

New Star Books

new titles + complete backlist

Spring 2009



I'm nervous. She might reject my suggestion and huff off with her camera and her portion of the crew (most of them) and then what will I have? What I've just started will have to remain here, frozen in time — a story, like most, that never gets off the ground because it is little more than a lazy kite in a shed.

'Listen,' she says, and begins to read from a book she has just pulled out of her bag. I crane my head down to see the title. *More House*. I think for a moment, because the name means something more to me than the teacher you had in primary school who had white wispy hair, but nothing comes to mind.

'In 1814 in a house called More House, worked a girl called the girl, who was rare because she had the power to transcend her lot.' The director clears her throat. Then continues: 'She gave birth to a son who was also rare because he stood up, out of time, in order to carry his mother's story to future generations, where her shame and her coldness could be stroked away gently by lack of detail. If this were a chess game, the girl would be the king and her son, Joey, would be the queen. He gets around. The space is temporal. The dimensions are pure quackery. But that doesn't make sense and so we'll ignore it and stick in a traditional description: *Her eyelashes were silver littered with silver glitter and her teeth chattered when the nights were cold.*'

The writer is me. I know her. She's been toying with these ideas, these people, for years now, rolling them around in her head, making shapes.

The girl that she's talking about blossomed one spring inside a diary that has since been burned at the stake. Her charred insignificance still enriches the soil of the Midwestern family that I used to nanny for, but its windows continue to spit words that I like — straight out at the immaculacy of golf.

Burning my diary never stopped me from writing. Those Midwesterners would've had to burn

me to get results, which they didn't do — for fear I'd sue them.

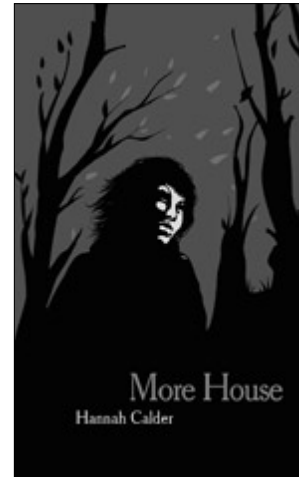
The director turns a few pages, skipping ahead for

something that will suit both of us, and then continues to read in her reading-aloud voice: 'Frank and Carol were my employers' names.' Sweet Jesus, this *is* my book! 'And I speak to them and say, "Here is her resurrection. Here is the slick of her fiction running down my thigh. For you. Just for you. It catches your local priest by his skirt and says, "Show me yours and I'll show you mine." I rub onions on your beady blue eyeballs and smile when I see the girl coming out of the pages that you set on fire. To disturb you, I get make-up to beat an egg-white and put some on her chin. It glistens there.'

from *More House* by Hannah Calder

Hannah Calder

More House



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.

BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

224 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$19 US

ISBN

1-55420-042-3

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-042-9

SHIPPING

APRIL

PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising: *Geist*,
Vancouver Review, *BC Bookworld*, *Literary Review of Canada*
Author website and blog

I am gobsmacked,” said Teddy, feeling tremors of emotion. In any case, when he walked out of the office he held a piece of paper in his hand that made him a resident of a state that didn’t exist whose entire infrastructure had been demolished and shat in. He felt a tremendous sense of relief as he walked back to the house at the Amari refugee camp near Ramallah where he was staying. The first thing he did when he got there was phone his parents and tell them the news.

“Ma?”

“Yes. Hello. Who’s this?”

“It’s me.”

“Teddy?”

“Hi!”

“You’re there?”

“I’m here.”

“Where are you?”

“In a camp near Ramallah.”

The word Ramallah was so foreign to her, he could have just as well named a crater on the moon.

“In a Palestinian refugee camp near Ramallah,” he said.

“It must be crawling.”

“It’s not crawling.”

“Who goes off to live in a camp?”

“Jean Genet did.”

“Who?”

“Jean Genet, the French playwright.”

“Ah, the lunatic French.”

“That’s fringe, Ma.”

“What are you doing there?”

“I made *aliyah*, sort of. I’m a human shield.”

“A what?”

“A human shield.”

His mother was quiet. He absolutely knew what she was thinking and what she would say next. He knew it. He knew it. Here it comes.

“Do you know what a *nishboma* is?”

He was right. “Of course, I do.”

“If you knew, you wouldn’t have told me what you just told me. I can only presume you don’t know what it is.”

