Christine and their friends and lovers. From childhood to adulthood, these characters try to reconcile their experiences with what they want to believe about love and life.

(ARP Books, \$18.95 pb, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-1-894037-91-4)

WHERE THE STARS RISE: ASIAN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

Edited by Lucas K. Law and Derwin Mak

The 23 original stories in this anthology demonstrate the range and diversity of speculative fiction crafted from Asian perspectives, as they provide glimpses into various struggles for acceptance and belonging.

(Laksa Media Groups, \$19.95 pb, 352 pages, ISBN: 978-0-9939696-5-2)

YOU CAN'T STAY HERE

Jasmina Odor

This is a sensual, heart-aching collection of stories about refugees, immigrants, and travellers, whether Croatian immigrants living in Canada or the soldiers and families who remain behind, from the Adriatic Sea, to wartime frontlines, to Canadian suburbia.

(ThistleDown Press, \$18.95 pb, 256 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-144-0)

MYSTERY

THE CAT AMONG US

Louise Carson

When Gerry Connybear comes to her Aunt Maggie's funeral, she is astonished to learn that she has inherited her aunt's 200-year-old home and its multitude of cats. She also learns her aunt might have been murdered.

(Signature Editions, \$16.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77324-015-2)

A COURSE IN DECEPTION

Jana Rieger

Medical researcher Mackenzie Smith is devastated when her colleague Anbu Mathew dies in a suspicious accident, and when she finds disturbing messages about the latest drug trial in the sleep clinic, she vows to solve the mystery.

(Tellwell, \$20.00 pb, 364 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77302-530-8)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

OMPHALOS

Gerald Lynch

Detective Kelvin Beldon returns to investigate the murder of the head of an international philanthropic organization, and the possible link to a series of unsolved killings.

(Signature Editions, \$19.95 pb, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-177324-012-1)

MATANZAS

Garry Ryan

In this latest Detective Lane mystery, Lane is roped into a murder investigation when in Cuba for a wedding. The inquiries extend all the way to his hometown of Calgary, where links to a series of murders in seniors residences

are discovered, and gangs, politicians, and big money are involved.

(NeWest Press, \$18.95 pb, 208 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988732-09-1)

STEAM

Karen Bate

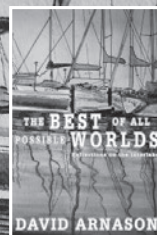
In this third Mayfair Murder Mystery, Detective Emma Starr and her squad deal with the abrupt departure of Iain as they investigate the bizarre murder of the Mayfair Summer Festival's artistic director.

(Art Bookbindery, \$20.00 pb, 268 pages, ISBN: 978-0-9919403-4-9)

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LIKE LIFE LESSONS ... ONLY FUN

Two new illustrated titles from Pemmican affirm that important lessons needn't result in dreary books.

Love You to the Moon celebrates the qualities that may make each one of us different, while honouring how we are essentially the same. In her second book for Pemmican, author/illustrator Shawna Mathison blends playful poetry and her trademark stylish illustrations for a romp that resonates.

A Bug in a Rug is equally clever at addressing the dilemma of bullying. The young boy (and two helpful cats) introduced in author/illustrator Elaine Larivière Chaput's *What Would You Do* discovers a spider on the floor. Will he squash it, will he hide, or is there a better way? Warm illustrations and witty rhymes encourage young readers to learn for themselves.

Love You to the Moon

Written and illustrated
by Shawna Mathison
ISBN: 978-1-926506-06-7
\$10.95
Grades 1-7

A Bug in a Rug

Written and illustrated
by Elaine Larivière Chaput
ISBN: 978-1-926506-07-4
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MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE ...
ONE BOOK AT A TIME

MÉTIS AND MISSIONARY

New book tracks Catholic influence in early Canada

by Paula E. Kirman

Names and labels can be used to describe people in order to fit an agenda. According to Timothy P. Foran's book *Defining Métis: Catholic Missionaries and the Idea of Civilization in Northwestern Saskatchewan, 1845–1898*, such was the case in what is now northwestern Saskatchewan in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Catholic missionaries used various categories to describe the Indigenous peoples there, reflecting the missionaries' changing interests and agendas.

In *Defining Métis*, Foran examines the early phases of Catholic missionary work among Indigenous peoples in Western and Northern Canada, including the beginnings of residential schools, transportation and communications, and the relationship between the Church, the Hudson's Bay Company, and the federal government.

Foran, curator of British North America at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec, has a personal interest in the history of Catholic missionaries.

"Growing up in southern Alberta in the 1980s and '90s, I was surrounded by legacies of a Catholic missionary past: besides having founded many of the schools, hospitals, and churches that dotted the landscape of my childhood, Catholic missionaries had played an important role in negotiating Treaty 7 and therefore in shaping the historical context in which settler families (like mine) had first established themselves in the Niitsitapi homeland," Foran explains.

"Yet I knew little about this missionary past or its enduring legacies."

The book grew as an extension of Foran's PhD thesis, which focused on the Oblates of Mary Immaculate and their central mission at Île-à-la-Crosse for a good reason – he learned that the Société historique de Saint-Boniface (Winnipeg) had just acquired and accessioned a collection of Catholic mission records from the Métis community of Île-à-la-Crosse in northwestern Saskatchewan.

"Never before had the collection been available to lay researchers so, if I hurried, I would be the first to use it as a corpus of primary sources," says Foran. "How could a 20-something-year-old doctoral candidate resist?"

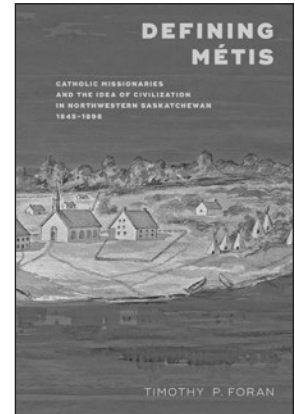
Foran made two significant discoveries while researching the book. "First, I discovered that

nineteenth-century Catholic missionaries identified and categorized Indigenous peoples in ways that reflected their own objectives, concerns, and priorities as missionaries. Thus, their use of the terms *métis* and *sauvage* differed significantly from those of other contemporary commentators, and they evolved in tandem with the development of the missionary church," he says.

"Second, I came to realize that, for the most part, Canadians don't understand nineteenth-century missionaries very well – and maybe we don't want to understand them. Today, most of us reject the ethnocentrism and colonialist agenda that drove these missionaries. But, in doing so, we sometimes allow ourselves to caricature them as uncomplicated, one-dimensional bad guys. Such caricaturing is dangerous: it blinds us to the complexities of the missionary past and its enduring legacies, and it predisposes us to an uncritical reading of historical sources."

Foran hopes that *Defining Métis* will contribute to the Reconciliation process by enhancing and complicating Canadians' understanding of the missionary past. "Parts of this book – especially the chapter on the beginnings of residential education – were painful to write, and I have no doubt that they will be painful to read.

"But they shed new light on a complex history that must be understood before it can be overcome." 🌿



DEFINING MÉTIS:

Catholic Missionaries and the Idea of Civilization in Northwestern Saskatchewan, 1845–1898

Timothy P. Foran
University of Manitoba Press
\$27.95 pb, 264 pages
with maps, bibliography
ISBN: 978-0-88755-774-3



Prairie Canvas

Photographs capture Saskatchewan skies

by Paula E. Kirman

The sky is a muse for photographers everywhere – the moon and stars, sunsets and northern lights. In his coffee table book *Living Skies*, 150 of Craig Hilts's photographs capture the "prairie canvas" of the skies in Saskatchewan with vivid colour that brings the images to life right on the page.

Hilts is inspired by the natural beauty of his home province. "I have travelled across Canada and around the world, and while I have found beauty in so many places, I felt that my home province of Saskatchewan had a unique beauty that not many people get to experience," he says. "Saskatchewan is known as the Land of Living Skies, and I wanted to create a book that really showcased this and help people understand what this truly means."

LIVING SKIES

Craig Hilts
Your Nickel's Worth Publishing
\$54.95 hc, 192 pages
with full colour photos throughout
ISBN: 978-1-988783-05-5

Indeed, readers will appreciate the breathtaking photographs, and perhaps gain a deeper appreciation for Saskatchewan in the process.

"I really hope people will be able to take away a sense of wonder about the world around them and the incredible moments that can happen. I want them to experience the emotions that I had when I was out there taking the images, that sense of awe and the feeling of being there in the moment," says Hilts, who runs Prairie Fire Photography.

"I hope that they also will get the itch to go out and explore and maybe

come to Saskatchewan and see the land of living skies for themselves, have their own moment of awe at how incredible the Prairie sky can really be."

As most photographers know, much of photography is about being in the right place at the right time – and often waiting and waiting for the perfect image before hitting the shutter.

"I spend a lot of time going over weather models and forecasts to try and predict when and where the best storms will be or when the northern lights are going to be the brightest," Hilts explains. "It can be frustrating sometimes, but when all the right ingredients come together it is truly magical."

He recently came back from a trip to try to capture images of the solar eclipse. "It was years of planning and forecasting where to position myself for the best chance. Then I only had 2 minutes and 15 seconds to try and capture the images I wanted. A lot of the moments I try and capture only happen for a split second, and if you miss it that moment will never happen again."

These often once-in-a-lifetime moments are what makes Hilts's work so impressive.

"I think this book reaches so many people on different levels, from the people of Saskatchewan who take great pride in the magnificent skies we all share, to people from across the country and, in fact, around the world

who don't necessarily get to see some of the incredible sights we have in our Prairie skies," says Hilts.

"From the incredible northern lights and stars that fill our night skies to some of the most picturesque storms you can imagine, I think people from all over can look at these images and marvel at the world we live in." 🌿



"It can be frustrating sometimes, but when all the right ingredients come together it is truly magical."



CARRY THAT WEIGHT

Book explores the guys in the moving van

by Linda Alberta

Everybody hears stories at work, and movers have some of the best.

For years Calgary's Taylor Lambert was dazzled by the conversation, coffee, and camaraderie at Darwin's Moving & Deliveries, but deciding to write a book about his work life was another matter. Nobody had ever published a book about a small Canadian moving company.

Offering more than a collection of living stories, *Darwin's Moving* also has a subtext that explores Calgary's divergent economic classes.

DARWIN'S MOVING

Taylor Lambert
NeWest Press
\$19.95 pb, 148 pages
ISBN: 978-1-988732-03-9

"To me Calgary has this reputation as a boom town where people are thriving and doing well, but really it is divided by class," says Lambert. "So I was struck by the dichotomy of the wealthy people we were moving and the workers who struggle with drug addiction or criminal histories or just getting their lives in order. I saw those two worlds coming together and I wanted to capture that, the complexity of these guys and the complexity of the city."

As a moving-industry memoir, *Darwin's Moving* rolls forward with principal stories from workers Darwin, Jesse, and Keith. While the biographies take centre stage, there are plenty of other tales, such as moving every item of furniture out of the wrong house, how to move a 1,900-pound telephone booth, and the day the workers climbed 7,200 stairs in "Stairmageddon." The author fine-tuned his research at work.

"I worked full-time while writing this book. So moving furniture wasn't just to make money, it was also research. One of the guys was hard to nail down, so I would interview him while we were driving to a job. I had my steering wheel in one hand and my voice recorder in the other, and I'd be asking questions," says Lambert.

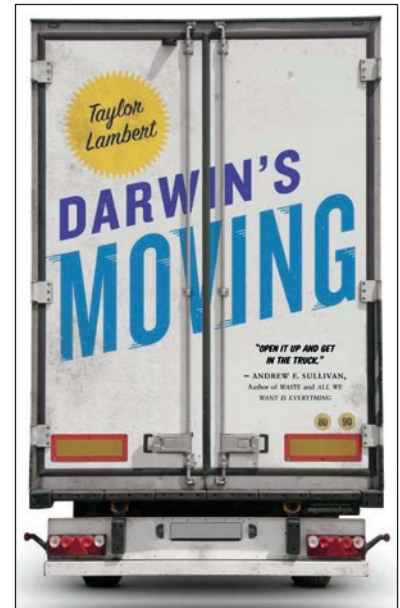
Lambert completed hours of taped interviews. He says that if he'd been some random journalist, the men probably would have been more guarded, but they knew him and trusted him, even with their most difficult life moments. Although he had known the workers for years, the talks "opened up a different side of them," Lambert says.

"When I told them I was writing this book about them and the nature of it, they were really excited. Jesse and Keith actually wanted me to use their real names. But out of a service to Darwin, the company owner, I thought maybe customers wouldn't be comfortable with that because often these guys had disturbing pasts," he explains.

What started as a 2006 summer hiatus from journalism school in Montreal is still a Calgary tradition for Lambert, as he often combines freelancing with moving. He says physical labour is a nice change of pace and an outlet from writing because sometimes he experiences the frustration of writer's block. He learns a lot from his co-workers.

"I admire the men I work with because they are some of the hardest working guys I've met in my life. They get up every day, lift things, and do it with a smile," says Lambert.

"I try to emulate that." 🌿



"I was struck by the dichotomy of the wealthy people we were moving and the workers ... just getting their lives in order."

Life after Gangs

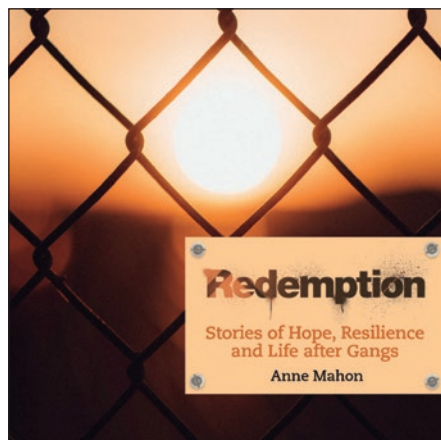
Stories of regret, strength, and courage

by Liz Katynski

Anne Mahon tells the stories of nine former Winnipeg gang members to encourage others who face the same challenges, and to inspire conversation about important inner city issues.

“I hope anyone struggling with feeling disenfranchised, with addiction, alcohol, gang life, will gain strength and move forward knowing if the people in the book can move forward, you can too,” says the author of *Redemption: Stories of Hope, Resilience and Life after Gangs*, noting the book includes an index of programs and resources.

“I would like to create a discussion about the inner city, poverty, and options.”



REDEMPTION: *Stories of Hope, Resilience and Life after Gangs*

Anne Mahon
Great Plains Publications
\$24.95 pb, 180 pages
ISBN: 978-1-927855-81-2

Mahon has lived most of her life in Winnipeg. She grew up in Fort Garry, worked as a retail fashion buyer and in sales, and has three adult children. And with her first book, *The Lucky Ones: African Refugees' Stories of Extraordinary Courage*, she became an author.

“I was wondering what to do next. I was always also a huge reader. I love people and my husband calls me an old soul. I belong to an amazing book club, and I hired one of our members, Marjorie Anderson the anthology editor, to edit my first drafts before I looked for a publisher,” says Mahon. “She helped me in a sincere way and gave me confidence.”

This new book was inspired by her chance reading of *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Gregory Boyle, and she was honoured to have him write her foreword. Mahon had no connection to the gang life, but she



***“I am really interested
in how people
overcome adversity.”***

did extensive research, including asking people she knew for ideas and connections, and calling up strangers as she had during her time in sales.

“People were so generous. My husband went to school with (social worker) Mitch Bourbonniere, who was invaluable to me.”

The idea was to write about hope, Mahon says. “I am really interested in how people overcome adversity. I want my work to be positive and encouraging. I was bullied as a kid and I spent my childhood on the fringes. I am interested in fringes and how people find strength and take the next step to find their way in the world.”

She feels privileged to share these stories.

“My first interviewee spoke about meditation and yoga. The second spoke of the joy he felt with his kids. The third spoke about courage, and the hair went up on my arms. I knew this book was about peace, joy, and courage. Others spoke of forgiveness, regrets, feeling they got more than they deserve. I am proud of the book and the people in it. Redemption is not neat and tidy. All important things in life are difficult.”

Funds raised through the sale of her second book will be donated back to the community, to the Gang Action Interagency Network (GAIN).

“GAIN started as a think tank of people involved in support services for those in the gang world. They volunteered their time. They now have paid people, create a safe space, offer a mentorship program. Recently, almost all of their government funding was cut, and they are struggling to stay afloat,” Mahon says.

“There is much more work to do.” 🌿

Discovering Canada

A personal look at an eighteenth-century mapmaker

by Laura Kupcis

Philip Turnor was hired by the Hudson's Bay Company as a mapmaker and surveyor in 1778. Twenty-five years ago, Barbara Mitchell, who knew nothing about her lineage beyond her grandparents, learned she was a descendant of this Englishman and his Cree wife.

Determined to discover her roots, Mitchell started to research everything she could find on Turnor. This research eventually turned into her biography, *Mapmaker: Philip Turnor in Rupert's Land in the Age of Enlightenment*.

Turnor loved science, was an intelligent observer of both landscape and people, and produced some of the first good maps for HBC. Mitchell discovered while researching her great-great-great-great-grandfather. More importantly, he had respect for his colleagues – both white and Indigenous – and, significantly, for Indigenous women.

As Mitchell learned, “Turnor was a man of enlightenment; he had a scientific mind and was a candid, matter-of-fact writer. It was a rare occasion when he embellished. However, he made wise observations, he provided accurate measurements, and he taught his pupils very well.” Two of these pupils were the now better-known Peter Fidler and David Thompson.

Turnor was not, however, without his flaws. He was a far better surveyor than a trader, and caused some concern with his over-imbibing, Mitchell says.

As a means to differentiate between fact and fiction in the book – and to create a read that is both compelling and truthful – Mitchell uses two different voices. The first is that of the biographer, using information from maps, correspondence, and Turnor's own journals.

The second is Mitchell's voice, where she imagines Turnor's interior life, speculates, and discusses the biographic process.

“I use these journal sections to let the reader know how I was affected in a personal way by this man and his story,” Mitchell says.

