

Oolichan Books



Spring Titles 2011

Award Winning Oolichan Books

2010 Finalists

Congratulations to **Betty Jane Hegerat** for being shortlisted for the **Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction, the Alberta Book Awards 2010** for *Delivery*.

Congratulations to **Miranda Pearson** for her nomination of *Harbour for the BC Book Awards Dorothy Livesay Award*.

2009 Winner

Oolichan Books would like to congratulate **Bruce Hunter** for winning the **2009 Banff Mountain Book Festival's Canadian Rockies Award** for his book *In The Bear's House*.

Governor General's Award for Poetry

- 2006 John Pass, *Stumbling In The Bloom*, **Winner**
- 2005 W.H. New, *Underwood Log*, **Finalist**
- 2004 David Manicom, *The Burning Eaves*, **Finalist**
- 2001 John Pass, *Water Stair*, **Finalist**

Governor General's Award for Fiction

- 1993 Carol Windley, *Visible Light*, **Short List**

BC Book Prizes - Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize

- 2010 Miranda Pearson, *Harbour*, **Finalist**
- 2009 Nilofar Shidmehr, *Shrin and Salt Man*, **Finalist**
- 2008 George McWhirter, *The Incorrection*, **Finalist**
- 2005 Eve Joseph, *The Startled Heart*, **Finalist**
- 2001 John Pass, *Water Stair*, **Finalist**
- 1997 Margo Button, *The Unhinging of Wings*, **Winner**
- 1995 Aaron Bushkowsky, *ed & mabel go to the moon*, **Short List**

Alberta Book Awards - Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction

- 2010 Betty Jane Hegerat, *Delivery*, **Finalist**

BC Book Prizes - Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize

- 2009 Andreas Schroeder, *Renovating Heaven*, **Finalist**
- 2000 Keith Harrison, *Furry Creek*, **Finalist**
- 1995 Grant Buday, *Under Glass*, **Short List**
- 1993 Carol Windley, *Visible Light*, **Short List**

Saskatchewan Young Readers Choice Shining Willow Award

- 2009 Ron Smith & Ruth Campbell, *Elf the Eagle*, **Nominated**

Danuta Gleed Award

- 2008 Valerie Stetson, *The Year I Got Impatient*, **Runner-up**
- 1998 Janina Hornosty, *Snackers*, **Finalist**

Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize

- 2008 Ron Smith & Ruth Campbell, *Elf the Eagle*, **Finalist**

Lansdowne Poetry Award

- 2007 Laurie Block, *Time Out of Mind*, **Winner**

Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry

- 2002 Marilyn Dumont, *green girl dreams Mountains*, **Winner**

Gillian Lowndes Award

- 2001 John Pass, *Water Stair*, **Finalist**

The Literary Network Top Ten Canadian Poetry Books

- 1999 Mona Fertig, *Sex, Death & Travel*

QSPELL Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-Fiction

- 1998 David Manicom
Progeny of Ghosts: Travels in Russia and the Old Empire., **Winner**

QSPELL A.M. Klein Award for Poetry

- 1998 David Manicom, *The Older Graces*, **Finalist**

Viacom Canada Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize

- 1998 David Manicom
Progeny of Ghosts: Travels in Russia and the Old Empire., **Finalist**

Gerald Lampert Memorial Prize

- 1997 Margo Button, *The Unhinging of Wings*, **Finalist**

Saskatchewan Book Awards Book of the Year

- 1997 Ven Begamudré, *Laterna Magika*, **Short List**
- 1993 Ven Begamudré, *Van de Graaff Days*, **Short List**

Saskatchewan Book Awards Fiction Prize

- 1997 Ven Begamudré, *Laterna Magika*, **Short List**

City of Regina Prize

- 1997 Ven Begamudré, *Laterna Magika*, **Co-recipient**
- 1993 Ven Begamudré, *Van de Graaff Days*, **Short List**

Commonwealth Writers Prize "Best Book"

For writers published in Canada and Caribbean

- 1997 Ven Begamudré, *Laterna Magika*, **Short List**
- 1993 Greg Hollingshead, *White Buick*, **Short List**

Certificate of Honour, BC Historical Foundation

- 1996 Jan Peterson, *Cathedral Grove*

Sheila A. Egoff Children's Prize

- 1996 Constance Horne, *Emily Carr's Woo*, **Short List**

Bumbershoot/Weyerhaeuser Publication Award

- 1993 Oolichan Books: Ron Smith/Carol Windley, *Visible Light*

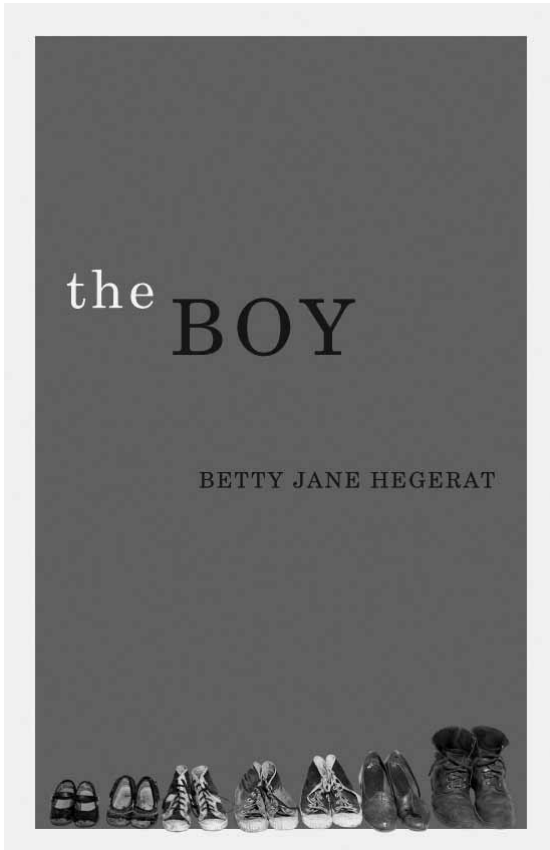
Writers Guild of Alberta Short Fiction Prize

- 1993 Greg Hollingshead, *White Buick*, **Winner**

The Boy

BETTY JANE HEGERAT

ISBN 978-088982-275-7 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 280 pp • \$21.95 • Fiction • April 2011



In 1959 Ray and Daisy Cook and their five children were brutally slain in their modest home in the central Alberta town of Stettler. Robert Raymond Cook, Ray Cook's son from his first marriage, was convicted of the crime, and had the infamy of becoming the last man hanged in Alberta. Forty-six years later, a troublesome character named Louise in a story that **Betty Jane Hegerat** finds herself inexplicably reluctant to write, becomes entangled in the childhood memory of hearing about that gruesome mass murder. Through four years of obsessively tracking the demise of the Cook family, and dancing around the fate of the fictional family, the problem that will not go away is how to bring the story to the page. A work of non-fiction about the Cooks and their infamous son, or a novel about Louise and her problem stepson? Both stories keep coming back to the boy.

Part memoir, part investigation, part novella, part writer's journal, *The Boy*, is the author's final capitulation to telling the story with all of the troublesome questions unanswered.

"Among the things I like best about this book is its steady, sure-handed tone and style. Hegerat's unconventional approach to its subject - what turns a boy into a killer, applied obliquely to the case of the last man hanged in Alberta, Robert Raymond Cook - yields truths that otherwise could be only guessed at. We'll never know any answers for sure, but Hegerat's meditation gives us a different, useful, and wise angle."

- Sharon Butala, author of *The Girl in Saskatoon*

Betty Jane Hegerat has been a social worker, a teacher, and a serious student of fiction. She has studied at the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, Sage Hill, the Banff Centre, and the University of British Columbia where she completed an MFA in Creative Writing. Domesticity, the messy dynamics of family, the search for "home", and a deep-rooted love of the Alberta landscape underpin her stories and her obsession with finding truth through examining the secrets and lies in ordinary lives.

Betty Jane teaches creative writing for Continuing Education at the University of Calgary, and the Alexandra Writers Centre and was the 2009 Writer in Residence at the Memorial Park Library. Her book *Delivery* (Oolichan, 2009) was short-listed for the 2010 Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction.

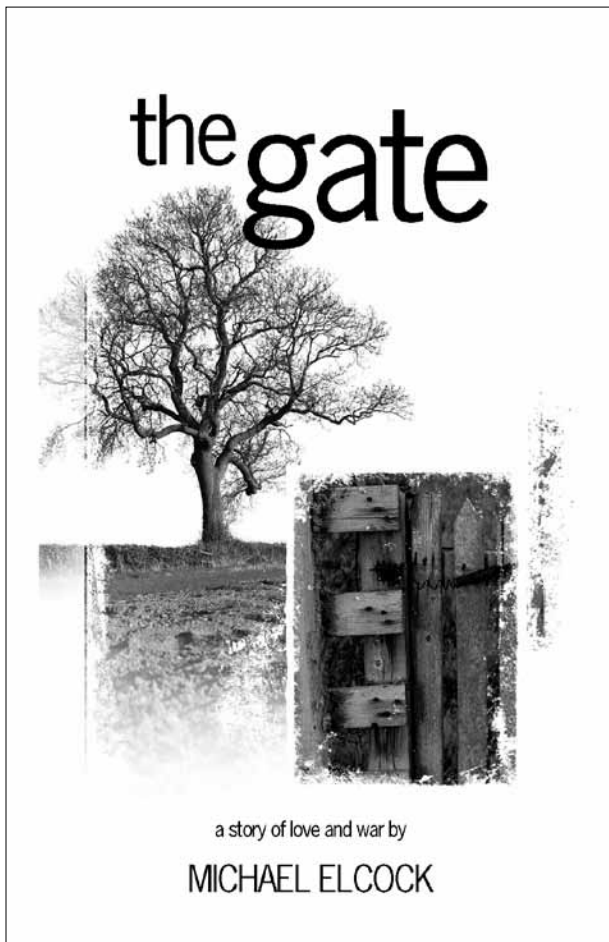
Marketing Overview

- Review copies to select media outlets and periodicals
- Advertising in select trade and regional publications in Western Canada and Ontario
- Author tour of Alberta & British Columbia
- Social media and web-based promotions targeted at specific demographics based on projected audience appeal

The Gate

MICHAEL ELCOCK

ISBN 978-088982272-6 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 224 pp • \$18,95 • Fiction • April 2011



Marketing Overview

- Review copies to select media outlets and periodicals
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The Gate is a love story and a tragedy centred on the search by Etienne Rochefort, a Canadian, for information about his past. Rochefort receives shattering information about his origins at his grandmother's deathbed—origins which lie in the dying days of World War Two Europe. These revelations set him off on a search for his past, against his better judgment and, initially, his own interest.

