

New Star Books

new titles + complete backlist

Fall 2010



Jack went out and came back with another litre of white wine.

"Is it night?" Brenda said.

"Yes."

"I thought it might be."

Jack waved a hand in front of Brenda's eyes. She did not react.

"Shall I not turn a light on, Brenda?"

"No."

"Why not?"

"To be in the dark is fashionable."

She burped.

"Where are you, Jack?"

"Here."

"You are nowhere," Brenda said.

They had mushy peas. Headlight beams caught them.

"O, my God!" Brenda said. "He's pushing peas with his thumb!"

"Don't like it?"

"No!"

"Then chuck them out," Jack said.

Brenda threw his plate out the window. Somebody yelled and rang a bicycle bell.

"O, right." Jack said. "You're mad. You're bonkers. A right doololly."

Brenda pointed at him.

"I curse you."

She felt her way around the flat.

"Sit down, Brenda."

"Or what?"

"You'll break something."

There was a crash.

"Just an ash tray," she said.

Jack caught her by the wrist. She threw him off. She lumbered away. He followed her, groping.

"I hate you!" Brenda said.

"I hate you!"

Brenda turned on a lamp. Jack had raised a knee and bent over, rubbing his hands.

"I am a fly," he said.

"AH!"

"BUZZ!"

He chased her.

"Good Lord, I married an insect!"

"Sting! Sting!"

"HELP!"

A blue feathered tail grew from her belly.

"O GOD, JACK! YOU'RE A WAL-RUS!"

Brenda screamed.

"OUR HATE HAS MADE US CARICATURES!"

They fell asleep sobbing.

"O."

"O."

Steve Weiner

Sweet England

Steve Weiner's harrowing portrayal of post-Thatcher England follows a man of no known origin and unstable personality and his efforts to re-enter society after a long and unexplained absence.

The reader sees events through Jack's mostly uncomprehending eyes as he negotiates the margins of a London that resembles the city of memory and story only in incidental details. Replete with episodes of manic religion and delusions, the world in *Sweet England* is hard, dark, dangerous. Exploitation and violence provide a steady background glow that illuminates Jack's relationship with Brenda, with whom he is living, drinking, brawling, and loving.

Weiner's London is equally a protagonist of his story. Dirty, sombre, the city is a palimpsest, the contemporary curry houses and mosques reinscribing the landscape dotted with old churches, monuments and graveyards that invoke old England's Christian saints and glorious past.

Phantasmagoric and allegorical, and told largely through dialogue, *Sweet England's* vision will haunt the reader long after they put down this compelling book.

Sweet England is *Steve Weiner's* third novel. His debut in 1993, *The Museum of Love*, was a Giller Prize finalist, and was published in the UK, Japan, France and Belgium as well as in North America. His most recent novel is *The Yellow Sailor* (2001). Weiner's books have been compared to the novels of Céline and Burroughs, and the films of Lynch and Cronenberg. Weiner lives in Vancouver.



BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$19 US

ISBN

1-55420-055-5

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-055-9

SHIPPING

SEPTEMBER

PUBLICITY

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

Review copy mailing

Book launch in Vancouver

Tang Dynasty

Lake Vostok
sealed under 4,000 metres
of Antarctic ice
since 997–997 BC
may contain life
evolution has passed by
for 2,000,000 years a
biological museum with
conditions like those imagined
on Jupiter’s moon Europa

we would need
11,824,460,000,000,000,000
45-gram packets
to transform Lake Vostok
into Tang
the vitamin C-rich
powdered orange drink
taken on every Apollo mission
to our own barren moon.
Neil Armstrong
said of space food “disgusting
but it costs a lot” at retail
\$0.25 USD per packet it would cost
\$400,604,550,000,000 to turn
Lake Ontario into Hawaiian Punch

