

# New Star Books

new titles + complete backlist

fall 2009



from *Watson's Rainbow*

You have read all kinds of stories about some ball player or maybe a whole team that is mired in a slump so bad that it has to be funny, but then maybe it is too long to be funny, and maybe this player consults a voodoo man or makes a deal with the devil or something, and if there is a happy ending it gets really funny again. But do you know the story of Bunny Watson, left-handed fireball pitcher with the Vancouver Mounties in the AAA Pacific Coast League in 1962?

I have to remind you, maybe, that the 1962 season in Vancouver was kind of funny for other reasons. In the second game of a doubleheader on July 18, manager Jack McKeon, who would win a world series with the Florida Marlins forty-one years later, stuck a radio receiver into a pocket under the jersey of his ace pitcher George Bamberger. It wasn't that Jack was going to tell Bamberger what to do. Bamberger was the most famous pitcher in the Pacific Coast league, and knew more than anyone in the world what to throw at the starting lineup of the Tacoma Giants. Jack just wanted to see whether he could get away with it.

You could look it up. The radio kit was approved by the Canadian government, and had the call letters XM11495.

The Mounties won the game 8-4, if you are interested in that stuff, but this isn't about Jack and Bamby. It's about the fellow that started the Mounties season as their number four starter—and that was back when teams had a four-man rotation, and the starters didn't come tiptoeing off the mound after a hundred pitches.

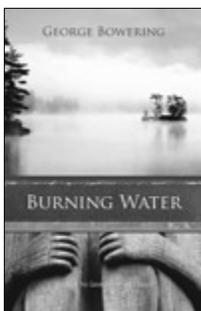
The fellow in question was Bunny Watson, and if you are an old fart like me, who hung around Capilano Stadium in 1962, you remember a skinny guy with huge arms, about six-foot three, with shoes so big that when he went into his high kick his right foot put a little shadow in the area around home plate.

Okay, if I start to exaggerate, that means I am turning into one of those old-fashioned baseball writers, call themselves "scribes." You are free to complain any time I start exaggerating for comic effect. But Bunny did have enormous feet.

Bunny had been a bonus baby in 1955, getting \$100,000 from the New York Yankees, and sitting on their bench for two years. That was the rule: any high school or college kid who got a big signing bonus had to stay with the major league team for two seasons. It worked for Sandy Koufax and the Dodgers: he was a mature fireballer at age twelve, for goodness' sake. The Twins did okay with Harmon Killebrew, who started on his Hall of Fame career from day one. But most bonus babies sat on the bench, getting up once in a while to pinch-run, or throw a late inning in a 12-0 game.

Bunny Watson got two stolen bases in . . .

*By the same author*



**GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AWARD  
WINNER**

**BURNING WATER**

Trade paperback

256 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

978-1-55420-036-8

1-55420-036-9



**SHOOT!**

Trade paperback

272 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

978-1-55420-041-2

1-55420-041-5

# George Bowering

## The Box

In his first work of fiction since 2004's *Standing on Richards*, George Bowering, Canada's first Poet Laureate, reminds us why he is one of our country's most interesting writers. In a series of ten stories introduced by archival photographs, Bowering leads us through the glory days of 1960s Vancouver, when the Hotel Vancouver boasted an under-street level bar whose businessmen swooped in and out in trenchcoats; and a time when Japanese tourists with cameras were a novelty.

*The Box* breaks with the conventional genre of short stories, weaving together biography, autobiography, parable, and drama. Here is fourteen-year old Drew, transplanted from the coast to the Okanagan, and working at his first summer job picking prunes for the town MILF. Here, too, is the extraordinary tale of minor-league pitcher Bunny Watson who strings together an amazing twenty wins without a loss. Bowering trades witty barbs with the poet Phyllis Webb in the experimental story "Phyllis's Questions", while the title story "The Box" explores romantic and platonic relationships as the characters play with the art of opening a box. At times cerebral, *The Box* is always playful, clever, and entertaining.

Each of the ten stories in *The Box* has previously appeared, sometimes in different form, in the *Vancouver Review*, *Matrix*, *dANDdalion*, *filling Station*, *Rampike*, *Open Letter*, *Prism International*, *The Capilano Review* and on CBC Radio One's "Sounds Like Canada".

**George Bowering** has received two Governor General's awards: the first, for poetry, in 1969 for *The Gangs of Kosmos* and *Rocky Mountain Foot* and the second, in 1980, for *Burning Water*. Bowering taught English at Simon Fraser University from 1972 to 2001.



### BINDING

Trade paperback

### SIZE

192 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

### PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

### ISBN

1-55420-045-8

### ISBN-13

978-1-55420-045-0

### SHIPPING

SEPTEMBER

### PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising: *Geist*,  
*Vancouver Review*, *BC Bookworld*, *Matrix*

Targeted desk copy mailing to  
contemporary Canadian fiction professors

Vancouver launch

*from the poem* Why does it feel so late?

... After a week  
I began to miss the television,  
all 20 inches of its low fidelity  
one channel, one pronged antenna coloured comfort.  
I bought our TV, so seemingly modern back then,  
from a pawnshop on Granville,  
hauled it back on the bus in the rain.  
That seemed like an accomplishment, a story.

But now I seem not to care about the television,  
about images dancing, what's going on somewhere else.  
I only watched hockey anyway, the news, to delay my bedtime.

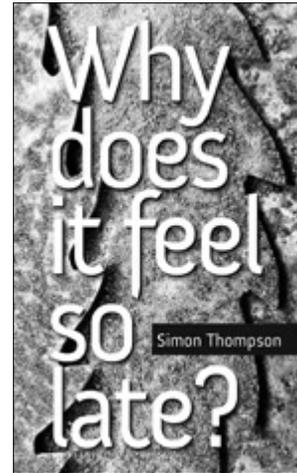
Instead, I turn to the mirror.  
I have shaved my face in the glass and I look younger than usual,  
not puffy but lean, proud of myself.  
7 pm; watching the clock that hangs in the kitchen,  
blue and sea green, Prince Rupert's colours on a good winter's day.  
It's soothing to stare  
stare at the clock as it cranks out the seconds. My hand runs blindly,  
searching for whiskers, the ones that I missed, but nothing is amiss.  
7:01 pm and I am not drunk.  
I shouldn't be noting this.  
Why, I want to ask my wife, why does it feel so late?

Simon Thompson

## Why Does It Feel So Late?

In his remarkably assured debut, Simon Thompson shows us the place where he lives, where everything inevitably comes back to the centre. The predominant impression is of a man, sometimes seen from a long way off, moving indecisively towards some overwhelming question. The poems are driven by images of the north: the wealth of rivers, the sodium lights of long winters, the broken concrete foundations of abandoned mills; these are the things that are the source of the poet's ideas. Having said that, the poems lie beyond an easy theoretical grasp; the world itself is too wild, too unruly to be contained by theory. The poems seem to say nothing but the energy contained within themselves is permanent; everything else is temporary, subject to erosion.