The story begins in the Pemberton Valley, north of Vancouver, and while most of the characters in it are fictitious, most of the events are not. The plot plays off actual events—including secret service activities only recently de-classified—and in some cases, actual people. It recounts an epic tale of Rochefort's parents, their love and their efforts as part of the French resistance fighting against the occupying Germans. It is a tale of happiness, and such sorrow as can only be partially remedied by the efforts of an outstanding and compassionate humanitarian, the Catholic Abbé Musty of Bastogne in Belgium. The unexpected events of war force the Abbé and his young students to escape across the hard-frozen, war-torn landscape. Inevitably, the story involves advancing German forces and the sinister depredations of the Gestapo and Heinrich Himmler's Sicherheitsdienst.

“Meticulous research and a cinematic sensibility have endowed *The Gate* with authentic power. The novel recreates the last year of the Second World War by focusing on a handful of individuals and how their lives were changed by the German occupation of France and Belgium, and I believe that Michael Elcock realizes his aim – to make us remember a period that is nearly forgotten, and must be recalled so that it never happens again.”

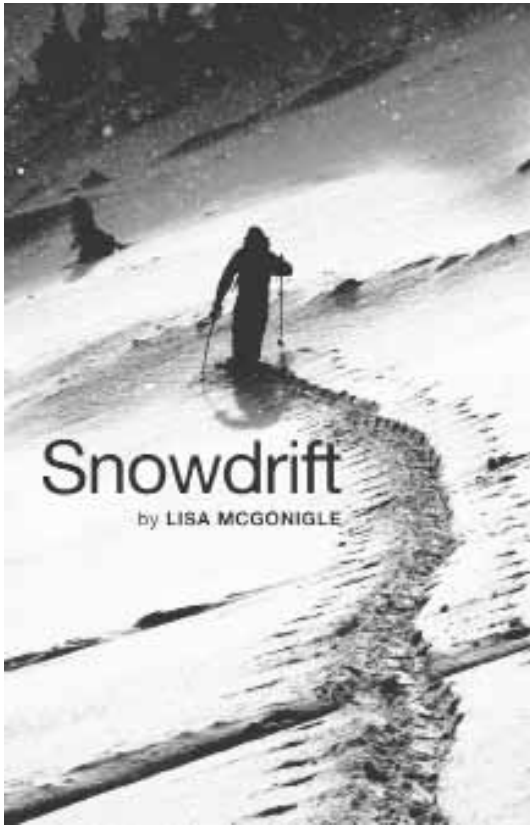
Isabel Huggan - Author of *Belonging: Home Away from Home*, winner of the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction

Michael Elcock was born in Forres, Scotland and grew up in Edinburgh and West Africa. He emigrated to Canada when he was twenty-one and worked in pulp mills, in the woods, on west coast fishing boats and as a ski instructor, earning along the way a B.A. and M.Ed at the University of Victoria. He was Athletic Director at UVic for ten years, and then CEO of Tourism Victoria for five. In 1990 he moved to Andalusia to work on developing Spain's Expo 92. He has published articles in periodicals, newspapers and magazines in Canada and overseas. Elcock has published two works of non-fiction, *A Perfectly Beautiful Place* (Oolichan, 2004) and *Writing On Stone* (Oolichan, 2006). He lives just outside of Victoria, BC.

Snowdrift

LISA MCGONIGLE

ISBN 9780889822719 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 296 pp • \$18.95 • Travelogue • January 2011



Newly graduated from university in Ireland, Lisa McGonigle came to the Kootenay region of British Columbia to spend a winter snowboarding. She wrote emails to her friends back home describing a remote mountain-town called Fernie, a series of smashes in the terrain park, unrivalled powder turns, working for minimum-wage and duct-taping over the holes in her outerwear. She left to take up a PhD scholarship to Oxford but the lure of the snow was too much. Several months later she abandoned her laptop, clothes and bike in Oxford and ran away back to BC. She went on to spend another three winters in the Kootenays, trading Fernie for an even smaller, more remote town called Rossland and learning to ski for good measure as well.

Composed of the emails written as events unfolded, and infused with an Irish take on Canadiana, *Snowdrift* documents the joyous, impoverished and injury-ridden life of a ski-bum who'll do almost anything for fresh lines and explores just what happens when you leave it all behind to follow the snow.

Lisa McGonigle grew up in North County Dublin, Ireland. She attended Trinity College Dublin and the University of Aberdeen, Scotland before coming to British Columbia in 2005. Having spent several years skiing, snowboarding and hiking in the Kootenays, she is currently studying for a PhD in English at the University of Otago, New Zealand.



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Gulf

LESLIE VRYENHOEK

ISBN 978-088982-274-0 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 80 pp • \$17.95 • Poetry • March 2011



Gulf explores the nature of longing and belonging in a transient culture. From its opening assertion, “A neighborhood, no matter / how known, will not slip whole / into your knapsack,” the collection contends home is a portable assortment of minutiae: the taste of dirt, the solace of Home Depot, a pennant of bone. Opening on a child’s displacement, the poems loosely trace the author’s journey from American suburbia to small-town Canadian prairie, a transition aided by sardonic historical figures and a metric conversion chart. As the poems ricochet from coast to coast, Vryenhoek toes the U.S./Canadian border—“that thin line a wide gulf”—until crossing another gulf and arriving in Newfoundland, a place where being from/coming from away still holds sway in everyday dialogue.

Moving from solemn and meditative to saucy and irreverent, *Gulf* is a collision of natural elements and technology, native species and newcomers, the inevitable rending of families and the connective tissue of memory that ties us to place.

Leslie Vryenhoek was born in the United States and raised in Pittsburgh. She immigrated to Manitoba in the 1980s, and now lives in St. John’s, Newfoundland, where she works as a communications consultant and an editor on *Riddle Fence*. Her poetry, fiction and memoir have been published across Canada and internationally, and have won numerous awards, including the Winston Collins/Descant Prize for Best Canadian Poem in 2010. She is the author of *Scrabble Lessons: Stories*, published by Oolichan in 2009. *Gulf* is her first collection of poetry.



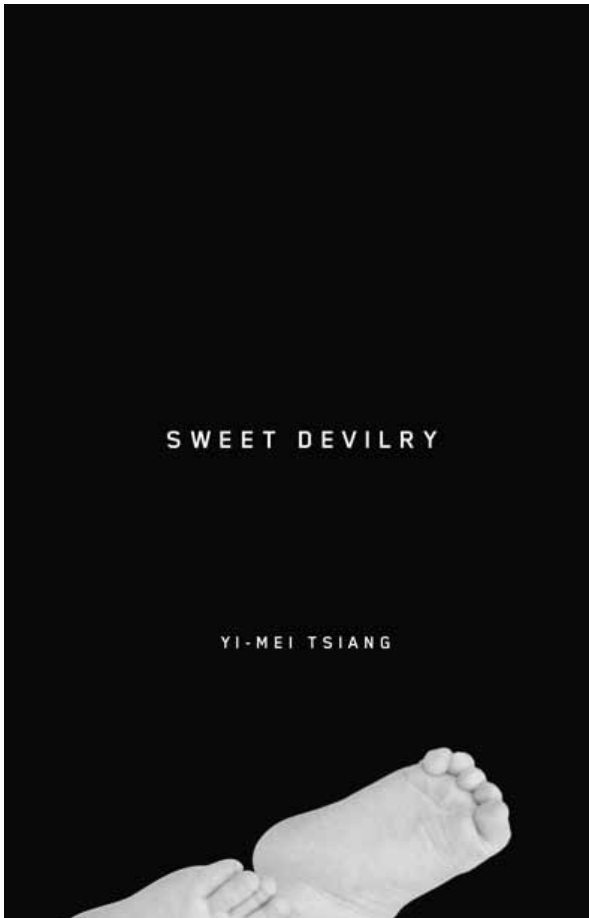
Marketing Overview

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- Author tour of Maritimes and Ontario
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Sweet Devilry

YI-MEI TSIANG

ISBN 978-088982273-3 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 96 pp • \$17.95 • Poetry • April 2011



Yi-Mei Tsiang's debut collection of poetry, *Sweet Devilry*, explores the tenderness of loss that informs motherhood as well as the power and the conflict that come with being a woman. Both celebration and elegy, these poems find their centre in familial love. Lyric and traditional, though attuned to the visual and the experimental, *Sweet Devilry* also has a whimsical, and sometimes biting, sense of humour. Tsiang's smart, imaginative, and emotionally resonant work offers a keen and woman-centred perspective on the stories we tell ourselves about love, personal and societal struggle, and the inevitability of death.

Yi-Mei Tsiang is the author of *Flock of Shoes* (Annick Press, 2010) and *The Mermaid and Other Fairy Tales* (Leaf Press, 2010). She has two forthcoming books for children and her work has been sold and translated internationally. She has published poetry extensively in Canadian journals, and has appeared in several anthologies. She is currently completing UBC's MFA program, and works as a mentor to aspiring writers through UBC's Booming Ground and Queen's University's Enrichment Studies Department. Yi-Mei lives in Kingston with her husband and young daughter. She drew from her own experiences as a mother in the creation of the poems in *Sweet Devilry*.



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- Author tour of Ontario and British Columbia
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Made That Way

SUSAN KETCHEN

ISBN 978-088982-270-2 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 196 pp • \$12.95 • YA Fiction • December 2010



Susan Ketchen



In Ketchen's stand-alone sequel to *Born That Way*, the dauntless Sylvia continues to explore the ebb and flow of herd dynamics, whether they arise in family life, schoolyard politics, or the paddocks of Kansas's stable. A funny continuation of Sylvia's misadventures in which she finally gets her horse, a horse as unique and spirited as she is.