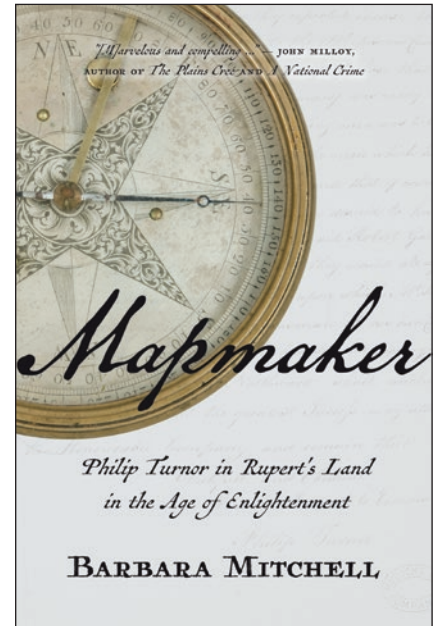
“As Turnor explored this territory, described it and mapped it, I, too, found the map to my lineage. I, too, undertook a journey of exploration,” she continues. “As I revealed his life, I was also finding out about my own life; where I came from, who my ancestors were.”

Mitchell hopes her readers will have some understanding of the difficulties faced by these explorers and mapmakers, and that they will become aware of the key role played by Indigenous peoples without whom the explorers could not have functioned.

“This is not just a story about Philip Turnor,” Mitchell says, “but about the Indigenous people who travelled with him. And though Turnor's Cree wife was only with him for five years or so, she has been given an important place in his history and is a part of my history.”



“As I revealed his life, I was also finding out about my own life; where I came from, who my ancestors were.”



MAPMAKER:

Philip Turnor in Rupert's Land in the Age of Enlightenment

Barbara Mitchell
University of Regina Press

\$39.95 hc, 352 pages
with maps, colour plates, notes,
bibliography, index

ISBN: 978-0-88977-503-9

While Mitchell was able to unearth a lot of new information about Turnor, there was no mention of her four-times-great-grandmother in the journals or in the accounts books.

Mitchell says, “Although that was quite understandable since officers did not generally write in their journals about personal matters, and Turnor was so poor he likely could not leave any money for his Cree family when he returned home, I was still disappointed.”

DIVE RIGHT IN

Lake Agassiz: the world's greatest lake

by Margaret Anne Fehr

Bill Redekop, the *Winnipeg Free Press* roving rural reporter, has profiled scores of Manitoba small towns for years, talking to townspeople and uncovering local storyline gems that would not otherwise have garnered much attention beyond municipality borders.

When Redekop was approached by publishers Barbara Huck and Peter St. John at Heartland Associates to take on *Lake Agassiz: The Rise and Demise of the World's Greatest Lake*, he admitted to having his doubts when presented with the subject matter.

"My first take was 'It's just a lot of ice and frigid water; what's there to write about?' So the first thing I had to do was investigate, and what I discovered is it isn't a story about a lot of ice and frigid water, but a story about that ice disappearing and a new world emerging."

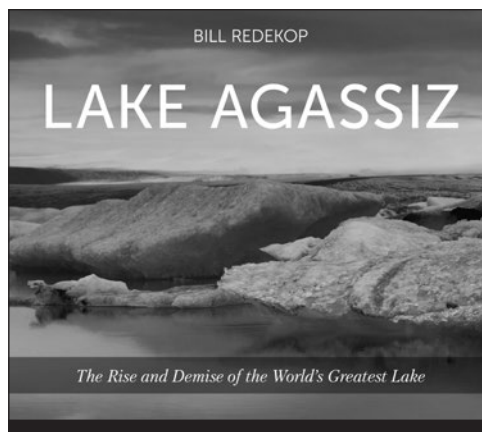
The content of the book came into focus as Redekop visualized what this lake looked like in order to write about it.

"As a non-geologist," he says, "I needed to see in my mind's eye so I could be a conduit for non-geologist readers. Because it's a fantastic story – I mean, Lake Agassiz was the largest lake in the world – but the story has never really gotten out to the public."

Three years of research followed, with Redekop once again on the road looking for geological remnants of Lake Agassiz. And his findings refuted some long-held concepts.

"The book dispels some notions, but it really confirms what we already intuit. We call it the Red River Valley, yet we know darn well we aren't in a valley because we can't see any valley walls. Yet we accept the word of experts. We call them Riding and Duck Mountains, but we know darn well they aren't really mountains because we can't see any mountain peaks."

Anticipating the readership for the book, Redekop at first thought, "Nobody's going to read this book. This will be pro bono, and the reward will be what I learn. But now I think differently. I think it's time for this book."



"My first take was 'It's just a lot of ice and frigid water; what's there to write about?'"

He says that Canadians used to be criticized for not knowing their own history.

"That's changed, and Louis Riel has gone from being a national villain to having a holiday named after him. Now it's time to understand our geological history. We see it every day. We see the footprint of Lake Agassiz all around us in three provinces and three states. What's better than to understand more about it?"

Redekop thinks it is important for readers to understand this period wasn't just a deep freeze, as is so often portrayed.

"In fact, it was springtime in geological history. The land glaciers that blanketed nearly all of Canada and the northern states were melting. Gigantic lakes were formed. Vegetation and wildlife returned. The first people descended on the landscape. It was a 10,000-year spring," he says.

"It was messy, for sure, but it was the dawning of modern North America." 🌿



LAKE AGASSIZ: *The Rise and Demise of the World's Greatest Lake*

Bill Redekop
Heartland Associates
\$29.95 pb, 264 pages
with maps and images
throughout
ISBN: 978-1-896150-87-1

Becoming Métis

Correcting misunderstandings about culture and identity

by Liz Katynski

Fred J. Shore wants everyone to know that being Métis is not simply about biology – claiming a percentage of Indigenous blood somewhere in a family tree. The questions of culture and identity are much more personal.

“You have to stand up and tell people you are Métis, and Métis people must agree, and you must have some connection to the Métis Nation,” says the professor of Native studies at the University of Manitoba.

“We must get away from this biological nonsense. If you feel you need to return to your Métis culture, do it by joining the community. There are a lot of people with First Nations and Métis ancestry who want to return to what they have lost.”

Shore’s new book, *Threads in the Sash: The Story of the Métis People*, was inspired by his frustration with the many misunderstandings surrounding what people think it means to be Métis, especially with potentially significant land claim payouts pending, and with the old racist notions and misconceptions continuing to linger.



“The concept of race is racist. The term *half-breed* suggests people are part this and part that. There is only one human race. There is still a lot of confusion. The human race is a real mixed gene pool. Just because someone has Irish heritage

doesn’t make them Irish,” he says.

“We are all more similar than we are different. Louis Riel and John A. Macdonald were both politicians trying to do something others did not want to accept. Every group does something wrong sometimes, but we need to get to know each other.”

Shore claims French, Métis, and Irish roots. He was an anglophone in Quebec, teaching school, before he came to Manitoba and got involved with the Manitoba Metis Federation. “I always related to the underdog. I was always a socialist. I look at

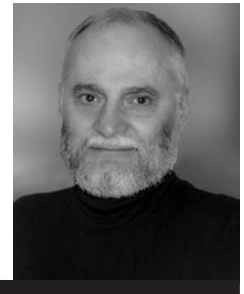
people first and how they interact. I felt at home in the Métis community.”

Because he has taught introductory courses in Native studies for 30 years, Shore initially contemplated writing a textbook. Then he decided the material would be much more widely read if he wrote something more accessible. “I wanted to cover the basics. I sat down, wrote it, and played with it so it would not be too academic.”

The result is a concise and clear explanation of the origins of the different groups of what became the Métis, and their history over the past 400 years, including the Pemmican Wars, the re-creation of Manitoba, the 1885 conflict at Batoche, the road allowance years, and the subsequent rebuilding of the Métis Nation. Each chapter includes a glossary of important terms and a list of specific sources. Shore also includes highlighted quotations from historians and Métis people, as well as charts, maps, and diagrams.

The book is an attempt to get the story straight for the average Canadian. “I hope people will read it with an open mind and try to understand,” says Shore.

“Defining culture is complex. If it stirs up reactions, that’s perfect. People should talk about it.” 🌿



“If you feel you need to return to your Métis culture, do it by joining the community.”

THREADS IN THE SASH:

The Story of the Métis People

Fred J. Shore

Pemmican Publications

\$24.95 pb, 160 pages

with images, maps, diagrams, charts, index

ISBN: 978-1-926506-05-0

MORE NON-FICTION

AL RASHID MOSQUE: BUILDING CANADIAN MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

Earle H. Waugh

This introduction to the ethics and values of Canada's homegrown Muslims was written to mark the 75th anniversary of the opening of Al Rashid Mosque in Edmonton, tracing its role in education and community leadership. With a foreword by Baha Abu-Laban.

(University of Alberta Press, 304 pages, with b/w photos, appendices, bibliography, \$60.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-77212-339-5; \$35.00 pb, ISBN: 978-1-77212-333-3)

AM I SAFE HERE? LGBTQ TEENS AND BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

Donn Short

This investigation into the marginalization and bullying faced by LGBTQ youth offers a path to creating equitable and inclusive schools, drawing on the spontaneous and timely words of LGBTQ students to show that nothing less than a total culture change is needed.

(On Point-UBC Press, \$22.95 pb, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-0-7748-9021-2)

CHILDREN OF THE BROKEN TREATY: CANADA'S LOST PROMISE AND ONE GIRL'S DREAM

Charlie Angus

This new edition of the national bestseller, written by the Member of Parliament for Timmins-James Bay, brings the reader up to date on the epidemic of youth suicides in Indigenous communities, looks at the impact of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, and argues about the limitations of the Trudeau government's commitment to Indigenous communities. (University of Regina Press, \$27.95 pb, 372 pages, with photos, ISBN: 978-0-88977-497-1)

CLAIMING ANISHINAABE: DECOLONIZING THE HUMAN SPIRIT

Lynn Gehl

The story of one woman's personal journey of moving deeper into Indigenous knowledge and working to resist the racist and sexist legacy of the Indian Act. (University of Regina Press, \$24.95 pb, 176 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-491-9)

DEAD RECKONING: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE

Ken McGoogan

This book challenges the conventional narrative of Arctic exploration history, by integrating the stories of non-British adventurers, fur trade explorers, and Indigenous peoples, celebrating forgotten heroes such as Thanadelthur, Ouligbuck, and Ebierbing.

(HarperCollins, \$33.99 hc, 448 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4434-4126-1)

THE ELBOW: A RIVER IN THE LIFE OF THE CITY, SECOND EDITION

John Gilpin

This revised and updated edition delivers the definitive history of the Elbow River and the vital role it has always played in the lives of Calgarians, from the founding of Fort Calgary to the creation of the Glenmore Reservoir, and brings the floods of 2013 into historical context.

(Brush Education, \$19.95 pb, 264 pages, with photos and maps, ISBN: 978-1-55059-720-2)

AN ETHNOHISTORIAN IN RUPERT'S LAND: UNFINISHED CONVERSATIONS

Jennifer S.H. Brown

This collection of investigations, through the close study of texts including oral documents, images, and artifacts, examines the interactions among Indigenous people and newcomers in the ancient homeland of the Cree and Ojibwe people that came to be called Rupert's Land. (Athabasca University Press, \$44.95 pb, 360 pages, ISBN: 978-1-771991711)

THE EVOLVING FEMININE BALLET BODY

Edited by Pirkko Markula
and Marianne I. Clark

This collection of essays provides perspectives to enrich the broader cultural narratives of ballet through historical, socio-cultural, political, and artistic lenses. (University of Alberta Press, \$24.95 pb, 248 pages, with bibliography, notes, index, ISBN: 978-1-77212-334-0)

GAMBLING ON AUTHENTICITY: GAMING, THE NOBLE SAVAGE, AND THE NOT-SO-NEW INDIAN

Edited by Becca Gercken and Julie Pelletier

This collection is a transnational examination of North American gaming

that considers the role Indigenous artists and scholars play in producing depictions of Indigenous gambling.

(University of Manitoba Press, \$29.95 pb, 180 pages, with notes, references, b/w photos, ISBN: 978-0-88755-815-3)

GREEN JAPAN: ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION POLICY, AND THE PURSUIT OF GREEN GROWTH

Carin Holroyd

This critical examination of the Japanese effort to link environmental sustainability and continued prosperity offers a nuanced and hopeful account of one nation's attempts, despite uneven success.

(University of Toronto Press, \$60.00 hc, 256 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0222-5)

GROWING COMMUNITY FORESTS: PRACTICE, RESEARCH, AND ADVOCACY IN CANADA

Edited by Ryan Bullock, Gayle Broad,
Lynn Palmer, and Peggy Smith

In a period of unparalleled crisis in this country's forests, this collection explores the fundamental rethinking about the relationships that link our communities, governments, Indigenous representatives, industrial partners, and forests.

(University of Manitoba Press, \$27.95 pb, 232 pages, with bibliography, index, maps, b/w photos, ISBN: 978-0-88755-793-4)

GUIDING MODERN GIRLS: GIRLHOOD, EMPIRE, AND INTERNATIONALISM IN THE 1920s AND 1930s

Kristine Alexander

This book analyzes the ways Girl Guiding sought to mould young people in England, Canada, and India in the 1920s and 1930s, an era of social and cultural change, leading them toward a "useful" feminine future.

(UBC Press, \$85.00 hc, 316 pages, with b/w photos, ISBN: 978-0-7748-3587-9)

THE HANDOVER: HOW BIGWIGS AND BUREAUCRATS TRANSFERRED CANADA'S BEST PUBLISHER AND THE BEST PART OF OUR LITERARY HERITAGE TO A FOREIGN MULTINATIONAL

Elaine Dewar

Part investigation, part memoir, this controversial book describes in detail not only how McClelland and Stewart was transferred to Random House, but

also the history behind it and the future implications for our culture.
(Biblioasis, \$29.95 hc, 376 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77196-111-0)

**HAUNTED MUSEUMS AND
GALLERIES OF CANADA**

Andrew Hind

Curators of nightmares, archivists of fears, and trustees of creeps all come together in this collection of ghost stories in museums from Winnipeg to Sudbury, and from Nova Scotia to British Columbia.
(Quagmire Press, \$18.95 pb, 248 pages, ISBN: 978-1-926695-31-0)

**HAUNTED MUSEUMS AND
GALLERIES OF ONTARIO**

Andrew Hind

This collection of true ghost stories and hauntings from galleries and museums all across Ontario, with cursed artifacts, spectral evidence of the afterlife, and timeless mysteries, proves that museums don't just preserve and display objects.
(Quagmire Press, \$14.95 pb, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-1-926695-30-3)

**HOLDING ON TO HOPE: A CENTURY
OF DISPLACEMENT POLITICS FOR
LAKE ST. MARTIN FIRST NATION**

Myrle Ballard

This book examines the consequences of community displacement on sustainable livelihoods, homes, health, and sociological integrity, after Lake St. Martin First Nation was flooded out of its ancestral lands and left homeless, and the Province of Manitoba refused to listen to the wishes of the community.
(ARP, \$14.95 pb, 100 pages, ISBN: 978-1-894037-96-9)

**THE HOMESTEADERS: FROM
CONFEDERATION TO THE GREAT WAR**

Sandra Rollings-Magnusson

This book is a treasure trove of first-hand accounts of settlers to the Great Northern Plains, from stories of back-breaking labour and natural disasters to picnics and weddings, collected by the Saskatchewan Archives.
(University of Regina Press, \$49.95 hc, 275 pages, with photos, ISBN: 978-0-88977-515-2)

**INHABITING MEMORY IN CANADIAN
LITERATURE / HABITER LA MÉMOIRE
DANS LA LITTÉRATURE CANADIENNE**

Edited by Benjamin Authers, Maïté Snauwaert, and Daniel Laforest

Featuring essays in English and French, as well as a bilingual introduction, this collection examines the cultural work of space and memory in Canada and Canadian literature, revealing the unities and fractures in national understanding.
(University of Alberta Press, \$49.95 pb, 336 pages, with b/w images, notes, index, ISBN: 978-1-77212-270-1)

**THE LARGER CONVERSATION:
CONTEMPLATION AND PLACE**

Tim Lilburn

The third volume in Tim Lilburn's decades-long meditation on philosophy and environmental consequences is a personal attempt at decolonization that also seeks an ecologically responsible and spiritually acute relationship between settler Canadians, Indigenous peoples, and the land we inhabit.
(University of Alberta Press, \$34.95 pb, 224 pages, with glossary, bibliography, index, ISBN: 978-1-77212-299-2)

**LITERARY / LIBERAL ENTANGLEMENTS:
TOWARDS A LITERARY HISTORY FOR
THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

Edited by Corrinne Harol and Mark Simpson

These ten essays by scholars from a wide range of fields in English studies interrogate the complex, entangled relationship between the history of literature and the history of liberalism, demonstrating the capacity of literary study to imagine durative accounts of history and politics.
(University of Toronto Press, \$75.00 hc, 328 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4426-3090-1)

**MIXING MEMORY & DESIRE: WHY
LITERATURE CAN'T FORGET THE GREAT WAR**

Brian Kennedy
This wide-ranging examination of literary texts, from writers like Timothy Findley and Pat Barker, argues that the cultural process of grieving concerns both the fear of forgetting and the need to build a narrative.
(Folklore Publishing, \$24.95 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-926677-26-2)

**MOOSE JAW: A HISTORY IN
WORDS AND PICTURES**

Mary Harelkin Bishop

From its beginnings as a meeting place of the Plains Cree, Assiniboine, Lakota, and Blackfoot peoples, through its development as a railway town and home to gangsters and bootleggers, to the thriving tourist destination it is today, with a reputation as "Canada's Friendliest City," this book tells the stories of Moose Jaw. Part of the Our Saskatchewan Home series.
(MacIntyre Purcell, \$22.95 pb, 198 pages, with b/w photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77276-046-0)

**MOTHERS AND OTHERS: THE ROLE
OF PARENTHOOD IN POLITICS**

Edited by Melanee Thomas and Amanda Bittner

The first major comparative analysis of parenthood in politics, this collection brings together work by scholars of gender and politics to discuss the role of parental status in political life, including parenthood and political careers, the media, and political behaviour.
(UBC Press, \$95.00 hc, 336 pages, with charts, tables, ISBN: 978-0-7748-3458-2)