*Simon Thompson* was born in England but has lived in Canada most of his life. He obtained his Bachelor of Journalism from Carleton University in 1989 and went on to Simon Fraser University for his MA in English in 1992. Thompson teaches English at Northwest Community College in Terrace, where he has lived for many years. *Why Does It Feel So Late?* is his first book.



### BINDING

Trade paperback

### SIZE

80 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

### PRICE

\$18 CDN • \$15 US

### ISBN

1-55420-046-6

### ISBN-13

978-1-55420-046-7

### SHIPPING

AUGUST

### PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising:

*BC Bookworld, Geist*

Book launch in Vancouver and Terrace

Joint BC tour with Barry McKinnon:

Vancouver, Kamloops, Terrace,

Prince George

Targeted mailout to poetry blogs

*from An Unfinished Theology*

*do you want to walk?*

the angel asks

*how do you want to be loved?*

*(death disappear turn its head)*

then I rose to an edge of being

and the shadow in my mind  
pushed aside the rest

and I saw  
*desire,*

itself the thing I desired.

to say    *love,*    to dismiss that against it

Barry McKinnon

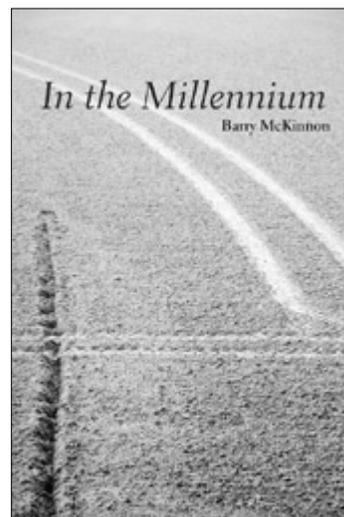
## In the Millennium

*In the Millennium* is a thirteen-part sequence written over the last ten years that measures a wide range of the poet's experience. The writing emerges in response to human processes, conditions and places: love, sex, death, the insecurities and pressures of the inner and outer world, and the politics of person and place that act as prompts for whatever he, as the poet, is given to reveal.

Much of the poetry in *In the Millennium* is also informed by the abrasive grit and beauty of the north, especially in the poems "Head Out", "Prince George (Part 1)", and "Prince George Core".

"Bolivia/Peru" is a long poem that documents a trip to the poorest places in South America. But no matter what the contexts, *In the Millennium* articulates McKinnon's belief that the contemporary poem has to resemble the various and fractured realities it addresses – to make whatever is at hand, no matter how complex, emotionally visible.

**Barry McKinnon** was born in Calgary in 1944. After completing a masters at the University of British Columbia in 1969, he accepted a teaching position in the English department at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George, where he taught until his retirement in 2006. The author of eight poetry books and thirteen chapbooks, McKinnon was awarded the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Award for *Pulp Log* in 1991 and was shortlisted for a Governor-General's Award for *The the* in 1982. He publishes, designs and edits chapbooks for Gorse Press.



### BINDING

Trade paperback

### SIZE

144 pages, 6" x 9"

### PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

### ISBN

1-55420-047-4

### ISBN-13

978-1-55420-047-4

### SHIPPING

OCTOBER

### PHOTOGRAPHS

15

### PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising:

*BC Bookworld, Geist*

Book launch in Vancouver and Terrace

Joint BC tour with Simon Thompson:

Vancouver, Kamloops, Terrace,

Prince George

Targeted mailout to poetry blogs



Hannah Calder

## More House

**BINDING**

Trade paperback

**SIZE**

200 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

**PRICE**

\$19 CDN • \$19 US

**ISBN**

1-55420-042-3

**ISBN-13**

978-1-55420-042-9

*'Calder's prose simmers with hallucinatory beat. She is the most generous and attentive of writers, and one whose experiments crackle and blaze like wildfire, sweeping the landscape of her dreams like panopticon pinlights.'* - DODIE BELLAMY, author of *Pink Steam* and *The Letters of Mina Harker*

*'[More House] keeps you guessing, laughing and dropping your jaw at the weird insights and awesomely daring prose. Go read it. Or watch it. Or listen to it. Or whatever it wants you to do with it, just do it.'* - REBECCA BROWN, author of *The Gifts of the Body* and *The Terrible Girls*

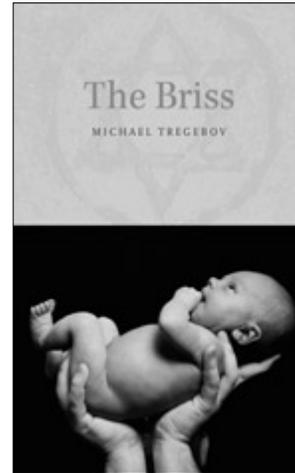
Two movies share a cast, a crew, and a set. *More House*, where Granny lives, and straight out of Victorian literature, is the scene of a Gothic period piece. In the other movie, *The Lord* wields his sceptre over another cast of characters including the cook, the butler, the groom, and the maids. Meanwhile, the Girl and her son, Joey, move uneasily between the overlapping, and sometimes fusing, scenarios.

Dark, erotic, disturbing, *More House* is an exuberant display of imagination and wordplay, and showcases an impressive new writing talent.

*Hannah Calder* has been an editor in Vancouver, a social worker in Kent, England, and a nanny in Chicago. She earned her MA in English Literature in 2004 from Simon Fraser University and has published poetry in *West Coast Line*, *The Capilano Review* and *dANDeLion*. She was born in England, grew up there and in BC and currently lives in Barcelona where she teaches English. *More House* is her first book.

Michael Tregebov

## The Briss



There is a Jewish proverb that goes: “Grandchildren are your reward from God for not having murdered your children.” And so *The Briss* begins, with Sammy, the father of two grown children he would like to choke the life out of. His daughter Marilyn has just ended an affair that should have been kept a secret. In the meantime, his younger son, Teddy, who had left months ago on a ten-day Birthright Israel tour, got himself mixed up with *gush shalom* Israelis who introduced him to a diaspora Palestinian woman visiting her ailing grandmother in Ramallah. Teddy falls in love with her, and, well, knocks her up.

Sammy, who fought in Israel in '48 but moved back home to Winnipeg years ago, a move he has regretted, is forced into an angry struggle with his son that reveals all their unresolved emotional conflicts. A wildly entertaining and poignant novel, *The Briss* explores, on a personal level, family relationships, and on a political level, the continuing debate about Jewish identity and its connection to Israel and Palestine.