Reviews of *Born That Way*

"I love Susan's tone - there's lots of angst, but no self-pity - lots of humor . . . the love and respect for horses is actually rather overwhelming. We should all thank Cloudy, Shadow, Lollipop and all the other equines that inspired; it's a rather unique text."
- Kieran Kealy, Professor Children's Literature, UBC

"I purchased your novel for a horse-crazy niece, and unfortunately for me the owner of the shop said I should read it first. I started it last night and couldn't put it down. This morning I was late for work. I don't even like horses."
- An Anonymous Happy Reader

Susan Ketchen was born in Nanaimo, B.C. She holds an M.Sc. degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. She has successfully pursued an alarming number of not overly-long careers and now resides on a small Vancouver Island hobby farm with her husband, two horses, two cats and a flock of chickens.

Susan is a member of the B.C. Horse Council, the Comox Valley Dressage Club, and the Comox Valley Writer's Society. She is a monitor with the Wildlife Tree Stewardship Program, giving her an official excuse to spend many hours staring out the window . . . at the eagles perching and nesting at the edge of the property. She is interested in animal training and teaches her horses to recognize a remarkable number of words, play the piano with their noses, and identify flash cards. Her favourite places to come up with new ideas are the barn, the pasture, and the shower. She has never received creative inspiration while vacuuming.

To learn more about Susan Ketchen and her horse that reads, visit www.susanketchen.ca.

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- Review copies to select media outlets and periodicals
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- Author tour of British Columbia
- Social media and web-based promotions targeted at specific demographics based on projected audience appeal

Wind River Variations

BRIAN BRETT

ISBN 978-088982-269-6 • 8" x 9" • pb • 184 pp • \$24.95 • Poetry • May 2011



Brian Brett's latest collection of poems, *Wind River Variations*, addresses the intricate weave of relationships that exists between human beings and the natural landscape. In particular, he speaks to the preservation of the Three Rivers watershed (The Wind River, The Snake River and the Bonnet Plume River). In his acknowledgements he writes: "In an odd kind of way, the plundering of the world in the past is understandable, because there wasn't the knowledge. Now, there are no excuses, and the almost belligerent and certainly arrogant lust of so many individuals to destroy what remains merely to create more wealth for a few has to make us wonder about the mental health of our species, and its eventual survival."

In these poems, he takes us on an expedition into the Three Rivers watershed with other artists, writers, photographers, painters, naturalists in the hope that what they record will awaken and introduce us to the beauty and importance of this pristine area to the broader culture.

In these sometimes bitter and angry, always insightful poems, Brett speaks to the many environmental concerns, both physical and spiritual, that overshadow the diverse eco-systems that are so vital to our humanity and our survival.

Brian Brett has been writing and publishing since the late 1960s. He has also been involved in an editorial capacity with several publishing firms including the Governor-General Award winning Blackfish Press.

In the early seventies, he began working as a freelance journalist and critic for various publications and newspapers across the country. His journalism has appeared in almost every major newspaper in Canada, and his essays in most of the major magazines.

Brian Brett inaugurated the B.C. Poetry-In-The-Schools program, introducing children in schools to world poetry. He has been a member of literary organizations ranging from P.E.N. International to the Writer's Union of Canada amongst others. In May 2005 Brian Brett became the Chair of The Writer's Union of Canada.

His last collection of poems/memoir, *Uproar's Your Only Music*, was a Globe and Mail top 100 book of the year. His recent memoir/history, *Trauma Farm*, is the winner of the 2009 Writers' Trust of Canada Non-Fiction Prize, was long-listed for the BC Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, nominated for the BC Booksellers' Choice Award, nominated for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize, and nominated for the Roderrick Haig-Brown Regional Book Prize. It is a Canadian best seller, an Amazon top 100 book of 2009, a Globe and Mail top 100 book for 2009, and a Times Literary Supplement top 100 book for 2009!

Brian Brett currently lives on a farm with his family on Salt Spring Island, B.C., where he cultivates his garden and creates ceramic forms.

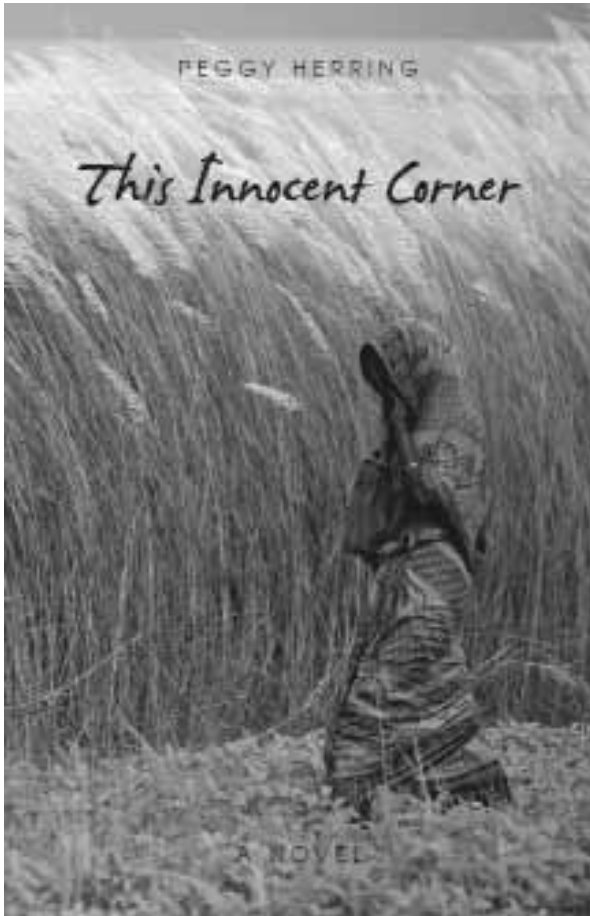
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This Innocent Corner

PEGGY HERRING

ISBN 978-088982-268-9 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 304 pp • \$19.95 • Fiction • October 2010



Fifty-year-old Robin Rowe returns to Dhaka, Bangladesh, her first visit since she was an exchange student there in 1970. The country, then East Pakistan, was on the brink of the war that led to its independence from Pakistan. Robin was repatriated just as the violence erupted, and as a result of the conflict, lost touch with her friends, and the Chowdhury family with whom she boarded that year.

On her return visit, Robin discovers a shocking truth about her legacy in the country. A well-intentioned act she carried out – thwarting an arranged marriage – has resulted in disastrous consequences: suicide, torture and the disappearance of the beloved Luna Chowdhury.

Overwhelmed with this news, she returns home to Salt Spring Island, BC to find the roof of her house has collapsed. As she deals with the reconstruction, she must come to terms with the consequences of her act in Bangladesh, as well as other unresolved parts of her life: the unexpected loss of her husband, Graham, a decade earlier, and her estranged relationship with her adult daughter, Surinder.

Making peace with her mistakes and accepting the uncertainty of her future requires her understanding first the part she has played in the conflicts in her own life, and then becoming willing to engage with a world that is complex, unpredictable and sometimes as stubborn as Robin herself.

Peggy Herring is a writer living in Victoria, BC. Her short fiction appears in literary journals and anthologies in Canada and India. She's lived in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, England and Japan, working as a journalist, international development consultant and volunteer, and teacher. *This Innocent Corner* is her first novel.

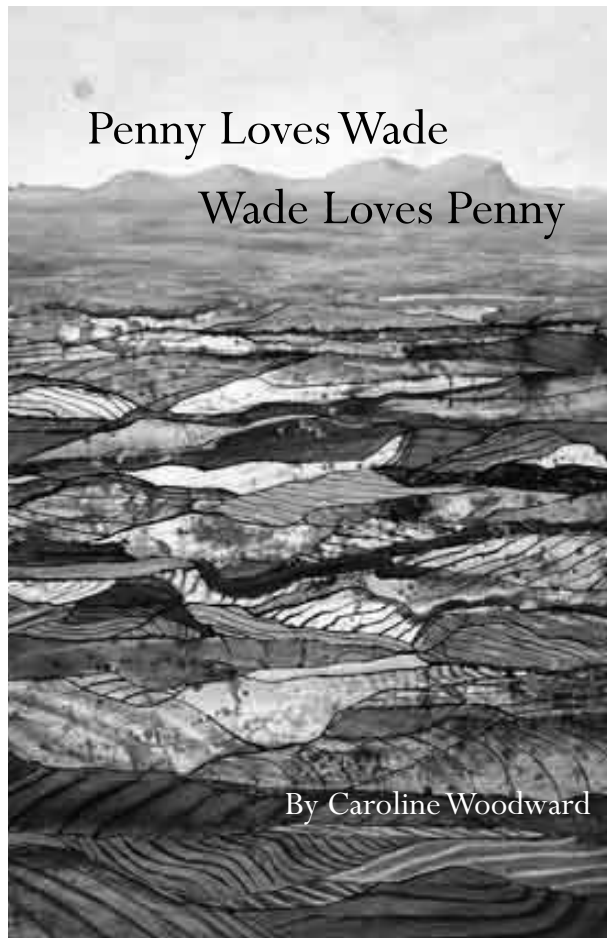
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Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny

CAROLINE WOODWARD

ISBN 978-088982-267-2 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 256 pp • \$18.95 • Fiction • October 2010



In this long-awaited novel, **Caroline Woodward** returns to her Peace River roots. *Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny* is a contemporary story about middle-aged love enduring despite many obstacles. It is a retelling of *The Odyssey*, with a road story looping south from the Peace River region to the West Coast and across the province through the Kootenays before the wanderer struggles to find his way north, and home. The story winds around Penny, inventive and resolute ranch wife, and Wade Toland, reluctant rancher and good man, adrift behind the wheel on his last long haul truck run of the season.

The inter-island wars of ancient Greece are replaced by Canadian blizzards, biker gangs, lotus landers, covetous neighbours, not-so-friendly bank managers, a ravishing all-woman country punk band called The Sirens, and fatally malfunctioning truck brakes, amongst other menacing entities. The Goodland Historical Society and local choir, to which Penny belongs, pop up from time to time, like a Greek chorus.

“A beautifully written and marvelous story! Characters with dignity, characters you like, care for, root for.”

- Paulette Jiles, author of *The Color of Lightning*

“Woodward’s crisp, earthy writing cuts to the chase of what it is to be human in this finely crafted novel about hard times, love, and the best of intentions. Wade and Penny will live on in my imagination for a long time.”