**NATURE, PLACE, AND STORY: RETHINKING
HISTORIC SITES IN CANADA**

Claire Elizabeth Campbell

This new interpretation of Canadian historical sites is a fresh perspective on national heritage as it describes the occupation and transformation of nature into nation and how national historic sites might confront critical issues in environmental history.
(McGill-Queen's University Press, \$34.95 hc, 224 pages, with images, maps, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5125-1)

**NEGATIVE COSMOPOLITANISM:
CULTURES AND POLITICS OF WORLD
CITIZENSHIP AFTER GLOBALIZATION**

Edited by Eddy Kent and Terri Tomskey

This multidisciplinary study of cosmopolitanism explores its negative effects, including climate change, debt, refugee crises, energy security, and terrorism, and how subjects under globalization become cosmopolitan against their will.
(McGill-Queen's University Press, 432 pages, \$120.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5096-4; \$39.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5097-1)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

OIL'S DEEP STATE: HOW THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY UNDERMINES DEMOCRACY AND STOPS ACTION ON GLOBAL WARMING – IN ALBERTA, AND IN OTTAWA

Kevin Taft

This book is an exposé of how the fossil fuel industry persuades think tanks, universities, politicians, and bureaucrats to pursue their agenda, written by a former MLA and Alberta's Leader of the Opposition from 2004 to 2008. (Lorimer, \$29.95 pb, 256 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4594-0999-6)

ON FORGIVENESS AND REVENGE: LESSONS FROM AN IRANIAN PRISON
Ramin Jahanbegloo

Prevailing upon the wisdom of the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela, and the Ancients, this meditation on forgiveness and revenge by philosopher Ramin Jahanbegloo, who was interned in Iran's notorious Evin Prison, offers insights into building a more peaceful world in a time of nationalism and exclusion. (University of Regina Press, \$25.95 hc, 250 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-500-8)

POLICING BLACK LIVES: STATE VIOLENCE IN CANADA FROM SLAVERY TO THE PRESENT

Robyn Maynard

The first comprehensive account of nearly 400 years of state-sanctioned surveillance, criminalization, and punishment of Black lives in Canada traces the violent realities of blackness from slave ships to prisons, classrooms, and beyond. (Fernwood Publishing, \$25.00 pb, 244 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55266-979-2)

PUBLIC DELIBERATIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE: LESSONS FROM ALBERTA CLIMATE DIALOGUE

Edited by Lorelei L. Hanson

This collection provides the framework for advancing public conversations and processes on the challenges of climate governance and global consequences, the result of the Alberta Climate Dialogue, a five-year multidisciplinary, community-university research project involving scholars, citizens, and government officials. (Athabasca University Press, \$34.95 pb, 284 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77199-215-2)

RADICAL HOUSEWIVES: PRICE WARS AND FOOD POLITICS IN MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY CANADA

Julie Guard

This history of the Canada's Housewives Consumers Association, a community-based organization with ties to the communist and social democratic left that, from 1937 until the early 1950s, advocated for state control of prices and other far-reaching demands, uses archival research and interviews with surviving former Housewives. A volume in the Studies in Gender and History Series. (University of Toronto Press, 232 pages, \$75.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0215-7; \$28.95 pb, ISBN: 978-1-4875-2181-3)

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS AND RECONCILIATION: CANADA CONFRONTS ITS HISTORY

J. R. Miller

This unique, timely, and provocative work reveals a major obstacle to reconciling with the malignant legacy of residential schools: the inability of Canadians at large to overcome their flawed, overly positive understanding of their country's

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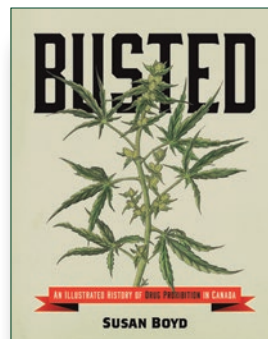


WE CAN DO BETTER

Ideas for Changing Society
David Camfield

"This is a must read book for anyone who wants to understand the complex forces that shape our societies and change them."

— SARA FARRIS
AUTHOR OF *IN THE NAME OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS*



BUSTED

An Illustrated History of
Drug Prohibition in Canada
Susan Boyd

"A visually rich and historically intriguing analysis of the twists and turns in the development of Canada's drug policy"

— DONALD MACPHERSON
CANADIAN DRUG POLICY COALITION

history and its aggressively assimilative policies.
(University of Toronto Press, \$39.95 hc, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0218-8)

**RESILIENCE AND CONTAGION:
INVOKING HUMAN RIGHTS
IN AFRICAN HIV ADVOCACY**

Kristi Heather Kenyon

This in-depth study of why civil society advocacy groups working on HIV choose the language of rights uses a case-study approach to look at service organizations in Ghana, Uganda, South Africa, and Botswana.

(McGill-Queen's University Press, 336 pages, with tables, \$110.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5098-8; \$34.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5099-5)

**RESPONDING TO HUMAN
TRAFFICKING: DISPOSSESSION,
COLONIAL VIOLENCE, AND
RESISTANCE AMONG INDIGENOUS
AND RACIALIZED WOMEN**

Julie Kaye

This critical examination of the responses to the issue of human trafficking in Canada draws upon theories of post- and settler-colonialism, Indigenous feminist thought, and interviews with people in counter-trafficking employment.

(University of Toronto Press, 280 pages, \$75.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0174-7; \$29.95 pb, ISBN: 978-1-4875-2161-5)

**SASKATOON: A HISTORY IN
WORDS AND PICTURES**

Amy Jo Ehman

The story of how the City of Bridges on the South Saskatchewan River developed, in photographs of the original inhabitants, early settlers, schools, stores, hotels, other public buildings, the railway, and yes, bridges, from the 1880s to the end of the 1960s.
(MacIntyre Purcell, \$22.95 pb, 198 pages, with b/w photos

throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77276-049-1)

**SNACKS: A CANADIAN
FOOD HISTORY**
Janis Thiessen

The lively, entertaining history of Canadian snack foods, the independent producers and workers who make them, and the consumers who can't stop eating Old Dutch Potato Chips, Hawkins Cheezies, and Ganong chocolates.

(University of Manitoba Press, \$27.95 pb, 352 pages, with bibliography, index, b/w photos, ISBN: 978-0-88755-799-6)

**STARVING UKRAINE:
THE HOLOMODOR AND
CANADA'S RESPONSE**

Serge Cipko

This examination of Canada's response to the 1932–33 Ukrainian famine and the reporting of it is based on an analysis of newspapers, political speeches, and protests, and highlights the importance of both journalists and protestors.

(University of Regina Press, \$80.00 hc, 400 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-506-0)

**TRAVELLERS THROUGH
EMPIRE: INDIGENOUS VOYAGES
FROM EARLY CANADA**

Cecilia Morgan

This book explores Indigenous people's experiences travelling from Canada to Britain and beyond, from the 1770s to 1914, and how they negotiated with the Crown, raised funds for missionary work, received an education, gave readings, or taught international audiences about Indigenous cultures.

(McGill-Queen's University Press, \$39.95 hc, 392 pages, with photos, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5134-3)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Talonbooks Winter 2017

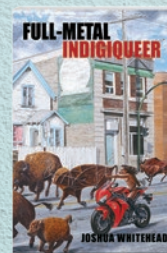


From Oral to Written

A Celebration of Indigenous Literature in Canada, 1980–2010
Tomson Highway

Tomson Highway's *From Oral to Written* is a study of Native literature published in Canada between 1980 and 2010, a catalogue of amazing books that sparked the embers of a dormant voice.

978-1-77201-116-6 • \$29.95 • 432 pages • Non-fiction
978-1-77201-188-3 • \$39.95 • Hardcover



Full-Metal Indigiqueer

Joshua Whitehead

This poetry collection focuses on a hybridized Indigiqueer Trickster character named Zoa who brings together the organic (the protozoan) and the technologic (the binaric) in order to re-beautify and re-member queer Indigeneity.

978-1-77201-187-6 • \$18.95 • 136 pages • Poetry



Safety Sand

Garry Thomas Morse

In *Safety Sand*, the reader is invited to step through a multilayered literary filter of uncanny allusions and cavalier translations to explore a nomadic Manitoba of the mind. Prairie surrealism is born!

978-1-77201-198-2 • \$18.95 • 128 pages • Poetry
Forthcoming January, 2018

UKRAINIAN EPIC AND HISTORICAL SONG: FOLKLORE IN CONTEXT

Natalie Kononenko

These translations and analyses of Ukrainian epics, which were first recorded from minstrels in the nineteenth century yet reflecting events dating back to the fourteenth, provide a sweeping social history that emphasizes the lives of ordinary people, revealing how these songs preserve and perpetuate historical memory. (University of Toronto Press, \$75.00 hc, 312 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0263-8)

UNSETTLING THE COMMONS: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AGAINST, WITHIN, AND BEYOND SETTLER COLONIALISM

Craig Fortier

Drawing on interviews with anti-authoritarian organizers, and examining how radical left movements have often erased or conflicted with Indigenous practices of sovereignty and self-determination, this book studies what it means to claim “the commons” within a settler colonial context. (ARP, \$14.95 pb, 120 pages, ISBN: 978-1-894037-97-6)

VOICES FROM HUDSON BAY: CREE STORIES FROM YORK FACTORY, SECOND EDITION

Edited by Flora Beardsley and Robert J. Coutts
This collection of stories of traditional Cree life and culture gathered from the daily lives and experiences of men and women who lived and worked at York Factory in northern Manitoba provides insight into a way of life that has largely vanished. (McGill-Queen's University Press, with illustrations, 200 pages, \$110.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5174-9; \$24.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5143-5)

WE CAN DO BETTER: IDEAS FOR A CHANGING SOCIETY

David Camfield

This convincingly worded argument lays out a theoretical basis for political and social change that fuses critical Marxism with insights from anti-racist queer feminism to analyze a range of contemporary issues, from climate change and growing social insecurity to the persistence of sexism and racism. (Fernwood Publishing, \$25.00 pb, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55266-996-9)

WEST HAM AND THE RIVER LEA: A SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF LONDON'S INDUSTRIALIZED MARSHLAND, 1839–1914

Jim Clifford

This environmental and social history of London's most populous independent suburb and its second largest river maps the migration of industry into West Ham and reveals the consequences – poverty, pollution, and disease for the working-class people who lived among the factories, as well as the development of an urban social democracy. (UBC Press, \$75.00 hc, 244 pages, ISBN: 978-0-7748-3423-0)

THE WETIKO LEGAL PRINCIPLES: CREE AND ANISHINABEK RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE AND VICTIMIZATION

Hadley Louise Friedland

This exploration of how the concept of a *wetiko*, a cannibal spirit that possesses a person, can be used to address happenings that can endanger the lives of many Indigenous children, includes analyses of stories and oral histories alongside academic and legal literature. (University of Toronto Press, 144 pages, \$65.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0256-0; \$24.95 pb, ISBN: 978-1-4875-2202-5)

WHEN THE CARIBOU DO NOT COME: INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT IN THE WESTERN ARCTIC

Edited by Brenda L. Parlee and Ken J. Caine
In a time of concern about declining caribou populations, this collection of stories and essays, grounded in community-based research in northern Canada, brings to the fore the insights of people for whom caribou stewardship has been a way of life for centuries and drives home the important role that Indigenous knowledge must play in understanding, and coping with, our changing Arctic ecosystems. (UBC Press, \$75.00 hc, 280 pages, with maps, tables, ISBN: 978-0-7748-3118-5)

ART / PHOTOGRAPHY**COLOUR MANITOBA**

Natalie Thiessen

This colouring book includes over 60 Manitoba scenes, buildings, food items, and flora and fauna from Mordens'

chocolates to Oak Hammock Marsh, from the Narcisse snake pits to the Golden Boy. (MacIntyre Purcell Publishing, \$16.95 pb, 64 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77276-072-9)

ISLANDS OF GRASS

Trevor Herriot and Branimir Gjetvaj

This is both a well-researched call to action and a love letter to Canada's prairie grasslands that are rapidly disappearing in the wake of modernity's relentless push, from naturalist Trevor Herriot and photographer Branimir Gjetvaj. (Coteau Books, \$39.95 hc, 224 pages, with full colour photos, ISBN: 978-1-55050-931-1)

MOUNTIES ON THE COVER

Al Lund

These favourite images of Mounties, from books, magazines, and comics, was culled from the collection of retired Staff Sergeant Alert Henry (Al) Lund, who donated them to the University of Alberta Libraries. (University of Alberta Press, \$39.95 pb, 120 pages, with b/w and colour illustrations, bibliography, ISBN: 978-1-55195-369-4)

NATURAL REFLECTIONS

Photographs by Mike Grandmaison,
Text by Robert Peters

Divided into five contemplative chapters – On Inspiration, On Seeing, On Intimacy, On Order, On Change – this lavish book of photographs and words takes the reader on a walk through the vast beauty of natural Canada. (Rocky Mountain Books, \$40.00 hc, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77160-254-9)

THE NORTH END REVISITED

John Paskievich

This new edition of Paskievich's work includes many of the photographs from the original edition, along with 80 additional images, a new essay by George Melnyk, and a new interview by Alison Gillmor, to present a deep and poignant picture of a special Winnipeg community. (University of Manitoba Press, \$39.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88755-797-2)

ROULA PARTHENIOU: INDEX

Contributors Jennifer Matotek, Jon Davies, Ivan Jurakic, Fynn Leitch, Nate McLeod
This is the first publication to present the work of Canadian artist Roula

Partheniou, exploring her practice of taking the familiar and altering it to become something extraordinary, by bringing together significant bodies of work including “House & Home & Garden,” “Inventory,” and “Parts and Wholes,” critical essays by Jennifer Matotek, Jon Davies, Ivan Jurakic, and Fynn Leitch, and an interview by Nate McLeod. (Black Dog Publishing and Dunlop Art Gallery, \$45.00 hc, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-191164036)

**SEARCHING FOR MARY SCHÄFFER:
WOMEN WILDERNESS PHOTOGRAPHY**
Colleen Skidmore

This study of the early twentieth-century photographer, writer, and cartographer, known for her work in the Canadian Rockies, argues for new ways of thinking about Schäffer’s impact on historical and contemporary conceptions of women’s experience.

(University of Alberta Press, \$34.95 pb, 448 pages, with photographs, maps, appendices, bibliography, notes, ISBN: 978-1-77212-298-5)

**STUCK IN THE MIDDLE 2: DEFINING
VIEWS OF MANITOBA**

Bryan Scott and Bartley Kives

A photographer and journalist venture beyond Winnipeg’s Perimeter Highway to explore the architecture, landscapes, and waterways of the province they know and love well, in this follow-up to *Stuck in the Middle: Dissenting Views of Winnipeg*. (Great Plains Publications, \$35.00 pb, 220 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927855-80-5)

WHEN RAVEN BECAME SPIDER

Edited by Jennifer Matotek and Leena Minifie, curated by Leena Minifie

In comic book format, this publication documents the exhibition curated by Leena Minifie who continues her research on supernatural characters in Indigenous art and modern comic superheroes, including artwork by Jolene Yazzie, Joi T. Arcand, Sonny Assu, Shaun Beyale, and others, and essays by Indigenous scholars from across North America.

(ARP, \$14.95 pb, 96 pages, full colour images, ISBN: 978-1-988404-06-6)

WILD WEATHER ON THE PRAIRIES

Monica Zurowski et al.

This collection of more than 200 black and white and colour photographs from the archives of the *Calgary Sun*, *Calgary Herald*, *Edmonton Journal*, *Edmonton Sun*, *Regina Leader-Post*, *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*, and *Winnipeg Sun* celebrates the spirit of Prairie people as they face tornadoes, floods, fires, blizzards, and more.

(Greystone Books, \$34.95 hc, 138 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77164-316-0)

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

AMMA’S DAUGHTERS: A MEMOIR

Meenal Shrivastava

This memoir uncovers the history of female foot soldiers of Gandhi’s national movement in the early twentieth century, combining archival research and family memory to give voice to the women, threatened with imprisonment, who selflessly worked toward the struggle against colonial powers.

(Athabasca University Press, \$29.95 pb, 340 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77199-195-7)

BEING KURDISH IN A HOSTILE WORLD

Ayub Nuri

This is an insider’s account of the Kurdish conflict, from growing up during the Iran-Iraq War, to Saddam Hussein’s attacks and UN sanctions, the 2003 American Invasion, and the rise of ISIS, which the author reported from Mosul.

(University of Regina Press, \$29.95 pb, 304 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-494-0)

**CALLING THE SHOTS: UPS, DOWNS,
& REBOUNDS – MY LIFE IN THE
GREAT GAME OF HOCKEY**

Kelly Hrudey with Kirstie McLellan Day

This is a hockey memoir by the hockey analyst and broadcaster Kelly Hrudey, who played goalie with the New York Islanders, Los Angeles Kings, and San Jose Sharks, alongside teammates like Mike Bossy, Denis Potvin, Jari Kurri, Paul Coffey, and Wayne Gretzky.

(HarperCollins, \$32.99 hc, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4434-5224-3)

**THE DRAGON RUN: TWO CANADIANS,
TEN BHUTANESE, ONE STRAY DOG**

Tony Robinson-Smith

In this contemplative travel memoir, the author describes Bhutan in rich detail at a transformative period in its history, and reflects on tradition, belief, modernization, and happiness, as he and his wife join 10 Bhutanese college students on a 580-kilometre run across the Himalayas. (University of Alberta Press, \$24.95 pb, 288 pages, with b/w photos, ISBN: 978-1-77212-300-5)

EXTENDED FAMILIES: A MEMOIR OF INDIA
Ven Begamudré

The award-winning author explores the history of his unusual family of Brahmins through journal entries, memoirs, fiction, and photographs, with a particular focus on his relationship with his parents.

(Coteau Books, \$24.95 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55050-927-4)

**THE GREEN HORSE: MY EARLY YEARS IN THE
CANADIAN ROCKIES – A PARK WARDEN’S STORY**
Dale Portman

This inspiring, humorous, adventure-packed mountain memoir takes the reader on a journey into western Canada’s backcountry parks during the 1960s and ’70s, a time when our national parks were less touristy and more substantive.

