

FREE

#84 | Spring/Summer 2024 prairiebooksnow.ca

FEATURING
NEW WORKS
FROM ALBERTA,
SASKATCHEWAN,
AND MANITOBA

Prairie books NOW

INSIDE

New books by

CHIMWEMWE UNDI **ADAM POTTLE**



IMALKA NILMAIGODA



TENILLE CAMPBELL
SWEETMOON PHOTOGRAPHY

YOU'LL ALSO FIND:

Anyone can be a hero, even if he's 'kind of an idiot,' in new graphic novel

'Bonded relationship' to 120-year-old house at centre of new poetry collection

Multidimensional collection shows Métis women's work is everywhere

Surreal tale of professor and disembodied head a call to embrace the mess

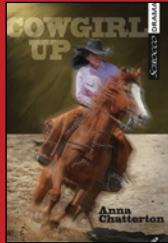
Letters to young son connect to the past, show new visions for masculinity

Perceptions of fame get complicated in tale of psychic teen living in a movie set

Publications Mail Agreement Number 40023290
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Association of Manitoba Book Publishers
404-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg, MB R3B 1H3

J. GORDON SHILLINGFORD PUBLISHING INC

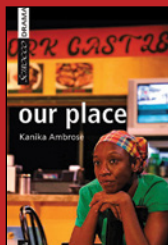
Books that entertain, educate, and inspire
www.jgshillingford.com



Cowgirl Up Anna Chatterton

Cassie, a talented barrel racer, is chosen by three immortal cowgirl goddesses to start the cowgirl revolution. But Cassie's horse Starbright isn't so sure that's a good idea...

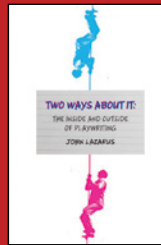
978-1990738-27-2, \$17.95



our place Kanika Ambrose

Andrea and Niesha are undocumented food service workers from the Caribbean, each trying in her own way to make a new life in Canada.

978-1990738-26-5, \$17.95



Two Ways About It The Inside and Outside of Playwriting John Lazarus

Two Ways About It guides readers through the "Two Ways" dual approach to playwriting: constructing plot on the one hand and improvising dialogue on the other.

978-1990738-29-6, \$24.95



Misty Lake Darrell Racine & Dale Lakevold

When Patti, a young Metis journalist, is sent to northern Manitoba to interview a residential school survivor, what she learns will send her on her own path to healing.

978-1990738-30-2, \$17.95



The Weight of Ants David Paquet, translated by Leanna Brodie

When two teenage outsiders are forced to run against each other for student council, the election unleashes their determination to change the system—and themselves.

978-1990738-28-9, \$17.95

UNABASHEDLY LITERARY

Signature
EDITIONS

www.signature-editions.com



\$19.95 • 978-1773241-23-4



\$17.95 • 978-1773241-25-8



\$19.95 • 978-1773241-29-6



\$19.95 • 978-1773241-27-2



\$22.95 • 978-1773241-40-1

On the Cover: *Her Roots Go Deep*, Nicki Ferland, machine quilted textiles (2021) from *Around the Kitchen Table: Métis Aunties' Scholarship*, edited by Laura Forsythe and Jennifer Markides

FICTION

- 4 *The Head: A Novella* by Robyn Braun
Surreal tale of professor and disembodied head a call to embrace the mess
- 5 *A Place Beyond the Heart* by Irehobhude O. Iyioha
Story collection is proof of passion kept alive as author moved from literature to law
- 6 *From Sweetgrass Bridge* by Anthony Bidulka
Merry Bell returns to investigate missing quarterback in 2nd book of series
- 7 *Hero-Man* by Lyndon Radchenka, illustrated by Zach Shuster
Anyone can be a hero, even if he's 'kind of an idiot,' in new graphic novel

POETRY

- 11 *Moving to Delilah* by Catherine Owen
'Bonded relationship' to 120-year-old house at centre of new poetry collection
- 13 *Scientific Marvel* by Chimwemwe Undi
Winnipeg Poet Laureate plays with form in a debut grounded by place

DRAMA

- 16 *The Black Drum* by Adam Pottle
Musical for Deaf performers highlights how music is seen, felt, experienced

FEATURE

- 17 *Around the Kitchen Table: Métis Aunties' Scholarship* edited by Laura Forsythe and Jennifer Markides
Multidimensional collection shows Métis women's work is everywhere
- 18 *Bentboy* by Herbie Barnes
Play offers story of hope in the face of monumental enemies
- 19 *Lebret: Looking Back and Beyond: An Autobiography* by Joan Pelletier
Stories from village of Lebret highlight beauty, vibrancy of Métis culture
- 20 *Winipek: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre* by Niigaan Sinclair
Optimism, complexity tie together collection of writings on Winnipeg

PUBLISHER FEATURE

- 25 CMU Press thrives in the sweet spot between academics, artistic merit, and focus on Mennonites
Winnipeg-based publisher honours past with Open Access archive while looking toward the future

NON-FICTION

- 26 *Unjust Transition: The Future for Fossil Fuel Workers* edited by Emily Eaton, Andrew Stevens, and Sean Tucker
Collection connects labour issues, unions with environmental justice
- 28 *Trust the Bluer Skies: Meditations on Fatherhood* by paulo da costa
Letters to young son connect to the past, show new visions for masculinity

YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN

- 33 *Lost Treasure on the Circle Star Ranch* by Jackie Cameron, illustrated by Wendi Nordell
Children's book fills gap, sharing reality of ranch life in Saskatchewan
- 34 *Zevi Takes the Spotlight* by Carol Matas
Perceptions of fame get complicated in tale of psychic teen living in a movie set

EN FRANÇAIS

- 36 *Du rêve parisien au froid des Prairies* by Pierre Minkala-Ntadi
Novel dives into disillusionment as element of immigration experience // Le roman plonge dans la désillusion comme élément de l'expérience d'immigration

Surreal tale of professor and disembodied head a call to embrace the mess

Paranormal element of new novella clashes with logic of the university

by Bev Sandell Greenberg

THE HEAD:

A Novella

Robyn Braun

Enfield & Wizenty-Great Plains Press

\$21.95 pb, 144 pages

ISBN: 978-1-77337-115-3

I have always liked surreal stories and ones that are just beyond my own understanding,” says Edmonton author Robyn Braun. In fact, her penchant for these types of stories served as the inspiration for her new novella, *The Head*. Suspenseful, urgent, and thought-provoking, the tale centres on Trish, a 30-year-old math professor who finds a live disembodied head crying in her apartment.

At the outset of the story, the presence of the head confounds Trish; however, she soon feels responsible for its care. When she takes the head with her to work, it wreaks havoc with her colleagues and students, plunging her world into chaos. Trish must then confront some neglected issues in her life and make some important decisions.

“The idea of a woman bringing a disembodied head to work came to me and then sat in a drawer for several years,” Braun says. She thought it would be interesting and funny to set the story at the university: “What happens when you bring an inarticulate, sobbing blob of messy upset to the university? *It ain’t pretty.*”

Braun, a scientist and a writer, has the background to provide insight into academic life. She holds a PhD from Carleton University and an MFA in creative writing from UBC, and she currently teaches in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta.

The university setting works thematically as well. “Universities are unique in their focus on reason, rationality, and rigorous thought, while simultaneously holding space for new and different ideas, which often

defy logic,” Braun says. “Trish embodies that tension in the book.”

She adds, “The commitment to the life of the mind has a kind of sheltering effect, which is both wonderful and a pitfall.”

Braun’s use of a paranormal element is equally purposeful. “I think that the weird things in stories speak to a less articulate but important part of our imagination and understanding,” she asserts. “When the idea of the paranormal came to me, I felt really lucky because I recognized it as one of those weird things that was going to affect readers beyond their articulate understanding.”

Braun became quite attached to the head, this book’s

specific weird thing. “I feel

quite a lot of sympathy for it. It has a kind of innocence to it and at the same time, it’s sort of hilariously awful, but it doesn’t mean to be,” she explains. “It’s not the head’s fault it doesn’t have a body. I imagine it bouncing around in Trish’s purse, poor thing. I guess I feel protective of it.”

And writing fiction, even when it involves the surreal, is not so very different from scientific work. “I’m always surprised by all the problem solving required to write a story – figuring out the timeline, the characters in a workplace, or the right piece of equipment for some character to fix. In a published book, these problems are already

solved,” says Braun.

On a final note, Braun hopes the book speaks to anybody carrying around a messy blob of inarticulate upset. She declares, “The message of the book is to love yourself and the mess!” 🌿



“What happens when you bring an inarticulate, sobbing blob of messy upset to the university? It ain’t pretty.”

ROBYN BRAUN



Story collection is proof of passion kept alive as author moved from literature to law

Irehobhude O. Iyioha's stories cross the globe, touch on tragedy and gentleness

by Margaret Goldik

A PLACE BEYOND THE HEART

Irehobhude O. Iyioha
Griots Lounge Publishing
\$25.99 pb, 240 pages
ISBN: 978-1-7386993-3-9

Nigerian Canadian Irehobhude O. Iyioha started writing early, when she was about six years old. She always knew she wanted to write, and she says “leaving the English and Literature Department (at the University of Benin in Nigeria) to study law did not change the passion.”

She takes her writing seriously; “Writing is not, and has never been, a hobby.” She carves out time and commits to it, and one result is her new life-affirming collection of stories, *A Place Beyond the Heart*.

In this gem of a book, Iyioha offers timely and powerful tales set in locales as diverse as Toronto, Darfur, Ukraine, London, and Nigeria, and which touch on themes as diverse as the immigrant experience, transgender and cultural clashes, and a mother’s love that transcends death.

Iyioha’s career in law has won her many awards and accolades for her teaching, scholarship, and service to the community. Now a professor at the University of Victoria Faculty of Law, she does not necessarily draw on the

research she does as a law professor for her fiction, but the stories sometimes, as she says, “tease at the outer edges or the core of my academic writings and activism.”

According to Iyioha, the stories in the first section, “Transition,” “fit within interconnected themes of war and migration.” The title of the collection was taken from the first story, “It’s Something That Happens to Other People,” which is set in Syria. One of the victims of the shelling says, “Love with peace? That . . . don’t happen to people like us.” But the privileged, with American passports as get-out-of-jail-free cards, can also be unexpected victims, swept up in the horror.



Irehobhude O. Iyioha

Some of the stories, like “Witness,” “Mama,” and “Take Me Home with You,” are unflinchingly honest and stark. “They are very emotional pieces, and the crafting of each requires research that takes me to places and events that are frightfully tragic. Any mother – or parent, really – can relate to the depth

of suffering in each of these stories, and I didn’t want to minimize that experience,” Iyioha says.

The second half of *A Place Beyond the Heart*, the section called

“Transcendence,” “offers stories with interconnected themes of tradition and social change,” says Iyioha. “The word *transcendence* reflects the changes and growth in the characters.”

Iyioha’s gift is to look beyond the obvious: in “The Way I See This,” two blind people find love during the pandemic. With blindness there is no colour, but there can still be untruth. These are stories to be savoured, their insights and truths brilliantly fashioned.

There are gentler stories, one about a couple connecting during a high-powered partners’ meeting in London, and one about the friendship of two young girls, which is imaginative and empowering.

“Transcendence” opens with a quote from Henry Ward Beecher: “The world’s battlefields have been in the heart chiefly; more heroism has been displayed in the household and the closet, than on the most memorable battlefields in history.”

Iyioha adds, “If the world’s battles are fought in the heart, where do we find a safe haven from their costs? Where is the place beyond the heart?” 🌿



Merry Bell returns to investigate missing quarterback in 2nd book of series

Saskatchewan author brings under-represented communities into murder mystery genre

by Bibi Ukonu

FROM SWEETGRASS BRIDGE

Anthony Bidulka
Stonehouse Publishing
\$22.00 pb, 280 pages
ISBN: 9781-988754-54-3

Anthony Bidulka's new novel, *From Sweetgrass Bridge*, is the second in his Merry Bell mystery series about a trans private investigator who returns to her hometown in Saskatchewan and sets up shop.

The first book in the series, *Living sky*, was warmly received by reviewers and readers. This book sees Merry Bell investigating the disappearance of the CFL's first Indigenous quarterback born in Saskatchewan, while she deals with a deep sense of loneliness and a business that is slow to take off.

Bidulka has a history of creating successful murder mysteries with main characters from under-represented communities, often set in Saskatchewan. His first mystery series featured the lead character Russell Quant, "the first ex-farm boy, half-Ukrainian, half-Irish, wine-swilling, gay, Canadian Prairie private eye," he says.

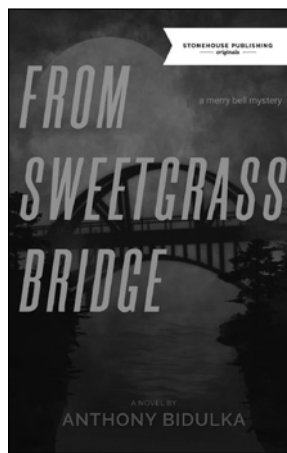
After the release of his second stand-alone novel, *Going to Beautiful*, which won the Crime Writers of Canada 2023 Best Crime Novel award, Bidulka considered returning to writing a traditional PI series.

"Perhaps it was time, and there was need for a different kind of detective. And so, Merry Bell was born," he says.

As a member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and because of his work as one of the founders of Camp fYrefly Saskatchewan (an educational, social, and personal learning retreat for gender and sexually diverse youth) and various personal relationships, Bidulka knows who Merry Bell is, and he knew the story he wanted to tell.



Anthony Bidulka



"With other important under-represented characters in these books, notably the cross-dresser character of Roger Brown, I needed to do a great deal more research to bolster my understanding and confidence in writing about them," he says.

And the carefully developed diversity of characters draws the audience in. "I always set out to write books with heart, that invite readers into a world they want to

spend time in, with characters they want to get to know," Bidulka says.

In the case of many of his books, including the Merry Bell series, that world is Saskatchewan, and those characters are its residents. "I am proud to have an opportunity to promote the province and its peoples in all their wonderful, woolly, quirky, sometimes challenging, sometimes heartbreakingly beautiful ways," he says.

Writing about under-represented people and places has its risks, though, and Bidulka, who includes Indigenous main characters in his book, was, as he says, "fortunate to have a sensitivity reader review *From Sweetgrass Bridge* and provide useful feedback."

Traditional mysteries, in which one sees the best and the worst of people and which end with a resolution, are attractive to Bidulka as a reader and as a writer. And even more importantly, he says, "The mystery genre has become rich with a seemingly endless list of subgenres, from cozies to procedurals, from feline detectives to YA detectives, from hard-boiled PIs to psychic PIs – the diversity and inclusion perhaps second to no other genre.

"To have the freedom and flexibility to tell a protagonist versus antagonist story within the worlds I want to tell it in, with under-represented people and places, is very fulfilling for me." 🌿

Anyone can be a hero, even if he's 'kind of an idiot,' in new graphic novel

Real-world problems meet parodies of classic superhero tropes in Hero-Man

by Ian Goodwillie

HERO-MAN

Written and Lettered by Lyndon Radchenka

Illustrated by Zach Schuster

At Bay Press

\$24.95 pb, 200 pages

ISBN: 978-1-998779-31-4

Everyone wants to be the hero. That could mean swinging between buildings on webs of your own design to save the day. That could mean being a firefighter and pulling people out of a burning building. That could mean being the person in the office who brings in doughnuts for no other reason than making everyone's day.

The idea that anyone can be a hero is the essential concept of *Hero-Man*. This graphic novel from Winnipeg-based writer Lyndon Radchenka and Alberta-based artist Zach Schuster takes the ordinary-person approach to being the hero as well as the villain. No one is leaping tall buildings in a single bound in this story, nor do they need to.

Radchenka describes *Hero-Man* as a “well-intentioned golden age superhero that we all know and love from our days of reading classic comic books in which the hero, purveyor of truth, justice, and all things good, defeats the villain terrorizing the city with no regard for any damaged property, economic impact, or public opinion.”

Anyone who reads comics on a regular basis probably has a list of heroes in mind who fit that description.

Schuster, on the other hand, has a more candid but no less accurate description for *Hero-Man*. “*Hero-Man* is kind of an idiot, but his heart is in the right place.” And



Hero-Man is not alone in his crime fighting attempts – his ally isn't too far off from his idol, though.

“*Hero-Lad* is also kind of an idiot,” Schuster continues, “but he's a kid and will probably grow out of it. In the meantime, he realizes he needs to step up to protect his city, and save his hero, *Hero-Man*.”

Hero-Man is a parody targeting a variety of superhero comic book tropes. Inspired by classic creators like Jack Kirby, this duo wanted to create something unique, accessible, and fun.

“Instead of the grim/dark parodies like *The Boys* and *Kick-Ass*, though, we wanted to keep things light and fun, like classic superhero comics,” Schuster says.

Radchenka shares a similar outlook and knew that Schuster was the right artist for the job. “His art style is so specific and well-suited to the sort of goofy and sincere story that the concept called for.”

Readers can look forward to some wild twists and turns in *Hero-Man*, and another key character called the *Femme Fatal*, but, surprisingly, real life also plays a big role in this story. According to Radchenka, “Comics have *always* been political and reflections of the world in the moment, and so I'm sure that *Hero-Man* is no exception.”

Schuster concurs, saying, “We keep things fun and funny, but it's definitely a book about the real world's problems seen through the lens of golden-age optimism.”