- Anne DeGrace, author of *Sounding Line*

Caroline Woodward lives, works and writes on the Lenard Island Lightstation near Tofino, British Columbia. Prior to her career as a lighthouse keeper she worked in almost every aspect of the literary world from book-reviewer to book-seller and most points on either side and in between. She was raised on a homestead in the north Peace River region of B.C. and has studied, worked and travelled widely ever since. She is the author of five books including *Disturbing the Peace* (Polestar, 1990), nominated for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and *Alaska Highway Two-Step* (Polestar, 1993), nominated for the Arthur Ellis Best First Mystery Award.

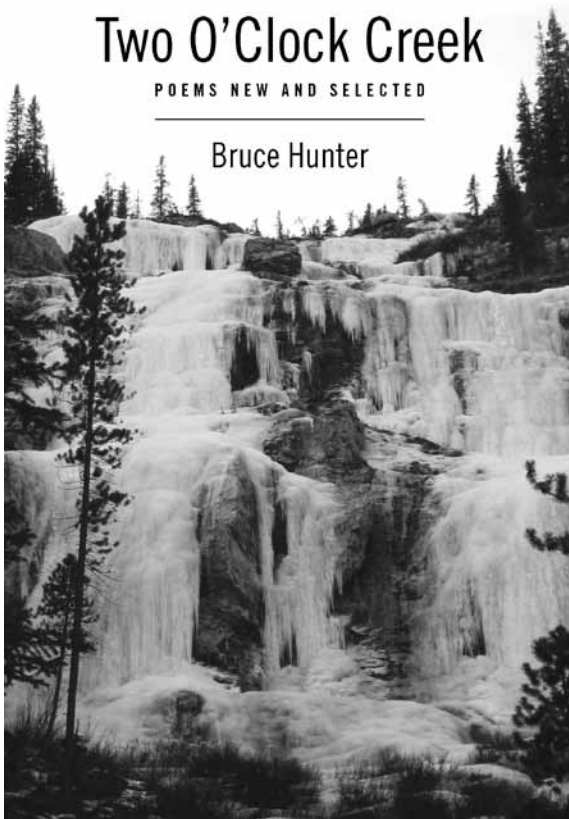
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Two O'Clock Creek Poems New and Selected

BRUCE HUNTER

ISBN 978-088982-266-5 • 6" x 9" • pb • 204 pp • \$18.95 • Poetry • October 2010



Two O'clock Creek – Poems New and Selected brings together the best of Bruce Hunter's previous books of poetry as well as exciting new work that shows the sustained development of a life-long poet. Highly acclaimed by Books in Canada, the Calgary Herald, The Globe and Mail, and Canadian Literature, twice short listed for the CBC literary prize, and selected as a People's Choice winner, Hunter is a poet who goes to the core of life.

These poems reveal the mysteries of rivers, the secrets of spurned loves, the lives of workers and the joys and heartbreak of new immigrants, always against a carefully drawn backdrop, whether urban or rural. The unequivocal and unflinching emotions here move from awe to anger to whimsy in an authentic voice that is in turns, tender, scathing and celebratory.

"Two O'clock Creek" is the "seed" poem which inspired Hunter's novel, *In the Bear's House*, which won the 2009 Canadian Rockies Award at the Banff Mountain Festival.

"Bruce Hunter's poems are steeped in family history, legend, an agile sense of place, character, and are held together by the grit and gust of detail and the strength of sentiment. *Two O'clock Creek* is a bare-hearted book, composed of muscle and sweat, its verbs balancing a kind of heft and haul that powers the reader through close to thirty years. But it's the light at the core of Hunter's writing that manages to connect the macho to the transcendent, creating shivers of tenderness."

~ **Barry Dempster**, author of *Love Outlandish* ~

Bruce Hunter is the author of three books of poetry, a collection of short stories and the award-winning novel *In The Bear's House*. Deafened as an infant, he worked in blue-collar jobs for nearly fifteen years, including variously as a labourer, Zamboni driver and gardener before and after attending Malaspina College. In his late twenties, he studied with W.O. Mitchell at the Banff School of Fine Arts and attended York University.

For the past twenty years, he has taught English and Liberal Studies at Seneca College as well as stints teaching Creative Writing at the Banff Centre and York University. In 2002, he was the Writers' Guild of Alberta's Writer in Residence at the Banff Centre. In the fall of 2007, he was Writer in Residence for the Richmond Hill Public Library.

"Bruce Hunter writes with bold restraint and a poet's sensibility. His blue collar characters walk the tight line of their lives into the common universe that includes us all."

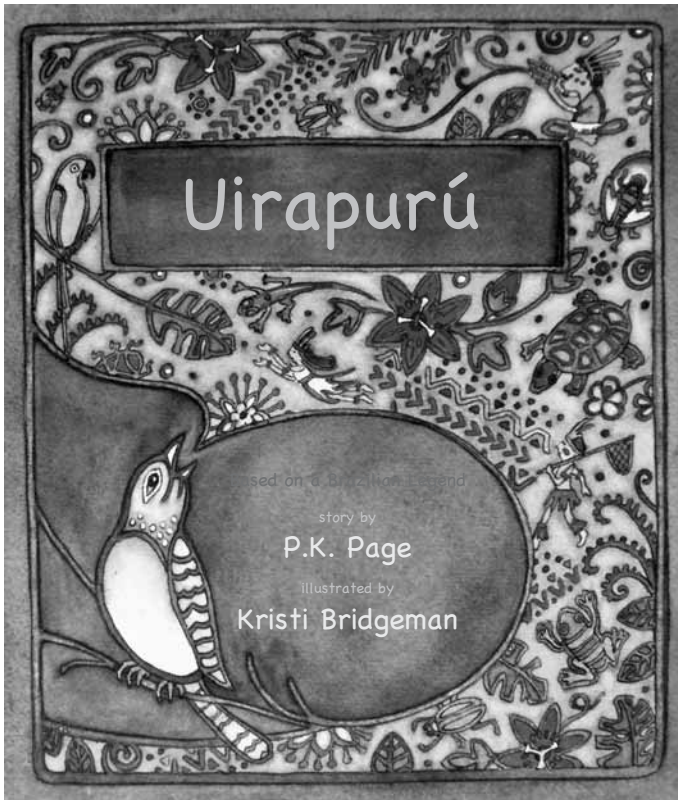
~ **Wayson Choy**, Saturday Night ~

Uirapurú - Based on a Brazilian legend

P.K. PAGE, ILLUSTRATED BY KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

ISBN 978-088982-264-1 • 8" x 10" • cip • 32 pp • \$19.95 • Children's Picture Book • Ages 4-6 • May 2010

**NOMINATED FOR THE 2010 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE - ILLUSTRATION**



Deep in the rain forests of Brazil lives the Uirapurú, a bird renowned in legend for having the most beautiful and the strangest song in all the world. Those who hear the Uirapurú's song can never forget it. Many go in search of the bird and many never return. In her version of the legend, P.K. Page tells the story of a group of mischievous boys who set off into the forest to catch the bird with nets and bows and arrows. During their adventures they meet an old man with a flute who has spent his life trying to mimic the Uirapurú's song and a maiden of the moon surrounded by all the creatures of the night. In her tale of mystery and transformation, P.K. Page creates a story as beautiful and as haunting as the song of the bird about which she writes. A story superbly illustrated by Kristi Bridgeman. A story you will never forget.



P. K. Page was the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, travel, short stories, and children's books. She won numerous prizes, including the Governor General's Prize for Poetry, held eight honorary degrees, was a Companion of the Order of Canada, a member of the Order of British Columbia and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

To discover more about P.K. Page please visit www.pkpage.ca.



Kristi Bridgeman lives in Saanich, B.C. with her husband and two children. She has illustrated several books. Her fine art pieces can be found at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and Sooke Harbour House Gallery.

Kristi's art can be seen at www.kristibridgeman.com.

RECENT POETRY



Living Under Plastic

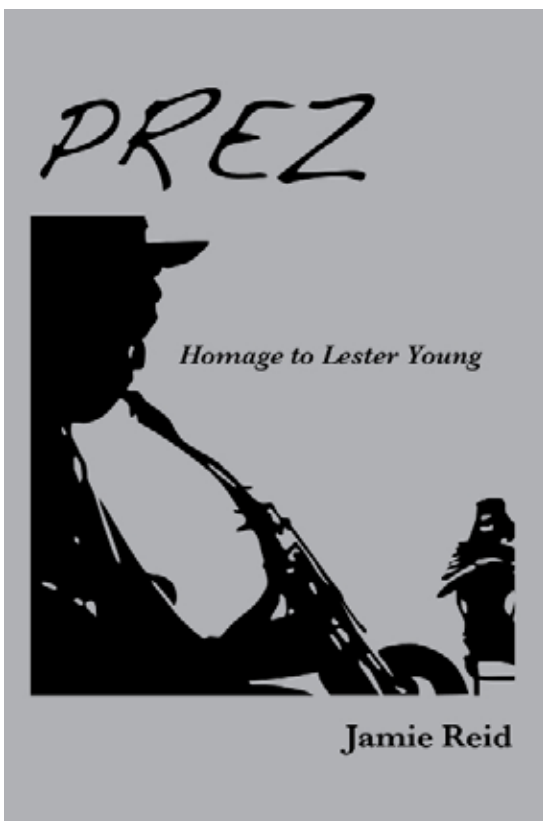
EVELYN LAU

ISBN 978-088982-262-7 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 92 pp • \$17.95 •

Living Under Plastic represents a major departure from the author's previous poetry books. Instead of the obsessive focus on relationships and emotional damage that has characterized much of her earlier work, this book opens up to explore new subjects: family history, illness, death and dying, consumerism, and the natural world. In a tone that is often elegiac, without ever being maudlin, these poems are steeped in immortality and loss. Haunted by the pull of the past, there is strength of character and a sense of affirmation in all of these poems. While grounded in travel and in place, the tone is surprisingly meditative and contemplative.

Evelyn Lau was born in Vancouver in 1971. She is the author of four volumes of poetry, two works of non-fiction, two short story collections and a novel. *Runaway: Diary of a Street Kid*, published when she was 18, was a Canadian best seller and was made into a CBC movie starring Sandra Oh in her first major role.

Her work has appeared in over a hundred literary magazines, garnering four Western Magazine Awards and a National Magazine Award. She has also won the Air Canada Award for Most Promising Writer and the Vantage Women of Originality Award. Her poems have been included in the Best American Poetry and Best Canadian Poetry series.