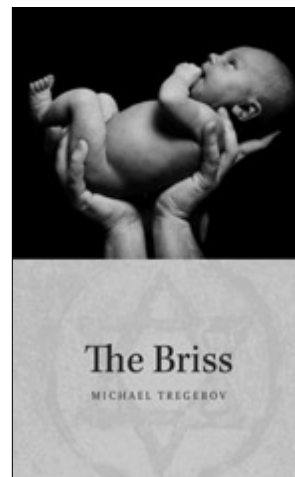
Michael Tregobov

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 Tregobov* 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 from Random House Spain. He has published one book of poems: *Changehouse*. Currently, he is Translation Director for Price-waterhouseCoopers in Barcelona.



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

SHIPPING

MAY

PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising: *BC Bookworld*, *Geist*, *Vancouver Review*, *The Jewish Tribune*, *The Canadian Jewish News*, *The Jewish Magazine*

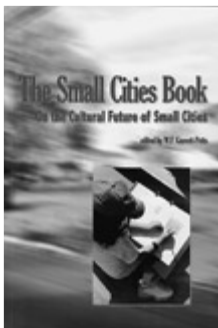
Targeted mailing to Jewish publications in Canada, the US.

Katerberg points out the relative and fluid nature of identities: “Distinctions between national, regional, and international identities break down on closer inspection, as all identities are ‘limited’” (554). In the context of this discussion, Katerberg’s assertion implies that, in some ways, all Canadians are Westerners; we all live in the greater West.

And this is how the term “the West” (and its attendant visual and verbal signification) functions in Canadian discourse: it is both a regional and a national identity — the Conservative party may be somewhat “Western Canadian” but it is also “Western and Canadian.” This largely unspoken formulation is, like many successful rhetorical devices, both devastatingly simple and rather complex. It works, I hypothesize, to the advantage of the Conservative party to retain a Western tinge, a colouration, because the clusters of meanings associated with the word resonate positively with Canadian values (that is, our self-perception) and, more particularly, these values harmonize very well with the Conservative party’s particular values.

To boil it down, the term “the West” carries with it a cast of meanings, many of them positive. The “wild West” suggests independence, adventurousness, and tenacity, along with a wash of dusty romanticism, and it reminds us of our kinship to the USA. This wild West is modified by ideas of the Canadian North, which influence what Daniel Francis calls “the mild West,” adding other connotations, while also distinguishing it from the American West and mysticism, purity and mystery. Finally, in the field of global discourse, “West” connotes democracy, power, and wealth. If the Conservative party represents “Western” values within Canada, I understand how this combination is politically effective and appealing, even to those not from the regional West: many Canadians would (and clearly do) embrace a vision of Canada as a “Western” state by any measure, as a tough, independent, pure, prosperous, and powerful nation.

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

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

The Last Best West

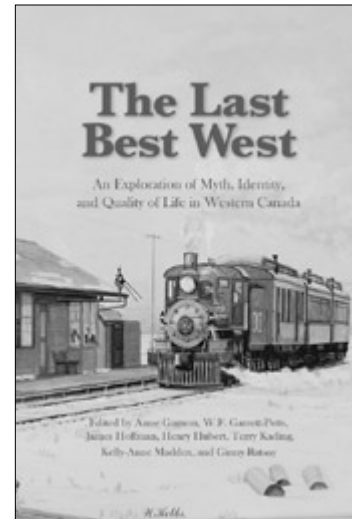
An Exploration of Myth, Identity and Quality of Life in Western Canada

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.”

Anne Gagnon teaches History and Canadian Studies at Thompson Rivers University and has been coordinator of the Centre for Canadian Studies since 2006. *W.F. Garrett-Petts* is professor and Chair of English and Modern Languages at TRU. *James Hoffman* is a professor in the department of Visual and Performing Arts at TRU. He is the author of *The Ecstasy of Resistance: A Biography of George Ryga*.



BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

224 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE

\$24 CDN • \$24 US

ISBN

1-55420-044-X

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-044-3

SHIPPING

MARCH

ILLUSTRATIONS

17 photos

PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising: *BC Bookworld*, *Geist*, *Literary Review of Canada*

Targeted mailing to professors of Canadian Studies, Sociology

Web marketing: The Tyee



BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

ISBN

1-55420-040-7

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-040-5

Sharon Kirsch

What Species of Creatures

Animal Relations from the New World

Three centuries ago, white Europeans began to colonize the North American continent. In doing so, they encountered flying squirrels, ruby-throated hummingbirds, and the easily tamed beaver: creatures their kind had never met before.