In *Hero-Man*, both creators have shown that comics can have something to say and still be fun. Radchenka hopes their readers “take comics, new and old, and feel comfortable loving them. There's so much room in this industry to just be our weird selves.”

For Schuster, it comes down to a simple message: “Anyone can wear the mask. You could wear the mask.”



Lyndon Radchenka



Zach Schuster

MORE FICTION

SHORT STORIES

ART OF CAMOUFLAGE

Sara Power

This debut collection of stories looks at the lives of women and girls connected to the military – female recruits in toxic masculine environments, military wives dealing with countless moves, new cities, and new selves, and military kids who find friendships challenging – with insight and emotional precision.

(Freehand Books, \$22.95 pb, 236 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990601-67-5)

KHYBER

Chadwick Ginther, illustrations
by GMB Chomichuk

These five stories of sword and sorcery are set in Khyber, a city at the centre of a shared world, divided into distinct sections and classes, with a watery, stinking underworld, and filled with thieves, cannibals, rat catchers, seers, and more, all on a quest for something or someone.

(Stranger Fiction, \$20.00 pb, 162 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990690-10-5, available as ebook)

ON BEAUTY

rob mclennan

A provocative collection of moments, confessions, overheard conversations, and memories, these 33 vignettes are situated at the crossroads of prose and poetry, exploring the rhythm and textures of lives in motion, capturing the act of record keeping while in the process of living through parenthood, grief, pain, and joy. (University of Alberta Press, \$24.99 pb, 152 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-769-0, available as ebook)

RUBBLE CHILDREN: SEVEN AND A HALF STORIES

Aaron Kreuter

These seven and a half interlinked stories – sometimes realist, often satirical, and with a dash of the speculative – tackle Jewish belonging, settler colonialism, Zionism and anti-Zionism, love requited and unrequited, and cannabis culture, following diverse characters connected to

Kol B'Seder, a fictional Reform synagogue in the Toronto suburb of Thornhill. (University of Alberta Press, \$26.99 pb, 224 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-772-0, available as ebook)

SHARED WORLD

Jonathan Ball, GMB Chomichuk, James Gillespie, and Chadwick Ginther

This collection of sword and sorcery stories set in a shared world includes an introduction by Silvia Moreno-Garcia, an outro by S. M. Beiko, and two stories each by Chadwick Ginther, GMB Chomichuk and James Gillespie, and Jonathan Ball. (Stranger Fiction, \$20.00 pb, 162 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990690-15-0, available as ebook)

NOVELS

ALL THAT'S LEFT

Lisa Guenther

Darby Swank is rebuilding her life after the traumatic events of *Friendly Fire* in this sequel that explores fame, safety, vulnerability, art, and friendship. She goes to college, meets her lifelong friend Ruby, develops her musical talent, connects with her charismatic cousin who has started her own inclusive church in Alberta, and moves to Toronto where her career takes off. The risks of being in the public eye become all too evident, as the characters' lives intertwine.

(NeWest Press, \$24.95 pb, 304 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77439-096-2, available as ebook)

BEACH BLUES

John Lawrence Reynolds

Book 3 in the Beach series sees blues singer Buddy Blaine's summer gig at Tuffy's on the beach strip ruined when his new friend Abby Bergen is found in Buddy's room garroted with a string from his guitar and he is the prime suspect in the eyes of homicide detective Drew Deforest. (At Bay Press, \$32.95 hc, 300 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998779-35-2)

THE BEECH FOREST

Marlis Wesseler

Lisa Braun, left on her own while her husband is working in the North and her best friend is preparing to move away, is led to question her own life – her

relationships with her husband and her daughter – and her understanding of the tragic events of the Second World War, as she befriends a fellow gardener, Ben Meisner, who was interned in Buchenwald, and who gives her an insider view of what happened there.

(Thistledown Press, \$24.95 pb, 222 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-254-6)

CALL OF THE VOID

J. T. Siemens

Sloane Donovan, the protagonist of *To Those Who Killed Me*, is back, now a fully accredited private investigator, but still suffering the effects of past trauma. In addition to her annoying task of keeping a debauched film star out of trouble, Sloane has taken on the missing person case of a 15-year-old girl who disappeared seven years ago.

(NeWest Press, \$22.95 pb, 384 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77439-086-3, available as ebook)

ELEVEN HUSKIES

Philipp Schott

In this third Dr. Bannerman Vet Mystery, Peter, his partner, Laura, his brother-in-law, the RCMP corporal Kevin, and Kevin's boyfriend Stuart are on a canoeing trip at a remote fishing lodge in northern Manitoba in the aftermath of two crimes: the huskies of a sled dog team are poisoned, and a float plane is shot down, killing the pilot and two passengers. To add to the danger of having a killer on the loose, a forest fire is burning out of control. (ECW Press, \$24.95 pb, 260 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77041-767-0, available as ebook)

AN EVENING WITH BIRDY O'DAY

Greg Kearney

An aging gay hair stylist nurtures an obsession for Birdy O'Day, a washed-up pop star he knew as a child, who is finally going to perform in Winnipeg for the first time, in this funny and tender novel about gay friendship, aging without retirement, queer survival, and the power of empathy. (Arsenal Pulp Press, \$24.95 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55152-941-7, available as ebook)

THE GAME OF GIANTS**Marion Douglas**

After learning that her son Roger is in the third-percentile rank developmentally, Rose Drury reviews her life history for the definitive moment that could explain how she and her son got to this point in this lovely novel about a young mother's uncertainty, fear, and hard-won wisdom. (Freehand Books, \$24.95 pb, 300 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990601-64-4)

THE HARVESTERS**Jasmina Odor**

Recently divorced Mira takes a trip to Paris with her nephew, Bernard, who has lost his first love. Both are living in the shadows of war, immigration, and family disconnection as they prepare to travel on to Croatia. This interlude in a magical city offers an opportunity for them to address their losses and move toward recovery. (Freehand Books, \$24.95 pb, 280 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990601-61-3)

ISLAND FALLS**Owen Toews**

Part essay, part research report complete with photos, part a warm and funny story of a friendship, part allegory, this innovative nested novella, by exploring and reflecting on the history and geography of a mill town, examines the effects of capitalism and colonialism. (ARP Books, \$22.00 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-1-927886-80-9, available as ebook)

NORMA**Sarah Mintz**

Norma, recently widowed, spends her newfound freedom transcribing cancelled soap operas, police investigations, and focus groups for 50 cents a minute, hanging out in grocery stores, and eating fast food, while trying to keep the boundaries between virtual work and real life intact in this darkly funny yet earnest exploration of grief. (Invisible Publishing, \$22.95 pb, 176 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77843-040-4, available as ebook)

PALE GREY DOT**Don Miasek**

In this debut science fiction novel, former members of an elite team of operatives

have been living in exile and disgrace after a mission went horribly wrong – until the solar system's Jupiter Station is attacked from within, and they are brought back into action.

(Ravenstone-Turnstone Press, \$23.95 pb, 420 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88801-777-2)

RABBIT RABBIT RABBIT**Nadine Sander-Green**

Millicent takes her first job as a reporter in Whitehorse, where she gets involved with a filmmaker who lives in a converted school bus on a Walmart parking lot, in this coming-of-age story that explores toxic relationships, isolation, and betrayal against the stark landscape of the far north.

(House of Anansi Press, \$23.99 pb, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4870-1129-1, available as ebook)

THE RASMUSSEN PAPERS**Connie Gault**

This delightful, insightful, and very engaging retelling of Henry James's *The Aspern Papers* explores ideas of ambition, poetry, and how much we can know of anyone's story as it follows a Saskatchewan writer/critic/would-be biographer who moves in with a 100-year-old writer and his brother to try to get precious papers about her literary hero, the late Marianne Rasmussen.

(Thistledown Press, \$24.95 pb, 192 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77187-253-9)

A SIMPLE CARPENTER**Dave Margoshes**

Part biblical fable, part magic realism, and part thriller, this novel is set largely in the Middle East in the early 1980s against the backdrop of the civil war in Lebanon, and is narrated by a carpenter who lost his memory before being shipwrecked and rescued, and who subsequently displays the ability to perform small healing miracles. (Radiant Press, \$25.00 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998926-09-1)

SUGAR KIDS**Taslim Burkowicz**

Set in the Vancouver underground rave scene of the '90s, this coming-of-age novel follows Baby, a skater girl who gets

kicked out of her home for not conforming to her Indo-Canadian family's gender expectations, and who searches for a sense of belonging, alongside eccentric DJs and denim-clad ghosts.

(Roseway-Fernwood Publishing, \$24.00 pb, 224 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-675-7, available as ebook)

THAT BUSINESS AT BRODY**Jack Winter**

This historical novel about a family of Russian Jews scattered by persecution and reunited by chance at the Mansion House in London is told by various narrators with humour and humanity, and resonates with contemporary concerns about transient lives.

(At Bay Press, \$24.95 pb, 350 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998779-34-5)

THIS LARK OF STOLEN TIME**Richard Cumyn**

The Lauder Jones family – Norman, the father, a short-fiction writer; Ursula, the mother, a neuroscientist; John, nursing a broken heart and rethinking his career as a scientist; Merin, who has returned from working in publishing to operate a small movie house; Anya, a teenage aspiring painter; and Cary, the narrator with uncanny insight into the minds of others – is reunited for a brief time before their lives change in profound ways.

(Enfield & Wizenty-Great Plains Press, \$27.95 pb, 336 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77337-117-7)

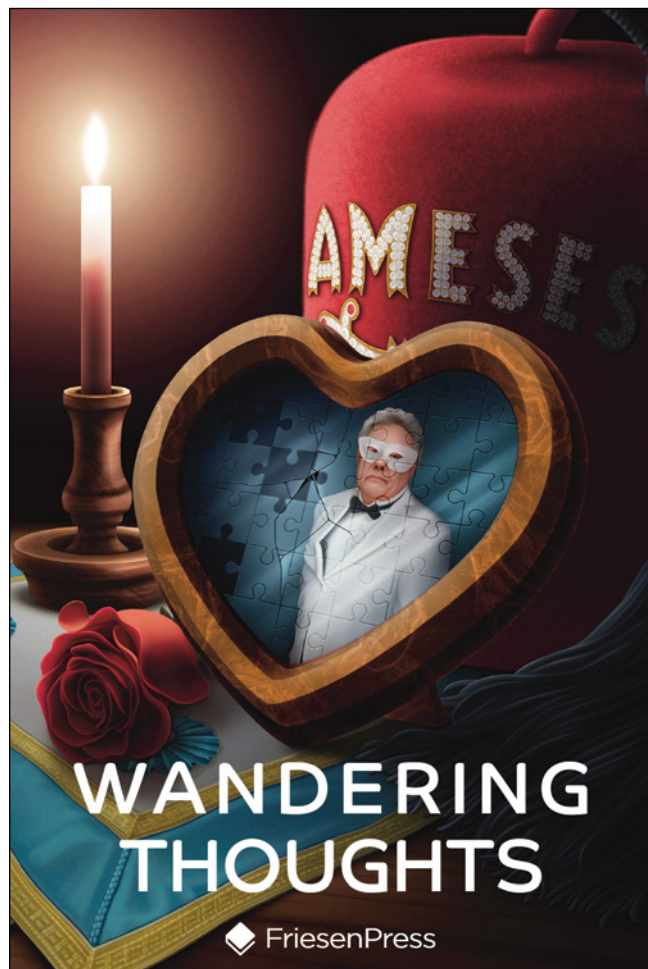
WE ARE ALREADY GHOSTS**Kit Dobson**

Haunting in the way of Virginia Woolf, this story centres on the Briscoe-MacDougall family and the summers spent at their cabin, starting in 1996, and checking in on them at five-year intervals. Multiple perspectives from all generations blend to form a lovely and compelling meditation on place and memory. (University of Calgary Press, \$34.99 pb, 192 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77385-527-1, available as ebook)

WE SPEAK THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN**Premee Mohamed**

This sequel to the award-winning *The Annual Migration of Clouds* sees 19-year-old

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



JOHN OROSS

This collection of poetry, prose, open political letters, lyrics, and short stories is mostly autobiographical and entirely illuminating. It is the poignant tale of a life marked by loss but also by strength of character and the will to push forward through hardship.

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

- Friesen Press bookstore
- Amazon Kindle Store
- Nook Store
- Kobold Store
- Apple Books
- Google Play



204 960 0658
johnoross1@outlook.com
www.johnoross.com

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Reid Graham make her way to the dome of Howse University, where she is treated for CAD, and where she realizes that she has to do something to share the resources of the dome with the rest of humanity. (ECW Press, \$19.95 pb, 156 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77041-733-5, available as ebook)

WHAT'S NOT MINE Nora Decter

All is not sweet and innocent for Bria the summer she turns 16 – a summer of forest fires, young love/lust, fentanyl, abandonment, sexual harassment, and family – in this darkly funny, engaging, and heartrending novel. (ECW Press, \$24.95 pb, 256 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77041-764-9, available as ebook)

GRAPHIC NOVELS

QUID PRO CROW, MORDECAI CROW, BOOK TWO

Bill Slavin

With his young friend Podd, Mordecai Crow continues to search for his long-lost family, looking through the ruins and hidden communities of various firewalls where some technology has been preserved, and fighting off Luddites along the way. Will the tech market in Flood Town hold the key to Crow's past or a deadly trap? (Renegade Arts Entertainment, \$21.99 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989754-58-0)

TANNING MOOSEHIDES

the Northern Saskatchewan Trapline Way

An Easy Step-by-Step Guide

Tommy Bird
Lawrence Adam
Lena Adam
with MIRIAM KÖRNER

TANNING MOOSEHIDES

Denesūḡiné Elders Lawrence and Lena Adam have tanned hides and shared their knowledge with others for more than four decades. Woodland Cree knowledge carrier Tommy Bird helped his family tan hides on the trapline as a young boy. Together they share their lifetime of experience to guide a new generation of hide tanners to keep the tradition alive.

The Northern Saskatchewan Trapline Way

978-1-77869-032-7
\$49.95 • 8.5 x 11 • 64 pp
Soft Cover | Wire-O

ynwp
YOUR NICKEL'S WORTH PUBLISHING

orders@ynwp.ca
1 • 306 • 564 • 4957

A practical guide combining traditional knowledge with easy-to-follow instructions and detailed colour photos.

CREATIVE SASKATCHEWAN

‘Bonded relationship’ to 120-year-old house at centre of new poetry collection

Catherine Owen explores themes of ownership, rootedness, and history

by Kyla Neufeld

MOVING TO DELILAH

Catherine Owen

Freehand Books

\$19.95 pb, 136 pages

ISBN: 978-1-99060-158-3

Available as an ebook

What makes a home? What is the importance of rootedness? Catherine Owen explores these questions in a new collection of poetry, *Moving to Delilah*. The poems recount the experience of Owen’s move from an apartment in Vancouver to a house in Edmonton, and the new and surprising aspects of owning a home, growing a garden, and participating more deeply in community.

These poems also emerged “from feelings of rupture and sacrifice as I left the city I had spent most of my life in, becoming an economic itinerant in a sense, and realizing that nothing in the process of moving from one province to another is simple,” says Owen.

One central theme these poems grapple with is ownership. “I know no one really owns anything. But a temporary and healthy claim to rootedness on a particular piece of earth can have so many benefits,” says Owen.

“As a renter from 17 years old, I had been frustrated because I could never repaint my walls or change the

light fixtures and, in most places I lived, I couldn’t grow a garden. Dealing with landlords also always made me feel anxious and aggravated.”

With the purchase of the house, Owen now has the ability to inhabit space freely. Built in 1905, the house, affectionately named Delilah, is the oldest in its neighbourhood. Upon moving into it, Owen delved into its history, which was sometimes difficult to find.

“One of the things that surprised me was how little information there was about the years 1905 to 1908 in the microfiche,” Owen says. “So, the favourite bits of history I’ve learned about Delilah have been

from neighbours and through accidental discoveries. Delilah was the house on the site of a dairy farm and that’s why there are



“A poet is a maker, and making anything requires a shaping from chaos into a form that can sing in the blood.” CATHERINE OWEN



no other homes of her era nearby.”

The poem “Uncoveries: haibuns on renovating a garage” describes an old leather wallet Owen found, “stiffened by over 60 years of abandonment inside the rafters,” filled with identity cards and photos of a woman.

Other poems track the garden’s progress, explore the house’s idiosyncrasies, and map out the neighbourhood’s history.

Owen believes the old-fashioned nature of the house lent itself to the structure of the poems in this collection, which bounce between formal styles, like villanelle, and free verse.

“I have written in forms like the ghazal and the sonnet for many years and always find it fascinating how an ancient form or one from another culture can be wrangled to converse with contemporary or North American content. The interplay between form and subject matter has always been crucial in my work,” says Owen.

“A poet is a maker, and making anything requires a shaping from chaos into a form that can sing in the blood.”

For Owen, the relationship with Delilah is crucial. “I imagine that my bonded relationship to this 120-year-old house will keep evolving over the time I live here. Becoming aware of the history of anything deepens one’s capacity for love.”