Prez: Homage to Lester Young

JAMIE REID

ISBN 978-088982-129-3 • 9" x 6" • pb • 52 pp • \$14.95 •

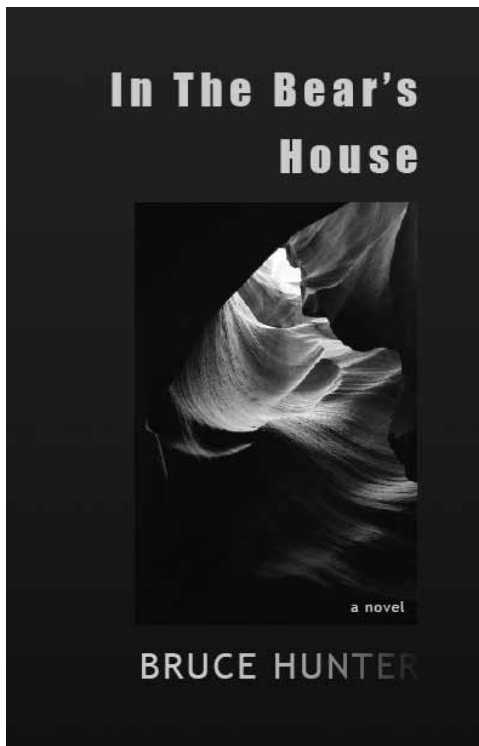
Lester Young has been described as jazz's first hipster who forever changed the sound of the tenor saxophone. In *Prez*, Jamie Reid creates an evocative image of Young with poetry and poetic prose that resonates with the fluid notes of Lester's music.

"A strong, focused, and unified work that will long be in the collections of poets and musicians."

- *Victory Review* -

Homage to Lester Young was first published by Oolichan Books in 1993. Its author, Jamie Reid, was one of the five original editors of TISH, the Vancouver poetry newsletter that changed the face of Canadian poetry in the early 1960s. He is the author of four volumes of poetry, beginning with *The Man Whose Path Was on Fire*, in 1969. *Prez* was written in 1987 after Reid was absent for nearly two decades from publishing poetry while engaged in revolutionary political activism. It was followed by *Mad Boys* in 1997, and then by *I. Another. The Space Between* in 2004.

RECENT FICTION



In The Bear's House

BRUCE HUNTER

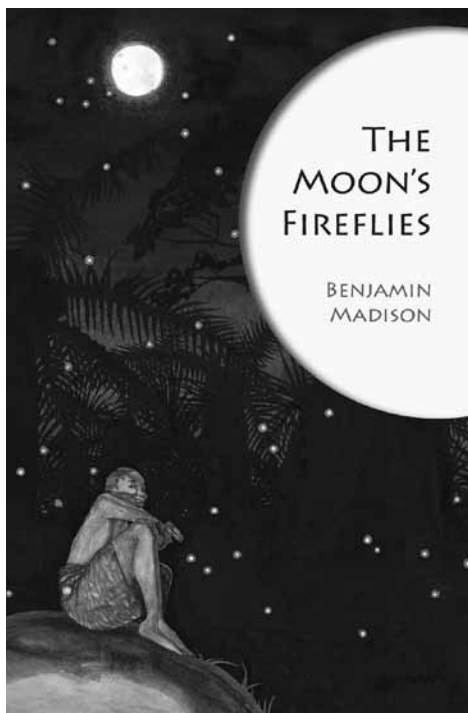
ISBN 978-088982-253-5 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 432 pp • \$22.95 • Novel
• June 2009

**WINNER, 2009 BANFF MOUNTAIN BOOK FESTIVAL
CANADIAN ROCKIES AWARD.**

"In The Bear's House captures the transformative power of the Rocky Mountains . . . Bruce Hunter captures the angst, alienation, love, and ultimately self-belief a young deaf man finds in himself during and after a summer spent on the Kootenay Plains beside the North Saskatchewan river. But the book is much more than a mountain tale; it's a well-told mountain tale. Hunter writes clearly and with what always feels like honesty." ~ Will Gadd, Banff Mountain Book Festival Selection committee Member

Bruce Hunter is the author of three books of poetry and a collection of short stories. Deafened as an infant, he worked in blue-collar jobs, including variously as a labourer, Zamboni driver and gardener before and after attending Malaspina College. In his late twenties, he studied with W.O. Mitchell at the Banff School of Fine Arts and attended York University.

Visit Bruce Hunter's website at www.brucehunter.ca.



The Moon's Fireflies

BENJAMIN MADISON

ISBN 978-088982-263-4 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 164 pp • \$18.95 •
Fiction • April 2010

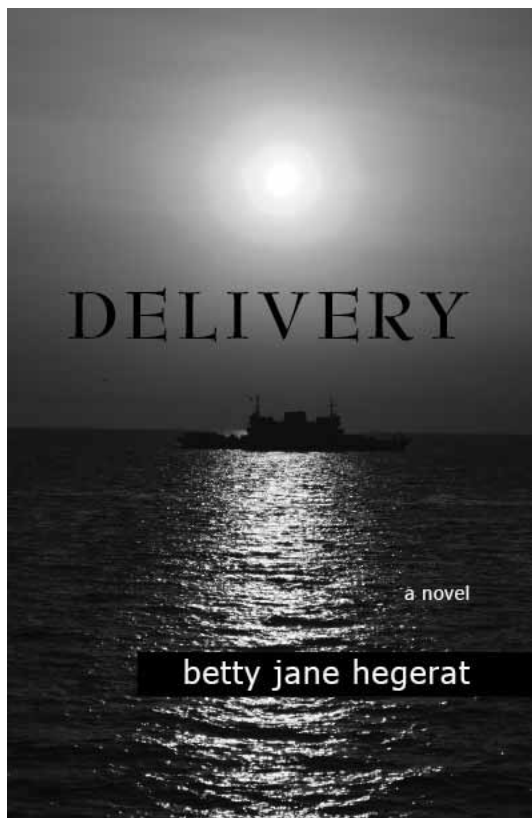
The eighteen linked short stories in *The Moon's Fireflies* take us inside the experience of living as a foreigner in an African village. Adopted by two village boys, Effiong and Little Etim, the narrator is drawn into the life of the West African village of Akai Ison.

This is an Africa we seldom see, an Africa of warm hospitality and tolerance, and the humanity and wisdom embodied in these stories lead us to examine our own lives and values. If you are interested in Africa, this book will turn you into a lover; if you love Africa, *The Moon's Fireflies* is a feast.

Trained as an anthropologist, **Benjamin Madison** lived and worked in the West African countries of Nigeria, Togo, Ghana, Sierra Leone and The Gambia for seventeen years, generally working in Education and Development. He lived for several years as a volunteer teacher in villages such as those depicted in *The Moon's Fireflies*.

Benjamin Madison now resides in Victoria and is working on a novel set in West Africa.

RECENT FICTION



Delivery

BETTY JANE HEGERAT

ISBN 978-088982-257-3 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 306 pp • \$19.95 •
Novel • October 2009

**FINALIST, 2010 ALBERTA BOOK AWARDS
GEORGES BUGNET AWARD FOR FICTION**

CALGARY BEST SELLER LIST - NOVEMBER 2009

When Lynn's daughter Heather announces an adoption plan for her three-week-old baby, Lynn does what any desperate grandmother would do. With the baby in a laundry basket, she drives to a cabin on Quadra Island. There she wrestles with an old secret while waiting for Heather's arrival.

Betty Jane Hegerat teaches creative writing for Continuing Education at the University of Calgary, and the Alexandra Writers Centre and is the 2009 Writer in Residence at the Memorial Park Library.

A "domestic" novel in the tradition of Carol Shields, *Delivery* is a story with a large theme painted on a small canvas. Betty Jane Hegerat delivers an elegantly written mother-daughter story most mothers and daughters will adore – and plenty of dads and sons too.

~ Dave Margoshes.

Visit Betty Jane's website at bettyjanehegerat.wordpress.com.

Scrabble Lessons

LESLIE VRYENHOEK

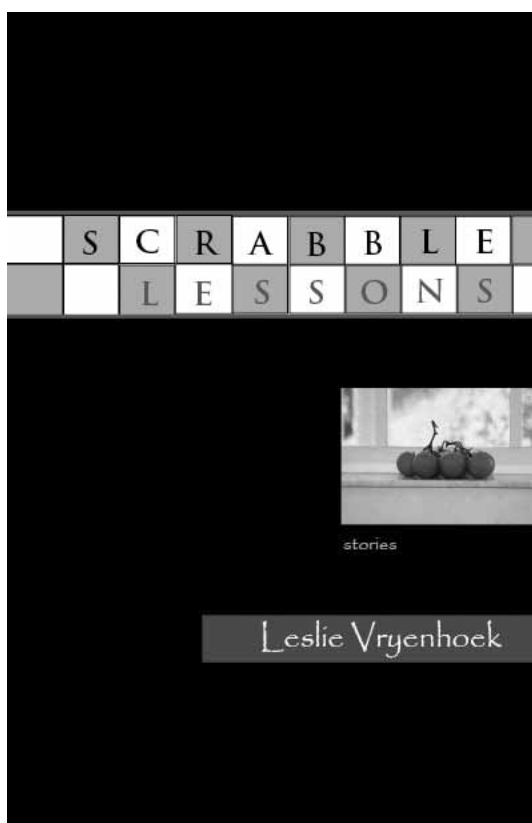
ISBN 978-088982-259-7 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 192 pp • \$18.95 •
Short Stories • October 2009

These are stories about the longing that gnaws at our most ordinary days, and about those rare moments of acute certainty, even joy, on which whole lives can pivot and change course.