(Rocky Mountain Books, \$25.00 pb, 328 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77160-226-6)

**A HERO FOR THE AMERICAS: THE
LEGEND OF GONZALO GUERRERO**

Robert Calder

This is the true story of Gonzalo Guerrero, a Spanish sailor who was shipwrecked on the Yucatán Peninsula in 1512, but who, as legend has it, embraced the Mayan way of life and led the opposition to the Spanish takeover of the area and is now remembered with statues all over the area. (University of Regina Press, \$24.95 pb, 208 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-509-1)

**METIS PIONEERS: MARIE ROSE
DELORME SMITH AND ISABELLA
CLARK HARDISTY LOUGHEED**

Doris Jeanne MacKinnon

This book compares two Metis women born during the fur trade, one from the French-speaking free trade tradition

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

and the other from the English-speaking Hudson's Bay Company tradition, who settled in southern Alberta as the fur trade transitioned to a sedentary agricultural and industrial economy.

(University of Alberta Press, \$45.00 pb, 504 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-271-8)

MISS CONFEDERATION: THE DIARY OF MERCY ANNE COLES

Anne McDonald

The diary of the daughter of George Coles, PEI delegate to Canada's Confederation, tells of social happenings and political manoeuvrings as they affected her, and is being published for the first time.

(Dundurn, \$22.99 pb, 192 pages, with illustrations, ISBN: 978-1-4597-3967-3)

NEVER REST ON YOUR ORES: BUILDING A MINING COMPANY, ONE STONE AT A TIME

Norman B. Keevil

Written by his son, a geoscientist and businessman, this biography tells of Norman Bell Keevil – scientist, teacher, prospector – who parlayed control of the Kirkland Lake gold mine into Teck Corporation, Canada's largest diversified mining company.

(McGill-Queen's University Press, \$39.95 hc, 530 pages, with colour and b/w plates, ISBN: 978-0-7735-5155-8)

NO MAN'S LAND: THE LIFE AND ART OF MARY RITER HAMILTON

Kathryn A. Young and Sarah M. McKinnon

This book surveys the life and career of western Canadian artist Mary Riter Hamilton (1868–1854), from homestead beginnings, to drawing rooms in Victoria, Vancouver, and Winnipeg, art schools in Berlin and Paris, and illness and poverty in old age.

(University of Manitoba Press, \$27.95 pb, 288 pages, with bibliography, index, colour plates, b/w photos, ISBN: 978-0-88755-811-5)

RECKLESS DAUGHTER: A PORTRAIT OF JONI MITCHELL

David Yaffe

This biography of the beloved singer and songwriter is written with unprecedented access to Mitchell herself as well through interviews with childhood friends and a host of famous contemporaries, including

Joan Baez, Judy Collins, Leonard Cohen, David Crosby, and more.

(HarperCollins, \$34.99 hc, 448 pages, ISBN: 978-1-44344-481-1)

RUN, HIDE, REPEAT: A MEMOIR OF A FUGITIVE CHILDHOOD

Pauline Dakin

As a young journalist, Dakin finally gets the explanations from her mother to her lifelong questions about why her childhood was filled with secrets, last-minute camping trips and sleep-overs, and strange reactions to food storage and carpet "cleaning" – her family was under attack by the Mafia and under the protection of a secret service. Or was it?

(Viking, \$24.95 pb, 334 pages, ISBN: 978-0-7352-3322-5)

WHAT THE HORSES KNEW: SKETCHES OF HOME

Ron Evans

This memoir in essay format contemplates notions of home, while telling bits of Evans's working life spent as a chaplain and teacher in psychiatric hospitals in Texas, California, and Saskatchewan.

(Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, \$18.95 pb, 192 pages, with b/w sketches throughout, ISBN: 978-1-927756-82-9)

CELEBRATIONS

FROM ORAL TO WRITTEN: A CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS LITERATURE IN CANADA, 1980–2010

Tomson Highway

In this survey of 30 years of Indigenous publishing, the author highlights over 100 gifted First Nations, Métis, and Inuit writers and the best stories they have told in fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction.

(Talonbooks, \$29.95 pb, 432 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77201-116-6)

GOLDEN BOYS: THE TOP 50 MANITOBA HOCKEY PLAYERS OF ALL TIME

Ty Dillelo

Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the NHL, *Golden Boys* looks at 50 players that have shaped the history of hockey in Manitoba, including Jonathan Toews, Andy Bathgate, Ron Hextall, Bobby Clarke, and Terry Sawchuk. With detailed

biographies, rare photographs, and never-been-told-before stories.

(Great Plains Publications, \$24.95 pb, 280 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927855-82-9)

150 YEARS OF CANADA: YEAR-BY-YEAR FASCINATING FACTS

A. H. Jackson

This compilation includes important events and people from each of the past 150 years, such as Terry Fox's run (1980), the separation of Nunavut from the Northwest Territories (1999), and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report and 94 Calls to Action (2015).

(Blue Bike Books, \$14.95 pb, 160 pages, with illustrations, ISBN: 978-1-926700-78-6)

RICK HANSEN'S MAN IN MOTION WORLD TOUR: 30 YEARS LATER – A CELEBRATION OF COURAGE, STRENGTH, AND THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Jake MacDonald

Hansen and his small crew inspired the world on this tour through 34 countries on four continents before they crossed Canada, raising \$26 million for spinal cord injury and quality of life for people with disabilities. With a foreword by Rick Hansen.

(Greystone Books, \$34.95 hc, 162 pages, with photos, ISBN: 978-1-77164-344-3)

YA HA TINDA: A HOME PLACE – CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S ONLY WORKING HORSE RANCH

Kathy Calvert

This illustrated history tells of the only continuously operating federal government horse ranch from its inception on the eastern slopes of the Canadian Rockies and challenges to survive, to the men and women who worked the spread and fought against the weather and the politics of keeping it as a "home place" for Parks Canada.

(Rocky Mountain Books, \$30.00 hc, 192 pages, with b/w and colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77160-228-0)

COOKBOOKS

ARAB COOKING ON A PRAIRIE HOMESTEAD: RECIPES AND RECOLLECTIONS FROM A SYRIAN PIONEER, NEW EDITION

Habeeb Salloum

This collection of over 200 recipes, from lentil pies to zucchini mint soup, also

includes recollections of the writer's parents, who left the vineyards of Syria for the drought-stricken Canadian Prairies of the 1920s, bringing their "exotic" foods with them.

(University of Regina Press, \$34.95 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-518-3)

BEST OF BRIDGE SUNDAY SUPPERS: ALL-NEW RECIPES FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Elizabeth Chorney-Booth, Sue Duncan, and Julie Van Rosendaal

All that is needed for delicious home-cooked meals around a table with friends is here – salads ranging from slaws to potato, soups with flavour combinations such as mango butternut and coconut sweet potato, meats roasted and grilled, stews and casseroles, pastas and pizzas, breads, sides, sauces, and of course, desserts – pies, puddings, and cakes to die for.

(Robert Rose, \$29.95 hc, 324 pages, w/ full colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-0-7788-0575-5)

CAMPFIRE COOKING

Jeff Morrison, Jean Paré, and James Darcy
Camping fare needn't be limited to hot dogs on a stick or cans of pork and beans – these recipes make for tasty, satisfying meals that are easily prepared over the campfire with minimal effort and equipment. Also includes tips for hiking etiquette, building the perfect campfire, and safe campsite food storage.

(Practical Gourmet-Company's Coming, \$19.99 pb, 160 pages, with colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-988133-38-6)

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF CANADIAN CUISINE

Jennifer Ogle and James Darcy

Canadian cooking is defined by its diversity, and these recipes range from the traditional to the innovative, and include such dishes as deep dish tourtière, poutine, succotash, and saskatoon pie.

(Practical Gourmet-Company's Coming, \$19.95 pb, 160 pages, with full colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-988133-46-1)

OUT OF OLD MANITOBA KITCHENS

Christine Hanlon

This story of the people in early Manitoba and the food they prepared is packed with historical and culinary insights and recipes for breads, soups and stews, meats and fish, vegetables, desserts, and preserves.

(MacIntyre Purcell Publishing, \$24.95 hc, 240 pages, with photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77276-052-1)

GUIDES

BUTTERFLIES OF ONTARIO AND EASTERN CANADA

John Acorn, illustrated by Ian Sheldon

This gorgeously illustrated book describes in detail the range, identifying characteristics, size, habitat and flight season, and caterpillar food plants of butterflies in five families. Also included is a quick reference guide, checklist, glossary, and list of resources.

(Partners-Lone Pine, \$28.95 pb, 320 pages, w/ colour images, ISBN: 978-1-77213-032-4)

CANADIAN FLY FISHING: HOT SPOTS AND ESSENTIALS

Duane S. Radford

Radford offers advice on appropriate fly fishing gear, techniques, target species, and the etiquette and ethics of fly fishing, along with Canadian fly fishing hot spots from BC to Newfoundland, including lakes in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nunavut, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

(Partners-Lone Pine, \$28.95 pb, 224 pages, w/ colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77213-040-9)

GROWING FRUIT IN NORTHERN GARDENS

Sara Williams and Dr. Bob Bors

This comprehensive handbook for growing fruit in cold climates is aimed at the home gardener, and includes a detailed map and a reference guide to zones, hardiness, and planting zone, and best practices to ensure growth and survival.

(Coteau Books, \$34.95 pb, 248 pages, with full colour photos, ISBN: 978-1-55050-913-7)



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NOT JUST FOR PROFESSORS!

History, Art, Poetry, Fiction: The University of Calgary Press has lots to offer

by Quentin Mills-Fenn

The University of Calgary Press publishes books for both scholars and non-specialist readers, on a fascinating variety of subjects.

There are more than a dozen university presses in Canada, publishing books for both specialists and general readers. Part of the pleasure of checking out these publishers is exploring the wide range of subjects covered.

The University of Calgary Press is one of Canada's premier university publishers. It started out by publishing journals, and then branched into monographs in 1984.

Part of Libraries and Cultural Resources at the University of Calgary, which manages not just the libraries but also the university archives, museums, and art galleries, the press currently publishes 15 to 20 books a year. Its list covers a wide variety of topics, from local to global, including history, identity, policy, and community, from the transpolar to the southern cone.

As a scholarly publisher, the press feels a responsibility to ensure that the research of

its authors is accessible to the widest possible audience, and so makes scholarly books available as free PDFs on its website, under a Creative Commons licence.

Its director, Brian Scrivener, oversees all aspects of its operation. Although the press does produce books intended purely for an academic readerships, Scrivener points out that they also publish books with all sorts of engaged, knowledgeable book lovers in mind.

"We always look for titles that have some crossover appeal to members of the general public with a strong interest in the subject," he says.

Book lovers in the general public have plenty to choose from. Currently, University of Calgary Press publishes books in 14 different series, including the longstanding Art in Profile: Canadian Art and Architecture series, which features lavishly illustrated books, and The West, creative non-fiction curated by series editor Aritha van Herk, as well as the relatively new series Brave & Brilliant, their literary imprint, focusing on fiction, poetry, and everything in between and beyond.

As proof of the benefit of this approach, the press's books have won or been nominated for excellence in both scholarly or academic writing and non-specialist categories, as well as in editing and design. For example, *Happyland: A History of the "Dirty Thirties" in Saskatchewan, 1914-1937*

by Curtis McManus won the Non-Fiction Award, and was short-listed for the Scholarly Writing Award, First Book Award, and Book of the Year Award, at the Saskatchewan Book Awards.

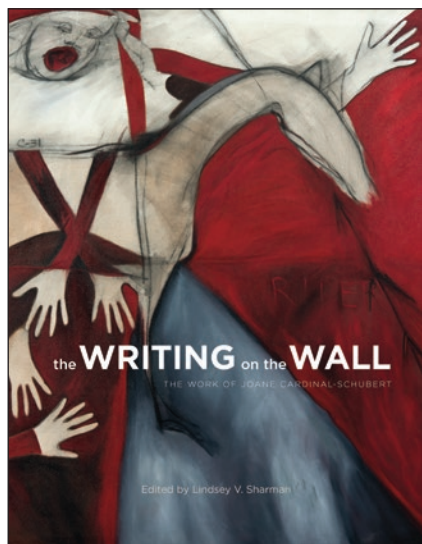
"You know, it sounds corny," Scrivener says, "but we get excited about all the books we publish – how we can make them better, and what we can do to support both the books and their authors."

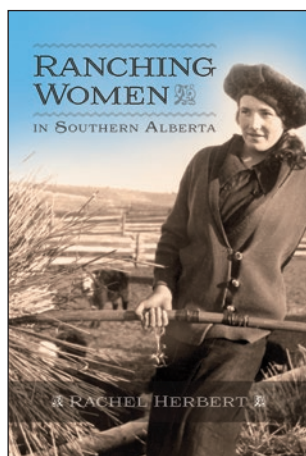
"We certainly plan to explore the potential of our cultural publishing further."

It follows then that he can pick out titles he's eager to talk about.

"One that really stands out this fall is *The Writing on the Wall: The Work of Joane Cardinal-Schubert*," he says. "[It's] a beautifully illustrated book edited by Lindsey V. Sharman, which is tied in with an exhibit Lindsey is curating at the Nickle Galleries at the University of Calgary.

"Besides being an astonishingly impactful, Calgary-based visual artist, the late Joane Cardinal-Schubert was a teacher and an activist for Indigenous sovereignty, advocating for voices that often go unheard. It was not hard to get excited about this book."





And since he works for a publisher in Calgary, after all, he's quick to spread the word about a new book on ranching.

"For Western history fans," he says, "we have Rachel Herbert's *Ranching Women in Southern Alberta*. The great-granddaughter of pioneer ranchers – and a southern Alberta rancher herself – Rachel brings a unique insight to the stories of those

brave and talented women who carved a role for themselves and their daughters during the dawn of the family ranch."

Looking to the fall and beyond, he identifies some more noteworthy fall titles.

"We have been delighted with how well our new literary series, *Brave & Brilliant*, led by Aritha van Herk, has been received. We have two new strong titles coming out this fall – *Fail Safe*, dynamic lush, sensual poetry from Calgary poet Nikki Sheppy, and *Quarry*

by Tanis Franco, who uses evocative metaphor and refreshing language to relay a year in the life of a changing trans body."

Then next spring, he adds, there's a first novel from dramatist and prize-winning memoirist Clem Martini.

"We certainly plan to explore the potential of our cultural publishing further," says Scrivener. "Next year, we have some strong non-fiction titles on topics of national importance, and farther down the road we are looking to pilot a couple of interactive digital publications." 🌿

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY PRESS

NON-FICTION

CALGARY: CITY OF ANIMALS

Edited by Jim Ellis

This wide-ranging anthology, including essays from animal historians, wildlife specialists, artists, and writers, explores how non-human animals inhabit and interact with Calgary's people and their imaginations, inspiring fashion, art, dance, and theatre. Illustrated with archival images, wildlife photography, production stills, and original artwork

(University of Calgary Press, \$29.95 pb, 144 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55238-967-6)

CHINA'S ARCTIC AMBITIONS AND WHAT THEY MEAN FOR CANADA

Edited by P. Whitney Lackenbauer, Adam Lejeunesse, James Manicom, and Frédéric Lasserre

Drawing on extensive research, this wide-ranging, in-depth study of China's Arctic interests offers a holistic approach to understanding Chinese presence and intentions in the circumpolar region, as it investigates resource development, shipping, scientific research, governance, and military strategy. (University of Calgary Press, \$34.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55238-901-0)

FLOWERS IN THE WALL: TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION IN EAST TIMOR, INDONESIA, AND MELENASIA

Edited by David Webster

An exploration into the experience of truth and reconciliation in Timor-Leste, Indonesia, and the Solomon Islands, examining the pre- and post-truth commission phases, and demonstrating the effectiveness of the truth commission in transnational justice, this book offers valuable lessons to Canadians. (University of Calgary Press, \$34.95 pb, 272 pages, with figures, ISBN: 978-1-55238-954-6)

FROM PROVINCE TO REPUBLIC TO COLONY: THE JAMES WHEELER DAVIDSON COLLECTION ON THE ORIGINS AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF JAPANESE RULE IN TAIWAN, 1895–1905

David Curtis Wright and Hsin-yi Linn

Drawn from archives held by the University of Calgary, this survey details the personal collection of photographic images and source documents gathered by James Wheeler Davidson, journalist, businessman, and arctic explorer, during the time he lived and worked in Formosa, present-day Taiwan, from 1894 to 1903.

(University of Calgary Press, \$59.95 hc, 688 pages, with 470 b/w images, ISBN: 978-9-86053-164-0)

RANCHING WOMEN IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Rachel Herbert

Written by a cattle rancher, this survey of women's lives on family ranches demonstrates that women have always played an integral part in the cattle industry, often working without recognition or support to meet the challenges of the frontier but still enjoying opportunities unknown to their urban and European contemporaries.

(University of Calgary Press, \$29.95 pb, 224 pages, with 34 illustrations, ISBN: 978-1-55238-911-9)

THE ROAD TO ARMAGEDDON: PARAGUAY FACES THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE, 1866–1870

Thomas Wigham

This definitive work on the Triple Alliance War, South America's most significant, when Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay conducted a protracted siege of Paraguay and its dictator Francisco Solano Lopez, incorporates primary sources, including testimony from men and women who witnessed the war first-hand. (University of Calgary Press, \$42.95 pb, 672 pages, with over 50 illustrations, ISBN: 978-1-55238-809-9)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

THE WRITING ON THE WALL: THE WORK OF JOANE CARDINAL-SCHUBERT

Edited by Lindsey V. Sharman

This richly illustrated, intensely personal book looks at the output of artist, curator, and activist for Indigenous sovereignty Joane Cardinal-Schubert, whose work recognizes the social and political ramifications of lived Indigenous experience but remains under-recognized by a broad audience.

(University of Calgary Press, \$42.95 pb, 192 pages, with colour images, ISBN: 978-1-55238-949-2)

POETRY

FAIL SAFE

Nikki Sheppy

This linguistically flourishing, sonically dense collection of poems links human senses to the fertile world, examining plant and human bodies on the inside

and outside via a range of styles and poetic approaches.