The accounts of early explorers and settlers in describing these animals and others provide fascinating insight into the taxonomies they carried to the so-called New World. Their literature of discovery was by turns comic, cruel and adulatory.

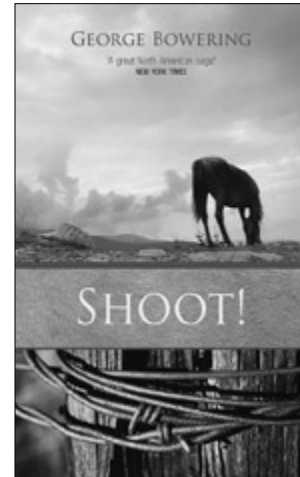
This book brings together period quotes and 21st-century science in an idiosyncratic narrative. Extended anecdote conveys the adventures of historical personalities, and the book borrows, too, from fables, children's stories and natural histories. Yet *What Species of Creatures* addresses present concerns—our habitual understanding of wild animals and our own place in the natural order. In the process of quoting from and commenting upon European ancestors' species-ist arrogance, Kirsch interrogates our seemingly insatiable appetite to trap, catch, skin, domesticate, eat, eradicate or otherwise bend to our use the animals in our midst.

Sharon Kirsch lives in Toronto, where she works as a freelance editor and writer. She has a longstanding passion for animals. Her travel stories have appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times*.

George Bowering

Shoot!

With an Afterword by Sherrill Grace



Cowboys and Indians, sometimes one and the same, occupy the landscape of George Bowering's *Shoot!* In the Okanagan frontier of the late 19th century, the McLean brothers – Allan, Charlie, and Archie – and their sidekick Alex Hare get drunk. Then they kill two men. The brothers and their ally are quickly brought to justice – or are they?

A comic novel about murder and hanging, *Shoot!* is also a compassionate political tale of race relations in the interior of British Columbia. The McLean Gang's misadventures are part of history. George Bowering's imaginative recreation of their world soars into the realm of exhilarating speculation.

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. *Shoot!* was originally published in 1994.

BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

272 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

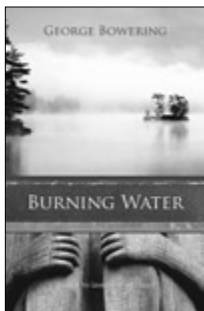
ISBN

1-55420-041-5

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-041-2

By the same author



GEORGE BOWERING

Burning Water

The novel recounts George Vancouver's search for the Northwest Passage, and his subsequent negotiations with the Spanish for the territory now known as British Columbia.

'A very good novel and fun to read.' – STAN PERSKY, FROM THE INTRODUCTION

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S
AWARD WINNER

BURNING WATER

Trade paperback

256 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

\$19 CDN • \$19 US

978-1-55420-036-8

1-55420-036-9

LINEbooks and Commodore Books

Since January 1, 2008, New Star Books has been 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. LINEbooks is particularly interested in work that addresses current social and cultural issues, including issues of identity and exile, and historical and cultural memory.

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. Named after the paddle steamer that transported 35 black migrants from San Francisco to Victoria in 1858, Commodore Books prioritizes work by black writers.

New from LINEbooks & Commodore Books • Spring 2009

ROY K. KIYOOKA

The Artist and the Moose: A Fable of Forget

Edited by Roy Miki. Roy Kiyooka worked and reworked his Tom Thomson writing project that eventually became *The Artist and the Moose: A Fable of Forget* over many years. The culmination of nearly two decades of off-and-on writing, and left in manuscript form when Kiyooka died in 1994, this unique work — called a fable — adopts and transgresses several genres, including poetry, fiction, documentary, detective narrative, and fantasy.