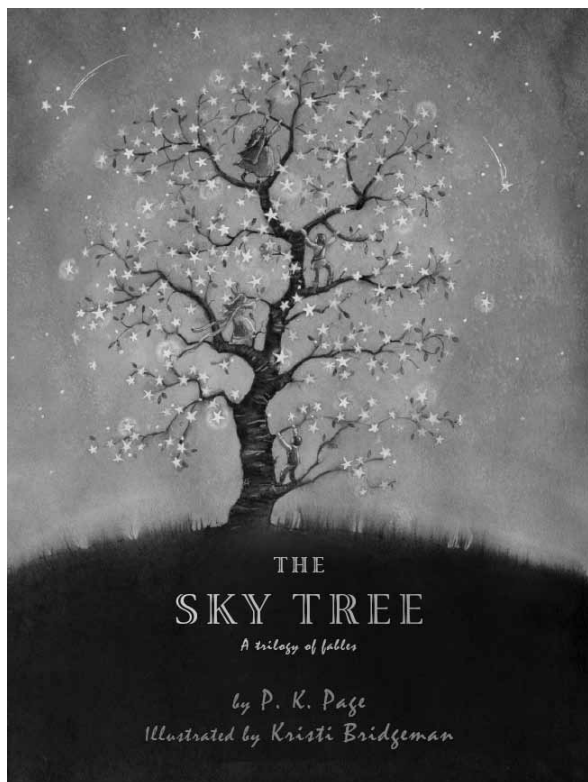
Leslie Vryenhoek is a writer, poet and communications consultant whose work has appeared in magazines and journals across Canada and internationally.

"Scrabble Lessons" ...feels as natural and intimate as a kitchen-table monologue, and yet close reading reveals an intricately elliptical structure.... The resilience, elasticity and playfulness of words, and their ability to bolster us in the face of illness and death, constitute the heart of the story. ~ Richard Cumyn, *The Antigianish Review*

Learn more about Leslie Vryenhoek at www.leslievryenhoek.com.



RECENT CHILDREN'S FICTION



The Sky Tree

P. K. PAGE

ILLUSTRATED BY KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

ISBN 978-088982-258-0 • 9" x 12" • hc • 112 pp • \$19.95 • Trilogy of Children's Fables • Full colour illustrations • Nov. 2009

The first volume in this trilogy, *A Flask of Sea Water* begins with the search for a husband for the Princess of Ure. Whoever presents the King with a flask of sea water will win the hand of the princess. But Ure is a landlocked kingdom and only members of the royal family have ever been to the sea—the rest have neither seen it nor do they believe in it. And although the princess is beautiful, only three young men set out on the quest—Stabdyl, Mungu and Galaad. Of these, only Galaad is truly in love with the princess.

Many adventures overtake the three young men as they search for the sea. Unknowingly, Galaad falls under the spell of the Wizard of the Eastern Ocean. Once in his power, Galaad is put in charge of the wizard's goats, and completely forgets his quest. Advised by a wise old woman he takes his goats to the Eastern Sea, where they are all changed into young men and women again. But now he has to get them safely back to Ure, which he does, with one exception.

The Goat that Flew follows the adventures of that one goat as the princess and her husband, Prince Galaad (for he did get to the sea after all), try to help him get free of the Wizard's powers and become a man again.

In the third volume, King Galaad and his Queen are very old. They have ruled wisely and well and are tired and ready to rest. This story tells of their ascent to heaven, and of their son, Treece, a brave young man who will inherit the kingdom from them.

"A beautifully told story filled with character and adventure. I highly recommend it. It shimmers with jewel-like images." —Michelle Landsberg

P. K. Page (1916-2010) was also an artist who painted under the name P. K. Irwin. She was the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, travel, short stories, and children's books. She won numerous prizes, including the Governor General's Prize for Poetry, received eight honorary degrees, was a Companion of the Order of Canada, a member of the Order of British Columbia and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

To learn more about P.K. Page please visit www.pkpage.ca.

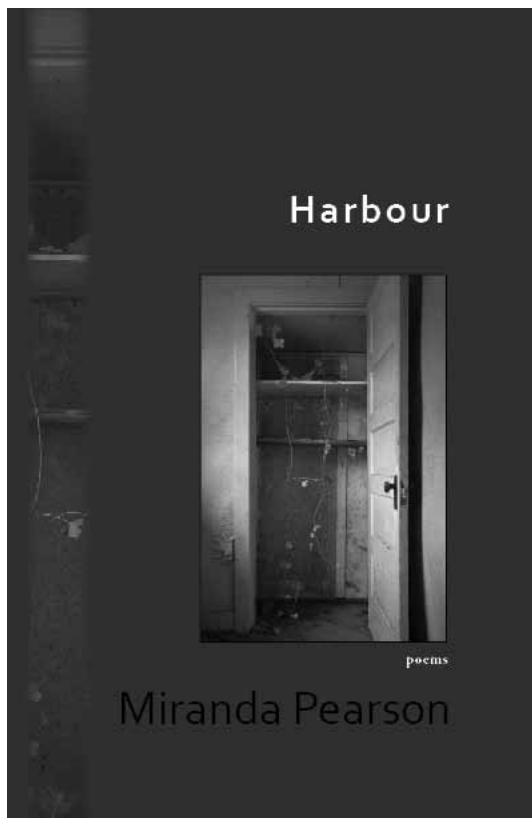
Kristi Bridgeman lives in Saanich, B.C. with her husband and two children. She has illustrated works several books. Her fine art pieces can be found at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and Sooke Harbour House Gallery.

Kristi Bridgeman's art can be seen at www.kristibridgeman.com.

CONTINUING PROMOTION

- National review mailing
- Print advertising
- Co-op available
- Illustrator website

RECENT POETRY



Harbour

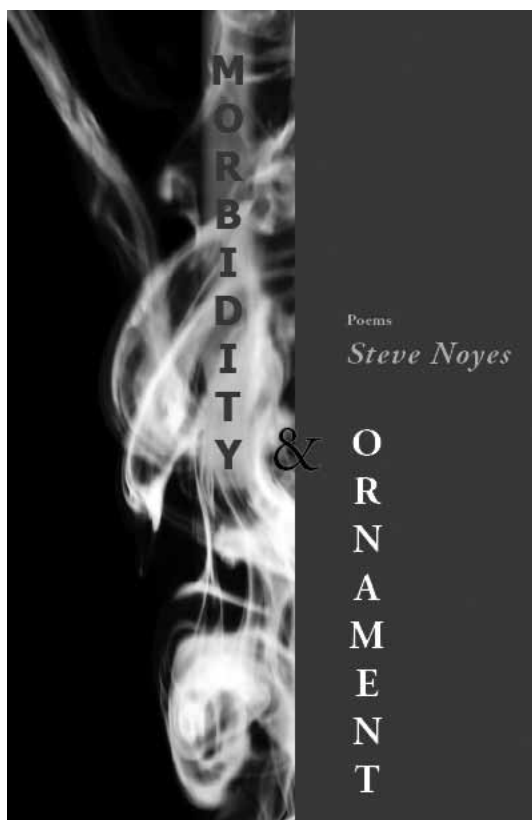
MIRANDA PEARSON

ISBN 978-088982-261-0 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 144 pp • \$17.95 •
Poetry • October 2009

**FINALIST, DOROTHY LIVESAY POETRY PRIZE,
2010 BC BOOK AWARDS**

Miranda Pearson's latest collection of poetry, *Harbour*, looks at ways humans are driven to construct territory in whatever space is available, however borrowed or makeshift. In "Asylum," Pearson turns, for the first time in her writing, to her experience of working in psychiatry. We hear the voices of both caregivers and patients, and flit back and forth between these two roles, contrasting and unraveling their meaning.

Miranda Pearson is the author of two previous books of poetry, *Prime* and *The Aviary*. A graduate of the University of British Columbia's MFA program, Miranda lives in Vancouver, where she works as a freelance editor, teaches poetry workshops at Simon Fraser University's Writing and Publishing program, and works in Community Mental Health Care.



Morbidity & Ornament

STEVE NOYES

ISBN 978-088982-260-3 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 144 pp • \$17.95 •
Poetry • October 2009

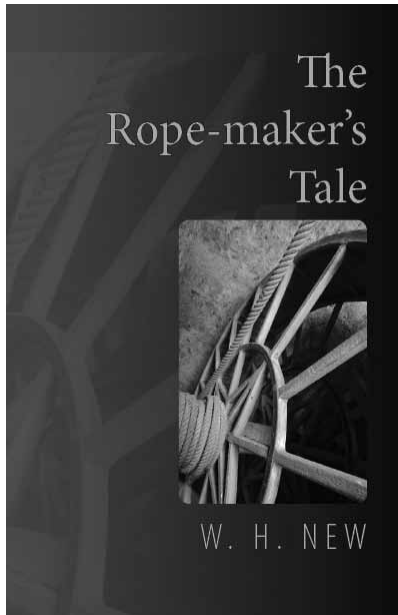
In his fourth book of poetry, *Morbidity and Ornament*, Steve Noyes departs from a previous preoccupation with the narrative sequence that he mined in *Ghost Country* to explore a range of styles and subjects: basketball, Islam, the dissonance and resonance of Chinese culture, the mating habits of slugs, the first year of marriage in a new house, cigarette smoking and love poems that animals, strangely, inhabit.

Steve Noyes has published five books of fiction and poetry, the most recent of which is *Ghost Country*. His poems, fictions and book reviews appear regularly in such magazines and newspapers as *The Malahat Review*, *The Fiddlehead*, *Event*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Queen's Quarterly*, and the *Vancouver Sun*.

"These highly accomplished poems, varied in form and richly textured, include pieces on sheep and slugs, basketball, Chaucer (in Chaucerese), addictions and his teenage gymnast daughter."

~ BC Bookworld

RECENT POETRY



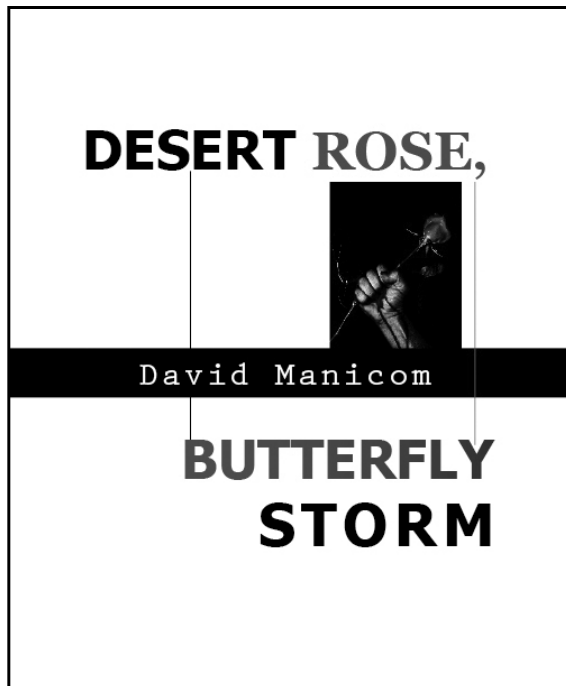
The Rope-Maker's Tale

W. H. NEW

ISBN 978-088982-252-8 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 94 pp • \$16.95 • Poetry • April 2009

The old Rope-maker who sits under the apple tree quietly watches the world that passes him by, but while he does so, he gathers the world's stories. So when he starts to tell his tale, everything can happen, and does: the wind will rise, the bells at the city gate will begin to peal, and a motley group of travellers will set out on the ring road of life, taking listeners with them. All of life swirls here. Braiding past and promise.