Born in Winnipeg, *Michael Tregebov* has called Spain home since 1982. He obtained his BA in English from the University of Manitoba and his MFA in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia. From 1982 to 2004, he taught American Literature and Translation, and English at universities in Barcelona. A prolific translator, Michael has two William Carlos Williams translations forthcoming later this year from Lumen (Random House). He has published one book of poems: *Changehouse*.

**BINDING**

Trade paperback

**SIZE**

240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

**PRICE**

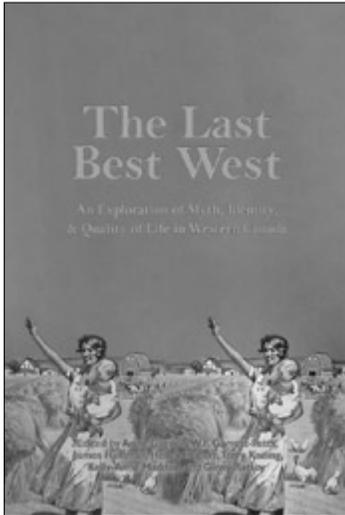
\$19 CDN • \$19 US

**ISBN**

1-55420-043-1

**ISBN-13**

978-1-55420-043-6



Anne Gagnon, W.F. Garrett-Petts, James Hoffman, Eds.

## The Last Best West

*An Exploration of Myth, Identity, and Quality of Life in Western Canada*

**BINDING**

Trade paperback

**SIZE**

256 pages, 6" x 9"

**PRICE**

\$24 CDN • \$24 US

**ISBN**

1-55420-044-X

**ISBN-13**

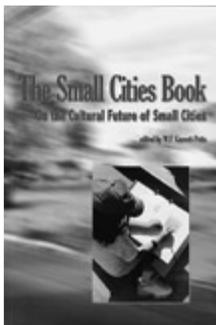
978-1-55420-044-3

The idea for this collection arose out of a shared sentiment that there was still something quintessentially “Western Canadian” that distinguishes and separates living in this region from all other Canadian regions. What this distinctiveness is, the editors left as open as possible in soliciting the participation of numerous disciplines and approaches to the question of “the West” and being a “Westerner.”

This book lays out the variety of approaches and unique research initiatives, with a novel focus on small urban centres, rural education, regional representations and identities, theatre, literature and film, visual representations, and quality of life issues, allowing for multiple lines of inquiry and discussion involving other provincial and regional experiences.

The varied works within this collection cumulatively offer a unique panoramic understanding of Western themes. The eclecticism in subject matters, theory and approaches serves to enrich our understanding and appreciation of what “the West” has been and continues to be, the “Last Best West.”

### By the same editor



W.F. GARRETT-PETTS, editor

### The Small Cities Book

On the Cultural Future of Small Cities

In 25 essays, poems, stories and visual pieces, the contributors explore what it means to live in a smaller community in an era of globalization. From Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, the book is a collaborative project bringing together academics, visual artists, poets and map makers. Together they explore the elements that make a small city work.

THE SMALL CITIES BOOK

Trade paperback

376 pages, 7" x 10"

\$39 CDN • \$35 US

978-1-55420-009-2

1-55420-009-1

## LINEbooks and Commodore Books

New Star Books is the distributor to the trade for **LINEbooks** and **Commodore Books**.

The mandate of **LINEbooks** is to publish and promote the work of contemporary writers who are experimenting with and expanding the boundaries of conventional forms of text.

The first and only black literary press in Western Canada, **Commodore Books** is a non-for-profit press committed to producing books with social, historical, and literary merit. It prioritizes work by black writers.

### **New from LINEbooks & Commodore Books • Fall 2009**

GLEN LOWRY

#### **Pacific Avenue**

On June 13th 1886, Lauchlin Hamilton, the CPR surveyor assigned to lay out the city, took a crew out to cut the first line from the inlet to the creek. One of the crew, his brother-in-law, became lost in the heavy forest among the gigantic cedars. *Pacific Avenue* is his story.

The language of *Pacific Avenue* — sightings, soundings and surveys of what is constructed along the lines that make the city and between the lines of the poem — is a peninsula at once covered with trees and cleared of those same trees. This unnamed city, let us call it Vancouver — why not? becomes a plantation at once industrial but also social. Lay down yr tools pick up this book and build this city in yr mind, being careful to include plant fibre, genetic strands, animal habits and of course etcetera.

Trade paperback • 112 pages, 5.3" x 8.3" • \$16 CDN • \$16 US  
978-0-9784981-8-4 • Available JULY

LARISSA LAI & RITA WONG

#### **sybil unrest**

Trade paperback • 112 pages, 6.5" x 7" • \$16 CDN • \$16 US •  
978-0-9784981-3-9 • Available now

ROY K. KIYOOKA

#### **The Artist and the Moose: A Fable of Forget**

Trade paperback • 180 pages, 5.5" x 8.5" • \$20 CDN • \$20 US  
978-0-9784981-0-8 • Available now

JONATHON WILCKE

#### **Dupe**

*Dupe* goes under the hood of industrial capitalism where there is no deal, no compromise with capital, only complicity. The bearings, rods and shafts are running hot, the lubricant is breaking down, and shade-tree mechanic Jonathon Wilcke is fiddling with the timing chain. "More gas!" he shouts as flames leap from the carburetor. The dwell is finally set, Ford's time management duplicator is idling rough yet the poems flow from the manifold.

*Dupe* takes up the formal concerns of Wilcke's first book *Pornograph* and applies them to the body politic. The notion of musical notation guides the word on the page.

Trade paperback • 80 pages, 6.7" x 9.7" • \$16 CDN • \$16 US  
978-0-9784981-9-1 • Available JULY

KIM DUFF

#### **Tube Sock Army**

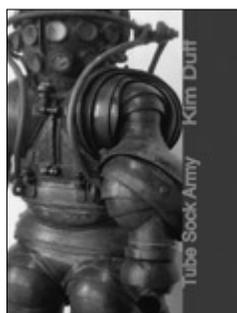
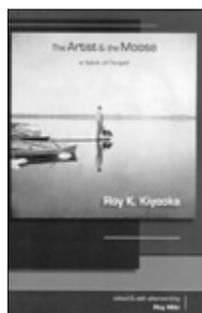
Trade paperback • 72 pages, 5.5" x 7" • \$16 CDN •  
\$16 US • 978-0-9784981-6-0 • Available now

EMILY FEDORUK

#### **All Still**

Trade paperback • 88 pages, 6.75" x 9.75" • \$16 CDN •  
\$16 US • 978-0-9784981-7-7 • Available now

• see page 21 for complete title list •



## Award Winners



**WINNER, EDNA STAEBLER  
AWARD FOR CREATIVE  
NON-FICTION,  
STARDUST**  
Trade paperback  
240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
\$19 CDN • \$16 US  
978-1-55420-033-7  
1-55420-033-4

### BRUCE SERAFIN **Stardust**

A suite of essays defining Bruce Serafin's world, and an intimate critique of touchstones of Western culture. Serafin discusses the work of Don DeLillo, Terry Glavin, Steve McCaffery, Northrop Frye, and William Henry Drummond. There's an engagement to these essays that lightly sketches the workings of a mind forever learning.