PALE GREY
DOT
DON MIASEK

A Road Map for
Finding Wild Horses
TRISIA EDDY WOODS

The
Twistical
Nature of
Spoons
Patti Grayson

BOUNTY
JASON PCNAJEK

BOLD & BEAUTIFUL | TURNSTONEPRESS.COM

**SHADOWPAW
PRESS**

**NEW BOOKS FROM
PRAIRIE AUTHORS**

From Governor General's Award-winner Arthur Slade:
new editions of his Canadian Chills middle-grade series

ISBN: 9781998273003

ISBN: 9781998273027

ISBN: 9781998273041

Plus: new poetry from Lynda Monahan; a new edition of John Brady McDonald's acclaimed debut poetry collection; and a new edition of Erna Buffie's award-nominated literary novel

ISBN: 9781998273133

ISBN: 9781998273119

ISBN: 9781998273065

Spring titles at ARP Books

COLOSSAL EQUINE STATUE Nio Wilson

Colossal Equine Statue uses a constantly shifting voice which swings between reporting, personal anecdote, enumeration, criticism, ekphrasis, and poetry to create unexpected encounters between different times and conceptions of reality.

Available now!

Academia remains an unwelcoming space for Indigenous scholars. What space it does cede to Indigenous knowledge is dictated and narrowly defined. WSÁNEĆ scholar Jack Horne, author of *TOL, NEW SEN TȚE SOL: I Know the Road* articulates his own negotiation with academia.

**TOL, NEW SEN
TȚE SOL**
I Know The Road

Challenging White Supremacy and
Anti-Indigenous Racism in Academia

Jack Horne

Winnipeg Poet Laureate plays with form in a debut grounded by place

Chimwemwe Undi highlights silences through erasure, and shares love of love

by Sanna Wani

SCIENTIFIC MARVEL

Chimwemwe Undi

House of Anansi Press

\$19.99 pb, 96 pages

ISBN: 978-1-4870-1225-0

Available as an ebook

For Chimwemwe Undi, author of the debut poetry collection *Scientific Marvel*, creating poetry has everything to do with love. “I write poetry because I love words. I love language,” she says. She relishes the opportunity for play and the chance for words to mean more together than they might mean alone.

This ideal of togetherness runs through the collection and her work as Winnipeg Poet Laureate. “I want to make more things that I love exist in the world,” Undi says.

In the collection, Undi plays with a variety of forms, including list and erasure poetry, to both serious and humorous effect. Undi explains the appeal of formal poetry: “It’s giving me a constraint to buck against: a playground that I can play inside of, and push against the limits of.”

Constraints also reveal new ways to use language, to refresh one’s own sensibilities: a simultaneously “safer and more challenging” task than free verse poetry.

The erasure poems in the book all use as source texts Supreme Court of Canada cases and decisions involving Black people. Undi, a practising lawyer, highlights silences – silences about Blackness – using erasure.

“If you go back to the actual cases, the fact of those individuals being Black and the effect that their Blackness has on their experience in the world and in the law is not really spoken to,” she says. In these poems, she

redacts text “as a way of revealing what is redacted from the law.”

The poems of *Scientific Marvel* are also grounded in place, with the title of the book coming from a beauty school in downtown Winnipeg, and a series of Winnipeg Poems interspersed throughout. The first of these is laugh-out-loud funny, listing what Undi describes as

“all these signifiers that are put into things about Winnipeg to indicate to Winnipeggers [that] this is about Winnipeg.”

Undi’s relationship to the Prairies is one of return: after she was born in Winnipeg, her family moved back to southern Africa, returning to Manitoba when she was 13, a “rough age to immigrate,” but in some ways an optimal age to start becoming a poet.

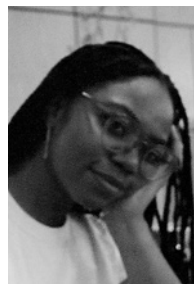
“My understanding of myself and my understanding of this place have always developed alongside one another,” she says. “And I think as I’ve come to love myself more, I’ve also come to love the Prairies more.”

This love is complicated, though, as Undi doesn’t always feel like her experience as a Black person on the Prairies is recognized.

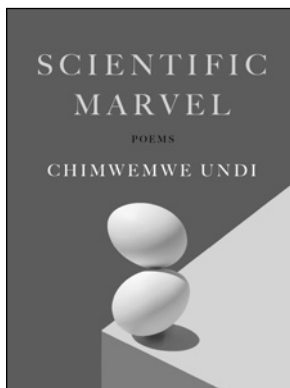
In addition to political and critical pieces, Undi includes straight-up love poems, most notably “Auto-Epithalamium.”

“I love love,” she says. She describes romantic love and commitment as a common magic, a casual miracle, the ordinariness of which she finds incredibly moving and beautiful. She found it to be an interesting poetic challenge to write about something so often written about by others.

Love, which undergirds the entire collection, is the deep and dedicated commitment to one another, whether to a spouse or to a friend, to a city or to a community. For Undi, it is a promise: “Let’s both keep changing for the rest of our lives. But also choose one another over and over again.” 🌿



Chimwemwe Undi



MORE POETRY

ACUTELY LIFE

Sue Sorensen

This debut collection of life studies interrogates works of visual art, questions fictional characters about their views on grief and generosity, and holds conversations with all sorts of suitable and unsuitable companions, in ways darkly humorous and resonant.

(At Bay Press, \$24.95 pb, 148 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988779-23-9)

A BRIEF RELIEF FROM HUNGER

Spenser Smith

Addressing the bigger context of British Columbia's toxic drug supply crisis through the perspective of a young man yearning for fast food, powerful drugs, and human connection, these poems use texts such as Facebook comments and news stories in innovative ways to examine the stigma toward drug use and to forge a way toward positive change.

(Gordon Hill Press, \$20.00 pb, 70 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77422-098-6, available as ebook)

DEVIANT

Patrick Grace

This debut collection traces a trajectory of queer self-discovery from childhood to adulthood, examining love, fear, grief, risk, and violence and psychological trauma, including experiences of stalking, and revealing the anti-gay bias of the justice system.

(University of Alberta Press, \$19.99 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-741-6, available as ebook)

A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH

Nisha Patel

In this stunning poetic investigation of the worthiness of disabled life, Patel evaluates her own medical records that document her treatment-resistant diabetes, bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and complex chronic pain, and repurposes clinical texts to create through poetry a way to resist the sway of medical hegemony and to offer complex accounts of pain, sickness, and anger, but also of love.

(Arsenal Pulp Press, \$21.95 pb, 160 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55152-945-5, available as ebook)

HOW CAN YOU LIVE HERE?

Tom Wayman

These poems reveal the secrets, revelations, and wonders of a remote British Columbia mountain locale, where the realities of natural and human communities are suffused with mystery and beauty.

(Frontenac House Poetry, \$19.95 pb, 104 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989466-69-8)

IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF AUTUMN

Tim Bowling

Bowling explores memory, place, and time while thinking back on family history, getting inside the heads of the minor characters of *The Great Gatsby*, and honouring the loss of his pet dog, in poems that are wise, open-hearted, and whimsical.

(Buckrider Books-Wolsak & Wynn, \$20.00 pb, 90 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989496-86-2)

INTO THE CONTINENT

Emily McGiffin

Produced in a tête-bêche format, this book explores the effects of environmental, political, and domestic violence across time from Turtle Island to South Africa in poems that use vivid imagery of nature unspoiled and then defiled together with powerful narratives.

(University of Regina Press, \$19.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-989-1, available as ebook)

INVISIBLE LIVES

Cristalle Smith

In lyrically resonant and powerfully experimental poetry taking on forms like online chats and a lab report describing the poet's poetics, Smith gives voice to the silenced, reflecting on her experiences of childhood poverty and insecurity, domestic violence, and single motherhood.

(University of Calgary Press, 114 pages, \$56.99 hc, ISBN: 978-1-77385-513-4; \$26.99 pb, ISBN: 978-1-77385-514-1; available as ebook)

THE LAST TO THE PARTY

Chuiqiao Yang

Yang, in this honest and unsparing debut collection, explores the perspective that time gives as she examines relationships with parents (especially her father), friends, lovers, and peers. She looks back to her childhood and teen years, and the anger

and shame she felt, and to travels to China and across the American South, and traces the development of a new understanding that comes from a feeling of finally belonging in her own sense of self.

(icehouse poetry-Goose Lane Editions, \$19.95 pb, 108 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77310-333-4)

LIFE IS JUST A DREAM

Madeleine Riha

This debut collection explores the experience of loss, grief, and acceptance as the speaker of the poems reflects on her mother's illness and death, and how poetry, friends, and faith help her through, providing "emotional beauty born from despair."

(Self-published, \$12.99 pb, 36 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77835-157-0)

NAKED PICTURES

Paulette Dubé

Stunning photos – of mountains and lakes in the sunlight and mist; of bears, elk, and voles; of ravens, eagles, and waxwings; of aspen forests and snowscapes; of butterflies and bees; of full moons – are woven together with precise poetry that asks questions and casts spells to create a study in perspective, and a way to cope with the pandemic and the frightening world of fires, hurricanes, and social division.

(At Bay Press, \$24.95 pb, 168 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998779-38-3)

NORTHERNY

Dawn Macdonald

In this playful and compelling collection, Macdonald resists the way outsiders impose their expectations, literary standards, "development," and world view on the North, presenting her own frank and funny stories of what it is truly like to come from and live in the North.

(University of Alberta Press, \$19.99 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-737-9, available as ebook)

THE ONEIRONAUT Ø1

Sheri-D Wilson

This first part of a three-part epic poem follows Rain, a brilliant scientist, who is called by the Willows, the keepers of dreams, and chosen to lead the fight against The Bureau, a regime that controls society by forcing citizens to take a pill

that prevents them from dreaming. If Rain and the Willows fail, the secret order of The Oneironauts will be lost, and with it, the people's ability to hope, to heal, and to imagine a better life.
(Write Bloody North, \$20.00 pb, 188 pages, ISBN: 978-1-7781626-2-6)

THE PRINCIPLE OF RAPID PEERING

Sylvia Legris

Legris explores the phrase "rapid peering" – the feeding behaviour of certain birds – as a rich theme of observation in this collection of poems in which she creates a kind of naturalist notebook, walking through the sloughs, parklands, and riverbanks of Saskatchewan, forming a melody of naming, pairing birds with trees, listing grasses, and noting insects, weather conditions, more birds, and always the moths with her characteristic word play.
(New Directions Books, \$22.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-0-8112-3764-2)

REALIA

Michael Trussler

Disintegration – of minds and of society – in this age of the Anthropocene is reflected with urgency and originality in these imploded lyrics and short essays, where some lines fall apart before they hit the page, and others precisely play against the ideas of other thinkers.
(Radiant Press, \$20.00 pb, 100 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998926-03-9)

A ROAD MAP FOR FINDING WILD HORSES

Trisia Eddy Woods

Tracing a year in the foothills of Alberta where the speaker, sometimes with her daughter, searches out and photographs wild horses, this collection celebrates the seasons and the wilderness, finding the magic and the sorrow.
(Turnstone Press, \$20.00 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88801-780-2)

THAT AUDIBLE SLIPPAGE

Margaret Christakos

How to actively listen when one awakens to the day with news on the radio, furnaces blasting air, and traffic sounds overcoming the birdsong? Sensory fragments, echoing impressions of

how a body walks in a river valley, and meditations in a forest are ways the speaker shows the power of poetic practice.
(University of Alberta Press, \$19.99 pb, 104 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-739-3, available as ebook)

WAKEWORD

Wakefield Brewster

One of Alberta's most renowned spoken word performers has crafted a debut collection of poetry that delivers messages of hope, wellness, and pride in his Blackness, in the face of obstacles such as harmful educational systems, addiction, and mental despair.
(Frontenac House Poetry, \$19.95 pb, 116 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989466-72-8)

WRAP IN A BIG WHITE TOWEL

Callista Markotich

This debut collection is full of restless experimentation and musicality, with poems that respond to a world that wounds the spirit, poems that are saturated with kindness, honesty, and vitality.
(Frontenac House Poetry, \$19.95 pb, 68 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989466-73-5)

MORE DRAMA

BEYOND THE SEA

Kristen Da Silva

Two endearing characters – Theo, starting to date again after his divorce, and Gwen, a loner working the ticket booth for a boat tour company – have an encounter that just might save them both in this understated but moving play about the emergence of hope through grief.
(Scirocco Drama-JGS Publishing, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990738-32-6)

CASEY AND DIANA

Nick Green

As Casey House, a Toronto AIDS hospice, prepares for the historic visit of Diana, Princess of Wales, in October 1991, residents and staff are inspired to become all they can be, to live just a bit longer and more compassionately. Inspired by true events, this moving drama vividly captures a moment in time when a rebel princess, caregivers, and advocates helped

to provide those stricken by the virus the dignity, community, and love they deserve.
(Scirocco Drama-JGS Publishing, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990738-31-9)

THE DARK LADY/PANDORA

Jessica B. Hill

This two-play book includes *The Dark Lady*, about Emilia Bassano (who was trilingual, mixed race, and the first woman poet to be published in England) and the influence she had on Shakespeare's life and works; and *Pandora*, a one-person play about curiosity and life's biggest questions.
(Scirocco Drama-JGS Publishing, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990738-35-7)

FOREVER YOUNG: A GHETTO STORY

Darrah Teitel

Following a group of young revolutionaries in Poland during the Second World War, this relevant and passionate play shows how Izzy, Joshua, Eden, Christian, and Felicia, all from very different backgrounds with different – often clashing – affiliations and beliefs, come together to form a new military organization to fight against the Nazis in what became known as the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.
(Scirocco Drama-JGS Publishing, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990738-36-4)

PRODIGAL

Paolo Santalucia

Edmund, the gay, alcoholic, eldest son of a prominent family, returns home after being cut off, adding a bit of drama to his brother's engagement party. With him comes the estate manager's brother, Levi, a stranger who is being welcomed and helped by Edmund's father, for reasons no one can figure out, in this witty play about queerness, privilege, marginalization, and forgiveness.
(Scirocco Drama-JGS Publishing, \$17.95 pb, 80 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990738-33-3)

Musical for Deaf performers highlights how music is seen, felt, experienced

‘Signed music is built for the stage,’ says writer Adam Pottle

by Joanna Hawkins

THE BLACK DRUM

Adam Pottle

Playwrights Canada Press

\$18.95 pb, 96 pages

ISBN: 978-0-3691-0486-1

Currently, American Sign Language is blossoming in the theatre community, including in musicals. People are recognizing its importance in building cultural understanding between hearing and Deaf communities by removing communication barriers. The musical *The Black Drum*, written by Saskatoon-based Deaf writer Adam Pottle, was performed in Toronto in 2019, demonstrating that powerful plays can be performed by Deaf actors.

Pottle, who has written in diverse genres including plays, memoirs, novels, and children’s books, decided to write *The Black Drum* when Joanne Cripps from the Canadian Cultural Society for the Deaf in Toronto asked him if he would be interested in writing the story for a Deaf musical.

While Pottle had some musical background – he’s played drums since he was 12 – and he’d written a play before, this undertaking proved to be a challenge.

“Writing a musical for Deaf performers is another thing entirely. We wanted to centre the play on the idea that music is not just something you hear; it’s also something you can see, something you can feel,” Pottle says.

“I was born Deaf, but I grew up in a hearing family, so as I was writing this play, I was grappling with my own conception of music and doing a lot of unlearning, detaching myself from the deeply embedded tentacles of

the hearing world. The concept of Signed Music was so new, we had to invent a sign for it. It was a sticky process, but the result was amazing.”

Pottle notes the limitations of capturing a very visual performance in a book. “It’s hard to convey the beauty and majesty of Signed Music on the page – what readers will see is just the English translation, not the actual notation or signs. Signed Music is built for the stage,” he says.

“I do hope that readers enjoy the story, though. It’s a mix of *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and *Nosferatu* and *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*. I also hope that theatre performers see in this play new possibilities of what we can bring to the stage, what kinds of stories we can tell.”

Pottle is hoping *The Black Drum* will open eyes and hearts.

“I hope that readers and audience members see the possibilities in welcoming new stories into the world. I hope they’re inspired to learn sign language and to seek out other works by Deaf artists and disabled artists. I hope they challenge themselves to consider their own views of Deaf people and the history of oppression we’ve had to contend with, and that we still contend with,” he says.

Part of that oppression faced by Deaf people is the lack of space and opportunity to express themselves and the “extraordinary beauty and power” they hold.

“The hearing world has a habit of feeding crumbs to Deaf artists: they let us have a moment, then force us back to the margins,” says Pottle. “But there are millions of Deaf and hard-of-hearing people around the world. We’re permanent fixtures in the artistic landscape.

“Soon, those margins are going to explode, and all our stories are going to spill out.” 🌱



TENILLE CAMPBELL
SWEETMOON PHOTOGRAPHY



Multidimensional collection shows Métis women's work is everywhere

Edited collection crosses genres, includes thinkers inside and outside the academy

by Janelle Desrosiers

AROUND THE KITCHEN TABLE:

Métis Aunties' Scholarship

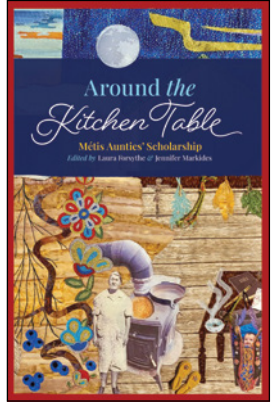
Laura Forsythe (Editor), Jennifer Markides (Editor)

University of Manitoba Press

224 pages, tpb

ISBN 9781772840735

\$27.95



Seeking to uplift Métis women's contributions, and expand narratives of Métis heroes, identity, and culture, Métis assistant professors Dr. Laura Forsythe and Jennifer Markides present *Around the Kitchen Table: Métis Aunties' Scholarship*.