W. H. New lives in Vancouver. Among his many books are *Underwood Log*, which was a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Poetry, *Borderlands*, *Grandchild of Empire*, *Touching Ecuador*, and *The Year I Was Grounded*. *The Rope-Maker's Tale* is his ninth book of poetry. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2006.



Desert Rose, Butterfly Storm

DAVID MANICOM

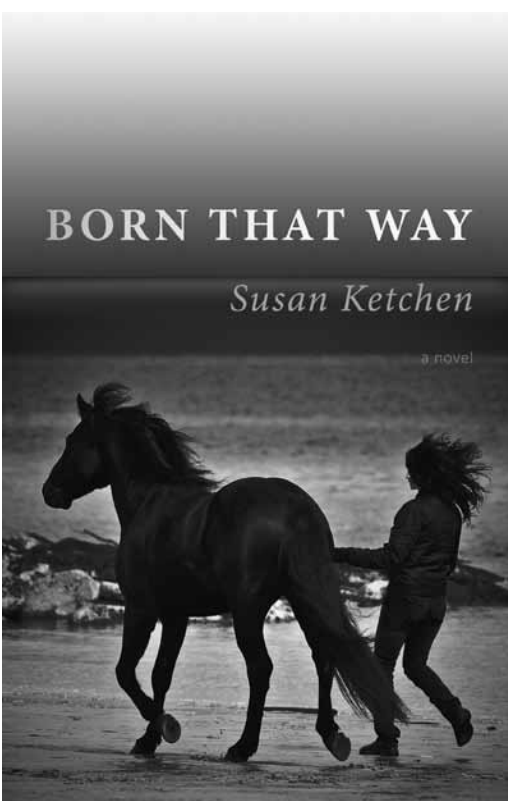
ISBN 978-088982-255-9 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 72 pp • \$16.95 • Poetry • April 2009

A farewell letter to a departing son, and a scream of fury against the age: *Desert Rose, Butterfly Storm* is a symphony of chaos and a lyric loving plea, an anthem for the age of terror and laser-guided death. Soaring and bitter, sweet and savage, **David Manicom's** new book of poetry follows his Governor-General's Award-nominated *The Burning Eaves* with a remarkable departure.

David Manicom has published four previous collections of poetry, including *The Burning Eaves*; the award-winning *Progeny of Ghosts: Travels in Russia and the Old Empire*; a collection of short fiction; and, most recently, two novels, *The School at Chartres* and *Anna's Shadow*.

"This is beautiful, sophisticated writing from an accomplished poet. David Manicom has depth, intelligence, ambition and immense talent."
~ Ottawa Citizen

RECENT YOUTH FICTION



Born That Way

SUSAN KETCHEN

ISBN 978-088982-254-2 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 176 pp • \$12.95 •
Novel • Ages 13 to 17 • April 2009

Sylvia is fourteen and she wants a horse but a few things are getting in her way. For one, she seems to be stuck in the body of a eight-year-old.

Grandpa has secretly promised to buy her a horse as soon as she grows as tall as his shoulder. Sylvia does everything she can to increase her height, including adhering to an unconventional stretching regime. Her greatest challenge comes when, on the brink of having her wishes fulfilled, she must reconcile the attainment of her childhood dreams with the emerging powers and responsibilities of womanhood.

Susan Ketchen was born in Nanaimo, B.C. She holds an M.Sc. degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. She resides on a small Vancouver Island hobby farm with her husband, two horses, two cats and a flock of chickens.

“The writing is very skilled, the plot appropriately fast-moving, and the narrator’s voice so believable as to be almost ‘out loud’.”

~Jack Hodgins

Visit Susan Ketchen and her horse that reads at www.susanketchen.ca.



Kaleidoscopes and Butterfly Dreams

NANCY L. HUNDAL

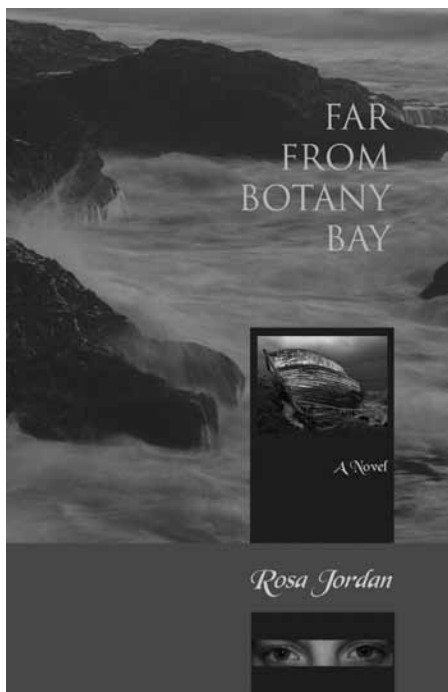
ISBN 978-088982-256-6 • 5.5" x 8.5" • pb • 132 pp • \$12.95 •
YA Novel • Grades 5 to 8/Ages 10 to 14 • June 2009

Change. Krista hates it, but it’s everywhere: new town, new house, new kids. And what’s worse, the town is ugly, the house is shabby and every kid is skinny and already has a best friend. In a story filled with kaleidoscopes and butterfly dreams, Krista comes to learn that a true friend can come in any size or at any age.

Nancy Hundal grew up and still lives amongst the blues and greens of Vancouver, Canada; she spent summers in the tans and mustards of Alberta. Libraries, kaleidoscopes and friends are a few of her favourite things. She is the author of nine picture books; one of these, *I Heard My Mother Call My Name*, won the B.C. Book Prize.

You can visit Nancy Hundal online at www.nancyhundal.com.

FICTION BACKLIST



FAR FROM BOTANY BAY ROSA JORDAN

ISBN 978-088982-249-8 • 434 pp • \$22.95 • pb • 5.5" x 8.5" •
October 2008 • Novel

At age 21, Mary Broom was sentenced to hang for the crime of stealing a cloak. When her sentence was commuted to transportation “upon the sea, beyond the seas,” she was sent to Australia. One of the first European women to set foot on the continent, she landed in what was to become a prison colony popularly known as “Botany Bay.” Mary endured two “starvation years” as the colony struggled to feed itself. Then, in 1791, she executed the most daring escape ever attempted from that wild and brutal place on the far side of the world.

Rosa Jordan is an internationalist who explores the world physically and intellectually, always probing for the point at which political and social realities intersect with personal courage and compassion.

Jordan’s book, *Lost Goat Lane* was nominated for the 2006-07 Chocolate Lily Award, and a finalist for the 2005 Silver Birch Award, and the 2005 Red Maple Award.

Renovating Heaven

ANDREAS SCHROEDER

ISBN 978-088982-248-1 • 224 pp • \$18.95 • pb • 5.5" x 8.5" •
October 2008 • A Novel in Triptych

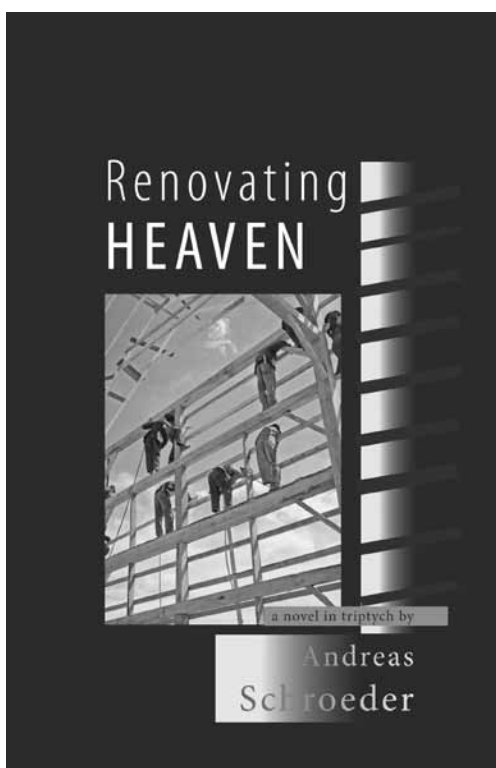
FINALIST, ETHEL WILSON FICTION PRIZE,
2009 BC BOOK AWARDS

Hilarious, bizarre and heart-breaking by turns, these three novellas of Mennonite life in Canada from the 1950’s to the 1970’s fill in the gap between Rudy Wiebe’s *Of This Earth* (a generation older) and Miriam Toews’ *A Complicated Kindness* (a generation younger). Schroeder’s family settles on a small farm in British Columbia and proceeds to try making sense of the perplexing mores and values of “The English” who surround them. The family finds solace, but not much else, within the local Mennonite congregation founded by Schroeder’s grandfather.

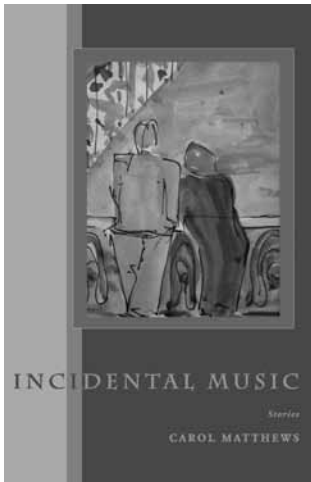
Andreas Schroeder is the author of twenty books of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, translations, journalism and literary criticism. His books have won or been shortlisted for many awards including the Governor-General’s Award, the Sealbooks First Novel Award, the Stephen Leacock Award, the Arthur Ellis Award for Best Non-Fiction and the Red Maple Award.

“This is an important story, beautifully told.”