*'One of Vancouver's finest essayists.'* – VANCOUVER SUN

*'A brilliantly coherent demonstration of a writer's education.'* – VANCOUVER REVIEW

*'Contains passages of the best prose ever written on Canada's west coast.'* – BRIAN FAWCETT

### ELIZABETH HAY **Captivity Tales**

Canadians in New York  
From the 1997 Governor General finalist, the winner of the 2007 Scotiabank Giller Prize and the 1993 Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-fiction). Stranded in New York with her family, Elizabeth Hay searches for company and finds it in the lives of other Canadians who have come to New York: Inuit



**CAPTIVITY TALES**  
Trade paperback  
154 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
\$18 CDN • \$16 US  
978-0-921586-32-6  
0-921586-32-9

visitors in the 19th century, artists like Michael Snow, Joyce Weiland, Glenn Gould and Teresa Stratas.

*'Engaging, entertaining, and touching.'* – THE GLOBE & MAIL

*'A tiny gem of a book . . . probably the cleverest Canadian travel book in a very long time.'* – GEORGE FETHERLING

### TERRY GLAVIN **This Ragged Place**

A finalist for the Governor General's Award in 1997. A skillfully woven, lyrical narrative that reveals the fibre of a British Columbia rarely glimpsed, and evokes the uneasy state of the province. Glavin spirits us to the banks of the Fraser River where edgy fishermen await the runs of salmon and oolichan while Vancouver's suburbs continue their relentless march upstream.

*'Evocative and beautifully written.'* – QUILL & QUIRE

*'Eloquent, poetic, honest, and illuminating.'* – MILESTONES REVIEW

### STAN PERSKY **The Short Version**

An ABC Book

The alphabetized list is usually confined to dictionaries and encyclopedias. But in Stan Persky's version, it becomes a forum for personal narrative and reflection. *The Short Version* is an intentional miscellany that adds up to a coherent self-portrait.

An homage to Czeslaw Milosz, the Nobel-prize winning poet, *The Short Version* asks: where are we? Persky's reply: at home, in the wider world.

*'Brilliant.'* – VANCOUVER REVIEW

*'[Persky is] approaching legendary status after a 40-year career of curmudgeonry.'* – VANCOUVER SUN

*'One of Canada's premier intellectuals . . . a deeply nourishing read.'* – THE GLOBE & MAIL

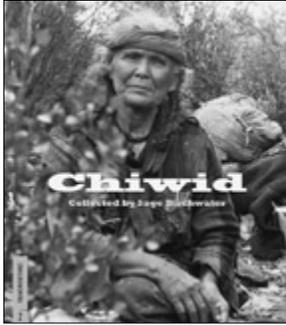


**HUBERT EVANS NON-FICTION  
PRIZE WINNER**  
**ONE OF GLOBE & MAIL'S 100  
BEST BOOKS OF 2005**  
**THE SHORT VERSION**  
Trade paperback  
352 pages, 6" x 9"  
\$24 CDN • \$19 US  
978-1-55420-016-0  
1-55420-016-4



**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S  
AWARD FINALIST**  
**THIS RAGGED PLACE**  
Trade paperback  
204 pages, 5.25" x 8.25"  
\$18 CDN • \$16 US  
978-0-921586-66-1  
0-921586-66-3

## Transmontanus Highlights

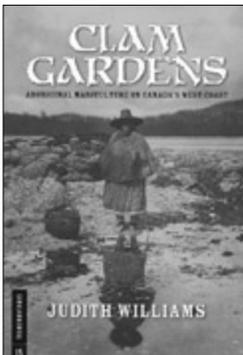


**CHIWID**  
**THIRD PRINTING!**  
 Trade paperback  
 128 pages, 8" x 9"  
 \$16 CDN • \$16 US  
 978-0-921586-39-5  
 0-921586-39-6

Transmontanus 2  
**SAGE BIRCHWATER**  
**Chiwid**

Now in its third printing! *Chiwid* was a Chilcotin woman who kept to herself and chose to spend most of her life out in the forests, lakes, and bush of the west Chilcotin plateau, “the way the old people lived,” moving her solitary camp with the seasons.

*‘These people’s memories provide a rich, readerly experience of time, place and personalities – the next best thing to actually visiting.’*  
 – CANADIAN LITERATURE



**BC BOOK PRIZE FINALIST**  
**CLAM GARDENS**  
 Trade paperback  
 128 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
 \$19 CDN • \$16 US  
 978-1-55420-023-8  
 1-55420-023-7

Transmontanus 15  
**JUDITH WILLIAMS**  
**Clam Gardens**

Aboriginal Mariculture on Canada’s West Coast

For many years archaeologists were unaware of the ancient clam terraces at Waiatt Bay, on Quadra Island. Author Judith Williams was advised of their existence by a Klahoose elder named Elizabeth Harry (Keekus).

Williams has amassed evidence that the rock structures seen only at the lowest tides were used by native peoples for the purpose of cultivating butter clams.

Her research does much to challenge the notion of pre-contact West Coast indigenous peoples as hunter-gatherers alone.

*‘Essential reading.’*  
 – VANCOUVER REVIEW

*‘No one else writes about the coast with such sympathy for local knowledge.’*  
 – GEIST

Transmontanus 17  
**JOHN SCHREIBER**  
**Stranger Wycott’s Place**

*Stranger Wycott’s Place* describes the author’s explorations on foot, horseback and by 4-wheel drive in the Chilcotin. Starting from the premise that we learn best about place from the place where we are, *Stranger Wycott’s Place* is at once a history, a writer’s musings, and an appreciation of the lively wild.

*‘Schreiber’s writing is itself mythic in the sense of revealing greater truths in the mundane events of history. The book is more about the land than about a single person, and Schreiber’s writing gives it a shimmering transcendence. It is a beautiful read.’* – ROBIN RIDINGTON

Transmontanus 16  
**CARELLIN BROOKS**  
**Wreck Beach**

The first comprehensive guide to the history, geography and personalities of Wreck Beach, *Wreck Beach* is the book for you whether you’re a local history buff, or just like swimming in the buff.

It contains everything you’ve always wanted to know about Wreck Beach, the best nude beach in the world.