Trade paperback • 128 pages, 5.5" x 8.5" • \$25 CDN • \$25 US
978-0-9784981-0-8 • Available DECEMBER

GARRY THOMAS MORSE

Streams

Trade paperback • 64 pages, 4.75" x 7" • \$16 CDN • \$16 US •
978-0-9683182-8-7

KIM MINKUS

9 Freight

Trade paperback • 64 pages, 6" x 7.75" • \$16 CDN • \$16 US •
978-0-9784981-1-5

KIM DUFF

Tube Sock Army

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

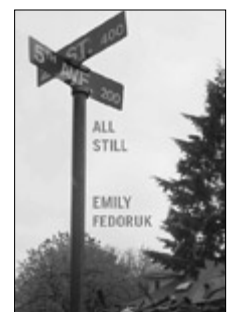
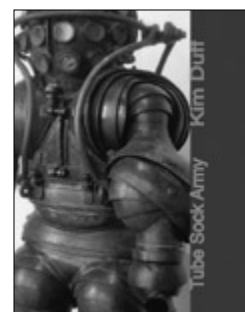
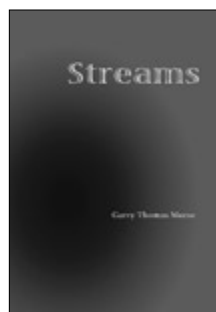
Everyone in the Tube Sock Army can bear technology building its architectures in the voice. And Kim Duff tracks the provocations of this "neoliberal domesticity project" as it gets us to whisper our passwords into our cell phones "softly." So much for disembodiment. In the intimacy afforded by 30-second intervals, we relax, texting ourselves the grocery list. "Truthiness" breaks down our globalized front doors (the apartment keeps shrinking, but the rent goes up). Nevertheless, it's in the interstices of these spatializing mediations that we keep vying (hope-full) for contact. This is "creature address." Hallo: -LAURA ELRICK

EMILY FEDORUK

All Still

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

Emily Fedoruk's first book, *All Still* is performative and productive of community and the domestic spaces of "home" the street and travel. Her language is incisive and witty.



New from LINEbooks & Commodore Books, Spring 2009



GO DO SOME GREAT THING
Trade paperback
144 pages, 6.5" x 9.5"
\$24 CDN • \$24 US
978-0-9784981-5-3
0-9784981-5-1
Available NOVEMBER

CRAWFORD KILIAN **Go Do Some Great Thing**

The Black Pioneers of British Columbia

The first edition of *Go Do Some Great Thing* was published in 1978. This new edition adds vital information gathered by Crawford Kilian over the last thirty years. It includes material on previously unknown pioneers and important new insights into the lives of major figures like Mifflin and Maria Gibbs, John Craven Jones, and the Stark family. Their courage and ambition helped to shape modern Canada.

ADDENA SUMTER-FREITAG

Stay Black & Die

Addena Sumter-Freitag is a seventh-generation Black Canadian with roots in Truro, Nova Scotia and Columbia, South Carolina. She grew up in Winnipeg's North End, has lived in the Canadian north, and now makes her home in Vancouver. She won Theatre BC's National Playwriting Award and Centaur Theatre's People's Choice

Award at the Montréal Fringe for her autobiographical play *Stay Black & Die*. This is her first book.

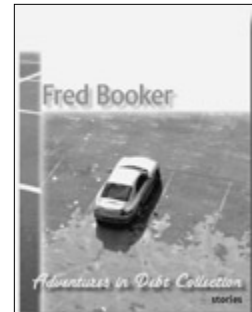
FRED BOOKER **Adventures in Debt Collection**

The stories in *Adventures in Debt Collection* come freshly dispatched from the offices of Worldwide Finance Ltd. – a fictional collection house whose agents chase defaulters across the terrain of our multicultural society. Tracing fugitive vehicles and the people who belong to them, Fred Booker's deftly-written tales range from the offices of over-extended capitalists to the driveways of the payment-missing masses, and all points in-between.

Fred Booker's short fiction has appeared in *Event*, *Whetstone* and *The Windsor Review*, and his poetry has been published in *Prism International* and the anthology *Blueprint: Black British Columbian Literature and Orature*. *Adventures in Debt Collection*, his first book, is also the inaugural title for Commodore Books.

LARISSA LAI & RITA WONG **Sibyl Unrest**

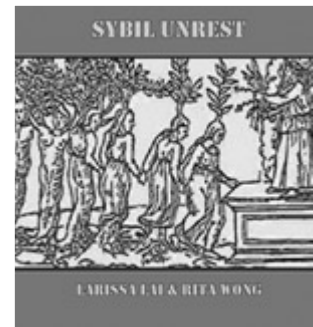
"We" gesture towards how the personal sparks this dialogue. "Ours" is not so much an individualized "i", but rather a range of "i"s emerging and fading back as instances that unsettle the (capitalist) time and space we occupy. As such, the "i"s are not reliable but trace movement through the long now and constitute evidence of some hopeful reaching towards friendly coexistence of multiple tactics/perspectives. The conversational format and the intensive questioning produce an unstable, flickering sort of subjectivity that throws an enlightenment individual "i" into question, and hopefully exposes its ideological underpinnings. It is into this unstable subjectivity that we attempt to reinject questions of gender, race and class, as well as geography, movement, power and hope.