Laura Forsythe

With ancestral ties to the historic Métis community of Pakan Ville/ Rooster Town (Forsythe) and Brandon House (Markides), Forsythe and Markides were inspired by their own families, as well as the many matriarchs who have kept Métis culture alive and thriving.

Around the Kitchen Table is an edited collection of poetry, personal essays, academic writing, research, visual artworks, songs, beadwork, political, legal, and governance frameworks, and stories from women across the Métis nation.

"There is a multidimensionality of being Métis," Markides says. "This collection really showcases that Métis

women's work is in everything, in every way, in every area and discipline."

Forsythe adds: "Some of the contributors we approached said, 'Well, I'm not an academic. That's not what I do.' But we know they are. They're Métis thinkers. Their work is in the academy, whether they put it there or not.

Many of the pieces directly challenge current Métis/Michif identity and self-determination, which relies heavily on a narrow set of narratives, largely shaped and validated by colonial, religious, and patriarchal perspectives.

"As Métis women, we've often been expected to mediate and negotiate, but we don't necessarily get credit for what we bring and know and do. And so we needed to make space for us," shares Markides.

"When we began this journey, we were really thinking about, what are Métis women's contributions to the academy? And we're not only in just one discipline: we're spread throughout all of those disciplines." Forsythe says.

The book also highlights how, in addition to their other roles and responsibilities, Métis women have always been at the forefront of education.

"Maria Campbell once said that the role of grandmothers is to be our first teachers. So Métis women learn from their grandmothers that our obligation is to our community, and part of that is to transmit knowledge. So the more educated we get, the more responsibility we have to then educate others. Knowledge does not belong to us: we're not keepers of it, we share it," Forsythe says.

"We're driven to work hard and to make change where we see change needs to be made," Markides says.

When faced with the wisdom, resilience, and creativity that exudes from each chapter, we can begin to see the harm created when Métis women and gender-diverse people are removed not only from Canada's history, but from their own history, and from the present.

Around the Kitchen Table is a reminder to us, that the kitchen table is a sacred space of ceremony, rest, and action.

As Forsythe says, "We're being reminded of the way that we have always operated. That kitchen table governance has always existed. It has never gone anywhere – we just need to remember the power of it.

"If we can remember that's how we should be operating as Métis people – through our kinship ties, with our obligations, whether that table is in the academy or in our own kitchen – Métis people can be unstoppable.

"Hopefully this book helps us do that." 🌿



Jennifer Markides

Play offers story of hope in the face of monumental enemies

Herbie Barnes set tale in time ‘with no settler influence about it’

by Eric Plamondon

BENTBOY

Herbie Barnes

Scirocco Drama

80 pages, pb

\$16.95

ISBN: 9781990738340

You’d be forgiven for believing that *Bentboy* is an art offering that is bent out of shape, but you would be mistaken. In fact, it’s in fine storytelling form. Written by Herbie Barnes, who currently serves as the artistic director at Young People’s Theatre in Toronto, *Bentboy* is a story set in pre-contact times, yet is offered to us in a way that is timeless.

“I made the story pre-contact so that the story was a completely First Nations story with no settler influence about it.”

It has been suggested that theatre’s purpose is not to entertain, but to teach, to provoke, to make you think, to make you feel. Entertainment is the dressing for this purpose. However, a skilled storyteller will achieve these objectives by wrapping them up in ways that keep our attention. Herbie Barnes is one of those storytellers. So was his mom.

“First and foremost, my mother [was] who taught us the stories growing up,” Barnes offers.



Herbie Barnes

This might explain the character Eagleseye, a matriarch of the community, and the one from which wisdom is delivered. Eagleseye sends Bentboy, a physically differently-formed boy, on a quest in order to save the community.

“I was playing Bilbo Baggins [in *The Hobbit*],” recounts Barnes, “but the character Gollum would always steal the show. Paul (who was portraying Gollum) said someone should write his story and I set about that task, telling Gollum’s origin story.”

This was enough for Barnes to use as a launch pad to make the differently-abled one the protagonist of his story. It’s an unlikely choice, as he is an unlikely hero. Predictably, the community does not trust Eagleseye’s decision, even less Bentboy; especially since their faith lies in the hands of the one incapable of playing any of the children’s games according to the set rules.

The beauty of this story is not in where we begin, nor where we end, but what happens on the way. Eagleseye reveals that the imminent threat she spoke of is not an outside threat, but rather ourselves.

Through *Bentboy*, Barnes offers us a story of hope in the face of monumental enemies. We can use some hope these days. Laying a path for children to do right unto the world is an investment in hope.

“As humans we have a basic role. We need to leave this world in a



better place than when we got here. This means setting young people up for success. Getting them ready for the world after we are gone. We take care of the environment so that it is healthy for the next generation. We teach young people to respect the differences in each other and in a healthy world we have done it since time began.”

In many ways, *Bentboy* is a modern story. Barnes uses contemporary theatre devices, like projections, to deliver entertainment and lessons. Like a tight hug, that is both love and survival. As we exist in modernity, post-contact, revealing that Barnes is self-aware, and so is the audience. The relationship with story and audience is also part of how stories are told, felt, remembered.

“Having us all feel the same thing, to lose our collective breath, to have our hearts beat at the same rhythm collectively,” explains Barnes, “is something I hope we as humans never lose.” 🌿

Stories from village of Lebret highlight beauty, vibrancy of Métis culture

‘The past is never finished with you,’ says author Joan Pelletier

by Sarah Seroy

LEBRET:

Looking Back and Beyond: An Autobiography

Joan Pelletier

Gabriel Dumont Institute Press

154 pages, pb

\$25.00

ISBN: 9781988011301

When Métis author Joan Pelletier set out to write her poignant memoir *Lebret: Looking Back and Beyond: An Autobiography* from her home in Regina, she did so with the next generation in mind.

“My grandchildren are all getting older and they were unfortunately not brought up with stories about my childhood due to many different circumstances, them moving away, we just didn’t have that strong sense of community or family we once had when I was growing up. I wanted my children and grandchildren to know how we lived.”

Pelletier’s memoir transports readers back to a simpler time in the village of Lebret, Saskatchewan, a community in the Qu’Appelle Valley that is rich in Métis culture and history.

She spent time moving between one of the area’s several Métis road-allowance communities and a government-run Métis labour farm. Revisiting these memories raised mixed emotions for the author.

“It seemed like a catharsis, but very sad at times, and it made me realize how fast the world is changing,” she explains.

The culture shock Pelletier experienced after being suddenly uprooted from her beloved home community to the larger city of Regina was immense. There, she struggled to adapt to an unfamiliar landscape and a new,



fast-paced lifestyle while also facing racism and stereotyping.

Happier memories are balanced with family stories that highlight issues faced by the Métis diaspora in Lebret (and across the country), including displacement, loss of

language and culture, substance abuse, and medical experimentation in institutions such as the Weyburn Mental Hospital.

“It was very difficult to write about, especially about close people like my dad and my

“We grew up with stories all around us, our relatives, our friends, the old people, everyone had stories to tell.”

JOAN PELLETIER

grandmother. Until I realized it was not their fault, but the realities of the time and place they grew up in.”

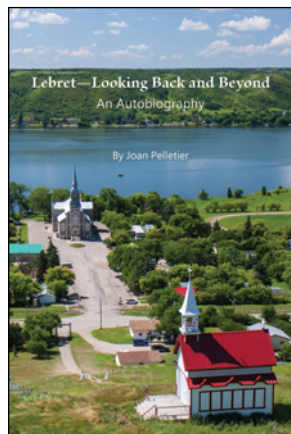
While *Lebret: Looking Back and Beyond* touches on some tough issues, it also highlights much of the beauty and vibrancy of Métis culture. This is reflected in the use of Michif language throughout the book and the Michif glossary provided for readers.

“These are the words that were most familiar with me when I was growing up. These were words that were in everyday use with my parents and my older siblings. The Michif language is a beautiful language that has different words to describe things and experiences that English does not have.”

Pelletier’s own story adds to a long legacy of Métis storytelling. “We grew up with stories all around us, our relatives, our friends, the old people, everyone had stories to tell. Stories that were passed down from generation to generation,” the author says of her Métis heritage.

Continuing to share these stories is something Pelletier feels compelled to do.

“You think you are finished with the past, but the past is never finished with you. Maybe you never grow up, you only grow old, and your stories are all you ever had, and you want to share them.” 🌿



Optimism, complexity tie together collection of writings on Winnipeg

Discussion of social issues places city at social, cultural heart of the country

by Emelia Fournier

WÎNIPÊK:

Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre

Niigaan Sinclair

McClelland & Stewart

384 pages, hc

\$36.00

ISBN: 9780771099175

Longtime *Winnipeg Free Press* columnist Niigaanwewidam Sinclair has gathered his writings to tell the story of his home: Treaty One territory, in Southern Manitoba. In *Wînipêk: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre*, Sinclair shows readers why Winnipeg is the heart of Canada not just geographically, but also politically and culturally.

Sinclair's expertise on Indigenous issues in Treaty One territory has accumulated through years as an assistant professor of Native Studies at the University of Manitoba, decades as a writer for numerous publications, and the knowledge passed on to him by his Anishinaabe community.

"When I was approached to compile my columns into a book about Winnipeg, I discovered that the people, land, water and everything in between tell us a lot about who we are, where we have come from, and where we are going," says Sinclair.

Wînipêk opens with the toppling of statues of Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria on Canada Day in 2021. Sinclair paints this as creating a new monument commemorating First Nations, and explains the history behind why Indigenous people across the nation felt seen and heard by the "remaking" of these statues.

Sinclair seamlessly weaves personal experience, emotional interviews, current events, and historical context together, breathing new life into discussions about social issues that impact Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians alike, welcoming readers along for the journey.

His affection for his community is apparent, along with an optimism that together, *Wînipêk* can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

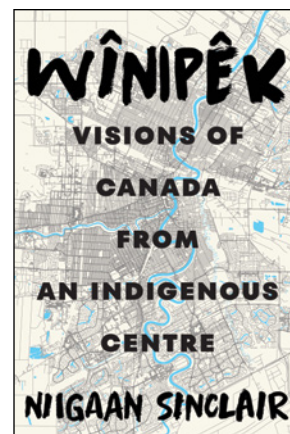
"I've seen it all here, from the good, the bad, the great and the ugly," says Sinclair.

"I am constantly blown away by the complexity of my home in all of its parts – something that doesn't come across from those who come into this city for a few days and make declarations about it. I hope our complicatedness in all of its beauty comes across in this book."

From the underfunded flooding protection for Peguis First Nation, to the mistreatment of Lake Winnipeg, to the impacts of residential schools, Sinclair pulls no punches in criticizing government and societal apathy, all while offering up solutions rooted in Indigenous knowledge and philosophy.



Niigaan Sinclair



Some of his pieces discuss positive advancements towards reconciliation, like the recent election of Wab Kinew, the incorporation of Indigeneity by the Winnipeg Jets, and investments in urban reserves.

"I love the fact my ancestors were birthed [in Winnipeg], came here and both are buried here, I love the fact languages, nations, and families were founded here, I love the fact you are always one degree of separation from anyone in this place and all of us, in some way or another, work with, live beside, or know one another," says Sinclair.

Wînipêk: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre is an accessible, enjoyable primer that humanizes broad and often divisive social issues. Anyone who has called Winnipeg their home will both recognize this place in Sinclair's work and begin to see it in a brand new light.

"Every single part of what I have learned about love, kindness, truth and reconciliation I have learned from my time here, in Winnipeg," says Sinclair. 🌿

MORE FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, AND INUIT

PICTURE BOOKS

THE BEE MOTHER, MOTHERS OF XSAN SERIES

Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson),

illustrated by Natasha Donovan

The seventh book of the series about the Xsan ecosystem describes and vividly illustrates the important role of bumbles, honeybees, and wasps, following Nox Ap, the bee mother, from the first thaw of spring to the end of autumn, as she births the worker bees that pollinate the plants that will produce fruits like strawberries and huckleberries.

(HighWater Press-Portage & Main, \$24.95 hc, 32 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77492-080-0, available as ebook)

MY LITTLE MÉTIS SLEEPY HORSE / MON PCHI MICHIF ZHWAL KA NOHTAY NIPAWT

Leah Marie Dorion, translated into

Michif by Irma Klyne and Larry Fayant

This vivid and ornately illustrated board book captures the Métis connection to horses through a simple story of a girl and her horse, going through a day of identical activities, including eating apples, drinking water, jumping, playing, and sleeping. It is told in English and Michif. (Gabriel Dumont Institute, \$17.50 board book, 26 pages, ISBN: 978-1-988011-31-8)

MIDDLE YEARS FICTION

THE KODIAKS: HOME ICE ADVANTAGE

David A. Robertson

In this action-packed yet thought-provoking novel, 11-year-old Alex Robinson moves from Norway House to Winnipeg and quickly proves to be one of the best players on his local hockey team. But in order to truly feel at home, he needs to learn about teamwork, overcoming adversity, and being proud of who he is and where he comes from.

(HighWater Press, \$12.95 pb, 200 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77492-101-2)

YA FICTION

THOSE PINK MOUNTAIN NIGHTS

Jen Ferguson

Three teens – Berlin, driven and ambitious and missing her best friend; Jessie, a rich girl rebelling against her father's expectations; and Cam, grieving the loss of his cousin who went missing – work at Pink Mountain Pizza, a local legendary spot on the verge of going corporate, in this novel about coming to terms with the hurts of the past and working toward a future together.

(Heartdrum-HarperCollins, \$24.99 hc, 352 pages, ISBN: 978-0-06-308621-0, available as ebook and audiobook)

ADULT FICTION

COEXISTENCE

Billy-Ray Belcourt

In these stories set across the Prairies and the West Coast, on reserves and university campuses, at literary festivals and existential crossroads, characters search for meaning and connection. Belcourt demonstrates yet again his mastery of and playfulness in any genre.

(Hamish Hamilton Canada-PRH, \$27.95 hc, 200 pages, ISBN: 978-0-7352-4203-6, available as ebook and audiobook)

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

Gordon Henderson and David Bouchard

Set during the Red River Resistance of 1869 to 1870, this novel – part spy thriller, part love triangle – is told through the perspective of young Irish Canadian journalist Conor O'Dea, who is sent west after working for the assassinated politician D'Arcy McGee, where he befriends Louis Riel.

(At Bay Press, \$32.95 hc, 350 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998779-40-6)

DRAMA AND POETRY

FROZEN RIVER

Michaela Washburn, Joelle Peters, and Carrie Costello

This play for young people explores broken promises and reconciliation through two pairs of young friends, seven generations apart – in the 1800s, a young Swampy Cree person and a Scottish settler, and

in the present day, a young person from a rez with no clean water and a young wannabe activist.

(Playwrights Canada Press, \$18.95 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-0-3691-0489-2)

TEETH

Dallas Hunt

These poems about grief, ancestral ghosts, the effects of colonization, and death use vivid images and experiences of everyday life to grapple with the issues that Indigenous communities face while still seeking joy and hope.

(Nightwood Editions, \$19.95 pb, 112 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88971-452-6)

ART

BEAD TALK: INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND AESTHETICS FROM THE FLATLANDS

Edited by Carmen Robertson, Judy Anderson, and Katherine Boyer

The first in the new paskwāwi masinahikewina / Prairie Writing series, this book includes conversations, interviews, essays, and full-colour reproductions of beadwork from expert and emerging artists, academics, and curators, illustrating the importance of beading in contemporary Indigenous arts, and reshaping how beads are understood and how they stitch together generations of artists.

(University of Manitoba Press, \$27.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77284-065-0, available as ebook)

EARLY DAYS: INDIGENOUS ART FROM THE McMICHAEL

Edited by Bonnie Devine and Sarah Milroy

This lavishly illustrated publication brings together more than 70 voices illuminating the rich Indigenous art in the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, providing information about the history of Northwest Coast mask making, the emergence of the Woodland style of painting and printmaking, the challenges of making art in the Arctic, and the latest developments in contemporary art by Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island.

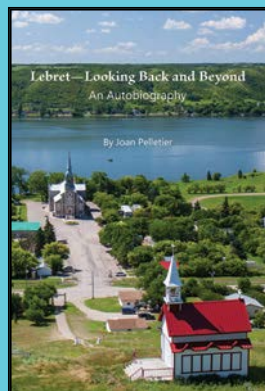
(Figure 1 Publishing, \$70.00 hc, 400 pages, with 200 colour photos, ISBN: 978-1-77327-233-7)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

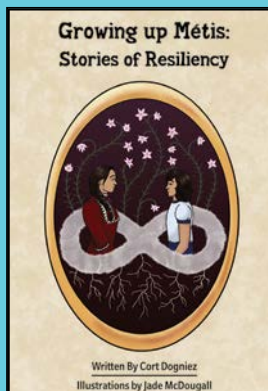
New Titles Available from GDI Press!