*‘Layered with useful information for visitors.’* – XTRA WEST

*‘A thorough little compendium . . . invites you to discover, understand and respect a rare oasis.’*  
 – VANCOUVER REVIEW

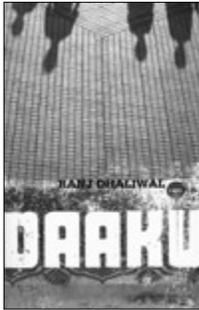


**STRANGER WYCOTT’S PLACE**  
 Trade paperback  
 128 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
 \$19 CDN • \$16 US  
 978-1-55420-037-5  
 1-55420-037-7



**WRECK BEACH**  
 Trade paperback  
 96 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
 \$19 CDN • \$16 US  
 978-1-55420-031-3  
 1-55420-031-8

## Backlist Highlights



### RANJ DHALIWAL **Daaku**

A Novel

In the violent and ruthless world of Indo-Canadian gangs, Ruby Panther is on his way up.

Ruby's small-time scams reveal a knack for leadership and soon he is doing collections for Indo-Canadian drug dealers. Drawn like a moth to the glamour of power, money, and drugs, he'll do anything to get to the top.

*'An excellent novel about Indo-Canadian gangs . . . a scary peek into a subculture about which we know nothing.'*

— MARGARET CANNON, THE GLOBE & MAIL

*'A fascinating look into the gang world's twisted morality, casual murder, commodification of women, and the inevitability of violent demise.'*

— QUILL & QUIRE

**DAAKU**  
SECOND PRINTING!  
Trade paperback  
312 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
\$21 CDN • \$16 US  
978-1-55420-027-6  
1-55420-027-X



**THE CEDAR SURF**  
Trade paperback  
88 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
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0-921586-93-0

Transmontanus 10

**GRANT SHILLING**

### **The Cedar Surf**

An Informal History of Surfing in British Columbia

Grant Shilling's popular survey of the surf scene on Vancouver Island's west coast where BC surfers have

been paddling out to catch waves at Sombrio Beach, Tofino, Ucluelet and Jordan River for over forty years.

*'Shilling weaves a rich, behind-the-scenes lore of the quirky, mossy burghs dotting Vancouver Island's southwestern coast, illustrating key players from various eras and their sea lion-laced surf spots.'*

— SURFER'S JOURNAL

*'An absorbing read, full of wild characters and events, written with the same verve and energy one would need to wade into the frigid surf in the first place.'*

SHARON KIRSCH

### **What Species of Creatures**

Animal Relations from the New World

Sharon Kirsch weaves early settler accounts, fables, children's stories, natural histories and 21st century science in a quirky narrative that probes our complicated relationship with the other creatures that share the planet. Illustrated with twenty period drawings, and peppered with verbatim accounts by these early settlers, *What Species of Creatures* is a rich and satisfying stew of odd historical facts and figures.

*'There's something remarkable and unsettling going on here . . . fascinating and informative . . . This book was tremendous fun to read.'*

— DOONEY'S CAFE

Transmontanus 14

**SCOTT WALLACE & BRIAN GISBORNE**

### **Basking Sharks**

The Slaughter of BC's Gentle Giants

The basking shark, a fish the size of a London bus, used to appear off the BC coast every spring. During World War II, the fish became a nuisance to commercial nets and fishing trollers and was an easy target for a new pest eradication program that touted killing one of the "plankton-eating monsters" as great sport.

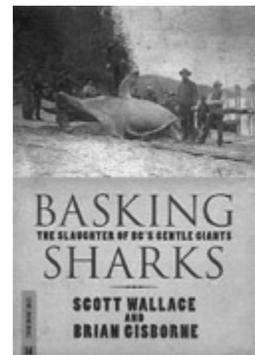
By 1970 the basking shark was virtually eradicated in BC. The book pieces together what there is to know about this locally extinct ocean denizen.

*'Tells a sad and shameful tale of a vanished marine giant . . . Scott Wallace and Brian Gisborne effectively lay out this appalling history.'*

— VANCOUVER REVIEW



**WHAT SPECIES OF CREATURES**  
Trade paperback  
240 pages, 6" x 9"  
\$19 CDN • \$16 US  
978-1-55420-040-5  
1-55420-040-7



**BASKING SHARKS**  
Trade paperback  
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1-55420-022-9

## Backlist Highlights



### ASPER NATION

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978-1-55420-032-0

1-55420-032-6

MARC EDGE

### Asper Nation

Canada's Most Dangerous Media Company

Marc Edge examines the issues of media power, convergence and media bias in a compelling account of the Asper family's rise to the top of the Canadian media landscape.

'ASPER NATION is a must read for anyone who aspires to active and informed Canadian citizenship.' — THE GLOBE & MAIL

'[Needs] to be read as part of a long-overdue national conversation about media ownership.'

— QUILL & QUIRE



### WATCH YOURSELF

Trade paperback

192 pages, 6" x 9"

\$22 CDN • \$19 US

978-1-55420-021-4

1-55420-021-0

MATT HERN

### Watch Yourself

Why Safer Isn't Always Better

From warnings on coffee cups to colour-coded terrorist gauges to ubiquitous security cameras, our culture is obsessed with safety.

The result is not just a neurotically restrictive society, but one which actively undermines individual and community self-reliance. We are creating a world of officious administration, manage-

ment by statistics, absurd regulations, rampaging lawsuits, and hygienically cleansed public spaces.

'This is more than just fuzzy talk from the anarchist's cookbook. . . .

[Hern] is the most charismatic trash talker in town, and he's used that gift to win support from city councillors, bureaucrats, and soccer moms for an experiment [Vancouver Car Free Festival] that will turn this city on its head. . . . Changing the way we divide and share our public spaces—that's the pot of gold at the end of Hern's festival rainbow.'

— VANCOUVER MAGAZINE

MARC EDGE

### Pacific Press

The Unauthorized Story of Vancouver's Newspaper Monopoly

*Pacific Press* analyzes the market, business, and labour forces that gave rise to and shaped Pacific Press.

'A brilliantly researched history.' — DENNY BOYD, BC BUSINESS

'[Marc Edge's] history of *Pacific Press* is a must-read for every student of mass communications in Canada, a fascinating read for journalists and

other professional communicators and, in selected chapters, a lively revelation of newsroom personalities and practices for anyone who loves newspapers.'

— PETER DESBARATS, VANCOUVER SUN

STEPHEN DALE

### Candy from Strangers

Kids and Consumer Culture

Marketing is blamed for everything from childhood obesity to youth violence. *Candy from Strangers* goes behind the headlines to offer an unbiased and in-depth look at the subjects of kids and mass media.

Are children victims of the marketing world? Or could they in fact be sophisticated participants in consumer culture?

Refusing to offer easy answers, Stephen Dale raises the rarely-voiced concern that our hand-wringing about media and its effects on kids may distract us from the truly important issues facing future generations.