ADVENTURES IN DEBT COLLECTION
Trade paperback
120 pages, 5.5" x 7.5"
\$16 CDN • \$16 US
978-0-9784981-2-2
0-9784981-2-7



STAY BLACK & DIE
Trade paperback
64 pages, 5.25" x 7.75"
\$16 CDN • \$16 US
978-0-9683182-7-0
0-9683182-7-4



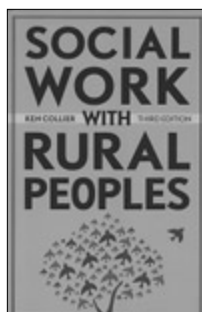
SYBIL UNREST
Trade paperback
112 pages, 6.5" x 7"
\$16 CDN • \$16 US
978-0-9784981-3-9
0-9784981-3-5
Available NOVEMBER

Recently Released



ASPER NATION

Trade paperback
344 pages, 6" x 9"
\$21 CDN • \$16 US
978-1-55420-032-0
1-55420-032-6



SOCIAL WORK WITH RURAL PEOPLES

Trade paperback
128 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$20 CDN • \$19 US
978-1-55420-020-7
1-55420-020-2

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

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.

RANJ DHALIWAL

Daaku

A Novel

Now in its second printing!

In the violent and ruthless world of Indo-Canadian gangs, Ruby Pandher 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

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



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



STARDUST

Trade paperback
240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$19 CDN • \$16 US
978-1-55420-033-7
1-55420-033-4



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

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 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 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

VIVIEN LOUGHEED

The Kluane National Park Hiking Guide

Third Edition

Challenging terrain, pristine mountain lakes, rare plant species, grizzlies galore – Kluane has it all. Newly updated with material on Tathenshini Provincial Park, this remains the backpacker's official source.

Extensively revised and updated trail listings, maps and detailed route descriptions for dozens of hiking trails, no-nonsense safety tips for first-timers and plenty of insider information make this hiking guide the indispensable companion for any visit to the world's most spectacular hiking terrain.

'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 hiking and camping techniques.' – PAT MORROW



WRECK BEACH

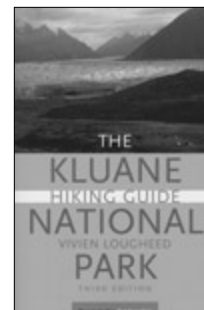
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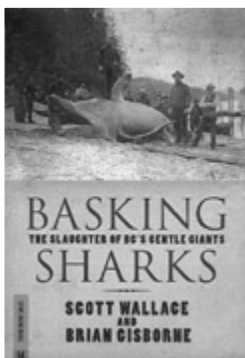
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Transmontanus Highlights



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Transmontanus 14
**SCOTT WALLACE &
BRIAN GISBORNE**

Basking Sharks

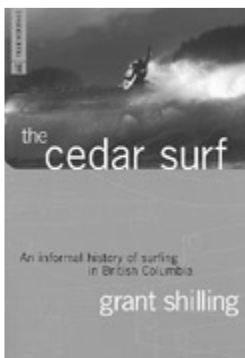
The Slaughter of BC's
Gentle Giants

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



THE CEDAR SURF

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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.

'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.' — TREK

Transmontanus 2

SAGE BIRCHWATER

Chiwid

Reprinting
January 2009!