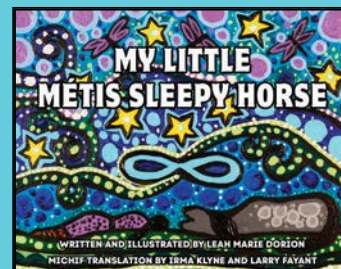
Author: Gregory Scofield
Price: \$65.00
ISBN: 978-1-988011-22-6
Format: Perfect Bound



Author: Joan Pelletier
Price: \$25.00
ISBN: 978-1-988011-30-1
Format: Perfect Bound






Author: Cort Dogniez
Illustrations: Jade McDougall
Price: \$17.50
ISBN: 978-1-988011-34-9
Format: Perfect Bound



Author: Leah Marie Dorion
Illustrations: Leah Marie Dorion
Price: \$17.50
ISBN: 978-1-988011-31-8
Format: Board Book

Download a catalogue or order online!
www.shopmetis.ca

 facebook.com/gabrieldumontinstitute
 [@gdins_org](https://twitter.com/gdins_org)
 pinterest.com/gabrieldumontin



Gabriel Dumont Institute Press
917 22nd Street West, Saskatoon, SK, S7M 0R9
(T) 306.934.4941 / (F) 306.244.0252
www.gdins.org / www.metismuseum.ca

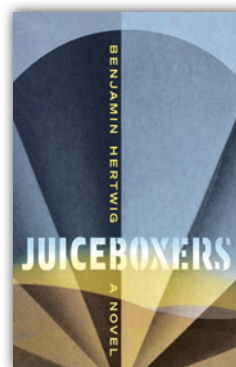
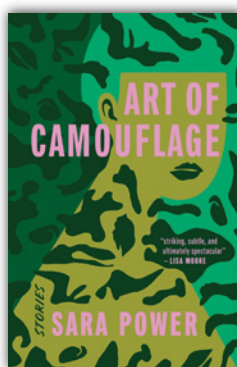


freehand books
Great Books. Great Reads.
www.freehand-books.com

Debut author
Sara Power

stories about
girls and women
caught in the
military's orbit

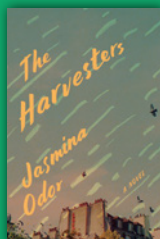
May 01 2024



From GG-finalist
Benjamin Hertwig

a debut novel
about four young
soldiers serving
in Afghanistan

Sept 03 2024



This being the full
lineup for 2024—
an exciting year!

GUIDES

NĒHIYAWĒWIN AWĀSI-MASINAHIKANIS: A LITTLE PLAINS CREE BOOK FOR CHILDREN – TEACHING GUIDE

Patricia Deiter, Allen (A.J.) Felix, and Elmer Ballantyne

This guide for use with *nēhiyawēwin awāsi-masinahikanis: A Little Plains Cree Book for Children* includes sample lesson plans and Plains Cree language course plans, student assignments for classroom use, rubrics for grading, and a pronunciation guide and basic rules of the language.

(Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, \$24.95 pb, 56 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77869-013-6)

TANNING MOOSEHIDES THE NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN TRAPLINE WAY: AN EASY STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Tommy Bird, Lawrence Adam, and Lena Adam with Miriam Körner

Combining traditional knowledge with easy-to-follow instructions, detailed colour photographs, trouble-shooting tips, and hands-on advice, three experienced tanners help even beginners make their own bone tools and turn raw hides into brain-tanned buckskins soft enough to sew into mitts or moccasins.

(Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, \$49.95 pb, 64 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77869-032-7)

OTHER NON-FICTION

CHALLENGE TO CIVILIZATION: INDIGENOUS WISDOM AND THE FUTURE

Blair Stonechild

In this final book of his trilogy, Stonechild takes a wide-angle, global approach and illustrates how Indigenous spirituality, wisdom, and land-based knowledge are critical to human survival in the face of the inequity, environmental destruction, and climate change that have resulted from civilization's exploitation.

(University of Regina Press, \$29.95 pb, 232 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-981-5, available as ebook)

ENGRAVED ON OUR NATIONS: INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC TENACITY

Edited by Wanda Wuttunee and Fred Wien
The contributors to this collection illustrate – through case studies including the McDonald Brothers Electric in the Northwest Territories and Neechi

Commons in Manitoba – how First Nations and Métis individuals and communities have overcome many challenges to succeed as entrepreneurs, and also explore concerns around sustainable development. (University of Manitoba Press, \$29.95 pb, 304 pages, with illustrations, bibliography, index, ISBN: 978-1-77284-064-3, available as ebook)

MAKING SPACE FOR INDIGENOUS FEMINISM, 3RD EDITION

Edited by Gina Starblanket

Diverse contributors examine Indigenous feminism's ongoing relevance to contemporary contexts and debates, including queer and two-spirit approaches to decolonization, gendered and sexualized violence, storytelling, digital and land-based presence, and more, bridging generations of powerful Indigenous feminist thinking. (Fernwood Publishing, \$40.00 pb, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-550-7, available as ebook)

ONE SECOND AT A TIME: MY STORY OF PAIN AND RECLAMATION

Diane Morrisseau, with Elisabeth Brannigan

This frank account tells how Morrisseau rescued herself and her children from an abusive marriage and rebuilt her life with the help of Al-Anon, Anishinabe traditional healing ceremonies, counselling, and care for others, to find a new path illuminated by compassion and purpose.

(Purich Books-UBC Press, \$24.95 pb, 180 pages, ISBN: 978-0-7748-8097-8)

RESTORING RELATIONS THROUGH STORIES: FROM DINÉTAH TO DENENDEH

Renae Watchman

Watchman introduces, synthesizes, and analyzes traditional stories by Diné and Dene storytellers in orature and film, centring Indigenous narratives and examining how these narratives are tied to land and relations, and exploring how story forges ancestral and kinship ties between the Diné and Dene.

(University of Regina Press, 356 pages, with images, select Indigenous filmography, index, \$89.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-77940-006-2; \$35.00 pb, ISBN: 978-1-77940-003-1; available as ebook)

THE RIEL PROBLEM: CANADA, THE MÉTIS, AND A RESISTANT HERO Albert Braz

This book traces how Louis Riel has been represented in cultural and scholarly commemorations (opera, graphic novel, statues) and analyzes them against how Riel portrayed himself in his own writing – illustrating how these representations show the magnitude of historical revisionism when dealing with Riel. (University of Alberta Press, \$34.99 pb, 336 pages, with b/w images, index, ISBN: 978-1-77212-733-1, available as ebook)

SPIRIT GIFTING: THE CONCEPT OF SPIRITUAL EXCHANGE

Elmer Ghostkeeper

This clearly written participant reflection study compares two years of a Métis Settlement in northern Alberta: 1960, when people lived *with* the land, farming and harvesting the wild; and 1976, when natural gas development changed their livelihoods dramatically and people lived *off* the land.

(Eschia Books, \$14.95 pb, 128 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990321-31-3, available as ebook)

TRICKY GROUNDS: INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES IN CANADIAN UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

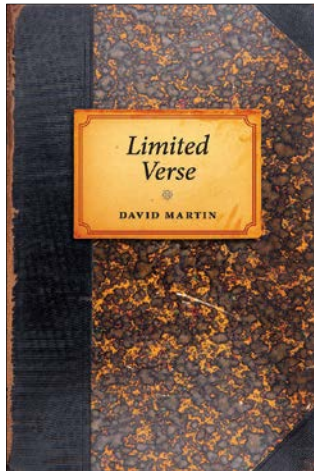
Candace Brunette-Debassige

Informed by her own experiences and the stories of other Indigenous women working in senior administrative roles in Canadian universities, Brunette-Debassige explores how they find themselves trapped when trying to implement reconciliation in institutions that remain colonial, Eurocentric, and male-dominated, and illustrates how they preserve and enact their agency through resistance, and help lead deeper transformative changes. (University of Regina Press, 320 pages, index, \$89.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-88977-980-8; \$34.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-88977-977-8; available as ebook)



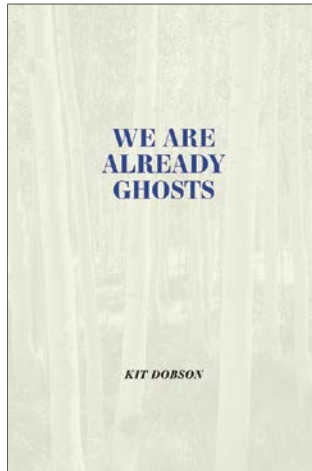
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Press

BRAVE & BRILLIANT



Seeing so many old, familiar favourites in new clothes leads us to consider what the essence of poetry is.

—ALEX GOOD, *The Toronto Star*



Such a thoughtful, meditative novel – beckoning like a summer retreat, lolling about in the rich lives of the family.

—GREGORY BETTS, Professor, English Language and Literature, Brock University



Harrowing, incredible, but never tragic. Invisible Lives is a force around which light bends and returns.

—MATT RADER, author of *Fine*



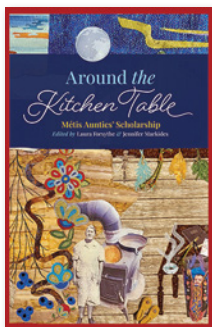
Canada Council
for the Arts
Conseil des Arts
du Canada

@UCalgaryPress

press.ucalgary.ca

U O F M P R E S S . C A

Inspiring Stories, Empowering Research



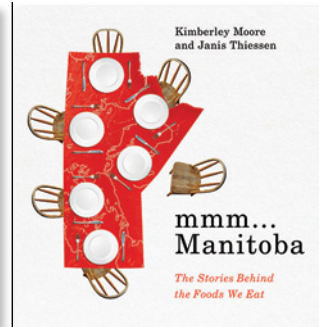
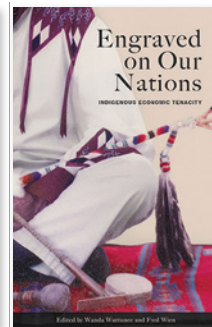
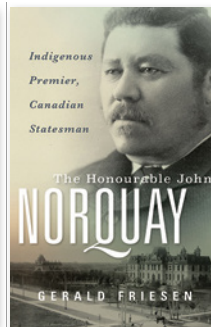
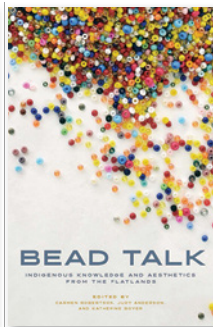
AROUND THE KITCHEN TABLE • PAPERBACK \$27.95

BEAD TALK • PAPERBACK \$27.95

THE HONOURABLE JOHN NORQUAY • HARBACK \$39.95

ENGRAVED ON OUR NATIONS • PAPERBACK \$29.95

MMM... MANITOBA • PAPERBACK \$27.95



University of
Manitoba Press

CMU Press thrives in the sweet spot between academics, artistic merit, and focus on Mennonites

Winnipeg-based publisher honours past with Open Access archive while looking toward the future

by Brock Peters

In the eclectic, vibrant landscape of Prairie books, many publishers work hard to cultivate their own niches and specialties. Fewer of these balance such interests with an institutional direction, and fewer still manage to find the sweet spot between such specificity and a broader appeal.

But CMU Press and its director, Dr. Sue Sorensen, are out to plumb the best of both worlds. “I feel confident that CMU Press is both serving the Mennonite community and fulfilling my objective of creating excellent, beautiful books for everyone,” Sorensen says. “We’re a scrappy little publisher that manages to pull off some lovely and smart books.”



Dr. Sue Sorensen

When Sorensen became director of the press in 2021, she inherited a long publishing legacy. While today the press operates under the auspices of Winnipeg’s Canadian Mennonite University (CMU), it began 50 years ago as CMBC Publications under the oversight of the Canadian Mennonite Bible College.

CMU Press itself was formed in 2000 out of this previous iteration, and the two presses have a combined history of over 100 publications.

“By default, CMU Press is an academic publisher with a leaning toward Mennonite studies and a serious interest in theology and the church,” Sorensen explains, further noting how it espouses a commitment to “peace, service, social justice, and conflict transformation.”

Sorensen, a professor of English at CMU since 2005, admits that, “I can’t help but expand more robustly into literary works. I’ve always been invested in independent regional publishing.”

The press balances oversight from a council of CMU faculty and staff with that from an external advisory council, cooperates with other Manitoba publishers through the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers, and works with talented young freelancers “who get as much of a kick out of making books as I do.”

CMU grads Jonathan Dyck and Katie Sawatzky both serve on the external advisory committee and are contracted for design and editing services, respectively.

“CMU Press is definitely an unusual enterprise,” notes Sorensen. “It’s always been run by one or two faculty members and has often functioned on a wish and a prayer.” She chalks its continued success up to the support of the local community, the quality of its offerings, and the skill of collaborators like Dyck and Sawatzky.

“Folks on the Prairies are well-read and very keen to celebrate artistic merit,” she says. And CMU has given the press, and Sorensen, relative autonomy in how it pursues these aims. “Most of our manuscripts come from Mennonite writers,” says Sorensen, “and we choose the best of them.”

Reflecting on CMU Press’s titles, past and present, many highlights come to mind for Sorensen. One was Dora Dueck’s award-winning *This Hidden Thing*, in the production of which Sorensen was involved as an editor in 2011; her first book produced as CMU Press’s director was Dueck’s 2022 essay collection *Return Stroke*.

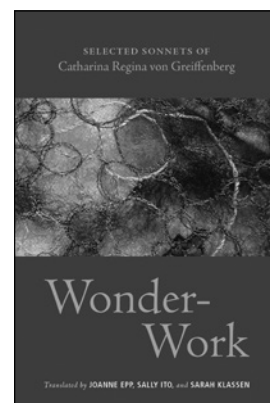
“I’m so honoured that Dora brought this book to the press and trusted me with it,” she says.

Travelling further back in time, Sorensen points to the press’s Open Access archive, through which they’re scanning backlist titles from their CMBC days and making them freely available online. “These older works are long out of print, but many are of historical interest, especially biographical works of key personalities on the Western Canadian Mennonite scene.”

Looking to the future, Sorensen says part of her goal is to “in some small way further important conversations.”

A focus of particular urgency for Sorensen is “to foster compassionate, productive dialogue among settlers and Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island,” such as in the forthcoming *Wearing a Broken Indigene Heart on the Sleeve of Christian Mission* by scholar and minister Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, the first Indigenous woman to ever be elected as moderator of the United Church of Canada.

Other forthcoming highlights are *Ice: Moments*, a collection of photography by the late University of Manitoba arctic researcher Klaus Hochheim, and *In Search of a*



CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Collection connects labour issues, unions with environmental justice

U of Regina academics examine Co-op Refinery Complex bargaining dispute

by Paula E. Kirman

UNJUST TRANSITION:

The Future for Fossil Fuel Workers

Edited by Emily Eaton, Andrew Stevens, and Sean Tucker

Fernwood Publishing

\$29.00 pb, 200 pages

ISBN: 978-1-77363-672-6

Available as an ebook

A “just transition” refers to moving away from fossil fuels toward forms of energy with lower carbon footprints, while still ensuring that people’s livelihoods do not suffer in the process.

That second part is not always addressed, and the book *Unjust Transition: The Future for Fossil Fuel Workers* argues that solidarity between unions and community movements is required for the transition to be truly just.

Unjust Transition is edited by three academics at the University of Regina: Emily Eaton (professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies), Andrew Stevens (associate professor in the Faculty of Business Administration), and Sean Tucker (professor in the Faculty of Business Administration).

The book documents the failure of collective bargaining negotiations between the Co-op Refinery Complex in Regina (a subsidiary of Federated Co-operative) and Unifor Local 594 from December 2019 through June 2020.

“This is a book about occupational health and safety, the fight for pensions and fair wages, and the role of media in shaping the narrative about corporate interests.

It’s also a book that connects environmental justice with labour rights,” the editors explain in a collective response.

“The idea of an edited collection covering all of these issues – labour rights and environmental justice – just emerged organically from this historic 2019-2020 lockout. And there’s relevance here for other communities and workers employed in Canada’s fossil fuel sector.”

While co-operatives are generally regarded as forces for good in society, *Unjust Transition* shows how a co-operative can go astray – acting as a warning to the labour movement.

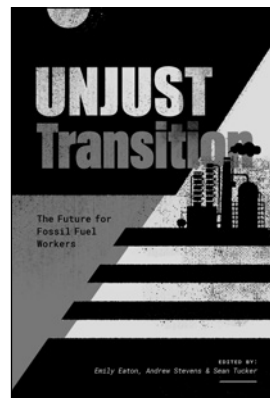
“The Co-op Refinery Complex, the company at the centre of our book, was founded in 1935 as the Consumers’ Co-operative Refineries Limited, with 632 shareholding members. Nine years later it joined the Federated Co-operatives Limited. The retail cooperatives, including grocery, gas, and hardware stores that have been part of FCL, have been essential to rural communities and responsive to the needs of their local consumer members,” the editors explain.

“Our book traces the FCL’s abandonment of the principles of co-operativism when they disregarded their workers and locked them out over six months, attempting to break their union.”

The editors also emphasize that “the transition away from fossil fuels isn’t just an environmental justice issue – there are livelihoods and community interests at stake.”

And in order to achieve justice, workers will have to take a direct and active role in steering that transition. “Our book suggests that we are going to see more companies using the excuse of the low carbon transition as cover to force concessions from their work forces,” the editors say.

“If we are correct, fossil fuel workers are going to need to actively engage in discussions about the future of their industry and build the kind of power needed to negotiate a transition that is just for them as workers.” 🌱



Emily Eaton



Andrew Stevens



Sean Tucker

Mennonite Imagination, a collection spanning 125 years of Mennonite criticism and being edited by York University's Robert Zacharias for a 2025 release.