'A provocative take on a hot political issue.' — RABBLE.CA



### PACIFIC PRESS

Hardcover

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0-921586-88-4



### CANDY FROM STRANGERS

Trade paperback

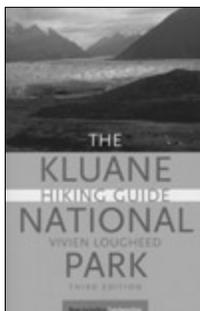
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1-55420-015-6

## Backlist Highlights



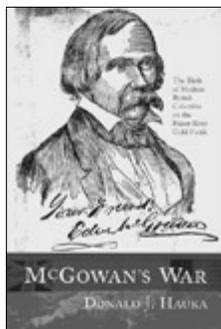
**KLUANE NATIONAL  
PARK HIKING GUIDE**  
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1-55420-025-3

### VIVIEN LOUGHEED **The Kluane National Park Hiking Guide**

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Newly updated with material on Tathenshini Provincial Park, this remains the backpacker's official source to the Kluane National Park.

*'Vivien Lougheed is one of our country's best adventure writers. This book is the next best thing to joining her on the trail.'* — CHARLES MONTGOMERY  
*'Author Vivien Lougheed offers clear descriptions not only on how to reach these precious places, but how to maintain that sense of preciousness through low-impact biking and camping techniques.'* — PAT MORROW



**MCGOWAN'S WAR**  
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1-55420-001-6

### DONALD J. HAUKA **McGowan's War**

The Birth of Modern British Columbia on the Fraser River Gold Fields

*'Hauka's story has the appropriate tension and drama for a dispute that could have changed forever the face of North America. And he tells it with an eye for detail and an ability to present a memorable image.'* — KAMLOOPS DAILY NEWS

*'Hauka has dug up and fleshed out some wonderfully colourful characters and the story has all the drama, intrigue and pacing of good fiction.'* — VANCOUVER SUN

*'This is a book that intrigues and entertains, and provides new perspectives on the history of BC. No one who cares about our muddled, untidy story here at the edge of the continent should miss this fine addition to its record.'* — THE RAIN REVIEW

### KEN COLLIER **Social Work With Rural Peoples**

Theory and Practice  
Third Edition

The gist of Collier's genuinely radical book is that for the rural social worker to be effective, she must be able to identify with the struggles of the people she is trying to help — that trying to maintain "professional", "objective" distance will merely ensure that the social worker becomes part of the problem rather than part of the solution. For the social worker in a smaller community, "Whose side are you on?" is the most important question to be answered before any effective work can be done.

It is an indictment of the slow pace of progress against the societal problems facing rural populations that a third edition of *Social Work With Rural Peoples* is necessary.

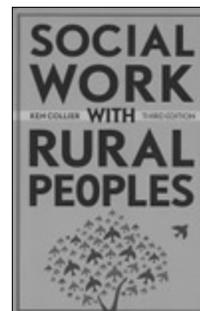
### MARK LEIER **Rebel Life**

The Life and Times of Robert Gosden, Revolutionary, Mystic, Labour Spy

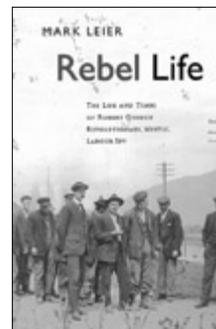
The rollicking story of the life of this mysterious early 20th-century character. Archival photographs and sidebars; chapters on historiography and research methods; and an extensive bibliography of BC and labour history make it a valuable resource for libraries, students, educators, and union locals.

*'A fascinating analysis ... a fine piece of labour history.'* — BRIARPATCH

*'A real page-turner ... [Leier] reminds us about the importance of the individual worker in history.'* — CANADIAN CONTENT



**SOCIAL WORK WITH  
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## Backlist Highlights



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STAN PERSKY

### Topic Sentence

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A collection of selected and new work that spans five decades of writing, *Topic Sentence* is an intimate portrait of a writer's education.

Whether pursuing erotic adventures in Vancouver and Berlin, teaching philosophy to college students in North Vancouver, or chronicling the books that have been his literary inspiration, Persky's joy in knowledge comes across on every page.

*'[Persky] always seems to march to his own drum, to be striking original, to engage with an audience in his own head.'* – THE GLOBE & MAIL

*'One of Canada's most prolific and provocative public intellectuals.'* – THE TYEE



### CHRONICLES OF DISSENT

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1-55420-003-2

NOAM CHOMSKY

Interviewed by David Barsamian

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The Alternative Radio Interviews, Vol. 1

### Class Warfare

The Alternative Radio Interviews, Vol. 2

In two volumes of in-depth talks with Alternative Radio's David Barsamian, Noam Chomsky, widely recognized as one of the most original and important thinkers of our age, discusses such subjects as

the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, "free trade", and world government. Chomsky's far-reaching criticism ranges from Adam Smith's writing to the not-so-new world order to challenging our most basic assumptions about the status quo.

ANDY QUAN

### Calendar Boy

Short Stories

*'The punch and finesse of Quan's politics and prose are nicely expressed, the issues which infuse his fictions – racism, self-acceptance, sexual need and availability – are handled with an endearing poise and a defiant bravado which is neither caustic nor cocky nor confrontational, but rather smart, bemused, and sometimes, with genteel but steely firmness, unsettling.'*

– LAMBDA BOOK REVIEW

*'Touches on subjects near and dear to Quan's heart: identity, race and sexual politics, and what it means to be a gay Asian male in a white-betero dominated world. . . . Highly readable and enjoyable.'*

– THE LOOP (VANCOUVER)

*'Catches the gay zeitgeist of modern life in a manner reminiscent of TV productions such as Queer as Folk.'*

– VICTORIA TIMES-COLONIST



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LAMBDA AWARD FINALIST

### CALENDAR BOY

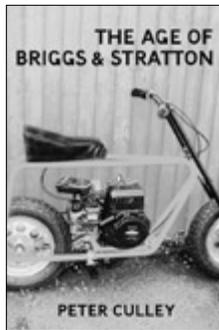
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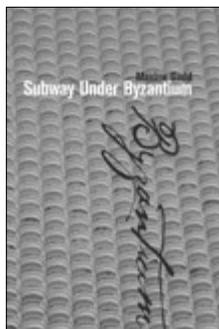


**THE AGE OF BRIGGS & STRATTON**  
Trade paperback  
144 pages, 6" x 9"  
\$18 CDN • \$16 US  
978-1-55420-039-9  
1-55420-039-3

**PETER CULLEY**  
**The Age of Briggs & Stratton**

Peter Culley's second book about his hometown Nanaimo stems from his realization that there is not an hour when he cannot somewhere hear a leaf blower, a lawn mower or another piece of Briggs & Stratton-powered machinery.