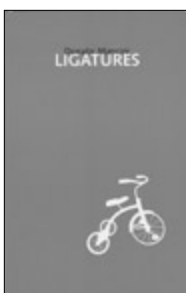
the length of all the Twizzlers
produced annually could connect
Jupiter to Europa
2.3 times but to make that bridge
Hershey’s will first need to squeeze out
1,600,000 kilometres per year
of Brad Pitt’s favourite candy
as they do now
for 375 years
to reach Jupiter
in the first place

planet Uranus
looks like a
giant blue
jawbreaker
afloat in icy flat
diet Coke
it takes 16 days
to make a jawbreaker vs. 3 years
to form a natural pearl both
layer
by layer
from a single crystal
of sugar or sand
after 88,219,339.4 years
the jawbreaker will be
big as Uranus in another
118,421,055.12 years
big as the giant
pogo-ball of
Saturn — surprisingly
short times — and in fact
Uranus would sink
in lite cola while Saturn
three times larger
would float

when we look
into the night sky
at the star system Capella
we see it 43 years ago
as it was at the invention
of astronaut ice cream the
favourite flavour
of astronaut ice cream
is Neapolitan

[. . . continued]

By the same author



RELIT AWARD FINALIST • ALCUIN
AWARD CITATION
LIGATURES
Trade paperback
112 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$18 CDN • \$16 US
978-1-55420-017-7
1-55420-017-2



ÆTHEL
Trade paperback
96 pages, 6" x 8"
\$21 CDN • \$16 US
978-1-55420-030-6
1-55420-030-X

Donato Mancini

Buffet World

Visually and conceptually dynamic, *Buffet World* is Donato Mancini's collection of poems about food, economy, and the inhumanities and systemic cruelties of life in contemporary capitalism. While the critique is deep, the poems are accessible and fun to read.

Mancini explores the relationships between food, culture and politics using words, images, numbers and the idea of the list. The numbers and statistics that fill the book stand as a critique of the grotesquely inhumane scales of industrial production in the world today. The images are colourful and almost garish. The words are, in true Mancini fashion, brilliantly manipulated.

Critically incisive humour permeates *Buffet World* while the poems capture Mancini's laser-sharp wit, as well as his dissatisfaction with the conditions of a world built on so many systemic cruelties. *Buffet World* underlines our inescapable complicity as (constantly) both victims and victimizers.

Donato Mancini's work has been widely exhibited in Canada, the United States, Cuba, Finland, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. His first book *Ligatures* received an Honourable Mention citation from the Alcuin Awards. A longtime member of the Kootenay School of Writing, he lives in Vancouver where he works as a writer, musicologist, and visual artist. He is enrolled in the PhD program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.



BINDING

Trade paperback

SIZE

160 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE

\$21 CDN • \$21 US

ISBN

1-55420-054-7

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-054-2

SHIPPING

OCTOBER

ILLUSTRATIONS

20

PUBLICITY

Consumer print advertising:

Geist, Matrix, Vancouver Review, BC Bookworld

Book launch in Vancouver and Toronto

Author readings

Mouths fell open when Caprice rode or walked past people who had the time to notice, which in a town like this was just about anybody.

Everyday Luigi was going to pick up the laundry, but first he thought he would look at the young woman for a while. She held her freckled face straight forward, but under the flat brim of her hat her grey eyes were turning left and right. Two dark red braids lay in front of her shoulders. Her skin was very white, with light freckles across the bridge of her nose and on her forehead. There was a small scar in the shape of the letter *C* on the skin over her left cheekbone.

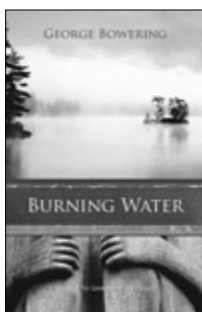
If Luigi had been able to take his eyes from her he would have noticed that there were other people on the wooden sidewalk and in the dust of the street watching her. Whereas the main drag was generally characterized by movement, riders riding out of town, drinkers crashing in and out of doors, harassed children trying not to keep up with their shopping ranch folks.

But right now there was no one moving except Caprice on her horse, slowly walking down the middle of the gravelly road.