(University of Calgary Press, \$18.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55238-963-8)

VISIBLE CITIES

Kathleen Wall

Photographs by

Veronica Geminder

An exploration of cities around the world, from Venice to Regina and Ottawa to Chicago, these poems that construct an intimate landscape of city life are matched with photographs that capture the beauty of the urban everyday, whether back lanes or skyscrapers.

(University of Calgary Press, \$22.95 pb, 120 pages, with 27 colour photographs, ISBN: 978-1-55238-959-1)

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Different Ways of Caring

Speculative fiction anthology explores caregiver relationships

by Ian Goodwillie

The world can be a difficult place to get by in, especially if you're on your own. Or at least when it feels like you're on your own. That's where caregivers, the focus of *The Sum of Us: Tales of the Bonded and Bound*, come in.

This new release from the Laksa Anthology Series focuses on the bonds created between those that give care and those that receive it. But because this is part of a speculative fiction series, these relationships are more non-traditional than you might expect. Co-Editor Susan Forest describes the term *caregiver*



in this collection as “broadly interpreted to include as wide a range of human experience as possible – including service dogs, robots, people who, in the end, chose not to give care, and even a super-villain’s minion.” The experiences and those involved in them vary greatly throughout this engaging collection.



These stories explore caregiving – in different lights, from different angles – and the consequences of caregiver relationships. Laksa publisher and editor Lucas K. Law explains, “We want stories that we can emotionally connect

with, causing us to explore contrary ideas about caregiving and the meaning of care and giving.”

The Sum of Us is one anthology in a larger series of anthologies from Laksa. Law says *The Sum of Us*, like the other titles in their “social causes” anthology series, is “giving voice to subjects facing stigma/discrimination or giving recognition to subjects in our society that are often taken for granted or overlooked.”

Forest believes *The Sum of Us* fits “beautifully into the wellsprings of Laksa Media’s philosophy.” Expanding on that, Forest says, “Caregiving is important to focus on, not only because the demographics of aging in North America is bringing the role of caregiving to the fore, but because the

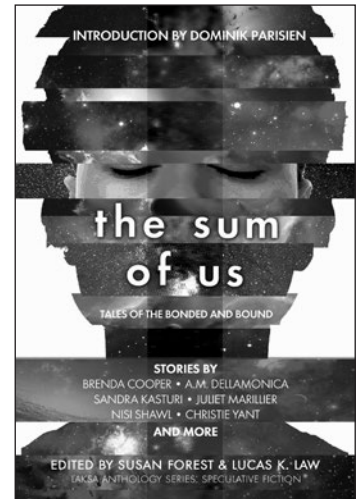
value of those in our lives who care for us is often overlooked.”

Taking that philosophy a step further, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book will go to the Canadian Mental Health Association. To Forest, the connection is obvious, as the organization makes caring its business, and “Actions speak louder than words.” *The Sum of Us* is an anthology about caregivers that is supporting a national organization of caregivers. This is important to Law because “we are a community and we depend on each other to make a difference.”

After reading *The Sum of Us*, it’s hard not to feel a connection to the stories. Each is speculative fiction, and so deals with realms beyond this one, but the emotions and experiences at the root of each story come from a relatable place.

Law hopes readers will “take the time to give thanks to the caregivers in their lives, and remind them to take time out to recharge.” He’d also like to remind readers and caregivers that there are resources out there to help them.

Forest hopes their readers take away a core message that reflects Law’s comments and this collection well: “The contribution of those unsung people in our lives who care is profound and vitally important, yet often invisible.”



THE SUM OF US: *Tales of the Bonded and Bound*

Edited by Susan Forest
and Lucas K. Law
Laksa Media Groups
\$19.95 pb, 384 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9939696-9-0

“We are a community and we depend on each other to make a difference.”

Living with Mental Illness

Brothers publish follow-up to prize-winning Bitter Medicine

by Quentin Mills-Fenn

In 2010, writer and professor Clem Martini and his brother Olivier Martini, an illustrator who has lived with schizophrenia for over 30 years, published the book *Bitter Medicine: A Graphic Memoir of Mental Illness*. A personal, hard-hitting look at their family's relationship with mental illness and the health care system, it went on to win the City of Calgary W. O. Mitchell Book Prize.

This year sees the publication of their follow-up, *The Unravelling: How our caregiving safety net came unstrung and we were left grasping at threads, struggling to plait a new one*.

Clem Martini explains the difference between the two books.



THE UNRAVELLING:
How our caregiving safety net came unstrung and we were left grasping at threads, struggling to plait a new one

Clem Martini and Olivier Martini
Freehand Books
\$23.95 pb, 242 pages
ISBN: 978-1-988298-15-3

"*Bitter Medicine* attempted to chronicle what our lives have been like since schizophrenia first emerged in our family," he says, "so there were many situations that we described in the book that had happened decades in the past. The suicide of my younger brother, for instance, occurred in 1977, and while this was still very difficult to consider, there was at least the benefit of time to provide some distance."

Clem Martini has published plays, young adult fiction, and textbooks about playwriting, but the response to *Bitter Medicine* was unlike anything he had experienced with those. Signing lines for *Bitter Medicine* went very slowly as book purchasers shared their own stories.

"They would say, thank you for writing *Bitter Medicine*, it spoke to me because my son/daughter/father/mother has a mental illness as well and we have felt alone, we thought it was our fault, we were ashamed, we didn't know what to do, we felt shunned by the community," says Clem Martini.

A few years after *Bitter Medicine* was published, the family situation became even more complex. Their mother developed dementia, and in 2013, the support system created for Olivier began to crumble.

"The necessity for change was very real and urgent, but the transition to a different model was a tremendous struggle," says Clem Martini.

"[Her] mental status declined rapidly, and each week we experienced a new and alarming



manifestation. It became a bit of a race against time as we tried to find solutions to a family caregiving situation that was spiralling out of control. Chronicling these events was raw, and challenging, and there were times when I didn't know how we were going to get through it."

Clem and Olivier realized that there are many families dealing with similar struggles, often in isolation, and there is little support.

"So," says Clem Martini, "*The Unravelling* is meant to reach out to families that are experiencing this kind of stress and help them realize they aren't alone. It's equally meant to reach out to the medical community to raise awareness that family caregiving needs to be better recognized and supported."

Towards the conclusion of *The Unravelling*, Clem writes about the need for people to share their personal experiences, and of how difficult and thankless that is:

It's not a noble, uplifting experience living with mental illness or dementia. It's not the noble or uplifting stories that will change the way things operate either: it's the stories that are uncomfortable, disturbing, embarrassing, unsettling, the ones that people all over the country find themselves living secretly every single day.

"I believe that's true." 🌿

PERSPECTIVES ON CARE

Weyburn Mental Hospital in focus

by Paula E. Kirman

The Saskatchewan Mental Hospital at Weyburn, built in 1921, played a significant role in the history of mental health care and research in Canada. Erika Dyck and Alexander Deighton explore this history in the context of Canada's ever-evolving mental health care system in their book *Managing Madness: Weyburn Mental Hospital and the Transformation of Psychiatric Care in Canada*.

Dyck, a historian of health, medicine, and Canadian society at the University of Saskatchewan, and the Canada Research Chair in the History of Medicine, has been interested in this psychiatric institution since starting her PhD in 2001, when she investigated the history of the LSD experiments conducted there.

"Since then," she says, "I became interested not only in those controversial and famous experiments, but more so in the larger history of the mental hospital at Weyburn and the many people whose lives moved through that place."

The book was very much a collaborative effort not only between Dyck and Deighton, a graduate student in the Department of History at the University of Saskatchewan, but also among the other authors as well.

"While Alex and I are the lead writers, the other authors played important roles in writing, researching, and inspiring much of the material that you find in *Managing Madness*," explains Dyck. "We wanted to concentrate not only on the building, but on perspectives of patients and staff who inhabited the hospital and had varied experiences inside and outside its walls."

Deighton adds, "While I relied mainly on traditional historical sources, the same could not be said of the other contributors, many of whom incorporated insights from other disciplines and drew on their personal experiences with the Weyburn Mental Hospital and the wider mental health system."

Another source of insight and information was the memoir *Inside the Mental: Silence, Stigma, Psychiatry, and LSD* by Kay Parley, who spent time there as both a patient and a nurse.

"Kay's story is such an important part of how we should remember these places, and the many different lives that unfolded inside them," says Dyck.

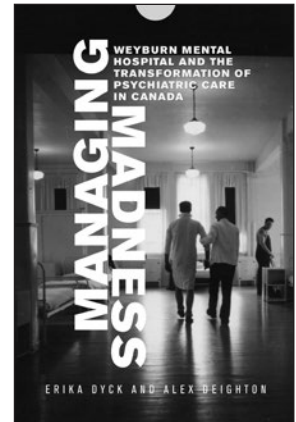
Deighton agrees. "Kay's unique perspective as both a patient and nurse at the institution was particularly valuable in understanding how the CCF government's attempt to foster a more patient-centred approach to the treatment of mental illness was experienced by the patients and employees of the institution."

Both authors hope that readers will think deeply about those living with mental illnesses and the challenges that they continue to face.

"I hope that the book makes people question how we address mental illness in our society, and whether we have progressed by replacing asylums with underfunded community care," says Dyck. "I hope that readers will appreciate the complexities of the system as well as the many people who are often lumped together under the umbrella concept of 'mentally ill,' but who have very different needs and interests, often having little to do with their mental health."

Deighton further explains, "Many people who live with mental illness have encountered a new set of challenges in the post-asylum world, where new forms of exclusion and the politics of austerity have made life difficult."

"Our current medical understanding of mental illness, despite its many successes, does not have all the answers." 🌿



MANAGING MADNESS: *Weyburn Mental Hospital and the Transformation of Psychiatric Care in Canada*

Erika Dyck and Alexander Deighton
with Hugh Lafave, John Elias, Gary
Gerber, Alexander Dyck, John Mills,
and Tracey Mitchell

University of Manitoba Press

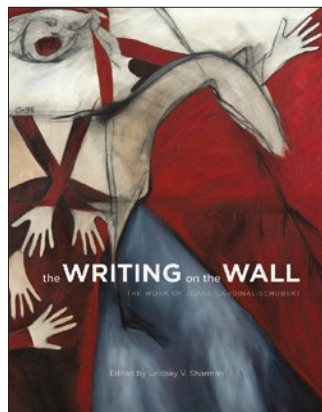
\$27.95 pb, 352 pages
with b/w photos, tables,
bibliography, index

ISBN: 978-0-88755-795-8



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Press

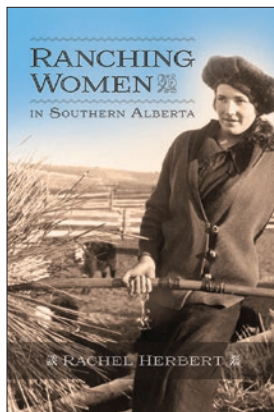
Prairie Vision



THE WRITING ON THE WALL The Work of Joane Cardinal-Schubert

Edited by Lindsey V. Sharman
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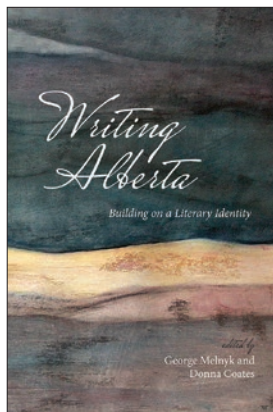
Artist. Activist. Curator Joane Cardinal-Schubert's work recognized the ramifications of lived Indigenous experience, exposing truths about history and the contemporary world. This richly illustrated volume celebrates her life with intimacy and insight.



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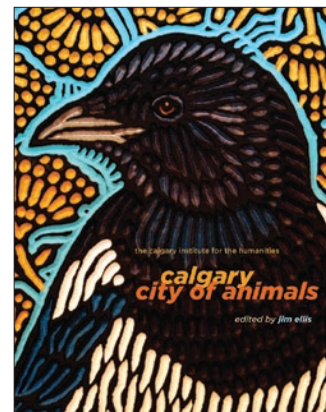


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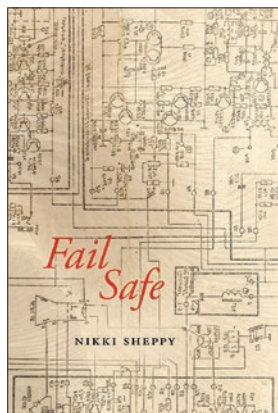


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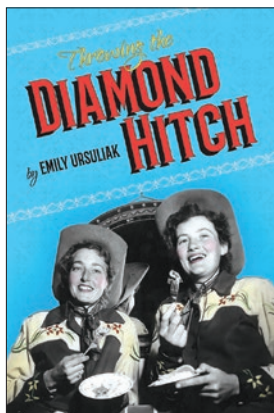
Prairie Voices



FAIL SAFE

Nikki Sheppy
978-1-55238-963-8 Paperback | \$18.95

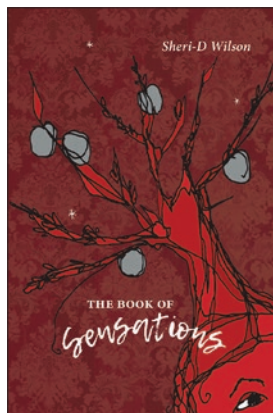
Nikki Sheppy's poems explore the inexpressible with lush, tactile language. Each poem is felt and tasted, impeccably constructed and sonically dense. This is a masterful collection, and Sheppy a writer to watch.



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Produced by Sheri-D Wilson and Steve Berlin

978-0-9959835-0-2 CD | \$20.00

Dragon Rouge combines the arresting spoken word poetry of Sheri-D Wilson with scintillating music that travels the outside edge.

Prairie Proud

Medicine or Miracle

Will the real Messiah please stand up?

by Margaret Goldik

Will Ferguson's *The Shoe on the Roof* is a dark, compelling comedy of love, identity, and the abuse of authority by those entrusted with the care of others.

Thomas Rosanoff, med student, is dumped by the love of his life, Amy. Ferguson says, "Amy was an island of calm. If I may be so corny as to quote a Chris de Burgh song: 'In her arms is the only place I know, where peaceful waters flow.' I played that song a lot when I was trying to get the tone and feel of Thomas's story and his attraction to Amy, and the comforts of her faith."

THE SHOE ON THE ROOF

Will Ferguson
Simon & Schuster
\$32.00 hc, 366 pages
ISBN: 978-1-5011-7355-4

Losing Amy is catastrophic for Thomas – and propels him into some bad decisions. Amy's brother, Sebastian, is in a mental hospital, identifying himself as Jesus. Thomas decides that if he can cure Sebastian, he can win Amy back. He wants to confront him with another "Jesus" – one who stands across the street from Amy's church. Thomas recognizes him as a man who plays three-card monte during the week and dubs him "the magician." Unfortunately, there is a third messiah, Eli, who is an inmate in the same institution as Sebastian, shackled and violent. Thomas ends up with all three in his apartment, trying to make them realize there can only be one Jesus (and none of them is He), and so end their delusions.

Thomas's childhood has been unusual: his father, a famous psychiatrist, has used Thomas as a test subject, the "Boy in the Box," making him material for his magnum opus *The Good Son*. Dr. Rosanoff gets involved in his son's experiment, and uses scientific – and extremely ruthless – means to "cure" the three Messiahs.

"His father is an example of the dangers of certainty," says Ferguson. "His ideas are grounded in fact, but when taken to extremes, they become self-fulfilling and brutally

Procrustean. Any idea – or ideology – that doesn't acknowledge the layers of ambiguity and mystery in the human condition is disastrous." As the magician implies, just who is the madman?

In *The Shoe on the Roof*, the reader learns much about the science of the brain, and the gaps in scientific knowledge

– perhaps the gap "where God resides." Thomas has been brought up in the scientific tradition, so he pooh-poohs any idea of God. But the gap has a way of infiltrating Thomas's being.

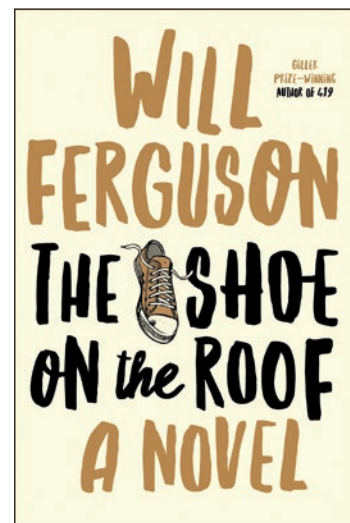
"Every great imposing ideology – whether scientific, political, religious – begins to fall when the first small cracks of doubt appear. In Thomas, it was his faith in a purely materialistic universe that began to collapse," says Ferguson.

And who is the magician? Ferguson has the last word: "I wanted to play with the idea that divinity might be all around us, without us realizing. The magic of the everyday. And in the manner in which the magician escaped at the end, I left it open for readers to decide if perhaps he was a modern manifestation of the carpenter from Galilee." 🌿



GENKI ALEX FERGUSON

"I wanted to play with the idea that divinity might be all around us, without us realizing."



Safe Havens

The origins of the women's shelter movement in Canada

by Paula E. Kirman

Shelters have provided a safe haven for and indeed saved the lives of many women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. However, in the '60s and '70s, violence against women was widespread, but shelters were not. That changed in 1973, when five disparate groups of women throughout Canada opened the country's first battered women's shelters. With little money, support, or statistics to make a case, these "rogue feminists" paved the way for the contemporary shelter movement.

In her book *Runaway Wives and Rogue Feminists: The Origins of the Women's Shelter Movement in Canada*, journalist and former *Edmonton Journal* and *Winnipeg Free Press* editor-in-chief Margo Goodhand tracks down and interviews these groundbreaking women in this previously unknown slice of Canada's history, and examines their impact on women's rights today.

"What struck me in the personal interviews was just how strong and smart and committed these women were."

Goodhand credits her sister Joyce for involving her in writing the book. "Joyce has a passion for history and for the women's shelter field. She wanted

this history recorded and preserved before the original founders had passed. She knew that a lot of original log books had been tossed out, and constant staff turnovers made it even more challenging to unearth," explains Goodhand.