~ Jack Hodgins



FICTION BACKLIST



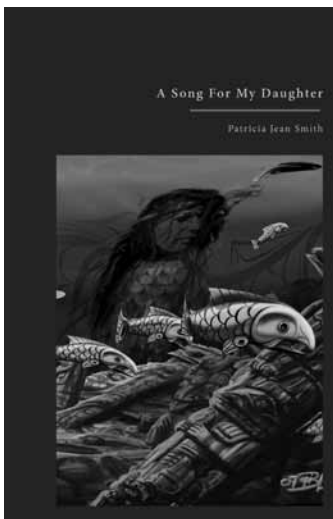
Incidental Music

CAROL MATTHEWS

ISBN13 978-088982-234-4 • 208 pp \$18.95 • pb • Short stories

Incidental Music covers a range of life situations in which women struggle to make the choice that is right and good. Music runs through these stories, in title, theme and event, suggesting the line between the remembered past and the unknown future.

Carol Matthews is a writer and consultant who lives on Protection Island.



A Song For My Daughter

PATRICIA JEAN SMITH

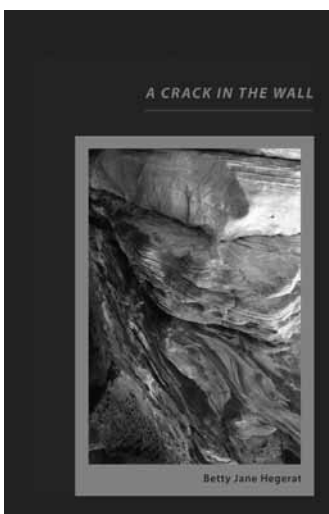
ISBN 978-088982-244-3/pb with french flaps • \$22.95 •

ISBN 978-088982-247-4/CL • \$34.95

480 pp • 5.5" x 8.5" • April 2008 • Novel

Beautifully imagined and written, *A Song For My Daughter*, takes us on a multilayered and celebratory journey of love and survival. Through a collision of cultures, western and First Nations, the world is righted, as it must be if we are to survive and live in harmony and peace.

Patricia Jean Smith holds an MA from the University of British Columbia in Comparative Religions. She is the author of *The Golf Widow's Revenge*, a humorous book on golf, and *Double Bind*, a novella.



A Crack In The Wall

BETTY JANE HEGERAT

ISBN 978-088982-240-5 • 240 pp • \$18.95 • pb • 5.5" x 8.5" •

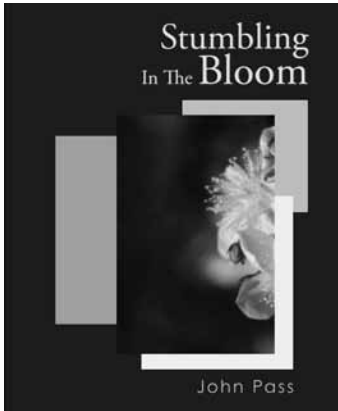
April 2008 • Short stories

The characters in *A Crack in the Wall* share a strong sense of home, whether it is a lifelong sanctuary, or a shell as fragile as the person who inhabits it. These stories take the reader on a voyeuristic walk down suburban streets, a glimpse into open windows at people yearning for what was, and making their reluctant peace with what is, and what will be.

Betty Jane Hegerat has been a social worker, a teacher, a writer, and a student in UBC's creative writing program. Her second novel, *Delivery*, was short-listed for the 2010 Alberta Book Awards Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction.

Visit Betty Jane's website at bettyjanehegerat.wordpress.com.

POOLICHAN AND THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARDS



Stumbling in the Bloom

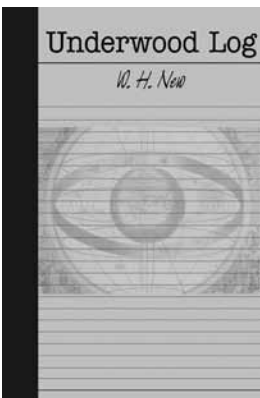
JOHN PASS

ISBN 0-88982-201-8 96 pp \$17.95 pb BISAC POE005030

WINNER, 2006 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD FOR POETRY

The poems in this collection engage the ever-present enticements and entanglements of beauty on life's, and art's home ground—in wilderness and garden.

John Pass lives near Sakinaw Lake with his wife, Theresa Kishkan



Underwood Log

W. H. NEW

ISBN 0-88982-193-3 132 pp \$17.95 pb BISAC POE005030

SHORT-LISTED FOR THE 2005 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD

This book-length poem circles the globe, crossing meridians with amazing insight and understanding, recording discoveries with delight and wonder.

W.H. New was awarded the Order of Canada in 2007.



The Burning Eaves

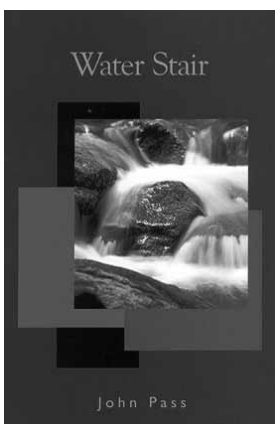
DAVID MANICOM

ISBN 0-88982-224-7 92 pp \$15.95 pb BISAC POE00503

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2004 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD.

The Burning Eaves, a mixture of shorter lyrics and longer sequences, is a meditation on the nature of language and the power of love.

David Manicom is the author of four acclaimed collections of poetry and a collection of short stories, which won the Prix Parizeau.



Water Stair

JOHN PASS

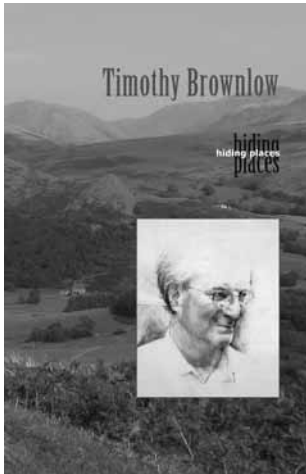
ISBN 88982-179-8 103 pp \$14.95 pb BISAC POE5030

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2000 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD
AND BC BOOK AWARD'S DOROTHY LIVESAY POETRY PRIZE.
WINNER OF THE 2001 GILLIAN LOWNDES AWARD.

Water Stair asks how are we to survive in a world for which we have such frustrating disregard for the bounty of nature.

John Pass lives near Sakinaw Lake, on BC's Sunshine Coast.

NON-FICTION BACKLIST



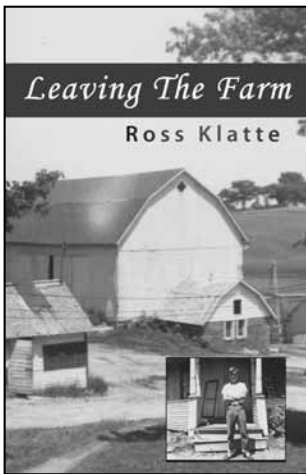
Hiding Places

TIMOTHY BROWNLOW

ISBN 978-088982-251-1 • 272 pp • \$18.95 • pb • 5.5” x 8.5” • Essays

These essays are forays into what Wordsworth called the “hiding places” of the creative impulse. Sometimes in aphoristic form, this selection of meditations on the arts of poetry and teaching functions as an indirect self-portrait and probes the poet’s Irish heritage.

Tim Brownlow was born in Dublin, Ireland and came to Canada in 1970. After teaching at several universities in Nova Scotia, he taught at Malaspina University-College from 1992 until he retired in 2006. He is now an Honorary Research Associate of the college.



Leaving the Farm

ROSS KLATTE

ISBN 0-88982-237-9 • 344 pp • \$22.95 • pb • 5.5” x 8.5” • Memoir

Leaving the Farm is a poignant, funny, beautifully rendered memoir about growing up on a small Minnesota dairy farm in the 1950s. Tracing his family’s roots from Quebec and Saskatchewan to Minnesota, Ross Klatte tells the story of the struggle between a bookish, daydreaming boy and his self-made, driven father—the tension between real life on the farm and the boy’s imaginative world.

“**Ross Klatte sweeps the reader immediately into the excitement and fascination of childhood on a Minnesota farm. His loving attention to detail, and his consummate literary skill, takes the reader on a ride as wild as a toboggan run down a steep hillside alongside the barn.**”

~Tom Wayman



The Missionary, The Violinist and the Aunt Whose Head was Squeezed

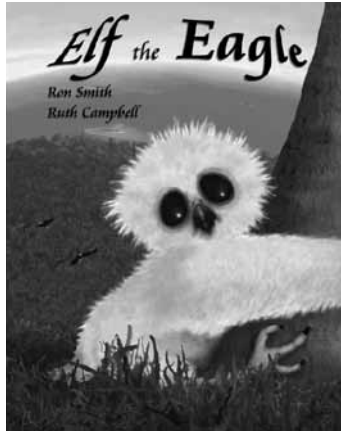
KEITH HARRISON

ISBN 978-088982-265-8 • 5.5” x 8.5” • pb • 264 pp • \$18.95 • Non-Fiction •

The story-line of *The Missionary, The Violinist And The Aunt Whose Head Was Squeezed* follows a five month journey that he made into the past, with his wife JoAnn as a companion. His father, John, had been born in Tokyo, and studied at Melbourne Grammar School before coming to Vancouver. This remarkable and honest fusion of travel writing, family history, and cultural anthropology is also a quest for meaning, and an understated love story.

Born in Vancouver, **Keith Harrison** studied at UBC, Berkeley, and McGill writing a dissertation on Malcolm Lowry. Harrison has also written a group of stories, *Crossing the Gulf* (1998), which contains a piece that won the Okanagan Short Story Award, and he has edited an anthology of short fiction, *Islands West: Stories from the Coast* (2001).

CHILDREN'S TITLES BACKLIST



Elf the Eagle

RON SMITH/ILLUSTRATED BY RUTH CAMPBELL

ISBN 0-88982-241-7 • ISBN13 978-088982-241-2 • 40 pp •
\$19.95 cl • 9" x 12" • October 2007 • Full colour illustrations •
Ages 5 and up

FINALIST, CHRISTIE HARRIS ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN'S
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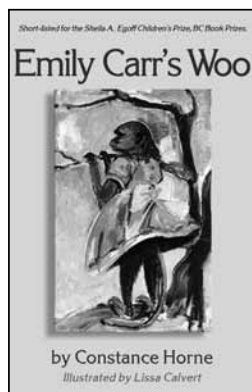


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