Her back was straight, her right hand resting on the top of her thigh, elbow out. She was wearing clothes you weren't likely to remember, some kind of grey sweater over a blue cotton shirt, a pair of dungarees, and dark brown riding boots with soft leather tight around her legs. She sat her horse as if he were a clothesline and she were a clothes-peg, and the muscles of her thighs changed the colour of her dungarees.

Her boots had high riding heels, but no spurs. She was wearing a belt with a large silver buckle in the shape of a coiled snake, but she wore no gun-belt. She had a rifle in its scabbard hanging near her leg, but there was a cover on it, and a buckle that held it closed. She didn't seem to have a rope, but she had a whip. Luigi looked at the whip. Its stock was only about two inches thick. It was black, and shiny in the morning sun.

By the same author



**GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AWARD
WINNER**

BURNING WATER

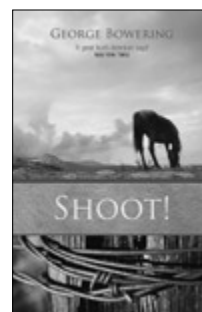
Trade paperback

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

Caprice

With a Foreword by Aritha van Herk

It's the mid 1890s in Kamloops, British Columbia. Two men argue over a bottle of whisky and in the struggle Frank Spencer, an American outlaw-turned-farmhand, kills Pete Foster, a French-Canadian and fellow farmhand.

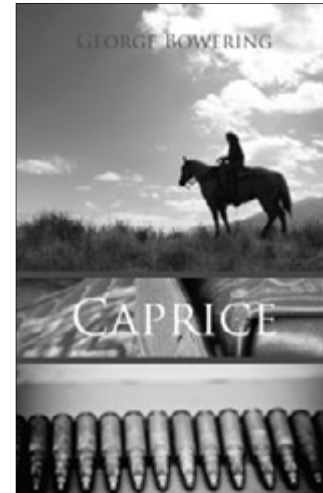
Enter Caprice: a vision and a brain. Almost six feet tall, with flaming red hair and long legs, and toting a lethal bullwhip, she sets out to avenge her brother's murder. Traveling with her beloved black Spanish stallion, Caprice trails her brother's murderer to Mexico and back. Determined and headstrong as she is smart, she leaves an impression on the people she encounters in her journey: Gert, the whore with a heart of gold; Gert's son, for whom she provides affirmation, and not the least Frank Smith, her lover, a teacher and amateur baseball player who wants her to leave the law enforcement to the professionals and marry him.

Caprice finally comes face to face with her brother's murderer at Deadman's Falls.

First published in 1987 and based on actual events in BC's history, *Caprice* is a witty, adventurous and colourful recreation of a Canadian heroine's quest in avenging her brother's murder, a woman well ahead of her times, who refused to be pigeonholed into a stereotype, who questioned authority and did so with unflinching resolve.

Caprice is a companion to Bowering's *Burning Water* and *Shoot!*, reissued by New Star in 2007 and 2008.

George Bowering served as Canada's first Poet Laureate, and is an Officer of the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia. The author of more than 80 books, he has twice won a Governor-General's Award. He lives in Vancouver.



BINDING

Trade paperback

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272 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

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AUGUST

PUBLICITY

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Book launch in Vancouver

Author readings

Now Available



BINDING

Trade paperback

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224 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE

\$24 CDN • \$24 US

ISBN

1-55420-048-2

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-048-1

PHOTOGRAPHS

60

Lawrence Aronsen

City of Love and Revolution

Vancouver in the Sixties

City of Love and Revolution takes readers back to Vancouver in the sixties, the decade when everything changed for the Baby Boomer generation. Dozens of rare photos accompany Lawrence Aronsen's account of the tumultuous decade, bringing to life the sights, the sounds, and the passions of the era of psychedelia and free love, when for a brief moment in time everything seemed possible.

Aronsen tells the story of the spread of the "hippie" life-style north from San Francisco into Vancouver, and how this rocked the buttoned-down, Protestant, white-bread frontier town that Vancouver had been up til then. A chapter on the impact of the sexual revolution tells of love-ins, free clinics, public nudism, and the Penthouse and other Vancouver fleshpots. Other chapters recount the stories of the drugs and music that were embraced by the new generation of Vancouverites; of peaceful anti-war protesters and the birth of Greenpeace, and the harder edge of the Yippies and their occupations and street theatre; and of Vancouver Free University and the new ideas that forever changed the way our schools work.