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

Transmontanus 9

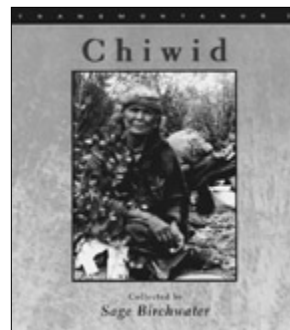
DON GAYTON

Kokanee

The Redfish and the
Kootenay Bioregion

'Teeming with history, myth, science, and even a bit of poetry. ... Gayton writes with intelligence and passion about the intricate connections between the life forms that share this region and the geological and human actions that have shaped their evolution. ... a fascinating read.' — GEORGIA STRAIGHT

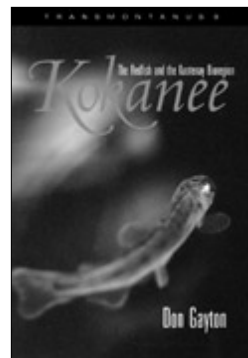
'One of Canada's most acclaimed nature writers.'
— DAVID BOYD,
NORTHERN WILD:
BEST CANADIAN
NATURE WRITING



CHIWID

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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, management 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



TOPIC SENTENCE

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1-55420-028-8

STAN PERSKY

Topic Sentence

A Writer's Education

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

MATT HERN

Field Day

Getting Society Out of School

Does institutionalizing our children for six hours a day, five days a week, really bring out the best in them?

Matt Hern argues that there are effective alternatives to school as we know it. Hern believes that local communities are in the best position to

decide what kind of schooling their children need. In suggesting ways that we can leave the traditional school model behind, he sketches a future in which personal autonomy and social change go hand in hand. In the process he shows how children can thrive outside of school and make every day a field day.

'Hern systematically refutes the criteria by which academic excellence is measured: literacy levels, standardized-testing results, general knowledge.'

— GEORGIA STRAIGHT

BRUCE O'HARA

Enough Already!

Breaking Free In the Second Half of Life

Most North Americans are overspent, overtired, overweight, and overworked and believe that more money, more stuff, more time, more of everything will lead to more happiness. According to Bruce O'Hara, that's just plain wrong.

What we need to do is step back from our over-consumption and look at what the real cost is in terms of our health, our relationships, our sense of community, and our environment.



RYGA AWARD FINALIST

FIELD DAY

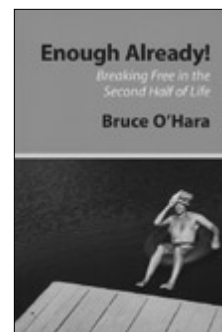
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ELIZABETH HAY Captivity Tales

Canadians in New York

From the 1997 Governor General finalist (for *Small Change*) and the winner of the 2007 Scotiabank Giller Prize (for *Late Nights on Air*), 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 visitors in the 19th century, artists like Michael Snow, Joyce Wieland, 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



GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD FINALIST THIS RAGGED PLACE

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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

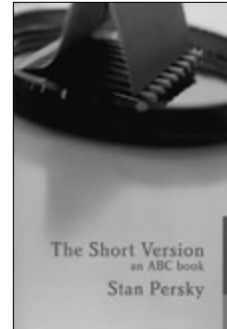
'[Persky is] approaching legendary status after a 40-year career of curmudgeonry.'
– VANCOUVER SUN

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

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

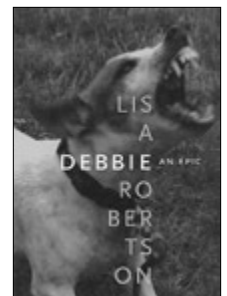
'What Robertson has accomplished remains to be described ... I recommend this book highly.'
– BENJAMIN FRIEDLANDER



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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



CHRONICLES OF DISSENT

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NOAM CHOMSKY Interviewed by David Barsamian Chronicles of Dissent

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.

MARC EDGE Pacific Press

The Unauthorized Story of Vancouver's Newspaper Monopoly

This is an in-depth account of the corporation that publishes both of Vancouver's daily newspapers, the *Vancouver Sun* and the *Province*, tracing the history of Pacific Press from its inception in 1957 to the *Sun*'s shift to morning publication in 1991.

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



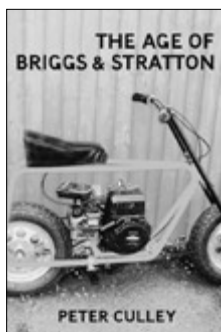
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THE AGE OF BRIGGS & STRATTON

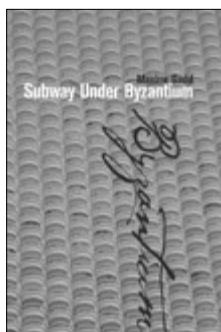
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PETER CULLEY

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

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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

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

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. Fellow denizens of the back lanes scatter porn magazine pages and catch rides on stolen bikes.