Old records and half-remembered films are arrayed against impending collapse, layers of irony populate a landscape of ghosts. Like small and noisy engines themselves, Culley's poems address the impossible contradictions of our unnamed era.



**SUBWAY UNDER BYZANTIUM**  
Trade paperback  
128 pages, 6" x 9"  
\$20 CDN • \$16 US  
978-1-55420-035-1  
1-55420-035-0

**MAXINE GADD**  
**Subway Under Byzantium**

*Subway Under Byzantium* is the second in Maxine Gadd's double act of works about the Gulf Islands and the Downtown Eastside. The first is 2006's finalist for a BC Book Prize, *Backup to Babylon*.

*'Gadd's poetry is insistently engaged and essentially human . . . Where has she been all this time?'* – ROB MCLENNAN

*'Maxine Gadd is one of the best poets in Canada . . . a titanic perspective born of pain and sympathy in equal parts.'*

– KEVIN KILLIAN

**JUSTIN LUKYN**  
**Henry Pepper**

If the dumpsters of the Downtown Eastside could talk, this would be their story.

Henry Pepper roams the back alleys of Canada's poorest neighbourhood, a slightly cracked anthropologist of the everyday.

The architecture of his alleyways, from the ubiquitous telephone poles to the dumpster serial numbers titling each poem, becomes Henry Pepper's doorway and windowsill. Smithrite, Monica's Hair Salon, gumboots and puddles are his daily newspaper, dishes, chairs.

Our narrator Pepper reels from poem to poem, beligerent, jocose, and ultimately fragile, daring us to dismiss his world.

*'[Justin Lukyn] brings us up this-close to an astonishing arcade of beauty and madness and political acumen.'* – KEVIN KILLIAN

**GEORGE STANLEY**  
**Vancouver: A Poem**

The city of Vancouver is poet George Stanley's palimpsest, an overwritten manuscript on which the words of others are still faintly visible.

Spotting chestnuts on the sidewalk or reading William Carlos Williams's *Paterson* on the Granville Street Bridge, the poet travels along the inlet, past the mountains, under the trees, pulling the local world into shape with his words.

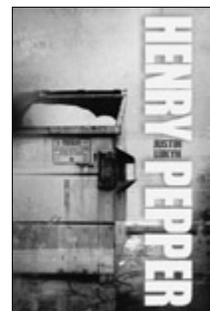
*'The most accomplished poet of my generation . . . relentlessly intelligent.'* – BRIAN FAWCETT

*'This is a book that might have been subtitled HALF-BEING AND NOTHINGNESS. It stares directly into that abyss, using the city of Vancouver as its lens.'*

*... VANCOUVER: A POEM is a complex meditation & an interesting counterpoint to [Hettie Jones]' work. It expands the grounds of what's possible here & is one of the most moving books I'll read all year.* – RON SILLIMAN

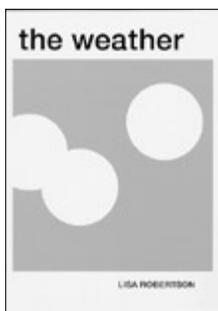


**DOROTHY LIVESAY**  
**POETRY PRIZE FINALIST**  
**VANCOUVER: A POEM**  
Trade paperback  
136 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
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**HENRY PEPPER**  
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1-55420-034-2

## Poetry Highlights



LISA ROBERTSON  
**The Weather**

*'[A] stunning and severely rich repatterning of the mind's generally uncharted terrain.'*

*... THE WEATHER is a nervy, rhythmic creation of a poetic environment ... her rhetorically based surfaces are continually ruptured by an unrestrained, musically conducted mode of transformation.'*

— PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

*'In this so-often-impersonal book (which is no small crime for a female writer), she lets the landscape narrate, and from this newly constructed body politic, a collective tells the tale. The writing of the weather descriptions (which, I must admit, instantly changed mine) is incantatory. ... Dazzling!'*

— EILEEN MYLES, THE NATION

*'One of our most important, and most interesting, poets.'* — BOOKS IN CANADA

RELIT AWARD WINNER

THE WEATHER

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XECLOGUE

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0-921586-72-8

LISA ROBERTSON  
**XEclogue**

Lisa Robertson's first book, originally published in 1993 and re-issued in 1999, is back in print. *XEclogue* was hailed as "terrific" by *Publishers Weekly* and "magic ... sheer delight" by *Canadian Bookseller*.

*'One of this poet's best strengths is her way of imbuing poems with passion — not from hot emotion, which she avoids, but from deep politics and thought. In Robertson's hands, these things are sensual.'* — THE STRANGER

LISA ROBERTSON  
**Debbie: An Epic**

*'One of the most thrilling books of poetry I've read in years.'* DEBBIE:

*AN EPIC is a masterwork by any standard, past or present, a book of great and immediate beauty.'* — SHARON THESEN, GEORGIA STRAIGHT

*'What Robertson has accomplished remains to be described ... I recommend this book highly.'* — BENJAMIN FRIEDLANDER



GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD FINALIST, 1998

FOURTH PRINTING!

DEBBIE: AN EPIC

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ROY MIKI  
**There**

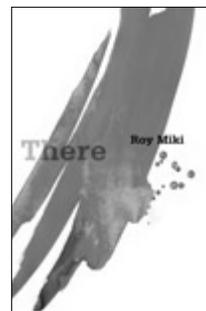
Roy Miki's first poetry book since the 2002 Governor General's Award winner *Surrender*.

*'Miki's work is exciting! Someone has to ... stretch the limits of language to open up the borderlands of poetry.'* — BC BOOKWORLD

*'A superior collection.'* — VANCOUVER SUN

*'Layered ... full of rich intellectual pleasures ... Miki's writing is sociable, an opening into a compelling conversation.'*