Aronsen's readable account is illustrated with photos, drawings, and advertisements drawn from the newspapers — both straight and *Georgia Straight* — that chronicled the era.

Long-time Vancouverite **Lawrence Aronsen**, an active participant in the scene he describes, is professor of history at the University of Alberta and an authority on the Cold War. He is the author of three scholarly works: *The Origins of the Cold War in Comparative Perspective*, *The North Atlantic Triangle in a Changing World: Anglo-American-Canadian Relations*, and *American National Security and Economic Relations with Canada*.

Andrea Langlois, Ron Sakolsky &
Marian van der Zon, eds.

Islands of Resistance:

Pirate Radio in Canada

While only recently have we heard the major networks broadcast warnings of rising sea levels, since radio's invention certain Canadians have been concerned by the increasingly centralized medium and its commercial flooding of the airwaves. Occasionally alone, frequently in teams and always illegally, these activists are islands of resistance within the ocean of homogenous frequencies, pirating radio signals for personal, political and artistic expression.

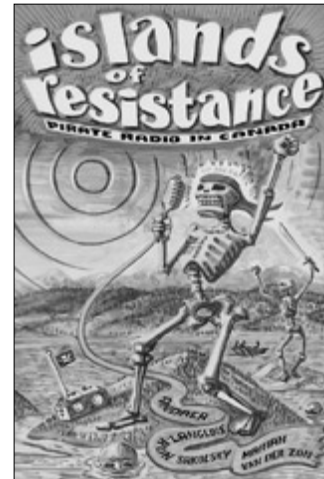
In the first book published on the subject, *Islands of Resistance* gives you a view from the crow's nest of the phenomenon of pirate radio in Canada. Here is a collection of seventeen activist manifestos, artistic treatise of intent, historical essays on the development of radio and its regulatory bodies, sociological examination of pirate radio's application in new social movements, and personal anecdotes from behind the eye-patch.

Just as the new media ostensibly renders the old obsolete, *Islands of Resistance* unveils the existence of a thriving clandestine counterculture. An invaluable addition to an unscrutinized subject in Canadian media studies, *Islands of Resistance* appeals to the anarchist, anti-authoritarian impulses in all of us.

Andrea Langlois is Manager of Communications at AIDS Vancouver Island; a media activist; and the author of *Autonomous Media: Activating Resistance and Dissent*.

Ron Sakolsky is the author of six books including *Creating Anarchy* and *Seizing the Airwaves: A Free Radio Handbook*.

Marian van der Zon is the founder of TAR, Temporary Autonomous Radio, and a pirate radio practitioner. She teaches Media Studies and Women's Studies at Vancouver Island University.



BINDING

Trade paperback

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256 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE

\$21 CDN • \$21 US

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ISBN-13

978-1-55420-050-4

ILLUSTRATIONS

30



BINDING

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PRICE

\$19 CDN • \$16 US

ISBN

1-55420-049-0

ISBN-13

978-1-55420-049-8

PHOTOGRAPHS

30

Mette Bach

Off the Highway

Growing Up In North Delta

About thirty kilometres south of Vancouver, just over the Alex Fraser Bridge and bordering with Surrey and Ladner, lies North Delta, a suburb replete with strip malls, single detached family homes and every-half-hour bus service. It was a sleepy suburb, one considered the boonies, until 1986, when as part of the Expo city-wide upgrades, the Alex Fraser Bridge was built to connect the two sides of the Fraser River.

Part social commentary, part personal memoir, and part history, *Off the Highway* is Mette Bach's thoughtful examination of growing up in North Delta. We learn about the valiant efforts of the Burns Bog Conservation Society volunteers who work tirelessly to preserve the Bog, North America's largest raised peat bog and one of Canada's natural wonders. We find out that her family rented a bedroom in their home to Expo 86 visitors and that her mother composted, a practice well ahead of current environmentally-responsible times. We also get a glimpse into North Delta's storied settlement in the 1860s when Alexander Loggie opened the first cannery, which supplied the British with canned sockeye salmon.