"And Joyce still jokes that I haven't written the 'boring' history book that she wanted done, detailing the history of each network in every province in Canada."

The more Goodhand learned about the work these women did, their courage, their resourcefulness, and their perseverance, the more committed she became to writing the book.

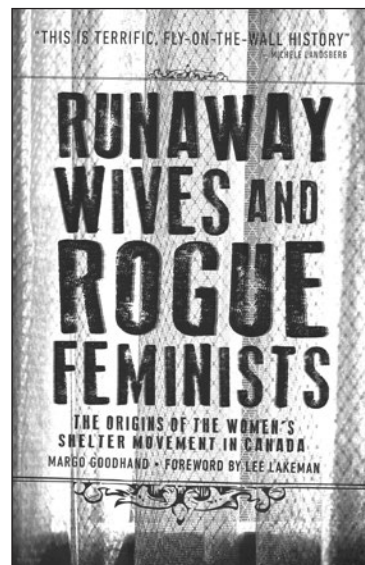
"They were and are an inspiration to me. And I became truly hooked as a journalist when we discovered that the first five had all opened up unbeknownst to each other in one remarkable year," she says.

"It was so much fun trying to piece together the puzzle – why 1973, why these particular women, why this political climate?"

The Goodhand sisters spent a year travelling across the country, interviewing the women, and doing research. "Not only did we meet a whole lot of great women, we spent hours poking through libraries and archives across the country," says Goodhand.

"What struck me in the personal interviews was just how strong and smart and committed these women were. They didn't really know what they were getting into (how could they have?), but they were highly successful learners and collaborators. And one of the most fun aspects to the interviews

was being able to let them know they were the first in Canada, or one of the first five. None of them knew their place in history."



RUNAWAY WIVES AND ROGUE FEMINISTS:

The Origins of the Women's Shelter Movement in Canada

Margo Goodhand
Fernwood Publishing
\$20.00 pb, 168 pages
ISBN: 978-1-55266-999-0

Goodhand hopes that readers will recognize the significant contribution these women have made to Canada, and also that the book will validate those who work under challenging circumstances in shelters today.

"It is such important work," she says.

Goodhand also hopes it raises more awareness and respect for these second-wave feminists.

"There seems to be a tendency these days for young women to dismiss the work of these women, to criticize them for being elitist or racist or colonial," she says.

"And I think it's vital to recognize how far we've come in order to know where we need to go next." 🌿

Battle Zones

Poems from the war in Afghanistan

by Ariel Gordon

Edmonton-born writer Benjamin Hertwig served in the Canadian Armed Forces in Afghanistan. Nowadays, he's working on a PhD in English at the University of British Columbia focused on North American post-9/11 war literature and trauma theory.

But Hertwig needed help moving from Kandahar to Vancouver.

"When I wrote these poems, I had no goal in writing them other than the ineluctable feeling that I needed to excise them from my mind," says Hertwig. "They were all written between 2014 and 2015 in a period of intense transition, and they kept me grounded and engaged with life in a time when I maybe didn't want to be alive."

Looking beyond his own experience, Hertwig has a few goals for his debut collection, *Slow War*.

"I want to reach out to people who think uncritically about the military and I want to reach out to people who don't know any soldiers," says

Hertwig. "I also want to reach out to soldiers who aren't doing well and reduce the stigma about mental health issues in the military.

A young man from my platoon committed suicide after the war,

and I think about him often. I also wanted to express my support for Omar Khadr."

Hertwig believes that *Slow War* is about failure, both personal and political.

"It's about the ways that violence and trauma are transmitted and experienced," he says. "It's about the ways that soldiers come home from war and the ways that we whitewash the idea of remembrance."

The poem "Somewhere in Flanders/Afghanistan" addresses that idealization of war: "flowers, crosses, the dead, etc. etc. / but the dead do not speak John."

His writing as a soldier-artist led him to the study of war literature. Many of his favourite accounts of war come from non-combatants like Chris Hedges, David Finkel, Jennifer Percy, and Ann Jones.

"As a Canadian, it's difficult to find a community of veterans writing about war," Hertwig notes. "Our

American neighbours, who we sometimes dismiss as gun-loving warmongers, actually have a more vibrant and intersectional national discussion about war and violence than we do. I respect Kevin Patterson's work and I've read Kanina Dawson's *Masham Means Evening*, but I don't know of any veterans other than them who are writing and working in the field. It would be good to learn of more."

He is studying books he loves like Ann Jones's *They Were Soldiers*, Mohamedou Ould Slahi's *Guantanamo Diary*, and Slavoj Žižek's *Welcome to the Desert of the Real*.

He's also got several creative projects on the go.

"I'm currently working on finishing another book of poems, tentatively titled 'Approximations of Home,' and I'm well into a collection of short fiction and a longer, non-fiction something or other book."

Publishing his first book was a valuable but difficult experience. But Hertwig had more invested in the process than most poets.

"Writing about the war was cathartic for me, but it occasionally made me engage with difficult memories and put me in a bad frame of mind. But it mostly feels good to have the collection done and out in the world. It's part of the process of moving on, I think." 🌿



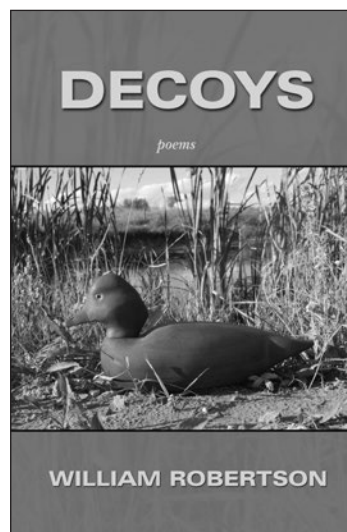
"It's part of the process of moving on, I think."

Learning by Watching

Poems depicting birds, flowers, fish, and trees find a home

by Kyla Neufeld

askatoon-based William Robertson has been writing poetry for most of his life. For him, it is a constantly evolving process.



DECOYS

William Robertson
Thistledown Press
\$17.95 pb, 80 pages
ISBN: 978-1-77187-150-1

“I read poetry as much as I can, the classics and the new work coming out,” he says. “I am especially challenged by work that bears no resemblance to anything I do. I don’t think anyone wants to keep writing the same poem over and over, although one’s obsessions make that a bit of an inevitability.”

Robertson has always been interested in the natural world. His newest collection of poetry, *Decoys*, is a compilation of nature-based poems he’s written over the years that never seemed right for any of his previous four books.

“This collection has been in the works for a while, totally unconsciously,” says Robertson. “I happened to be talking to the folks at Thistledown [Press] one day, about another matter, and it popped into my head that I may have enough material at home for a manuscript about the natural

world. I asked if they’d be interested. They were.

“I simply combed through all my work that was still unpublished in book form and got out all the ones that were about birds, fish, flowers, et cetera, and started revising them heavily and working them into what I thought was a credible manuscript.”

The poems in this collection pull at the imagery of different types of flowers, fish, and trees, but birds feature so heavily that it’s easy to see how much Robertson loves them and loves to learn about them. In his poem “Bush League Adam,” he says, “I’m dizzy / with this turning beneath the trees, a modern Adam / with binoculars and book trying hard / to name them all.”

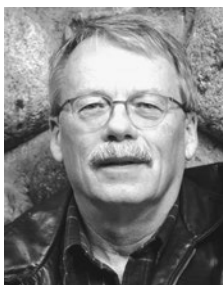
He explains, “I’ve very slowly gone from being a guy who knows a sparrow from a hawk from a duck to a guy who can work out the differences between various sparrows, hawks, and ducks. I think knowing such things opens up the world for you. It has for me, anyway. I always admire that person who knows all her trees or all his plants.”

Alongside the imagery of the natural world, Robertson writes extensively about his relationships with his children and grandchildren, and his own life as a child, all of which have been informed by his experiences in nature.

“I think one of the greatest gifts I’ve received as a human being is the opportunity to teach my children and grandchildren about anything,” he says. “One big part of that has been the natural world. Teaching a child to fish is a lot of fun; so is pointing out birds and plants.”

Robertson says he likes the way an observation or an experience unfolds through the rhythm of a poem. Each new poem in this collection shows snippets of a rich life full of exploration and discovery.

As a child, he was always keen to see and learn new things. “It was always very exciting and dangerous to be allowed into adult company when they were seeing something a child might not always be in on.”



“I don’t think anyone wants to keep writing the same poem over and over...”

LAND AND BELONGING

Poetry collection personal, grounded in history

by Ariel Gordon

The words “This is Indian Land” were written on a bridge in Ketegaunseebee Garden River First Nation, where Anishinaabe writer Lesley Belleau grew up.



“It is so important to me to use the original language of my ancestors in my writing.”

and change on a whim. Poetry has always been more difficult for me but it also has a very potent power that I find so invigorating and exciting.”

In *Indianland*, Belleau wanted to talk about murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls, residential schools, colonialism, land claim issues, activism, and identity, but also to balance those with the living and loving of Indigenous peoples.

“The subjects I write about are so intertwined with who I am as a human being that they don’t feel like big topics

– rather as an extension of my reality – and so many other Indigenous people’s realities,” notes Belleau.

“It was created as a form of activism after our lands were stolen, many communities displaced, and after we were told that our connections to our land can be severed and dismissed. Knowing this has never been the case, the phrase was written as a continual reminder that our lands cannot be taken from us – we will not succumb to lies and thievery, and Turtle Island is and always will be our homelands.”

As an adult and the mother of five children, Belleau returned to those words, naming her first collection of poetry *Indianland*.

Though she’s the author of a novel, *Sweat*, and a collection of short fiction, *The Colour of Dried Bones*, the stakes for this book were different for Belleau.

“Poetry is more personal, more real to me, and more experience-based,” Belleau says. “Fiction is something I can invent and shift

– rather as an extension of my reality – and so many other Indigenous people’s realities,” notes Belleau.

“For me, these realities are expressed as necessarily as sexuality and breathing and living. Healing and being able to express the emotional impact of these things is so important to so many of us, and I try to do that in a good way in my poetry.”

Another important consideration for Belleau was including Anishinaabemowin in the poems.

“It is so important to me to use the original language of my ancestors in my writing,” Belleau says. “My own father had the language taken from him in residential school and therefore we never learned Ojibway growing up. At Trent I began slowly learning the language word by word and it is still very difficult for me.”

She sees using the language as “a recognition that this knowledge is ancient – these words carry deep and connotative linkages to our past and all of those who walked before us.”

When not writing, Belleau spends her time studying the work of writers like Louise Halfe, Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm, and Janet Rogers for her PhD thesis, which focuses on Indigenous narratives and feminine writing in Canada.

“The more I learn about them, their history and lives, the further I am inspired to continue the tradition of our stories being expressed in a good and necessary way.”



INDIANLAND

Lesley Belleau
ARP Books
\$18.95 pb, 134 pages
ISBN: 978-1-894037-92-1

Turning to Poetry

Poems tell a story of survival and recovery

by Ariel Gordon

In 1994, Beth Goobie published her first book of poetry, *Scars of Light*, which dealt with the sexual and emotional abuse she'd endured at the hands of her parents as well as the death of her teenage brother by suicide.

"It ended on a very devastating note, which is appropriate when writing about the suicide of anyone resulting from abuse, but especially that of a 15-year-old boy," says Goobie.

BREATHING AT DUSK

Beth Goobie
Coteau Books
\$17.95 pb, 78 pages
ISBN: 978-1-55050-915-1

"In the intervening period, I've gone through about a quarter century of an intense recovery period, and my life is now very cohesive. It's full of joy and purpose and I wanted people to know that full recovery is possible."

When the Saskatoon-based writer first started publishing, she wasn't aware that she'd been sexually abused – Goobie says she'd repressed those memories.

"An enormous part of my focus, even though I didn't understand it at the time, was moving towards that recovery of memory," Goobie says. "And then for a long time I was writing predominantly about sexual abuse in many different forms; whether I was writing for young people or adults in poetry or fiction or drama, I was always writing about the recovery of self-respect, meaning, and purpose."

Now that Goobie has dealt with most of that, she's finding that she doesn't have the drive that saw her publish at least one book a year from 1991 to 2004, most of them novels for young adults.

It's no coincidence that she turned to poetry when she wanted to finish telling her own story, with her latest collection, *breathing at dusk*.

"With fiction you start with vast possibility and you narrow everything down as you progress through it," Goobie says. "Towards the end there are fewer and fewer possibilities, but with poetry, every line is an open-ended situation."

Poetry gives something back to the writer that fiction doesn't. "It's a completely different mindset and so it develops you differently as a person. You think differently, you behave differently as a result of writing this way."

Another way into these poems was music, especially given that Goobie's father was a private piano teacher, giving lessons in the living room of their home all through her childhood.

"I remember so often as a kid and as a teenager I would be doing something and I just had to set it down and just sit there and listen because of gorgeous music that was coming towards me," says Goobie.

"It was like the walls of the house were music and, of course, my mind became like that too, with all the constant fluid flow of beauty, and that was a really important part of why I survived."

That early exposure to music as well as the work



of Charles Dickens and other Victorian writers influenced her writing.

"For me it was always been very, very important, whether I'm writing poetry or young adult fiction, to give them the best language possible," Goobie says. "Teenagers and children who read good literature become better thinkers, and they become more connected to their world in a very fluid way." 🌿



"With poetry, every line is an open-ended situation."

ACTING OUT HISTORY

Red River Settlement trial transformed into theatre

by Bev Sandell Greenberg

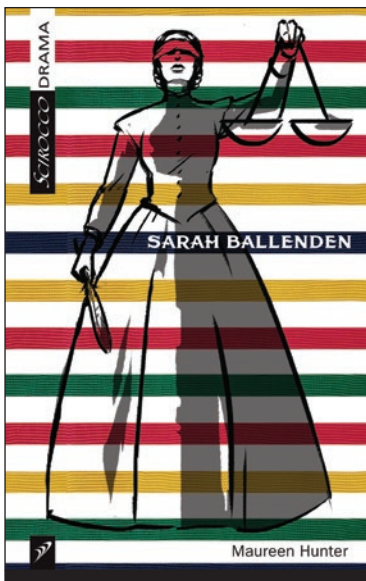
Playwright Maureen Hunter set her latest work in the Red River Settlement of the 1850s. *Sarah Ballenden* involves the beautiful Métis wife of the Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company. In a community subject to gossip, jealousy, and prejudice, she was accused of having an affair with an army captain.

SARAH BALLENDEN

Maureen Hunter
Scirocco Drama

\$15.95 pb, 96 pages

ISBN: 978-1-927922-37-8



"I found myself doing far more research than I'd intended. I didn't want to neglect any aspect of the story."

"To me, her story cried out to be told on the stage," Hunter says.

"I thought it was remarkable that a Métis woman of that time would have the courage to embark on a public trial to clear her name of accusations of adultery," she adds. "I was also intrigued that the accusations against Ballenden 'happened' to begin with the arrival of English women in what was then a predominantly Métis community."

Saskatchewan born and Winnipeg based, Maureen Hunter is one of Canada's foremost playwrights. She has been shortlisted for two Governor General's Literary Awards and two Dora Mavor Moore Awards for Outstanding New Play. Her previous plays include *Transit of Venus* and *Atlantis*. *Sarah Ballenden* premiered at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre in April 2017 under the directorship of Steven Shipper.

Ballenden's defamation trial, officially known as *Foss v. Pelly*, is one of the most famous in Manitoba legal history. Interestingly, a major challenge for Hunter was how best to delineate the trial scenes.

"Trials aren't inherently dramatic," she says. "My challenge was how to include trial scenes in such a way that the audience wouldn't have time to get bored. This led me to splicing trial scenes in between events leading up to the trial and events flowing out of it."

Before drafting the play, Hunter devoted time to researching the historical context. "Most of the material is stored in the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in Winnipeg, and there is so much fascinating information at hand," she states. "I found myself doing far more research than I'd intended. I didn't want to neglect any aspect of the story."

Research doesn't provide only one story, though. Hunter explains, "The play is my version of what *may* have happened. In the future, other writers may look at the same information and draw completely different conclusions. I hope they do."

As for the genre itself, the immediacy of theatre appeals to Hunter. In her words, "The interaction between actors and audience can be so exciting." As well, she loves writing dialogue and creating conflict between characters and scenes that build to a satisfactory, but surprising, conclusion. She also enjoys the collaborative aspect of theatre.

Hunter will be very disappointed if people see or read *Sarah Ballenden* and don't come away thinking about their attitudes towards "the other" – the one whose skin is a different shade. She also hopes that the play will open some people's eyes to the amazing history we have right here in our own country.

"I hope that in the future many more writers will turn to our own past to find their stories. I don't believe we'll ever understand who we are until we understand where we've come from. That's why history is so vitally important." 🌿



EARL KENNEDY

FRENCH-LANGUAGE TITLES

BREF!