Our narrator Pepper reels from poem to poem, belligerent, 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



HENRY PEPPER

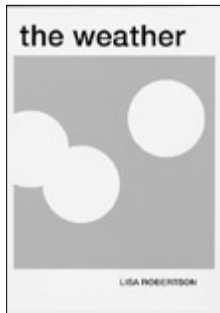
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Poetry Highlights



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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

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

JORDAN SCOTT

Silt

Jordan Scott traces his own family history from Łódź, Poland, to Vancouver.

'This is a poetry book about the body's lived geologies. River, tongue, war, tooth, labourcamp, dollhouse, cabbage: all are part of the politics of a speech whose profoundly discontinuous landscape Jordan Scott overwrites with migratory and familial histories. Each word starts at an incarceration and haltingly enacts a survival. His kinetics are ambulatory, glottal, knotted by hope. I want to say that he seems to have replaced the old theories of identity with a shaping love. In his book, place meets language at the tentative and disobedient larynx to describe how change begins.' — LISA ROBERTSON

'One wonders what the migrating ancestors would make of their impossibly transposed children's children. Especially when these begotten and cast

forth descendants, such as Jordan Scott, unsettle themselves with so much incantatory fire and cartographical precision, with such biologically chaotic exactness ... SILT is immensely powerful and beautiful.' — WAYDE COMPTON

DONATO MANCINI

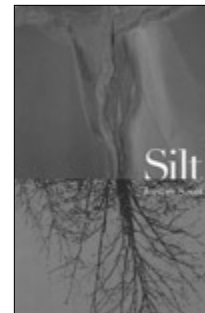
Æthel

Æthel is Donato Mancini's "character-driven" second book — a volume of concrete poetry constructed out of computerized letterforms.

But who is this *Æthel*?

"As the title of a book, '*Æthel*' suggests a saint or a character in a vast or sentimental novel, appropriate for a book full of well-developed characters and which has so much character."

'A gorgeous collection of concrete poetry ... Each work is imbued with a certain grace, a rounded beauty that leaks from one age of the page to the next ... stunningly complex.' — THE SOUTHERNMOST REVIEW



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ÆTHEL

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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 The	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
Anarchive	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
Buddy's	Persky, Stan	0-921586-19-1	978-0-921586-19-7	1991	\$16	\$16
Burial Ground The	Holdstock, Pauline	0-921586-25-6	978-0-921586-25-8	1991	\$16	\$14
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
Caring for Profit	Fuller, Colleen	0-921586-59-0	978-0-921586-59-3	1998	\$21	\$16
Cedar Surf The	Shilling, Grant	0-921586-93-0	978-0-921586-93-7	2003	\$16	\$16
Child Is Not a Toy A	Baxter, Sheila	0-921586-26-4	978-0-921586-26-5	1993	\$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
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None of this would be possible without . . .

New Star Books gratefully acknowledges the support of the Canada Council Block Grant Program for Publishers, the Canadian Heritage Book Publishing Industry Development Program, the British Columbia Arts Council, and the Government of British Columbia.

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Cover by Mutasis.com. Printed and bound in Canada by Premium Printing. This is the 42nd New Star catalogue in this format.

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throughout North America by the Literary
Press Group:*

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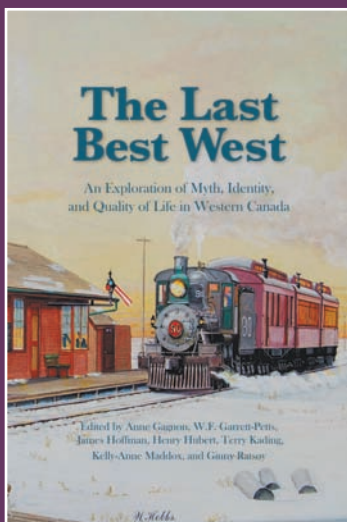
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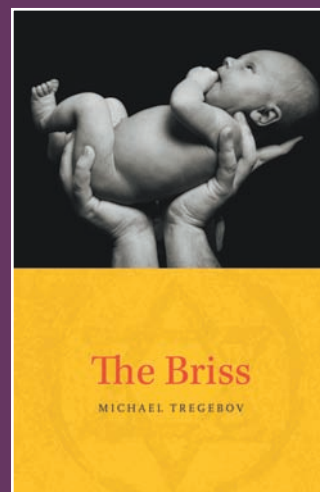
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