From Henry's Canadian and Chinese Restaurant run by childhood friend Elaine's parents, to Michael's Pizzeria where many North Deltan teenagers, including the author, spent their formative years, Bach takes us on a grand tour of the landmarks that define the suburbia in which she grew up.

Born in Denmark, *Mette Bach* grew up in North Delta. Her writing has appeared in *Vancouver Review*, *The Advocate*, *The Globe & Mail*, *Vancouver Magazine*, and in several queer anthologies. She is currently working on her MFA at UBC, writes the Queer to Eternity column for *Xtra West*, and teaches freelance writing at Langara College. *Off the Highway* is her first book.

ADAM SEELIG

Every Day In the Morning (slow)

Every Day in the Morning (slow) is a work that looks and reads like no other.

Few words and the generous white space on each page invite a distinct interaction with the text, one where every detail, every placement and every repetition influences meaning. The lack of punctuation allows the reader the freedom to internalize this exquisitely crafted work and understand the protagonist's state of mind.

Sam, a composer, reflects on his floundering career, life with his lover and tensions with his father. Some thoughts, like facial hair and breakfast, are mundane; others, like love, money and war, are often overwhelming. At turns laughable and vain, at others, tender and considered, Sam's feelings and ideas turn continuously. The result is an oddly lyrical stream-of-consciousness that's as conversational as its appearance is unconventional.

Adam Seelig is a poet, playwright, stage director, and the Artistic Director of One Little Goat Theatre Company in Toronto. His plays include *Talking Masks* (Toronto 2009), *Antigone: Insurgency* (Toronto 2007), and *All Is Almost Still* (New York 2004).



EVERY DAY IN THE MORNING (SLOW)

128 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

\$16 CDN • \$16 US

978-1-55420-051-1

1-55420-051-2

STAN PERSKY AND BRIAN FAWCETT

Robin Blaser

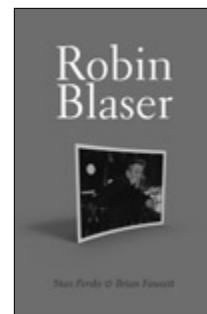
Divided into two parts, *Robin Blaser* consists of two essays by people who knew Blaser intimately, as a life-long friend, a mentor and intellectual influence.

From the authors' recollections, we are given a glimpse into the personal and professional relationships that developed between Persky, Fawcett, Robin Blaser, Jack Spicer, and many of the other poets associated with the "San Francisco renaissance" and the New American Poetry. At once a memoir and a reader, *Robin Blaser* is also an illustrated account of the remarkable life of the poet, with dozens of previously unpublished photographs included.

In 2007, Robin Blaser was awarded the Griffin Poetry Prize. Blaser died in spring 2009.

Stan Persky is the recipient of British Columbia's 2010 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence. He teaches philosophy at Capilano University and lives in Berlin and Vancouver.

Brian Fawcett is a past editor of *Books in Canada*, a former columnist for *The Globe & Mail*, and a founding editor of the widely-followed Internet news service, www.dooneyscave.com. Born in Prince George, he has lived in Toronto since 1991.



ROBIN BLASER

Trade paperback

112 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

\$16 CDN • \$16 US

978-1-55420-052-8

1-55420-052-0

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 not-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 2010

TROY BURLE BAILEY

The Pierre Bonga Loops

A documentary poem that lays bare the black presence in the northwest, it is also about fathers and sons, now and then. Born in the 1780s, Bonga was the son of freed slaves who worked for J. Sayer & Co. in 1795 at Fond du Lac. He was employed by the North West Co., the South West Co. & the American Fur Co. in their Fond du Lac Departments. Using images and text from documentary sources including the Hudson's Bay Company Archive, Bailey has constructed an important, innovative and exciting book.