It's easy to recognize and appreciate both the passion and rigour Sorensen brings to her work at CMU Press, and exciting as a reader to peruse their wide-ranging front list. "I just love making books," she says, "and doing so in a professional manner,

with high standards in design and production." These standards will quickly become apparent to anyone lucky enough to pick up one of CMU Press's recent releases.

"Books save lives," Sorensen concludes. "They've saved my life many times over. I love to see a book through every stage on its way to readers." 🌿

RECENT AND UPCOMING TITLES FROM CMU PRESS

CAN ROBOTS LOVE GOD AND BE SAVED? A JOURNALIST REPORTS ON FAITH

John Longhurst

This collection of reflections on faith of all sorts by the long-time reporter and columnist for the *Winnipeg Free Press* is also a series of reports on culture, society, politics, life, and death – all the big ideas. He looks at how faith intersects with various issues, including Holocaust survivors, residential schools, and assisted dying, to name only a few.
(CMU Press, \$30.00 pb, 250 pages, ISBN: 978-1-987986-19-8)

ICE: MOMENTS

Photographs by Klaus Hochheim, essays by Dr. David Babb and Sarah Hodges-Kolisnyk
In conjunction with an exhibition at the MHC Gallery, this book gathers climatologist and photographer Hochheim's intimate images of Arctic and Antarctic landscapes, which offer a unique intersection of art and science, and which will stimulate responses to the urgent complexities of our time.
(CMU Press, \$60.00 hc, 96 pages, with full colour images, ISBN: 978-1-987986-20-4)

NEW & SELECTED POEMS OF SARAH KLASSEN Edited by Nathan Dueck

The first in the Lyrik Poetry Series, this collection presents many of Klassen's best-loved and award-winning poems, selected from her eight books of poetry – including from her first collection in 1988, *Journey to Yalta*, which won the Gerald Lampert Award, and from *Simone Weil: Songs of Hunger and Love*, which has been long out

of print – as well as new poems, showing the range of her voices and subject matter.
(CMU Press, \$20.00 pb, 232 pages, ISBN: 978-1-987986-13-6)

ON MENNONITE/S WRITING: SELECTED ESSAYS

Hildi Froese Tiessen, edited and with an Introduction by Robert Zacharias
This collection gathers 18 essays – 16 previously published, one public lecture published for the first time, and one commissioned as an afterword for the book – by the critic, organizer, editor, teacher, and scholar who Robert Zacharias notes is "widely recognized as a field-defining voice in Mennonite literary studies." The essays reflect a full 50 years of criticism, showing the range and development of Tiessen's arguments and how those arguments return and build across the trajectory of her work.
(CMU Press, \$34.00 pb, 318 pages, ISBN: 978-1-987986-12-9)

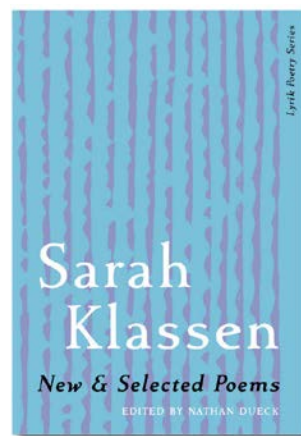
WONDER-WORK: SELECTED SONNETS OF CATHARINA REGINA VON GREIFFENBERG

Translated by Joanne Epp, Sally Ito, and Sarah Klassen

Over 60 of the devotional sonnets of the 17th-century poet Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg are given a wider readership and new life in these translations by three Winnipeg poets. The innovative original German Baroque poems are presented alongside equally rich and vivid English versions.
(CMU Press, \$30.00 pb, 168 pages, ISBN: 978-1-987986-14-3)

New from CMU Press
Spring 2024

Lyrik Series 1 New & Selected Poems Sarah Klassen



Can Robots Love God and Be Saved? A Journalist Reports on Faith

John Longhurst



CMU PRESS | CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY
cmupress.ca

Letters to young son connect to the past, show new visions for masculinity

Memoir highlights ‘revolving door’ between cultures and countries

by Luis Reis

TRUST THE BLUER SKIES:

Meditations on Fatherhood

paulo da costa

University of Regina Press

\$27.95 pb, 288 pages

ISBN: 978-0-88977-992-1

Available as an ebook

In his memoir *Trust the Bluer Skies: Meditations on Fatherhood*, Alberta-based author paulo da costa writes to his four-year-old son, Koah, recording the details of their five-month stay with family in Portugal. In a series of letters, he shows his strong ties to his family, heritage, and culture – to the landscape of his youth.

“I wanted to leave Koah with a glimpse of his experiences of the time when he first lived in the country of his father’s heritage,” says da costa. “In our contemporary western world, extended family ties have now generally broken down, so it is rare to encounter an oral legacy, a reflection and a mirror of what our childhoods were like through the family story lore.”

da costa feels that oral family stories are important narratives “to offer us a sense of our role, of who we were in the theatre scripts of our families,” and, as an older parent, he realizes he might not be around to share many stories with his children and grandchildren when they are older.

“This book will become a legacy to the beginning of their journey on this earth,” he says, “a link to an old and long family history, which they can pass on if they so wish.”



paulo da costa

This collection of letters to his young son examines past and possible ways to develop male identities. da costa challenges several current cultural practices adhered to by his Portuguese family, such as pressuring boys into an obsession with competitive soccer, and he strives to nurture a compassionate and sensitive boy.

“In a time when men are being called to question their identities and roles in creating better communities,” he says, “this book explores the necessary changes that must begin in the manner we raise our boys. Our present or future will not improve without reflection and consciousness, without a willingness to make alternative choices. One cannot embark on a well-worn road and expect to arrive at a fresh destination.”

The “bluer skies” of the title evoke the future da costa hopes for. “The blue is a call to leave a better world for those who will come after me. An image that helps my gaze remain high, clear, and focused on what is possible. It is dreamy,” he says.

“In my eyes, it speaks to the clarity of seeing through, and farther into, newer horizons, seeing through the cultural conditioning I carry in order to move beyond limiting views of myself and the world.”

The book ends with another powerful image.

“The revolving door depicts the reality for those of us who maintain our connections to other countries and cultures through our active engagement and in visiting our extended families regularly. Our visits to Portugal are arrivals and departures that keep us in this perpetual motion of truly never leaving and truly never arriving. We hold both worlds and experiences, wherever we are, and we live in this revolving door that circles us back between two distinct realities,” says da costa.

“It is also a door that is always open. Open to welcome our longings. Open to welcome our belonging.” 🌿

MORE NON-FICTION

ART, ARCHITECTURE, & PHOTOGRAPHY

MANITOBA WOMEN IN DESIGN

Marieke Gruwel

Dozens of women, unrecognized in architecture and design histories, contributed to Manitoba's built environment in the 20th century as architects, interior designers, landscape architects, planners, and engineers, and this book begins the process of addressing these exclusions by showcasing the careers of some of these notable women, such as Elizabeth Lord, Joan Harland, and Elizabeth Pilcher.

(Winnipeg Architecture Foundation, \$35.00 pb, 176 pages, with b/w and colour images throughout, ISBN: 978-1-988321-11-0)

SOME MAGNETIC FORCE: LIONEL LEMOINE FITZGERALD WRITINGS

Edited by Michael Park-Taylor

The first collection of the writings of artist and educator Lionel LeMoine FitzGerald – the only member of the Group of Seven who was based in Western Canada – spans from 1930 to 1954, and includes his correspondence with fellow artists Bertram Booker and Irene Heywood, among others, his travel journal from a trip to various galleries and art schools in 1930, and teaching notes from his career at the Winnipeg School of Art, along with other reports and applications.

(Concordia University Press, \$64.95 pb, 232 pages, with b/w and full-colour images, ISBN: 978-1-9881-1145-2, available as ebook)

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

COUNTING BONES: ANATOMY OF LOVE LOST AND FOUND

Ellen Anderson Penno

Structured in accordance with the classic medical reference book *Gray's Anatomy*, this memoir details the loss of the author's partner in a climbing accident when she was 24, and how she plunged into her medical studies immediately afterward (beginning with a room filled with cadavers in anatomy class), struggling to

manage her emotions and her rigorous schedule as she rebuilt her life.
(NeWest Press, \$24.95 pb, 248 pages, with b/w photos, ISBN: 978-1-77439-092-4, available as ebook)

DARE TO BIRD: EXPLORING THE JOY AND HEALING POWER OF BIRDS

Melissa Hafting

Part memoir, part photography book, and part guide, this gorgeous book draws on Hafting's personal experience as a birder of colour to describe how birding, with its healing power, helped her during the grief she felt at the death of her parents, and how she is working to conserve bird species and to make birding a more inclusive hobby.

(Rocky Mountain Books, \$45.00 hc, 224 pages, with colour photos throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77160-654-7)

GAMAN – PERSEVERANCE: JAPANESE CANADIANS' JOURNEY TO JUSTICE

Art Miki

Miki recounts his life as a youth in British Columbia, as an innovative educator in Manitoba, and as a community leader across Canada, who was instrumental in negotiating the historic Japanese Canadian Redress Agreement of September 1988. He also reflects on his involvement with Indigenous communities as they worked toward the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, his foray into politics in the 1990s, and his role as a Canadian citizenship judge.

(Talonbooks, \$29.95 pb, 384 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77201-541-6)

HALF-LIGHT: WESTBOUND ON A HOT PLANET

Amy Kaler

This compelling memoir braids together personal, collective, and historical explorations on what it means to “go west,” offering deep reflections on the meaning of life, middle age, and climate catastrophe. (University of Alberta Press, \$26.99 pb, 208 pages, with b/w images, ISBN: 978-1-77212-740-9, available as ebook)

THE MEDICINE CHEST: A PHYSICIAN'S JOURNEY TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

Dr. Jarol Boan

Dr. Jarol Boan returned to Regina in 2011 to practise medicine, and she quickly noticed how Indigenous people were being underserved by the medical profession. She also noticed her own biases and privilege, and took steps to work toward reconciliation and enlightenment by joining a team that took health care to First Nations communities. This book weaves historical data, health policy, and jurisdictional gaps into her narrative while investigating how the Canadian health care system is failing Indigenous people. (University of Regina Press, \$29.95 pb, 320 pages, ISBN: 978-0-88977-973-0)

MY LIFE IN CARTOONS

Paul Driessen

Award-winning director/ animator/ cartoonist Driessen tells the story of how, after growing up in the Netherlands with parents who were arts and culture advocates, he went to London in 1967 to work on the animated Beatles feature *The Yellow Submarine*, which led to meeting George Dunning and discovering the National Film Board of Canada, for which he subsequently worked.

(At Bay Press, \$26.95 pb, 350 pages, ISBN: 978-1-998779-37-6)

WHERE TENDERNESS LIVES: ON HEALING, LIBERATION, AND HOLDING SPACE FOR ONESELF

Heather Plett

Plett candidly and gracefully shares her defining experiences – what she's learned and unlearned and how she has worked to make her daughters' lives free of the expectations and trauma that kept her from living and loving to her fullest for much of her life – showing readers how to be purposeful and joyful.

(Page Two, \$24.95 pb, 240 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77458-363-0, available as ebook)

ESSAYS

APPLES ON A WINDOWSILL

Shawna Lemay

Lemay and her painter husband live “a life in art,” and these essays reflect on that life and how still lifes offer ways to let thrills

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

of beauty shine through ordinary days and objects. Lemay discusses the craft of writing, the art of photography, and the give-and-take of marriage in clear and lyrical prose.

(Palimpsest Press, \$21.95 pb, 264 pages, ISBN: 978-1-990293-66-5)

BEYOND THE PARK: AN ANTHOLOGY OF ECOLOGICAL EXPERIENCES

Edited by Angel Mota

In this anthology of essays, stories, and poetry, in English and French, contributors explore their connection to natural spaces (e.g., woods, oceans, mountains, cities) through olfactory experiences, both positive (e.g., serotonin-releasing plants in forest) and negative (e.g., decaying bodies, chemicals that disable chemically sensitive people).

(Laberinto Press, \$25.00 pb, 120 pages, ISBN: 978-1-7770859-5-7)

FUNGAL: FORAGING IN THE URBAN FOREST
Ariel Gordon

This follow-up to the essay collection *Treed* takes readers on hunts for morels, on mudlarking expeditions, into a mushroom factory, into Gordon's private collection of mushroom collectibles and books, and on searches for information about hallucinogenic mushroom treatments and mushroom classification, as Gordon, with her characteristic wit, candour, and delight, reveals the interconnectedness of living and made things.

(Wolsak and Wynn, \$22.00 pb, 250 pages, ISBN: 978-1-989496-92-3)

GOING TO SEED: ESSAYS ON IDLENESS, NATURE, & SUSTAINABLE WORK

Kate J. Neville

Drawing on science, literature such as fable and poetry, and personal observation, these intricate and playful essays explore questions of idleness, considering the labour of both humans and the other inhabitants of the world, questions like what might we learn about work, sustainability, and relationships by slowing down? Whose work and what kinds of work might be needed for a more just future for us all?

(University of Regina Press, \$31.95 pb, 248 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77940-00-0, available as ebook)

LASER QUIT SMOKING MESSAGE

Cole Nowicki

These short and snappy pieces provide humorous and insightful takes on a wide range of topics such as public art, small-town identity, virtual reality and video games, and karaoke community.

(NeWest Press, \$21.95 pb, 136 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77439-090-0, available as ebook)

MONSTERS, MARTYRS, AND MARIONETTES: ESSAYS ON MOTHERHOOD

Adrienne Gruber

With sharp humour and penetrating insight, these essays examine the brutal and the beautiful aspects of being a mother – including the fear of giving birth, the pain of breastfeeding, the constant responsibility – and of caring for a mother, in both emotional and physical detail, placing personal experiences within broader contexts.

(Book*hug Press, \$23.00 pb, 180 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77166-903-0)

GUIDES

THE PRAIRIE GARDENER'S GO-TO FOR GRASSES

Janet Melrose and Sheryl Normandeau

The 10th book of the popular series concisely covers what grasses to choose for what purposes, how to plant and protect grasses, and broader environmental issues, such as how grasses are important providers of habitat and food for wildlife and serve an integral role in erosion control.

(Touchwood Editions, \$15.00 pb, 160 pages, with colour images throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77151-430-9)

THE PRAIRIE GARDENER'S GO-TO FOR HERBS

Janet Melrose, Sheryl Normandeau

The ninth book of the popular series concisely covers what herbs to choose for what purposes, how to plant and protect herbs, and broader environmental issues, such as herbs' potential for use in pest management and as medicinal and spiritually beneficial plants.

(Touchwood Editions, \$15.00 pb, 160 pages, with colour images throughout, ISBN: 978-1-77151-428-6)

SPECIAL TOPICS IN BEING A PARENT: A QUEER AND TENDER GUIDE TO THINGS I'VE LEARNED ABOUT PARENTING, MOSTLY THE HARD WAY
S. Bear Bergman, illustrated by Saul Freedman-Lawson

In this illustrated guide of practical parenting advice informed by queer experiences for anyone parenting outside of the mainstream, Bergman, with humour and compassion and using his own choices and errors by way of example, offers suggestions for various stages of the parenting journey.

(Arsenal Pulp Press, \$26.95 pb, 272 pages, ISBN: 978-1-55152-939-4, available as ebook)

OTHER NON-FICTION

CAMPS: A GLOBAL HISTORY OF MASS CONFINEMENT

Aidan Forth

This book offers a short but compelling global and comparative history of the varied manifestations of concentration camps in the last two centuries, while tracing provocative transnational connections with related institutions like workhouses, migrant detention centres, and residential schools.

(University of Toronto Press, \$29.95 pb, 208 pages, with illustrations, maps, ISBN: 978-1-4875-8828-1, available as ebook)

THE CONSULTING TRAP: HOW PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FIRMS HOOK GOVERNMENTS AND UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY

Chris Hurl and Leah B. Werner

This book exposes how powerful consulting firms are taking over responsibility for core public services, making governments dependent on them, and offers strategies for how these firms can be resisted using people's audits, public consultations, access to information requests, and social network analyses.