Charles Leblanc pour le Collectif post-néo-rieliste
Célébrer le 150^e du Canada avec un recueil de 150 nouvelles de 150 mots ou moins. 62 écrivains de la francophonie canadienne d'un océan à l'autre ont participé. Une multitude de thèmes et styles sont abordés. Les lecteurs feront des découvertes intéressantes. Celebrate Canada 150 with a collection of 150 short stories of 150 words or less. 62 French Canadian writers from sea to sea participated. A wide variety of themes are touched upon and readers will discover surprising stories.
(Blé, Nouvelles, 19,95\$, papier, 172 p., ISBN: 978-2-924378-65-6)

FRANCHIER L'ESPACE

100 Nons

Musique / Music

Ce livre contient plus de 130 articles d'artistes, de groupe, de chansons qui ont marqué l'Ouest et le Nord; également des articles de fond mettant en contexte les réalités traversées lors de ces 50 dernières années par les acteurs de l'industrie musicale. En lisant tous ces articles, on reste ébahis face au talent indéniable de tous ces artistes. This book includes more than 130 articles about artists, groups and songs that helped define the Western and Northern Canadian Francophone music scene over the past 50 years.
(Blé, Musique, 30,00\$, papier, 346 p., ISBN: 978-2-924378-62-5)

LA LIBRAIRIE DES INSOMNIAQUES Lyne Gareau

Ce roman poétique raconte l'histoire d'Alex, ermite urbain qui a fait vœu de silence. Par une nuit d'insomnie, il découvre une étrange librairie où il fera la rencontre de plusieurs personnages. Tous s'interrogent sur les motivations qui ont poussé Alex à abandonner sa vie d'homme à succès. Alex, an urban hermit who took a vow of silence, meets strange people in an old bookstore during a sleepless night. They all wonder about what could have motivated him to quit his life as a successful man.
(Blé, Roman, 19,95\$, papier, 140p., ISBN: 978-2-924378-70-0)

LOUIS, FILS DES PRAIRIES Noëlie Palud-Pelletier

Louis, fils des Prairies raconte l'histoire de l'enfance de Louis Riel à la Rivière-Rouge, jusqu'à l'arrivée de l'adolescent à Montréal. Told in a fictionalized series of anecdotes, the book provides students with an account of Louis Riel's youth in mid-nineteenth century western Canada.
(Plaines, Roman jeunesse, à partir de 10 ans, 9,95\$, b/w, pb, 92 pages, ISBN: 978-2921353984)

QUAND ON ÉTAIT SEULS

Texte : David A. Robertson

Illustrations : Julie Flett

En aidant sa grand-mère à entretenir son jardin, une fillette remarque chez celle-ci des caractéristiques qui piquent sa curiosité. Ces questions amènent l'ainée à parler des années qu'elle a passées enfant dans un pensionnat autochtone, endroit où tout lui avait été enlevé. When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things about her grandmother that make her curious. As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where everything was taken away.

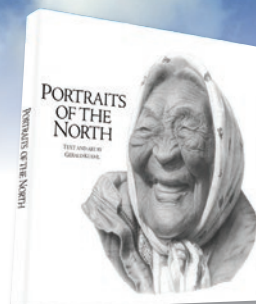
(Plaines, Premières Nations, Album jeunesse, à partir de 4 ans, 18,95\$, col., hc, 28 pages, ISBN : 978-2-89611-625-6)

PARVANA : UNE ENFANCE EN AFGHANISTAN

Deborah Ellis

Parvana, onze ans, habite avec sa famille à Kaboul, la capitale de l'Afghanistan. Ils vivent dans une seule pièce dans un immeuble d'appartements à moitié détruit par les bombardements. Alors que les conditions de vie de la famille se détériorent, une seule solution paraît possible. Puisque les filles n'ont pas le droit de travailler, Parvana devra se déguiser en garçon pour subvenir aux besoins de sa famille. Set in the early years of the Taliban regime, this topical novel for middle readers explores the harsh realities of life for girls and women in modern-day Afghanistan.
(Plaines, Roman jeunesse, à partir de 9 ans, 14,95\$, b/w, pb, 170 pages, ISBN : 978-2-89611-498-6)

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CARTOGRAPH

Cara-Lyn Morgan

This collection of poems portraying a woman's healing journey, from accidental injury to the wounds of colonization, maps out a process of recovery within the poet's own body and the landscapes around her.

(Thistledown Press, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-151-8)

CHILDREN SHOULDN'T USE KNIVES AND OTHER TALES

Shirley Camia, illustrated by Cindy Mochizuki

This series of razor-sharp verse sketches offers piercing observations that act as a counterweight to the sing-song melody of innocence in a harrowing but illuminating examination of life before adolescence.

(At Bay Press, \$19.95 hc, 60 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988168-09-8)

CREOLE MÉTISSE OF FRENCH CANADA, ME

Sharron Proulx-Turner

These poems by the late Sharron Proulx-Turner tell stories of the ongoing effects of colonialism, the historical treatment of Indigenous people, and the experience of being a woman, Métis, and two-spirited in Canada.

(Kegedonce Press, \$20.00 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-928120-10-0)

CRUISE MISSILE LIBERALS

Spencer Gordon

This debut collection includes poems that play, rant, combine anxiety with ambitious experiment, and incorporate invented lyrical content with found

material, to very funny and often despairing effect.

(Nightwood Editions, \$18.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88971-333-8)

THE DANCE FLOOR TILTS

Susan Alexander

This poetry collection unveils the magic of natural beauty found within the joy and sorrow of one woman's lifetime, from passion and death to family and benediction.

(Thistledown Press, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-152-5)

FULL-METAL INDIGIQUEER

Joshua Whitehead

This poetry collection draws on work from Tanya Tagaq and Jordan Abel to Donna Summer and William Shakespeare in order to create a sex-positive, two-spirit project for those who have been ghosted from policy, page, tradition, and history.

(Talonbooks, \$17.95 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77201-187-6)

Î-NITOTAMAHK KÎSIK

Rosanna Deerchild, translated by Solomon Ratt

This Cree translation of Deerchild's collection, *calling down the sky*, which describes the experiences and post-generational effects of residential school on the poet and her mother, is a step toward restoring the language and culture undermined by that residential school system.

(Bookland Press, \$16.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77231-050-4)

THE RIPARIAN

Lisa Pasold

Centring around the Rip, a bar on the riverbank, these poems explore the dangers and unexpected beauties of a rough cityscape, balancing the grit and the glorious: "Peeled rubber gloves, soiled diapers, wild peas, swamp lace green / glass shards. Miss River just beyond, oil sheen and glitter."

(Frontenac House, \$19.95 pb, 106 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927823-66-8)

THIS WOUND IS A WORLD

Billy-Ray Belcourt

Upsetting genre and playing with form, these poems issue a call to turn to love and sex to understand how Indigenous peoples cope with pain and sadness without giving up on the future: "love is a native boy from northern alberta who decided almost everything he does is an attempt to repair the brokenness-of-being that is indigeneity."

(Frontenac House, \$19.95 pb, 64 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927823-64-4)

A TINCTURE OF SUNLIGHT

Vivian Hansen

The narrator and collector of these stories is Lover, who relates Old Man's time as a soldier in the Second World War and as a biologist in Saskatchewan, as a son and as a father. Old Man is mythic, enigmatic, and symbolic in his power to evoke energy within these poems.

(Frontenac House, \$19.95 pb, 116 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927823-67-5)

WALKING THROUGH TURQUOISE

Laurie MacFayden

These poems explore the clumsy intricacies of relationships and celebrate the joy that gets us through the darkness, the clouds that release storms but also open to the sky. As George Elliott Clarke says, this poet both "suffers and exults" and her poems are "white lies and film noir."

(Frontenac House, \$19.95 pb, 88 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927823-65-1)

MORE DRAMA

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

Mark Crawford

This comedy about a recently separated turkey farmer, her beekeeper mother, and an athletic, secretly virgin grad student studying declining bee populations, tackles sex, love, science, family, and artificial turkey insemination.

(Scirocco Drama, \$15.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927922-36-1)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44

THE CIRCLE

Geoffrey Simon Brown

This debut play depicts a high school garage party on a suburban Friday night, where a diverse collection of young people find that youth can be a dangerous time.

(Scirocco Drama, \$15.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927922-34-7)

IN SPIRIT

Tara Beagan

Tara Beagan approaches the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in this intimate and chilling tale of 12-year-old Molly, who pieces together her short life after she becomes a spirit.

(Playwrights Canada, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77091-806-1)

THE TROUBLE WITH MR. ADAMS

Gord Rand

Grappling with themes such as abuse of power, intergenerational love, and the stagnation of marriage, this play exposes the crippling disaster of the male mid-life crisis as it tells the story of a volleyball coach accused of sexual misconduct with his star player.

(Scirocco Drama, \$15.95 pb, 72 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927922-35-4)

NOT HALF

"The Métis were and are much more than the mixing of two ancestral groups. They were and are a unique people who created their own culture, language and traditions, and who experienced life in a particular way."

Long minimized as "half-breeds," the Métis are central to the development of Canada, yet remain a mystery to many Canadians. In *Threads in the Sash – The Story of the Métis People*, Fred Shore explores the history, culture and political development of the Métis, from the fur trading posts and plains of the buffalo hunt to the political power and swelling pride of today.

Illuminating, peppery and provocative, this is a crucial book for anyone eager to know the soul of Canada that so many historians have missed.

**Threads in the Sash –
The Story of the Métis People**
Fred J. Shore
ISBN 978-1-926506-05-0
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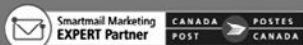
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Best of both worlds

Two young friends team up at art camp

by Shirley Byers

Karin Adams describes her latest book, *Mermaid Warrior Squad*, as a hybrid. Although most of the book reads like a novel, it includes pages from the graphic novel/comic book that two friends are creating together at a summer arts camp. Dylan writes the text. Coral creates the images.

The story-within-a-story mirrors the struggles and conflicts Dylan and Coral are experiencing at the camp. Whether they're dealing with mean girls and a pranking boy or the seaweed sisters and the evil, sea-polluting Captain Fishhead, whether they're crusading mermaids, or average 11-year-old girls, the pairs of protagonists find a way to save the day and their friendship.

Because the novel is about two art forms, writing and visual art, it seemed natural that the book should also be a blend of text and visual art, Adams says.

She thinks a lot of her readers will relate to the concept of cooperative creativity. In her day job, Adams is a writing coach, working in Manitoba schools, mostly with students in Grades 3 to 6. "I've met so many creative, self-motivated kids who collaborate with their friends on original graphic novels or stories combining writing and illustrations," she says.

One of her earlier books, *Frostbite Hotel*, was short-listed for a Diamond Willow Award and a Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award. Both awards involved students reading, discussing, and doing projects

based on the nominated books throughout the school year, and then choosing their favourite.

Adams, whose other books for young readers are *Lights! Curtains! Cows!*, *No TV? No Fair!*, and *My Best Friend Is a Viral Dancing Zombie*, doesn't remember ever consciously deciding to write for a young audience.

"It's more that my mind, heart, and imagination have always been inclined toward the kind of stories I write," she says. "My love of reading and writing was sparked early in life, and I've just never stopped imagining the sorts of characters, story worlds, and plots that I first loved as a kid."

Of the many authors whose work Adams loves, the "giants" would be Jane Austen and C. S. Lewis,

she says. "I can reread their novels endlessly! I'm also a big fan of Gordon Korman and Judy Blume. I admire their talent and skill for creating memorable characters you instantly connect with and want to befriend."

Similarly, young readers will want to befriend the two protagonists of *Mermaid Warrior Squad*. Dylan and Coral act like real kids and they sound like real kids. "I think that the close work I do with young people allows me to soak up their unique talk, chatter, and mannerisms, all of which is useful for creating authentic, relatable characters for my books," Adams says.

"Hanging out with kids also reconnects me with my own inner kid, helping me to (re)experience the world from a young person's point of view. For me, a story is working when the characters I'm creating ring true – when I can inhabit those characters and understand how they think and react to events and obstacles." 🐬



MERMAID WARRIOR SQUAD

Karin Adams
Illustrated by Janine Carrington
James Lorimer & Company
\$12.95 pb, 152 pages
ISBN: 978-1-4594-1146-3



"For me, a story is working when the characters I'm creating ring true..."

Fox, Renard, Mahkêsiw

Trilingual picture book names animals in English, French, and Cree

by Shirley Byers

Neepin Auger's latest board book is the third in her Discovering series, following *Discovering Numbers* and *Discovering Words*, both published in 2013.

Discovering Animals features Auger's vibrantly beautiful paintings of 22 wild animals, and each animal is identified in English, French, and Cree: *beaver, castor, and amisk; fox, renard, and mahkêsiw; and owl, hibou, and ôhôw*. An illustrated pronunciation guide is provided at the end of the book.

Auger describes her creative process. "The first step I took was picking animals that were important to me. I then researched those animals to get a feel of how I wanted to draw them. I used acrylic paint on paper for all three books. This allowed me to have them done in a timely manner. I also used bright, bold colours. Being a teacher, I know kids love colour."

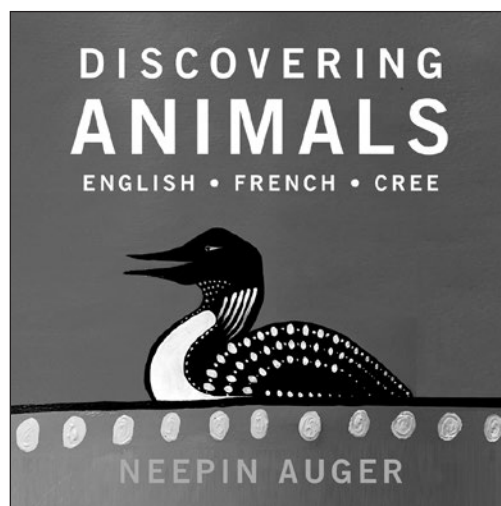
Her first two books were very personal, she says. "I chose images and words that had a close connection to my upbringing and culture. They are such important books because they are helping preserve the Cree language. Cree language and symbolism is important not only for First Nations children but for all children. Making words such as *sweat lodge* and *sweet grass* more common to all children will only help with reconciliation."

Auger is a Cree, originally from the Bigstone Cree Nation in northern Alberta and now living in Calgary, Alberta. She studied art with her father, the late Dale Auger, the renowned First Nations artist and author of the award-winning children's book *Mwâkwa – Talks to the Loon: A Cree Story for Children* (Heritage House, 2006).

"I used bright, bold colours. Being a teacher, I know kids love colour."

"I was just a child when my dad began to teach me how to paint," Auger says. "He always made a place for me in his studio. He would display my work proudly to anyone who would come over. I learned to use acrylic paints, how to care for brushes and respect my artistic space. Most of my learning came from experimentation, having the freedom to use various mediums around the studio freely without fear."

Auger in turn guides her daughter, Gracie. "I do teach my daughter the way my dad mentored me," she says. "I give her



DISCOVERING ANIMALS

Neepin Auger

Rocky Mountain Books

\$12.00 board book, 28 pages

ISBN: 978-1-77160-234-1

the space in my studio to create. The greatest gift I can give her is the freedom to create without fear. She is already so talented I know my dad is looking down on her with pride."

A graduate from the Department of Education and Schooling at Mount Royal University, Auger is now a full-time teacher. She will be graduating with a Master's of Education degree from the University of Calgary in 2018.

"I also plan to write a children's storybook about the struggle between the two worlds modern Aboriginal children face today," she says.

"I plan to keep writing and illustrating books until I cannot anymore." 🐾

SPIRITED ANIMAL

YA novel presents adventure close to home

by Laura McKay

“One night,” says Winnipeg-based author S. M. Beiko, “dead of winter, I was walking home along Wellington Crescent and the Assiniboine River. A fox leapt out of nowhere right on the sidewalk in front of me, threw me some wicked shade over its shoulder, then vanished into the trees. I immediately asked myself: What would happen if that fox followed me home, and it had, like, a crazy mission to send me on?”

Roan, the main character of Beiko’s latest novel for young adults, knows exactly what would happen; this scene appears in *Scion of the Fox*. The fox is a spirit guide of sorts, and saves Roan from death as a sacrifice to Zabor, a demon serpent – but Zabor is none too pleased to be shorted. If she isn’t appeased by the time spring comes, she’ll bring the flood of the century to Winnipeg, wiping out the entire city.

The demon wants a specific sacrifice: one of the children of the Five Families – the Foxes, the Deer, the Owls, the Seals, and the Rabbits. The members of these Five Families are charged with maintaining the balance on Earth – a battle in which destruction is rapidly gaining the upper

hand. Roan was marked to be sacrificed to the demon when she was a child, and unbeknownst to her, her parents died trying to save her. Roan enters her newfound world, and the power it brings, with nary a glance for her old life.

“She’s a lot of things I’d like to be,” Beiko admits, “brash and good-humoured in the face of great peril. A fighter. A leader. Roan just jumps into it and worries about the consequences later.”

Roan is a believable and sympathetic character, thrust into a world she barely understands; she’s also the kind of character Beiko herself searched for as a young reader.

“Writing Roan herself was interesting because, well, you could change her pronouns to the male

he/him, and she’d be exactly every male protagonist in YA fiction and no one would bat an eye that ‘he’ is strong, forthright, impulsive. Make it a girl and those features stand out.”

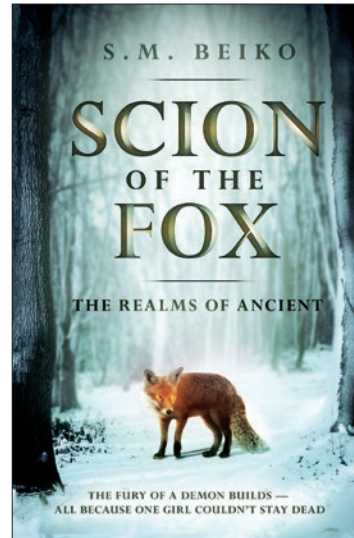
Beiko says she wants to be “part of that shifting conversation where having a strong girl isn’t so weird.” While dodging those who serve the demon, Roan is also trying to bring the Five Families together to stop the need for a sacrifice year after year. However, getting the Families to agree and work together is no easy matter.

“The root of the Five Families is that they all represent disparate elements,” explains Beiko. “Conflicts in nature arise from elements clashing, and with so many enigmatic personalities at play, it’s a perfect storm.”

Two more instalments in the trilogy promise to give Beiko plenty of opportunity to keep those elements clashing.

Beiko says, “I loved turning places that featured in my daily commutes into battlegrounds and places of power.”

“What would happen if that fox followed me home, and it had, like, a crazy mission to send me on?”



TERI HOFFORD

SCION OF THE FOX

S. M. Beiko

ECW Press

\$19.95 hc, 456 pages

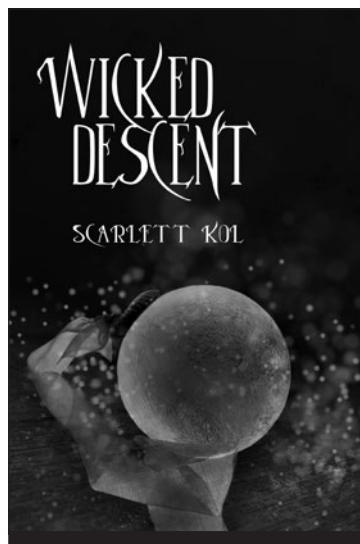
ISBN: 978-1-77041-357-3

NEW KID IN TOWN

Fitting in can be hard when you have supernatural powers

by Amanda Sanders

Manitoba-based author Scarlett Kol has written a first novel that combines the paranormal with the everyday. *Wicked Descent* explores the nature of evil in a story of teen outsiders.