Trade paperback • 192 pages, 8.5" x 5.5" • \$20 CDN • \$20 US
978-0-9813906-0-4 • Available NOW

GLEN LOWRY

Pacific Avenue

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978-0-9784981-8-4 • Available now

ROY K. KIYOOKA

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Trade paperback • 180 pages, 5.5" x 8.5" • \$20 CDN • \$20 US
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JONATHAN 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 NOW

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

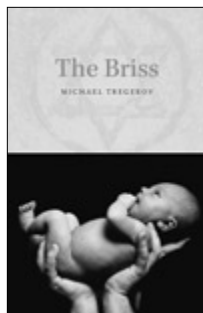
KIM DUFF

Tube Sock Army

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

• see page 21 for complete title list •





MICHAEL TREGEBOV The Briss

A nice Jewish boy falls for a nice Palestinian girl and life will never be the same for the Ostrove family back in Winnipeg.

'A trendbreaker, aggressively funny and stealthily horrific.' — THE GLOBE AND MAIL

'Equal parts political satire and Jewish family sitcom, THE BRISS is outrageously funny, even as it confronts hard questions of Palestinian, Arab, Israeli and Jewish identity.' — WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

FINALIST, BEST FIRST BOOK,
2010 COMMONWEALTH
WRITERS' PRIZE
(CARIBBEAN and CANADA)

THE BRISS
Trade paperback
240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$19 CDN • \$19 US
978-1-55420-043-6
1-55420-043-1



GEORGE BOWERING The Box

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 trench-coats, 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.

THE BOX
Trade paperback
192 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$19 CDN • \$16 US
978-1-55420-045-0
1-55420-045-8

'The stories themselves are varied in genre, but unified by inventiveness, self-referentiality, and wordplay . . . Bowering's prose is polished and his characters are well-drawn . . . the stories combine inventiveness and humour with finely realized craft.' — QUILL & QUIRE

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

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



DOROTHY LIVESAY
POETRY PRIZE FINALIST
SECOND PRINTING!

VANCOUVER: A POEM
Trade paperback
136 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
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WINNER, EDNA STAEBLER
AWARD FOR CREATIVE
NON-FICTION, 2008

STARDUST
Trade paperback
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1-55420-033-4



MORE HOUSE
Trade paperback
200 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$19 CDN • \$19 US
978-1-55420-042-9
1-55420-042-3

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.

'Calder's prose simmers with hallucinatory beat.'

— DODIE BELLAMY

'[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



LAMBDA AWARD FINALIST
CALENDAR BOY
Trade paperback
240 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"
\$20 CDN • \$16 US
978-0-921586-82-1
1-55420-082-5

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

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

— VICTORIA TIMES-COLONIST

RANJ DHALIWAL Daaku

A Novel

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

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— MARGARET CANNON, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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

Stories from the
Cariboo-Chilcotin

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 demonstrates a deep respect for the past and a firm understanding of the tensions between indigenous peoples and invading settlers in British Columbia.'
— BC STUDIES

'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



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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

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.

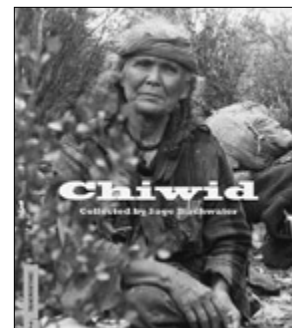
By 1970 the basking shark was virtually eradicated in BC. The book pieces together what there is to know about this locally extinct ocean denizen.

'A sad and shameful tale of a vanished marine giant . . . Wallace and Gisborne effectively lay out this appalling history.'
— VANCOUVER REVIEW

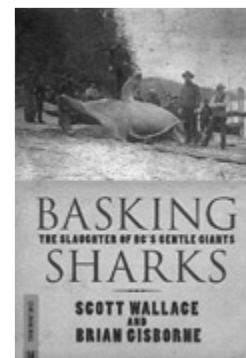
Transmontanus 2 SAGE BIRCHWATER **Chiwid**