(Fernwood Publishing, \$28.00 pb, 196 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-667-2, available as ebook)

CONTEMPORARY VULNERABILITIES: REFLECTIONS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE METHODOLOGIES

Edited by Claire Carter, Chelsea Temple Jones, and Caitlin Janzen

This interdisciplinary collection gathers narratives and analyses about innovative methodologies that engage with unconventional and unexpected

research, and that encourage scholars to collaborate within, reflect on, and confront the frictions of inquiry around social change. The collection includes modes of storytelling and examples of knowledge gathering that are often excluded from academic texts in general and methodological texts in particular. (University of Alberta Press, \$42.99 pb, 368 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-738-6, available as ebook)

**DISABILITY POLITICS AND THEORY,
REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION**

A. J. Withers

This revised and expanded edition of the historical exploration of the concept of disability includes a new chapter on the rehabilitation model, expands the discussion of eugenics, and adds the contexts of the growth of the disability justice movement, Black Lives Matter, calls for defunding the police, decolonial and Indigenous protections struggles, and the COVID-19 pandemic. (Fernwood Publishing, \$29.00 pb, 200 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-567-5, available as ebook)

**EDUCATING THE BODY: A HISTORY OF
PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN CANADA**

M. Ann Hall, Bruce Kidd, and
Patricia Vertinsky

This comprehensive history of physical education in Canada sheds light on its major advocates, innovators, and institutions, and also examines the realities of Canada's classed, gendered, and racialized society, and the impact of settler forms of sport, concluding with a vision of physical education for the future. (University of Toronto Press, 304 pages, \$95.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-4875-0856-2; \$39.95 pb, ISBN: 978-4875-2594-1; available as ebook)

FEMINISTING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Edited by Alana Cattapan, Ethel
Tungohan, Nisha Nath, Fiona
MacDonald, and Stephanie Paterson

This collection draws together personal essays, pedagogical interventions, dialogues, and original research to reflect on how "feministing" can centre experiential knowledge and reshape our understandings of political science, showing how power moves in and through the academy, naming the impacts on those who are most structurally precarious, and

pointing to potential futures made possible by refusal, solidarity, and hope. (University of Alberta Press, \$44.99 pb, 416 pages, with b/w images, ISBN: 978-1-77212-732-4, available as ebook)

**GHOST CITIZENS: DECOLONIAL
APPARITIONS OF STATELESS, FOREIGN
AND WAYWARD FIGURES IN LAW**

Jamie Chai Yun Liew

Liew develops the concept of "ghost citizen" to understand the global experience of stateless people – people who live in a country they consider their own but which does not recognize them as citizens. (Fernwood Publishing, \$33.00 pb, 224 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-666-5, available as ebook)

**THE GOOD WALK: CREATING NEW PATHS
ON TRADITIONAL PRAIRIE TRAILS**
Matthew R. Anderson

A mix of memoir, travelogue, and manifesto, this book recounts how a group of Indigenous and settler walkers trekked thousands of kilometres on Prairie pilgrimages – along the Traders' Road, the Battleford Trail, and the Frenchman and the Fort Qu'Appelle Trails – starting in 2015 and continuing almost every year since, and how they witness the land, reflect on the past, and create new paths for the future. (University of Regina Press, 356 pages, with b/w photos, index, \$89.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-88977-968-6; \$27.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-88977-965-5; available as ebook)

**JOURNALISM FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD:
THE MICHENER AWARDS AT FIFTY**
Kim S. Kierans

This story of the Michener Awards is a celebration of the organizations and individuals who give voice to marginalized communities, challenge the powerful, and, through their fearless journalism, make Canada a better place. (University of Calgary Press, 256 pages, \$68.99 hc, ISBN: 978-1-77385-534-9; \$38.99 pb, ISBN: 978-1-77385-535-6; available as ebook)

**MANIPULATING THE MESSAGE: HOW
POWERFUL FORCES SHAPE THE NEWS**
Cecil Rosner

Rosner uses stories from his long career as a journalist to provide an analysis of all the ways journalists can be manipulated – including by corporate propaganda, spin

doctors, inaccurate press releases, and polls – and how to combat this trend. (Dundurn Press, \$26.99 pb, 276 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4597-5125-5, available as ebook)

**MMM . . . MANITOBA: THE STORIES
BEHIND THE FOODS WE EAT**

Kimberley Moore and Janis Thiessen

Organized as a collection of photographs, mini-biographies, maps, recipes, and historical chapters, this engaging and thoughtful book showcases Manitoba's diverse food histories, providing an entry point for readers into more complex historical subjects and questions of migration, identity, gender, ethnicity, politics, and health. (University of Manitoba Press, \$27.95 pb, 304 pages, with colour illustrations, maps, bibliography, ISBN: 978-1-77284-041-4, available as ebook)

**PROTEST AND PARTNERSHIP: CASE
STUDIES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES,
CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT, AND
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA**

Edited by Jennifer Winter
and Brendan Boyd

Through presenting case studies on a range of resource development sectors including oil and gas, renewable energy, mining, and forestry, drawn from regions across Canada, this book explores what processes lead to equitable relationships and outcomes among Indigenous communities, resource development companies, and governments in Canada. (University of Calgary Press, 258 pages, with illustrations, \$68.99 hc, ISBN: 978-1-77385-203-4; \$38.99 pb, ISBN: 978-1-77385-204-1; available as ebook)

**RECONSTRUCTIONS OF CANADIAN IDENTITY:
TOWARDS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

Edited by Vander Tavares and
Maria João Maciel Jorge

This collection examines what has changed in Canada since 1971 – when it became the first nation to officially declare its bilingual and multicultural policies – highlighting the experiences of marginalized Canadians and offering insights into the critical work that lies ahead. (University of Manitoba Press, \$31.95 pb, 336 pages, with illustrations, bibliography, index, ISBN: 978-1-77284-069-8, available as ebook)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

SIGNS OF LIFE: FIELD NOTES FROM THE FRONTLINES OF EXTINCTION

Sarah Cox

Cox travelled across the country – visiting Canada's only wildlife biobank at the Toronto Zoo, military bases that are home to some of Canada's last preserved ecosystems, and Indigenous communities where land stewards are striving to restore the ecological balance – to see efforts being made to protect biodiversity. (Goose Lane Editions, \$24.95 pb, 292 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77310-288-7, available as ebook)

SQUANDERED: CANADA'S POTASH LEGACY

Eric Cline

Cline, a former provincial minister of both finance and industry and resources and a former corporate executive in the mining sector, exposes the irresponsibility of Saskatchewan's potash industry management – where private profit was prioritized over public interest

– and examines the consequences of choices made.

(University of Regina Press, 192 pages, tables, appendices, bibliography, index, \$89.00 hc, ISBN: 978-0-88977-972-3; \$27.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-88977-969-3; available as ebook)

TOWARD AN ANTI-RACIST POETICS

Wade Compton

In this latest CLC Kreisel lecture, the poet, historian, graphic novelist, essayist, short story writer, and anthologist Wade Compton argues against the current white universalism in both lyric and avant-garde verse that underpins literary production and reception, and argues for recognizing one's (lack of) knowledge of various cultures and one's proximity to them when reading, and for educating oneself in a wider range of forms.

(University of Alberta Press, \$14.99 pb, 72 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77212-743-0, available as ebook)

TRAFFICKING HARMS: CRITICAL POLITICS, PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES

Edited by Katrin Roots, Ann De Shalit, and Emily van der Meulen

This collection's four themes – discourses and representations, law and prosecutions, policing and surveillance, and migrant labour exploitation – frame an array of issues regarding Canada's anti-trafficking efforts and their wide-ranging impacts. (Fernwood Publishing, \$35.00 pb, 288 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77363-668-9, available as ebook)

WHAT WOMEN REPRESENT: THE IMPACT OF WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

Erica Rayment

Drawing on a database that encompasses five decades of debate in the House of Commons, this first large-scale analysis of the substantive representation of women in Canadian politics shows that women can and do influence the issues raised and the decisions made in parliamentary debate and decision-making. (McGill-Queen's University Press, 264 pages, with diagrams, tables, \$110.00 hc, ISBN: 978-1-2280-2094-3; \$34.95 pb, ISBN: 978-0-2280-2095-0; available as ebook)

So many things to get done...

Get your vision in front of your customers

We are experts at ensuring your visual communications are where they need to be, when they need to be there. We confirm every last detail has been considered, with unparalleled service. We have the experience and expertise to take the burden of projects off your mind, so you can focus on driving your business forward.

Let us juggle them for you!

DIGITAL & DATA SUPPORT

MARKETING PROJECTS

DIRECT MAIL

OFFSET & DIGITAL PRINT

RETAIL & COMMERCIAL SIGNAGE

INDOOR & OUTDOOR

NATIONWIDE INSTALLER NETWORK

EXPERTS IN CUSTOM PROJECTS



SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND CHECK OUT ALL OF OUR SERVICES!

PG
Prolific Group

lightvisions
A PROLIFIC COMPANY



Children's book fills gap, sharing reality of ranch life in Saskatchewan

Jackie Cameron draws from experiences growing up on family farm

by Amanda Sanders

LOST TREASURE ON THE CIRCLE STAR RANCH

Jackie Cameron

Illustrated by Wendi Nordell

Your Nickel's Worth Publishing

\$19.95 pb, 78 pages

ISBN: 978-1-77869-001-3

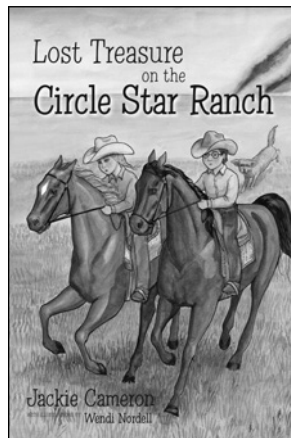
The family on the Circle Star Ranch returns in Jackie Cameron's second novel for early readers, *Lost Treasure on the Circle Star Ranch*.

The author was inspired to continue the story of Ben, Sarah, and their parents after her first instalment, *Adventures on the Circle Star Ranch*, received good reviews from children and was shortlisted for a Saskatchewan book award and the Next Generation Indie Book Award. "Since I had an idea for another story, I wrote *Lost Treasure on the Circle Star Ranch*," she explains.

Cameron, who now lives in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, grew up on her family farm where they raised cattle, and while they didn't consider themselves ranchers, there were some shared experiences between her family and the family on the Circle Star Ranch, such as the grass fire.

"When a fire like this happens, people see the smoke and come help – which we did. In this book, I have some Hutterite men come to help."

She had good reasons to include Hutterite characters. "The Hutterite children in more than 30 schools in the southwest loved my first book," Cameron explains, "and this was a way of saying thank you to them. It also gave me a chance to tell a bit about the Hutterite lifestyle."



Cameron's career as a teacher-librarian in two school divisions led her to contribute to the body of children's books in Canada. "There were not many books about farm or ranch life in Saskatchewan, so I thought I would try to fill this gap," she says.

The story of the ranch family and their adventures is enhanced by the charming illustrations of Wendi Nordell. "They add so much to the stories, and she did excellent work on portraying people, animals, and scenery as I imagined it," Cameron says.

Nordell has quite a few illustration credits to her name in a wide variety of genres and target age groups, including Cameron's first novel. She particularly enjoys working on Cameron's books. "When I was a kid," she says, "I used to daydream about being on a ranch and riding horses in the open prairies, so it was a lot of fun to picture it and bring those scenes to life."

While she doesn't have direct ranch experience, Nordell did grow up in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and was exposed to farm animals as a child.

"I've drawn inspiration from my life as well, from growing up and living in these places. I never lived on a ranch but I had horses and a pet cow on a hobby farm that we lived on for about a decade. I knew lots of people who had ranches, or raised cattle." She has always loved to draw horses, but cows were a new drawing challenge for her.

Lost Treasure on the Circle Star Ranch is a story that rings true to the Saskatchewan rural experience. "When driving through southern Saskatchewan, among the hills and creeks, it is easy to imagine someone hiding out in one of the abandoned houses near a creek," Cameron explains.

"This is a story that might have been." 🌻



Jackie Cameron



Wendi Nordell

Perceptions of fame get complicated in tale of psychic teen living in a movie set

New hi-lo novel from Carol Matas carries message of acceptance

by Laura McKay

ZEVI TAKES THE SPOTLIGHT

Carol Matas

Orca Book Publishers

\$10.95 pb, 128 pages

ISBN: 978-1-4598-3882-6

Available as an ebook

In her new novel for middle-grade readers, *Zevi Takes the Spotlight*, prolific Winnipeg author Carol Matas wanted to challenge perceptions of fame.



“Fame has become something that young people aspire to. And that aspiration doesn’t necessarily include making the world better, or excelling at a sport or an art, quite the contrary – fame can stand alone as something you want to be when you grow up,” she says.

Zevi Takes the Spotlight brings together elements of psychic phenomena, the film industry, and Jewish culture. Accessibly written and

printed in a dyslexia-friendly font, this high-interest novel was produced specifically for students aged 9 to 12 who are reading below grade level.

Matas is the author of over 47 books for young people, in genres including historical fiction, sci-fi, supernatural, and thriller. But *Zevi Takes the Spotlight* is her first hi-lo novel. The new format came with new challenges in the writing process.

“Maybe because I write so many historical books, or maybe because I like to challenge my readers, I do enjoy using some big words,” she admits. “Those words could not be used, so I was often looking at the thesaurus for substitutes. I was very lucky to have an amazing editor.”

Zevi, Matas’s 13-year-old protagonist, dreams of becoming a famous actor. When a film crew wants to turn his home into a movie set, Zevi sees his chance to

gain experience as an extra. But when his psychic abilities keep warning him just in time to save the lead actor from strange accidents on set, Zevi is thrust into the spotlight for all the wrong reasons.

The mystery of who is causing these accidents draws the reader in, as does Zevi’s relatable struggle not to be underestimated by the adults around him.

Matas drew on her own experiences when developing Zevi’s artistic ambitions. “Before I became a writer, I was an actor,” the graduate of the Actor’s Lab in London, England, says.

“The film world is a perfect place to explore themes of fame. And I was very lucky to have a professor from the University of Winnipeg, John Kozak, who agreed to help me with all the technical aspects of a movie set. It’s complicated!” The detailed depictions of a movie set are sure to interest readers with film aspirations of their own.

Skilfully woven throughout the story are references to Jewish identity and culture, which is an important part of many of Matas’s works.

“To write about a Jewish character and to let the readers see that they are just the same as any other kid is important,” says Matas. “I hope that the main feeling they will get from Mom and Dad in the book is one of caring, warmth, and acceptance.

“And from Zevi they will see a normal kid who is just like them, trying to do the best he can in a world where maybe he can’t control a lot, but he tries to make the best decisions possible.”



“The film world is a perfect place to explore themes of fame.” CAROL MATAS

MORE YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN TITLES

PICTURE BOOKS

ALWAYS BEGINNING: THE STORY OF THE UNIVERSE FROM THE BIG BANG TO YOU
Candace Savage, illustrated by Rachel Wada
With warmth and wonder, and stunning art, this picture book introduces the universe's history from the Big Bang and the creation of the planets to the beginning of life on Earth and up to today. A timeline and notes explaining the science are included as back matter.
(Greystone Books, \$23.95 hc, 44 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77164-843-1, available as ebook)

THE LITTLE REGENT
Yewande Daniel-Ayoade, illustrated by Ken Daley
Drawing on Yoruba traditions and culture to craft an original, uplifting, feminist fable, the author tells the story of eight-year-old Abioye, who is made the temporary ruler or regent of her West African village when the king, her father, dies. By attending to the needs of the villagers rather than the bureaucracy of the chiefs, she becomes popular and is elected the first female king of the village.
(Owlkids, \$21.95 hc, 44 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77147-562-4)

WE'RE HAPPY YOU'RE HERE
Julie Wilkins, illustrated by Brady Sato
This picture book shows – with inclusive illustrations depicting diverse family journeys including single parents, 2SLGBTQ+ parents, and a variety of family structures – the many special people and the planning, preparation, wisdom, science, and love that are involved in welcoming a new child into a family.
(Orca Book Publishers, \$21.95 hc, 32 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3648-8, available as ebook)

EARLY YEARS FICTION

DRAGON ON THE LOOSE
Marty Chan, illustrated by Grace Chin
Hailey and Kyle accidentally bring a Chinese dragon to life when wishing

on a statue, and once they realize Zhu is friendly (and loves lemon chewy worm candies), they show her around. Things get complicated when Animal Control is called, and they need to figure out a way to get Zhu home again.
(Orca Book Publishers, \$8.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3421-7, available as ebook)

LARK GOES THE DISTANCE
Natasha Deen, illustrated by Marcus Cutler
In this seventh book of the Lark Ba Detective series, Lark and her brother and friends investigate Katie's missing heirloom watch, which was stolen during the setup of a fundraiser race. To add to the mystery, a note was left behind warning Katie to drop out of the race if she wanted to get her watch back. Motives are complicated, and there is no shortage of suspects.
(Orca Book Publishers, \$8.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3875-8, available as ebook)

WISH MAKER
Uchechukwu Peter Umezurike
This charming book tells of Ebele, a nine-year-old boy who struggles to understand why his widowed mother cannot buy him Christmas gifts. To show him what Christmas is truly about, a magical stranger helps Ebele to overcome peer pressure, have faith, and be kind.
(Griots Lounge, \$24.99 hc, 104 pages, ISBN: 978-1-7386993-7-7)

MIDDLE YEARS FICTION

COOP FOR KEEPS
Larry Verstraete
This sequel to *Coop the Great*, again told in the voice of the aging and arthritic dachshund Coop, sees him grieving the loss of his dear companion Mike and feeling very lonely amid his new family – Jess, Mike's daughter, is distracted by getting the family business going; Emma, Jess's daughter, has eyes only for Lucy the cat; and Zach, Jess's son, is dealing with bullies. Zach gradually befriends five crows and then Pete, the itinerant artist

staying in their guest house, but where does that leave Coop?
(Yellow Dog-Great Plains Press, \$16.95 pb, 208 pages, ISBN: 978-1-77337-113-9)

MIDDLE YEARS NON-FICTION

REMEMBER THIS: THE FASCINATING WORLD OF MEMORY
Monique Polak, illustrated by Valéry Goulet
The Orca Think series encourages readers to question, connect, and take action. This colourfully illustrated book addresses topics including the science of the brain, how and why people make memories, societal and cultural memory, and memory loss, and how these connect with contemporary issues such as PTSD, residential schools, and Alzheimer's disease.
(Orca Book Publishers, \$26.95 hc, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3412-5, available as ebook)

SAVE OUR SEEDS: PROTECTING PLANTS FOR THE FUTURE
Sheryl Normandeau
Part of the Orca Footprint series, this book examines the importance of seeds, the threats they face, and how to preserve and conserve them for the future. Young readers learn about pollination, biodiversity, healthy ecosystems, food security, the climate crisis, and genetic engineering, and are given practical tools for taking action.
(Orca Book Publishers, \$21.95 hc, 48 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3697-6, available as ebook)

YA FICTION

DROPPED!
Alice Kuipers
Dex's life has tanked after his girlfriend dumped him and he embarrassed himself at a party trying to win her back. Can being a contestant on an Internet reality TV show help him regain his social media presence, his girlfriend, and his self-esteem? How much should he risk to try to win?
(Orca Book Publishers, \$10.95 pb, 96 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4598-3774-4, available as ebook)

Le roman plonge dans la désillusion comme élément de l'expérience d'immigration

« *On est le fruit de son éducation* », dit Minkala-Ntadi de son anti-héro

par Amber O'Reilly

DU RÊVE PARISIEN AU FROID DES PRAIRIES

Pierre Minkala-Ntadi

Les Éditions de la nouvelle plume

20,00 \$ papier, 176 pages

ISBN : 978-2-925329-06-0

Disponible en livre numérique

On ne peut que s'emballer dans la trajectoire fataliste de la vie du jeune réfugié Adolphe Moumpala dans le nouveau roman de Pierre Minkala-Ntadi, *Du rêve parisien au froid des Prairies*.