“I wanted to consider how the choices we make shape our lives, and whether we truly have any choice at all.”

Teenager Avery Belmont never knew her father, or much about him in the first place. After the death of her grandmother, she moves from Toronto to Shady Creek with her mother. Less than pleased with the new arrangement, Avery immediately begins to lose the closeness she had with her mother back in the city. Neither had much of a relationship with Avery’s grandmother, but they find themselves moving into her house.

Avery’s main goal when she starts at her new high school is to make a few new friends and have as normal and uneventful a time as possible. Her experience starts well enough, as she catches the attention of Taylor, twins Lily and Bennett, and their circle. Unfortunately, rumours about Avery’s family and their supernatural powers start travelling around the school quickly, much to Avery’s surprise.

Then Avery meets Drew, a local boy who was recently kicked out of his boarding school. Attending high school in Shady Creek, Drew is instantly drawn to Avery. Readers learn that Drew and Avery share a father and that they both possess magical abilities.

One very stark difference between Avery’s and Drew’s personalities is that Drew perceives zero consequence to his actions, and shows no remorse or regret about anything he does.

Was Drew a hard character to create? Kol answers, “Yes and no. Drew can virtually say anything he wants with little to no consequence, which gives me huge freedom as a writer and is a lot of fun to explore.”

WICKED DESCENT

Scarlett Kol
Rebelight Publishing
\$15.99 pb, 254 pages
ISBN: 978-1-988-258-06-5

She goes on to say that Drew was a softer character in earlier drafts, but she was encouraged to explore his character fully even if it was against her instinct.

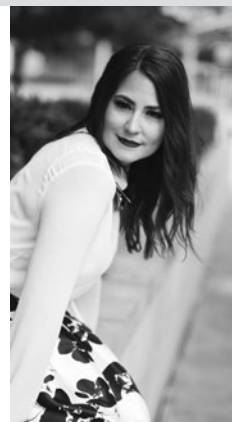
Avery, on the other hand, is a much more caring person who doesn’t want to cause anyone any pain, and we see her and Drew clash over this difference in character throughout the novel.

Despite Avery’s best efforts, her paranormal struggles and normal high school drama seem to get the better of her. While she is learning about her family history from Drew, she also finds herself fighting with her regular high school friends, and it takes a toll on her.

Through these characters, this novel explores the universal theme of good versus evil, and the fine line between the two.

“In *Wicked Descent*,” Kol says, “I wanted to consider how the choices we make shape our lives, and whether we truly have any choice at all. Is everyone inherently good or evil? Can they change? And if they could, would they want to?”

“What are the limits that make people draw a line between what they will and will not do when pushed to the brink?” 🌿

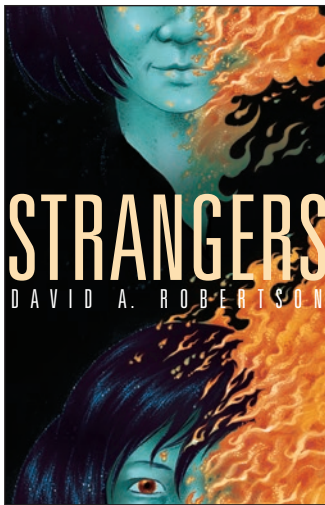


Cole and the Trickster Coyote

David A. Robertson's new young adult novel is first in a trilogy

by Miles Denchuk

Survivor's guilt isn't an easy thing to live with – especially if you're young. And, if you have good reason to believe maybe you could have done more.



STRANGERS

David A. Robertson
HighWater Press
\$17.99 pb, 240 pages
ISBN: 978-1-55379-676-3

In David A. Robertson's new young adult novel, *Strangers*, 17-year-old Cole returns to Wounded Sky First Nation 10 years after he saved two of his closest friends from a burning school that killed many others.

One of the friends he saved, Eva, loved Cole as much as he loved her, but the two are now estranged. The other, Brady, is friendly, but can't forget seeing seven-year-old Cole lifting an entire burning wall.

Cole has wrestled with anxiety both over the event and its aftermath, and

has been cut off from the community he was born in, spending the past decade growing up in Winnipeg with his aunt and grandmother.

"The book is really about relationships to me," says Robertson.

But there's more afoot in this first instalment of a trilogy. Cole's superhuman strength sees him chosen by the trickster Coyote to help Wounded Sky once again, as a mysterious, deadly illness ravages the isolated community. Worse, once Cole returns, a series of murders turns public opinion against him.

Strangers marks a departure for the award-winning author, known for his literary fiction (*The Evolution of Alice*), graphic novels (*The Scout: Tommy Prince* and *Betty: The Helen Betty Osborne Story*), and his children's book dealing with residential schools, *When We Were Alone*. This is his first YA novel, and his first to delve into fantasy.

"It was so much fun to write," he says. "Coming from biographical and historical fiction, this was really freeing," he says.

In addition to Coyote, who is true to his mischievous nature, Cole is helped by a flaming ghost, and learns his superhuman talents go beyond mere strength.

Robertson was careful to balance evoking a realistic Cree community in Wounded Sky and showing the importance of their traditions. "It was a tricky integration because I didn't want to throw it in just to seem 'Indigenous,'" he says. "I wanted it to seem like it was organic to the story. As Cole goes on, he has this resistance to it, but he starts to see the value again in the stuff he left behind. That's part of his journey in feeling at home again in his community."



"I wanted it to be a positive story, even though it's tragic in a way."

Robertson wanted people to see the importance of drawing upon traditional practices for cultural and spiritual strength.

Even elements such as Coyote, who calls himself Choch in the book, were things he took care with. "I'm very cognizant even as an Indigenous writer not to seem like I'm appropriating my own culture. I wanted anything in that regard to be in service of the story, not to the detriment of the story," says Robertson.

"I didn't want the book to perpetuate any stereotypes – 'Oh it's an Indigenous story, let's make sure we deal with band corruption.' I wanted it to be a positive story, even though it's a tragic story in a way, in that it has very strong, intelligent, capable Indigenous characters. My idea for it, really, was why can't a story like this just happen to happen to a First Nations community?" 🌿

Taking Chances

Unfinished screenplay adapted into YA novel

by Linda Alberta

If you took two genres of writing and mixed them, you might have an interesting book. It's not easy, but award-winning Calgary author Tyler Trafford gave it a try. His *TwoBlackEyes and the Unfinished Script* offers a fusion of film script and novel, though even for this craftsman, the writing was sometimes akin to riding the story's rodeo bull, TwoBlackEyes.

"You have all the characters from a script going around in your head, and all the characters from the novel going around in your head, and then there are the real-life people in your head. I really liked doing it, but it was difficult that way," says Trafford.

The titular unfinished script was drafted in 2008 by Brandon Flock, a New York Film Academy alumnus who died at 26. Trafford was asked to write a story around the script as a memorial. He initially deemed the task unworkable.

"I thought it was just about impossible to write a book like that for somebody. Then they came to me with the script, and I knew I could write a story," says Trafford. "The reason the script interested me was that it was very revealing, very autobiographical. It was about a creative kid whose mother was controlling."

Presented in intervals throughout the book, the script unravels like a good twist of rodeo rope. Chet, its young protagonist, wants to ride in the rodeo.

The novel echoes the script. It highlights a summer where everything changes for Calgary's young Nathan Munro when he signs up for film study classes. Nathan isn't supposed to be a scriptwriter; he's expected to be an accountant. The classic theme of art versus commerce emerges in this thoughtful, character-driven narrative.

But Trafford says that this is his story, too. In university he took economics because he was good at math, and then one day decided this wasn't what he wanted to do. He had to learn to write. The author confirms there are similar life lessons in this book for young artists.

"As much as your parents love you and have the best intentions, there comes a point where you have to decide

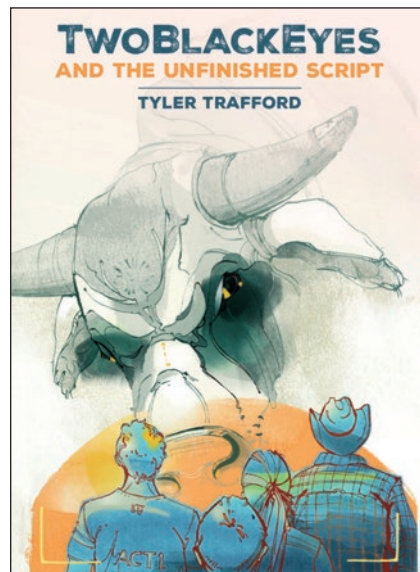
the life you want," says Trafford, who adds that creative people particularly have to take that stand because it's hard for uncreative people to understand them.

"Sometimes you have to find help somewhere else and lots of times that's with friends. Even if you want to be a bull rider they don't think that stuff is crazy."

Trafford has two hopes for his book. One is that the book is a good fundraiser for the Brandon Flock Foundation that offers scholarships for young artists. His other hope encompasses a broader understanding.

"I'd really like it if people read this book and realized that some of us are just different," he says. "We want to do different things with our lives and we're going to do it."

"You have to ride the bull. Getting bucked off is not as bad as never getting on." 🌵



"As much as your parents love you and have the best intentions, there comes a point where you have to decide the life you want."

MORE YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN TITLES

PICTURE BOOKS

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Caroline Stellings

This wordless picture book follows the adventures of two friends, Beans the raccoon and Bamboo the panda, as they travel from New York City to Beijing and back.

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Caroline Stellings

Ben, a dog, meets Colonel Dewey, an orange cat, when he is trying to leave the city for a more fulfilling life. The Colonel makes a living giving hot air balloon rides to show people a different way to look at the world, and he provides Ben with a job and a new friend.

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Caroline Stellings

Matt works as a mechanic at Ben's Garage, where they repair cars like a 1920s convertible and a 1960s Valiant station wagon, giving them away to the people who need them. But Matt really wants a big truck for himself.

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This gentle picture book tells of the friendship between Elly and the narrator and how life and their friendship go on, even after Elly dies.

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I MET AN ELK IN EDSON ONCE

Dave Kelly, illustrated by Wes Tyrell

A young boy on a road trip meets an elk named Rusty, who steals his underwear and who is looking for her Uncle Todd. Rusty joins them on the road as they travel the sites of Alberta.

(MacIntyre Purcell Publishing, \$17.95 hc, 32 pages, 32 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77276-031-6)

IT MUST BE THE SPAGHETTI

Caroline Stellings

Eddie loves spaghetti, so he doesn't mind tagging along with his friend Steve as he rehearses his part in *Pirates of Penzance* because they go to Luigi's for supper afterward every day. When Steve gets stage fright, Eddie is the only one who knows his lines well enough to take over.

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Tegwen Gwenhwyfar Bryan and Gregory

Bryan, illustrated by Jennifer Gate-Bryan

All Penny wants to do is fly, so she goes to the library and then to flying school to learn, but eventually has to just learn on her own.

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Caroline Stellings

Steve and Eddie head to Las Vegas, Steve to try to land a role in Zefferini's next film, and Eddie to hear Wayne Newton sing. When the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

Bandito Brothers wreak havoc, Eddie's love of spaghetti saves the day.

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TO TRUST AGAIN: FINDING HOPE AFTER LOSS
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This story, written in English and Dene, is about a First Nations boy who is told a tale about how the old tree by the woodpile provides food and shelter for the birds and animals of the North.

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In this follow-up to *Gatekeeper* and *Guardian*, Maggie Johnson deals with her growing, unpredictable superpowers, the rising distrust of her neighbours, and the dead who are waiting to transition from this side to the next.

(Great Plains Publications, \$14.95 pb, 248 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927855-85-0)

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When the cops come looking for Stone, he impulsively hops on a freight train passing through town, and decides to travel across the country looking for the deadbeat dad who deserted him when he was still in diapers.

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Alison Hughes

Sixteen-year-old Dee has been left in charge of her little brother, money is running out and social workers are coming to visit their ramshackle Arizona house, so she thinks they had better head to Canada, where they were both born and where they have relatives, even though she has an ancient car and no driver's licence.

(Orca Book Publishers, \$14.95 pb, 216 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-1544-5)

JESUS ON THE DASHBOARD

Lisa Murphy-Lamb

In this debut novel, Gemma, who has been raised by her father Nathaniel since Angie left them long ago, decides to spend the summer with her cousin Rachel and her family, where she is exposed to religion and all its contradictions, and where she meets Angie, who is giving motherhood another try. (Stonehouse Publishing, \$19.95 pb, 210 pages, ISBN: 978-0-9950645-9-1)

SAVING GRAD

Karen Spafford-Fitz

A teen girl flees her dangerous stepfather and starts a new life with her mother, but discovers she needs to find new strength within when her stepfather suddenly shows up at her grad party and threatens her and two of her classmates.

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Steven Sandor

Based on the author's real-life experiences and research, this is the story of the emotional and physical challenges faced by a young teen after a car accident leaves her paralyzed from the waist down – and how sledge hockey helps her move on.

(Lorimer, \$12.95 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4594-1219-4)

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BOOKENDS

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Erratum:

The article *A Birthday Present Big Enough for the Nation* in the Summer/Fall 2017 issue was incorrectly attributed to Liz Katynski. The article was written by Linda Alberta. We apologize for the error.

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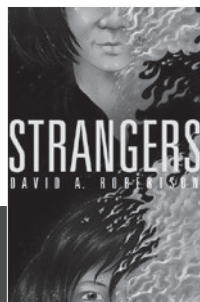
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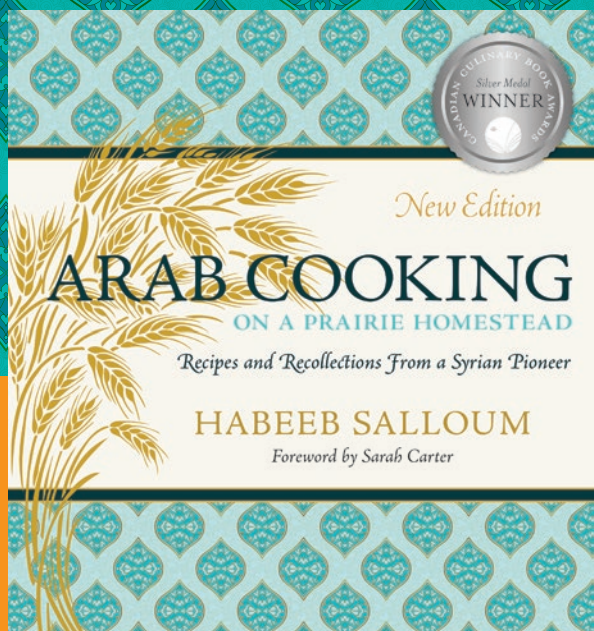
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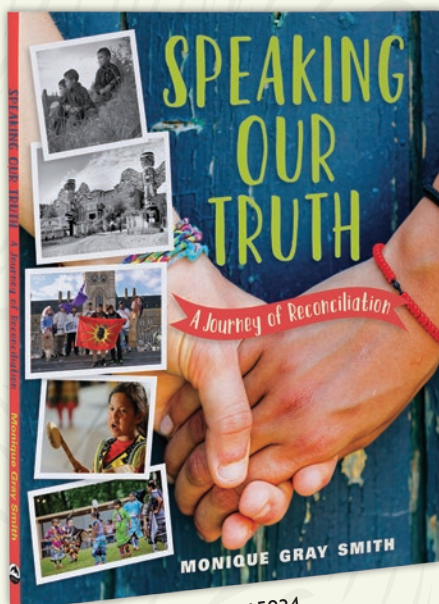
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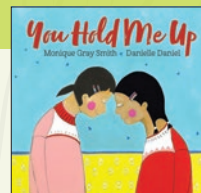
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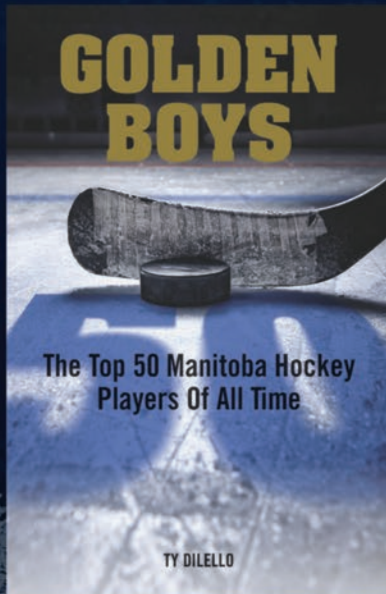
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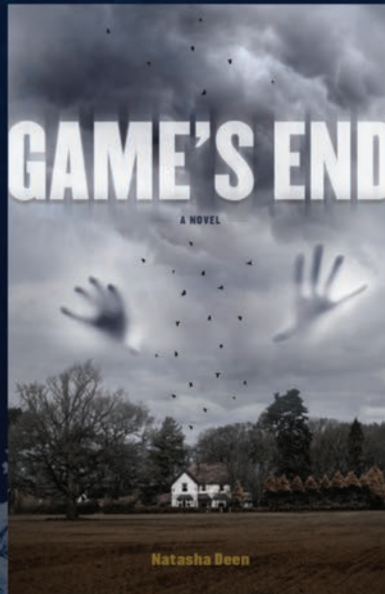
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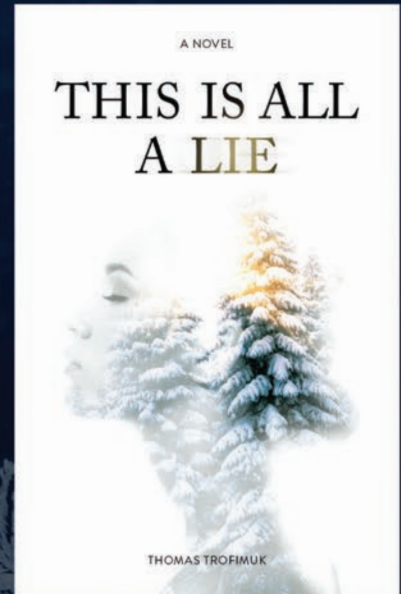
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