— GEORGIA STRAIGHT



THERE

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1-55420-026-1

## Complete backlist by title

Title	Author	ISBN	ISBN-13	Pub'd	CDN \$	US \$
Æthel	Mancini, Donato	1-55420-030-X	978-1-55420-030-6	2007	\$21	\$16
Age of Briggs & Stratton	Culley, Peter	1-55420-039-3	978-1-55420-039-9	2008	\$18	\$16
Amongst God's Own	Glavin, Terry	0-9686046-1-7	978-0-9686046-1-8	2002	\$24	\$19
Anarchivē	Collis, Stephen	1-55420-018-0	978-1-55420-018-4	2005	\$18	\$16
At Andy's	Stanley, George	0-921586-76-0	978-0-921586-76-0	2000	\$16	\$16
Asper Nation	Edge, Marc	1-55420-032-6	978-1-55420-032-0	2007	\$21	\$16
Backup to Babylon	Gadd, Maxine	1-55420-024-5	978-1-55420-024-5	2006	\$20	\$16
Basking Sharks	Wallace, S., & Gisborne, B.	1-55420-022-9	978-1-55420-022-1	2006	\$19	\$16
Briss The	Tregebov, Michael	1-55420-043-1	978-1-55420-043-6	2009	\$19	\$19
Bone House The	Armstrong, Luanne	0-921586-91-4	978-0-921586-91-3	2002	\$21	\$16
Box The	Bowering, George	1-55420-045-8	978-1-55420-045-0	2009	\$19	\$16
Buddy's	Persky, Stan	0-921586-19-1	978-0-921586-19-7	1991	\$16	\$16
Burning Water	Bowering, George	1-55420-036-9	978-1-55420-036-8	2007	\$19	\$16
Calendar Boy	Quan, Andy	0-921586-82-5	978-0-921586-82-1	2001	\$20	\$16
Candy From Strangers	Dale, Stephen	1-55420-015-6	978-1-55420-015-3	2005	\$21	\$16
Captivity Tales	Hay, Elizabeth	0-921586-32-9	978-0-921586-32-6	1993	\$18	\$16
Cedar Surf The	Shilling, Grant	0-921586-93-0	978-0-921586-93-7	2003	\$16	\$16
Chiwid	Birchwater, Sage	0-921586-39-6	978-0-921586-39-5	1995	\$16	\$16
Chronicles of Dissent (2nd ed.)	Chomsky, Noam	1-55420-003-2	978-1-55420-003-0	2003	\$24	nfs
Clam Gardens	Williams, Judith	1-55420-023-7	978-1-55420-023-8	2006	\$19	\$16
Class Warfare (2nd ed.)	Chomsky, Noam	1-55420-004-0	978-1-55420-004-7	2003	\$24	nfs
Daaku	Dhaliwal, Ranj	1-55420-027-X	978-1-55420-027-6	2006	\$21	\$16
Death Feast in Dimlahamid A	Glavin, Terry	0-921586-64-7	978-0-921586-64-7	1998	\$18	\$16
Debbie: An Epic	Robertson, Lisa	0-921586-61-2	978-0-921586-61-6	1997	\$16	\$16
Dynamite Stories	Williams, Judith	0-921586-95-7	978-0-921586-95-1	2003	\$16	\$16
Enough Already!	O'Hara, Bruce	1-55420-010-5	978-1-55420-010-8	2004	\$21	\$16
Exercises in Lip Pointing	Annharte [Marie Baker]	0-921586-92-2	978-0-921586-92-0	2003	\$18	\$16
Field Day: Getting Society Out of School	Hern, Matt	1-55420-002-4	978-1-55420-002-3	2003	\$20	\$19
Gentle Northern Summer	Stanley, George	0-921586-54-X	978-0-921586-54-8	1995	\$16	\$16
Ghost in the Water A	Glavin, Terry	0-921586-38-8	978-0-921586-38-8	1994	\$16	\$16
Green Shadow The	Struthers, Andrew	0-921586-44-2	978-0-921586-44-9	1995	\$16	\$16
Guilty of Everything	Armstrong, John	0-921586-86-8	978-0-921586-86-9	2001	\$16	\$16
Half Known Lives	Givner, Joan	0-921586-78-7	978-0-921586-78-4	2000	\$20	\$16
Hammertown	Culley, Peter	1-55420-000-8	978-1-55420-000-9	2003	\$16	\$16
Heart of the Community The	Taylor, Paul, ed.	0-921586-94-9	978-0-921586-94-4	2003	\$24	\$21
Henry Pepper	Lukyn, Justin	1-55420-034-2	978-1-55420-034-4	2008	\$19	\$16
High Slack	Williams, Judith	0-921586-45-0	978-0-921586-45-6	1996		Out of Print
Hollywood Utopia	Brown, Justine	0-921586-90-6	978-0-921586-90-6	2002	\$21	\$19
In the Millennium	McKinnon, Barry	1-55420-047-4	978-1-55420-047-4	2009	\$19	\$16
IWA In Canada The	Neufeld, A., & Parnaby, A.	0-921586-80-9	978-0-921586-80-7	2000	\$50	\$40
Killing Time	Schachte, Hank	1-55420-019-9	978-1-55420-019-1	2005	\$18	\$16
Kluane National Park Hiking Guide 3rd Ed.	Lougheed, Vivien	1-55420-025-3	978-1-55420-025-2	2007	\$24	\$21
Kokanee	Gayton, Don	0-921586-85-X	978-0-921586-85-2	2002	\$16	\$16
Last Best West The	Gagnon, Garrett-Petts & al., Eds.	1-55420-044-X	978-1-55420-044-3	2009	\$24	\$24
Last Stands	Pynn, Larry	0-921586-71-X	978-0-921586-71-5	1999	\$19	nfs
Last Voyage of the Loch Ryan The	Struthers, Andrew	1-55420-008-3	978-1-55420-008-5	2004	\$18	\$16
Liberalized	Beers, David, ed.	1-55420-014-8	978-1-55420-014-6	2005	\$16	\$16
Ligatures	Mancini, Donato	1-55420-017-2	978-1-55420-017-7	2005	\$18	\$16
Local Matters	Fawcett, Brian	1-55420-005-9	978-1-55420-005-4	2003	\$20	\$16
Maria Mahoi of the Islands	Barman, Jean	1-55420-007-5	978-1-55420-007-8	2004	\$16	\$16
McGowan's War	Hauka, Donald	1-55420-001-6	978-1-55420-001-6	2003	\$24	\$19
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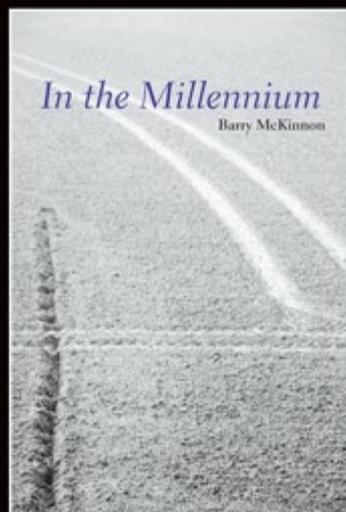
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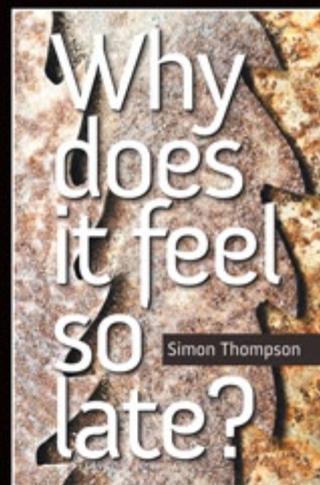
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