Après des défilés de mode dans la rue et des aventures entrepreneuriales bâclées, il est adopté dans un camp de réfugiés où règnent les effluves scatologiques pour finalement se rendre jusque dans un cours d'anglais et une succession d'emplois manuels dans l'hiver intransigeant de Winnipeg.

Les secrets terribles qu'il porte en lui le font tanguer entre sa famille biologique et sa famille adoptive, ce qui reflète aussi les liens symboliques qu'entretient le personnage avec Brazzaville (République du Congo), Paris (France), et Winnipeg (Manitoba) et les rêves qui s'y rattachent.

« J'ai voulu un personnage qui soit un anti-héros, c'est-à-dire un incapable, pour montrer qu'il est presque impossible de réussir dans la vie sociale lorsqu'on s'écarte des normes socialement établies, telles que celles qui régissent l'éducation – dans ses nombreux paliers – et le marché du travail », dit Minkala-Ntadi.

Le professeur à l'Université de Saint-Boniface a tâché de partager, en construisant une pure fiction, ses réflexions sur les défis auxquels font face les personnes immigrantes au Canada.



Novel dives into disillusionment as element of immigration experience

'*One is the fruit of one's education*,' Minkala-Ntadi says of his anti-hero

by Amber O'Reilly

DU RÊVE PARISIEN AU FROID DES PRAIRIES

Pierre Minkala-Ntadi

Les Éditions de la nouvelle plume

\$20.00 pb, 176 pages

ISBN: 978-2-925329-06-0

Available as an ebook

Readers will not resist being carried away by the fatalistic trajectory of young refugee Adolphe Moumpala's life in Pierre Minkala-Ntadi's new novel, *Du rêve parisien au froid des Prairies*.

After street fashion shows and botched entrepreneurial adventures, Adolphe is adopted into a refugee camp where scatological odours reign, eventually ending up in an

English class and a succession of manual jobs in the uncompromising Winnipeg winter.

The terrible secrets he carries make him sway between his biological family and his adoptive family, which reflect the symbolic links he maintains with, and by extension, his dreams for life in Brazzaville (in the Republic of Congo), Paris (France), and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

"I wanted a character who was an anti-hero, that is to say an incompetent, to show that it is almost impossible to succeed in social life when you deviate from socially established norms, such as those which govern education – on its many levels – and the labour market," says Minkala-Ntadi.

The Université de Saint-Boniface professor endeavoured to share, by constructing a pure fiction, his thoughts on the challenges faced by immigrants in Canada.

"I observed that many newcomers, particularly those who arrived in Manitoba as refugees, provincial nominees, or family-sponsored, found themselves, at

« J’ai observé que plusieurs nouveaux arrivants, notamment ceux qui sont arrivés au Manitoba comme réfugiés, candidats de la province ou dans la classe familiale, se sont retrouvés, à un moment donné de leur séjour, dans un état de désillusion par rapport à leurs attentes. »

Le personnage subit en effet tout le poids de sa propre honte, ancrée dans sa perception du regard que les autres portent sur lui. Il est miroité par deux autres Adolphe : le fils perdu de son père adoptif qui devient pour Moumpala un fantôme violent, et Mimpala, un nouvel ami et compatriote rencontré au Canada.

Ces figures auxquelles il tente de se mesurer deviennent les tremplins de riches introspections, qui l’amènent à dévoiler petit à petit toute une trame de souvenirs au fil du roman. Les incursions dans le monde de la SAPE (Société des ambassadeurs et des personnes élégantes, phénomène culturel vestimentaire congolais), les critiques satiriques des systèmes politiques et des dynamiques sociales au camp de réfugiés sont parmi les passages les plus fascinants de l’intrigue.

Celle-ci se conclut par une chute surprenante qui laisse planer la suite du destin d’Adolphe tout en renforçant le message social de Minkala-Ntadi sur le potentiel de l’éducation et de la formation comme agents d’intégration dans une nouvelle communauté.

« Soit on accepte d’être façonné par le système social à travers l’éducation dont on devient le produit, et on réussit sa vie sociale », dit-il, « soit on refuse de s’y conformer, et on est un loupé.

« On est avant tout le fruit de son éducation. » 🌿

some point during their stay, in a state of disillusionment with regards to their expectations.”

The character suffers the full weight of his own shame, rooted in his perception of how others view him. He is mirrored by two other Adolphe: the lost son of his adoptive father who becomes a violent ghost for Moumpala, and Mimpala, a new friend and compatriot he meets in Canada.

These figures become springboards for rich introspection, which leads him to gradually reveal a web of memories throughout the novel. The forays into the world of SAPE (the Society of Ambiance and People of Elegance, a Congolese cultural clothing phenomenon), the satirical critiques of political systems, and the social dynamics in the refugee camp all

contribute to an intricate plot.

The story comes to a startling head that leaves the rest of Adolphe’s destiny up in the air while reinforcing Minkala-Ntadi’s social message on the potential of education and training as determining factors of one’s integration into a new community.

“Either one accepts being shaped by the social system through the education of which one becomes the product, and one succeeds in one’s social life,” he says, “or one refuses to comply, and is a failure.

“Above all, one is the fruit of one’s education.” 🌿



Pierre Minkala-Ntadi

VIENNENT DE PARAITRE EN FRANÇAIS

LA SECONDE QUI N’A PAS CHANGÉ MA VIE

Patrick Imbert

Claude, professeur de sciences politiques arborant l’esprit d’un philosophe, est en quête d’amour authentique. Après plusieurs relations infructueuses, le destin lui sourit en la personne de Dominique. Complices, ils inventent un quotidien porté par la beauté, l’humour et d’intenses réflexions sur le sens de l’existence. Pourtant, leur vie n’échappe pas aux contre-temps. Claude,

a political science professor with the spirit of a philosopher, is on a quest for authentic love. After several unsuccessful relationships, he meets Dominique, and together, they create a life driven by beauty, humour, and intense reflections on the meaning of existence, but a life not without setbacks.

(Éditions du Blé, roman, 22,95 \$ papier, 242 pages, ISBN : 978-2-924915-95-0, disponible en livre numérique)

LE TEMPS EN MIETTES

Babacar Léna Diamé Ndiaye

Dans ce premier recueil de poésie, Diamé Ndiaye dénonce l’état agonisant

du monde qui nous entoure et invite le lecteur à réfléchir sur lui-même. La nécessité de proclamer ces poèmes, forts et loin, résonne comme un impératif crucial pour sensibiliser aux multiples facettes des souffrances humaines. In this first collection of poetry, Diamé Ndiaye denounces the dying state of the world around us and invites the reader to reflect. The need to proclaim these poems, loud and far, resonates as a crucial imperative to raise awareness of the multiple facets of human suffering.

(Éditions du Blé, poésie, 19,95 \$ papier, 52 pages, ISBN : 978-2-924915-93-6, disponible en livre numérique)

CREDITS

MANAGING EDITOR Anastasia Chipelski

EDITOR Marjorie Poor

GUEST FEATURE EDITOR Chelsey Young

AMBP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Michelle Peters

COPY EDITING Heidi Harms and
Lucien Chaput

GRAPHIC DESIGN Relish New Brand
Experience Inc.

ADVERTISING SALES Michael Wile,
m.wile.advertising@gmail.com

The views expressed in *Prairie books NOW* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers, the Managing Editor, or the Editor of *Prairie books NOW*.

Prairie books NOW is made possible with the financial support of The Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, the Manitoba Arts Council, Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage, and the Winnipeg Arts Council.

Advertising rates are available upon request; email m.wile.advertising@gmail.com. Discounts are available for contract advertisers.

We welcome all letters to the editor and other submissions on matters of interest to readers of *Prairie books NOW*. We reserve the right to select and edit submissions.

Prairie books NOW is published by the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers. It is published two times per year for distribution free of charge in selected Canadian locations. Bulk rates to institutions are available upon request. ISSN 1201-5962.

Subscriptions are available for \$12.75 per year. Send cheques payable to the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers.

Printed in Manitoba, Canada by
The Prolific Group.

Prairie books NOW
100 Arthur Street, Suite 404,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 1H3
tel (204) 947-3335
prairiebooksnw@gmail.com
prairiebooksnw.ca



Association of
Manitoba Book
Publishers



CONSEIL DES
ARTS DU
MANITOBA
ARTS COUNCIL



WINNIPEG
ARTS COUNCIL



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

Canada

ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTORS

JANELLE DESROSIERS (she/they) is a Michif and French-Canadian Two-Spirit mother, entrepreneur, designer, writer, and artist. She is from and lives in Treaty 1 Territory, with her son and husband.

EMELIA FOURNIER is a Métis freelance journalist and writer from Winnipeg. She is based in Montreal, where her main focus is community journalism. After a career spent in the book world (AELAQ, ABQLA, Chapters, and various school libraries), **MARGARET GOLDIK** is concentrating on reading, drinking tea, and working on her own writing projects.

IAN GOODWILLIE is a freelance writer based in Saskatoon who covers a variety of topics for different publications.

BEV SANDELL GREENBERG is a Winnipeg writer and editor.

JOANNA HAWKINS has professionally trained in mime, physical comedy, and storytelling under Shannon Guile and is the co-founder of 100 Decibels: A Deaf Mime Troupe.

PAULA E. KIRMAN is a writer, editor, photographer, filmmaker, and musician in Edmonton. Her website is wordspicturesmusic.com.

LAURA MCKAY (she, her, hers) is a speculative fiction writer from rural Manitoba. She is the managing editor at Portage & Main Press/HighWater Press. Find her online at writerlauramckay.ca.

KYLA NEUFELD is a poet and editor. Her work has appeared in *The Goose*, *Vallum: Contemporary Poetry*, *Rune Bear*, and *Geez Magazine*.

AMBER O'REILLY is a multilingual poet, spoken word artist, playwright, and screenwriter. She has two books published with Les Éditions du Blé.

AMBER O'REILLY est une poète, slammeuse, autrice de théâtre et scénariste. Elle a deux livres publiés chez Les Éditions du Blé.

BROCK PETERS is a Winnipeg-based editor and author. Alongside his wife, graphic designer Sarah Peters, he runs a small freelancing company called Galley Creative Co.

Multidisciplinary artist **ERIC PLAMONDON** has been cultivating art in the land of the Muddy Waters for over a decade. Eric partook in the 2023 Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Indigenous writing collective Pimootayowin.

LUIS REIS is a Portuguese Canadian who recently travelled to São Miguel Island with his wife, Monica. There, he researched and discovered his family's cultural history.

AMANDA SANDERS lives in Edmonton, Alberta, with her husband and two sons.

SARAH SEROY is an Indigenous freelance writer and editor from Treaty 1. She recently completed her Honours BA in Rhetoric and Communications at the University of Winnipeg.

BIBI UKONU is the author of the award-winning collection of stories *Things That Start Small but Sweet*. He lives in Winnipeg with his wife and three beautiful kids.

SANNA WANI is the author of *My Grief, the Sun*, the winner of the Trillium Award for Poetry. She is the poetry editor at Fernwood Publishing. She loves daisies.

BOOKENDS

Prairie books NOW values your feedback. Please send your comments to prairiebooksnw@gmail.com. In order to reach *Prairie books NOW* via phone, please call the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers at (204) 947-3335.

On the Cover:

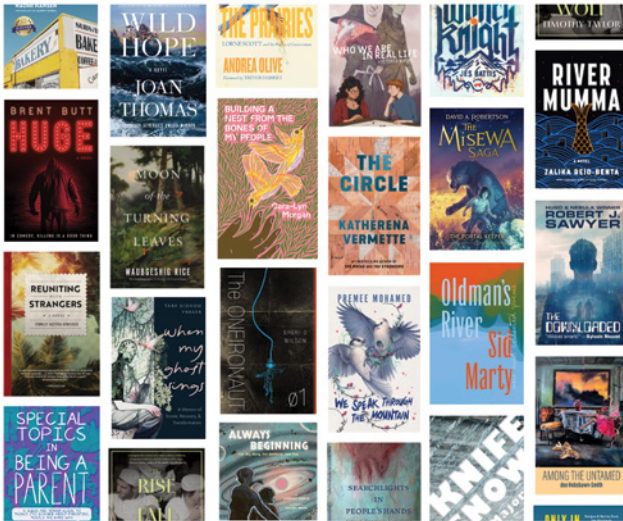
Her Roots Go Deep, Nicki Ferland, machine quilted textiles (2021).

Wondering how to order?

While we wish we could pass on your orders to bookstores or wholesalers in your region, it is best for you to direct order any or all of the books in *Prairie books NOW* through the trade bookstore or wholesaler you normally deal with. The information provided with every article is there to make ordering from a bookstore or wholesaler as easy as possible.



JULY 18-21 2024
WORKSHOPS, READINGS, TRIVIA,
INTERVIEWS, PANELS, AND MORE!



ONLINE & INPERSON
SASKATCHEWAN'S LARGEST LITERARY FESTIVAL
WWW.FESTIVALOFWORDS.COM 306 691-0557 @FESTIVALOFWORDS

SPRING
2024



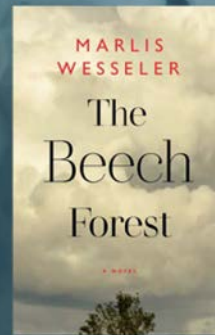
The Rasmussen Papers
9781771872539

MAY 14



What Fills Your House
Like Smoke
9781771872522

APRIL 9

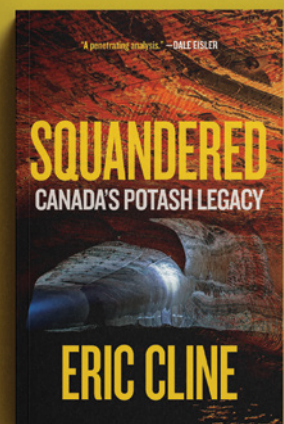
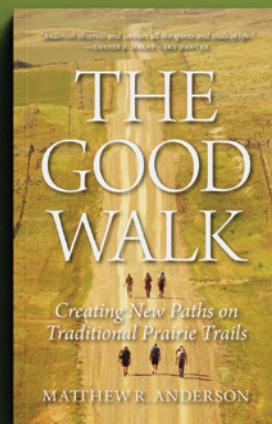
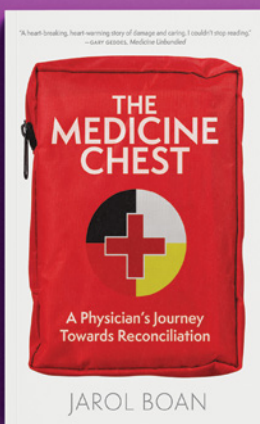


The Beech Forest
9781771872546

JUNE 4

Thistledown Press
Read what we sow.
thistledownpress.com

NEW THIS SPRING



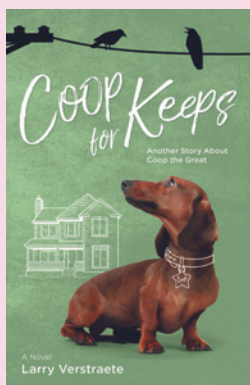
University of Regina Press
UofRPress.ca



CREATIVE SASKATCHEWAN PARTICIPATION MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH CREATIVE SASKATCHEWAN'S MARKET AND EXPORT DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

Stories that Bind us

from Great Plains Press



Coop for Keeps

Larry Verstraete

978-1-77337-113-9 \$16.95 CAN | \$12.95 USD

A story about trust and belonging told by Coop, an old dachshund and the star of the popular middle grade novel *Coop the Great*.



This Lark of Stolen Time

Richard Cumyn

978-1-77337-117-7 \$27.95 CAN | \$24.95 USD

A portrait of a family coming together and falling apart. Playing with structure and voice, Cumyn stitches together the stories of its varied characters and explores the small and large ways in which our lives connect.



The Head

Robyn Braun

978-1-77337-115-3 \$21.95 CAN | \$16.95 USD

The Head is a bizarre journey through trauma, bad relationships, and toxic workplace culture.



GREATPLAINSPRESS.CA



**GREAT PLAINS
PRESS**