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

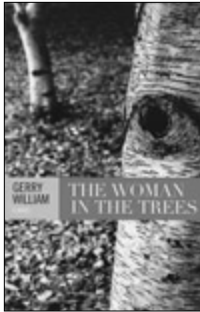


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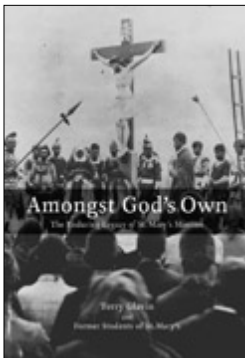
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GERRY WILLIAM

The Woman In the Trees

A Novel

Set during the time of first contact, this story takes place around what is now Vernon, B.C. The novel moves effortlessly from myth to dream time to narrative real time, and addresses a period of massive upheaval for the Okanagan people. The coming of the horse, relations with early Europeans, and the smallpox epidemic dramatically changed the lives of the Okanagans. As the narrator says, "there are fifty ways to tell the beginning of everything, but there is only one ending."

TERRY GLAVIN and Former Students of St. Mary's Mission Amongst God's Own

The Enduring Legacy of St. Mary's Mission

For more than 100 years, the Oblates of St. Mary Immaculate operated St. Mary's Mission near Mission, BC. Terry Glavin weaves the accounts of 35 former students – now Native Elders – into an illuminating and nuanced account of life at St. Mary's.

'Engaging . . . successful in setting polemic aside to enhance society's understanding of a painful past, and to ensure historical accuracy. . . . Glavin neither minimizes what was wrong with residential schools nor does he vilify everyone who worked within that system.'
— RAVEN'S EYE

ANNHARTE

Exercises In Lip Pointing

'There is a geography in Annharte's poems interweaving anxious attentive movements through the cultural confusions marking our times – a geography inhering in the incomparable voice that lifts the language of the page right into our ears.'
— ROY MIKI

'To immerse oneself in Annharte's cascade of words, her "ndn medsin waterfall" is to confront one's unconscious assumptions about identity, about community, about race and history, about how we construct ourselves and others.'
— LALLY GRAUER

Transmontanus 15

JUDITH WILLIAMS

Clam Gardens

Aboriginal Mariculture on Canada's West Coast

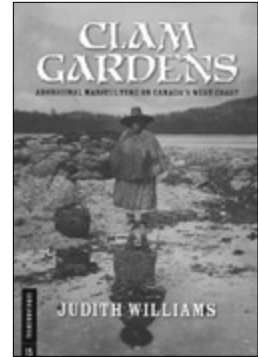
For many years archaeologists were unaware of the ancient clam terraces at Waiatt Bay, on Quadra Island. Author Judith Williams was advised of their existence by a Klahoose elder named Elizabeth Harry (Keekus).

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

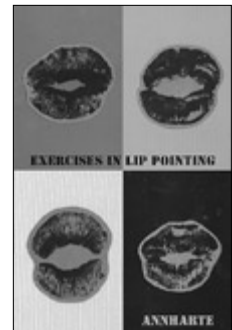
'No one else writes about the coast with such sympathy for local knowledge.'
— GEIST



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JOHN ARMSTRONG
Wages

Paperboy, caddy, Bible camp counselor; tar-spattered roofer, gas jockey, janitor; porn-video packer and real live punk rock star. John Armstrong changes jobs like other people change their socks. Every working experience, he learns, contains the following: "Get up, get dressed so you can hurry to a place you don't want to be, and do things you don't want to do for people you don't like, all for very little money at some far distant point in the future." The result is a simultaneously bleak and uproarious account of his self-proclaimed "abject failure to avoid working for a living".

This eccentric, irreverent, and witty chronicle is vintage John Armstrong.

'Ribald, scabrous, and liquids-through-the-nose funny.' — THE GLOBE AND MAIL

'Will make you laugh your ass off, guaranteed.' — THE TYEE

'Nothing short of hilarious.' — THE GEORGIA STRAIGHT

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Transmontanus 3
ANDREW STRUTHERS

The Green Shadow

A comic account of life in Tofino, British Columbia after a logging company's plans to log nearby Clayoquot Sound divide the town into two hostile factions. With one foot planted uneasily in each camp, Struthers tries to heal the town and runs for mayor.

'As wild and wacky a West Coast tale as was ever told.'
— BUSINESS LOGGER

ANDREW STRUTHERS
The Last Voyage of the Loch Ryan

Evicted by the feds from his Tofino pyramid, Andrew Struthers buys an old wooden fishing boat, going cheap courtesy of the Mifflin Plan. He takes up residence onboard with his nine-year-old daughter Pasheabel, and his perennial housing problems are solved. Or are they?

The Last Voyage of the Loch Ryan picks up where the author's prize-winning *The Green Shadow* left off.

Transmontanus 8
JOHN ARMSTRONG

Guilty of Everything

Armstrong, aka Buck Cherry, lead singer-guitarist of the Modernettes, tours us pell-mell through his mis-spent youth as part of Vancouver's punk scene circa 1978-82.

'Exuberantly sordid, as was the punk rock scene, and often hilarious.'

— VANCOUVER SUN

'Enter-fucking-tainment!'

— THE NERVE (VANCOUVER)

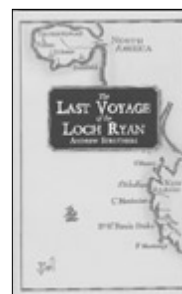
'Finely written and very funny . . . This is history as it should be written: with a cold eye, and a skilled hand . . . leaves the reader both informed about an exciting music scene and assured that Vancouver's first punk scene has the historian it deserves.'

— SUBTERRAIN



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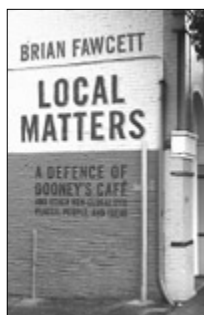
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STAN PERSKY The Short Version

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
 AND MAIL

BRIAN FAWCETT Local Matters

A Defence of Dooney's Cafe and Other Non-Globalized Places, People, and Ideas

'A critical and funny collection of essays that invite us to rage

against the corporate machine and the insidious tendency of television to turn us into obedient consumers whose only important choices are where to spend our disposable income. ... Fawcett is an old-fashioned idealist who believes that writers and writing can and should change the world for the better.'
 — QUILL & QUIRE

'His prose is crisp, unsentimental, often humorous, and expansive throughout.' — THE
 GLOBE AND MAIL

TERRY GLAVIN This Ragged Place

A finalist for the Governor General's Award in 1997. A skilfully 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

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



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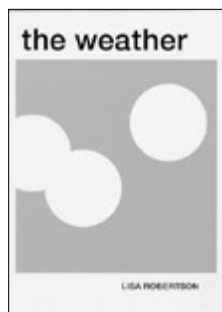
BARRY MCKINNON
In the Millennium

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.

'McKinnon's writing is angular, hesitant, introspective, and dense; it is a careful dialogue between what he sees in Prince George and his own internal responses.'

— NORTH WORD



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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

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.

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.

'The mind behind the writing is restless and indefatigable and curious.' — JOHN LATTA



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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
Asper Nation	Edge, Marc	1-55420-032-6	978-1-55420-032-0	2007	\$21	\$16
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Chronicles of Dissent (2nd ed.)	Chomsky, Noam	1-55420-003-2	978-1-55420-003-0	2003	\$24	nfs
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Last Voyage of the Loch Ryan	Struthers, Andrew	1-55420-008-3	978-1-55420-008-5	2004	\$18	\$16
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Mine	Collis, Stephen	0-921586-87-6	978-0-921586-87-6	2001	\$18	\$16
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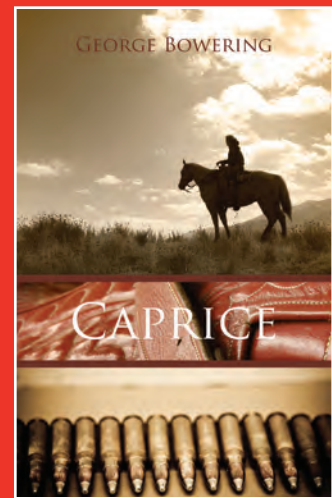
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