



# The Permanent Press



2018





## *From the Publishers*

2017 featured several breakout titles from two authors we published for the first time: David Appel's *The Mask of Sanity* and James Conroy's *The Coyote Hunter of Acquidneck Island*—our only fiction nominees for The National Book Award. Other successful titles—review-wise and sales-wise were Steve Zousmer's *Falling Into the Mob* and the introduction of Baron Birtcher's *South California Purples*, a new thriller series with a second installment coming up this year.

We'll be publishing seventeen titles this year, one more than we've ever done before, because of bringing back a new edition of William Herrick's *Hermanos* originally published in 1969.

Interest in older classics after Hitler came to power is still acute. Phillip Metcalfe's *1933* which we published in 1988, has also proved resurgent, with Balans in the Netherlands reissuing it in a Dutch edition as this catalog goes to press. It is actively being considered in China and other quarters. This validates our policy of never letting substantial books go out of print.

Thirteen of these books came from writers we've published before. For the first time since we began publishing in 1980—38 years ago—we will have a warehouse with close to 600 titles in print. Back again are a core of mystery writers who've been successful over the years: Ira Gold, Connie Dial, Howard Owen, William Wells and our co-publisher Chris Knopf. And we expect that Tom Rayfiel's *Harms' Way* will attract as much attention as last year's *The Mask of Sanity* from Jacob Appel.

A few different things to add: for the first time in our history there are two memoirs scheduled—one by David Bouchier and another from Maria Flook.

If there is any theme that stands out to connect some of these novels, the word would be “resilience,” and it shows up particularly in three novels: Abe Aamidor's *Letting Go*, T.S. Farley's *The Impotent Avenger*, and Kathleen Novak's *The Autobiography of Corrine Bernard: A Novel*. In each of them the narrator is a person who has been suppressing overwhelming emotional pain whether it stems from the loss of a child, the impending loss of a spouse, or from killing an abusive husband. Yet each one of them is able to purge their pain after holding it in for a decade or longer.

Martin Shepard, Judith Shepard, Chris Knopf  
*catalog illustrations: Mac Shepard (August 10, 1907–May 14, 1972)*



# The Permanent Press

and **Second Chance Press**

# 2018

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## JANUARY

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### First Person Female

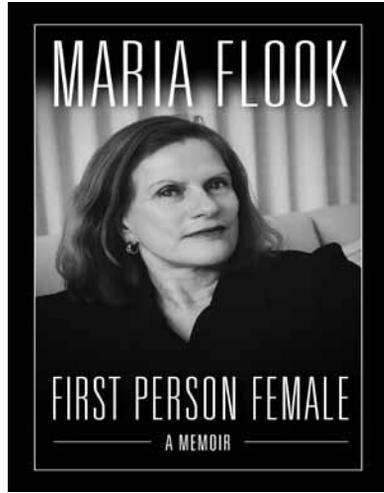
*Maria Flook*

ISBN 978-1-57962-515-3

368 pp. \$29.95 cloth

In this breathtaking memoir, *First Person Female*, New York Times bestseller Maria Flook gives a simmering account of her coming of age as a novelist. With unrestrained honesty and comic detours, Flook maps her literary career, book after book. She reveals literary connections that were blurred and transformed by sexual liaisons, including an illicit affair with her longtime New York editor. With shocking glimpses of her secret life, her frank vision as a realist writer, and her role as a mother facing her child's life and death struggle with cancer, we see a writer consumed by family betrayals, trysts at hotels, and visits with her son in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit.

Flook's startling candor has the grace of authority. Both lyrical and stark, the writer's unfeigned story is the foundation for her pursuit of art in a chronicle that leads to redemption.



**MARIA FLOOK** is the author of *My Sister Life: The Story of my Sister's Disappearance* and *Invisible Eden: A Story of Love and Murder on Cape Cod*; the novels *Mothers and Lovers*, *Lux*, *Open Water*, and *Family Night*, which received a PEN American/Ernest Hemingway Foundation Special Citation; a collection of stories, *You Have the Wrong Man*; and two collections of poems. She teaches at Emerson College in Boston.

## Hermanos

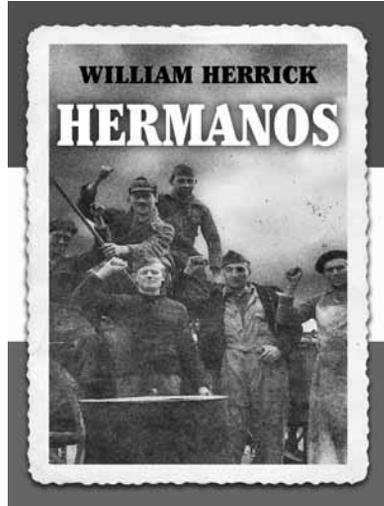
*William Herrick*

ISBN: 978-1-57962-539-9

312 pp. \$29.95 cloth

The Spanish Civil War was the last in Europe to be fought for idealistic reasons. When it ended, idealism had been totally and tragically defeated.

*Hermanos* is about the men and women who came to Spain as volunteers from every corner of the world—Germany, Ireland, the USA and Britain—to join the International Brigades in what they saw as a crusade against fascism. It is about the cruel war they fought, and the terror and murderous fury of the battles in which most died. It is also about the politics of international socialism and of those who infiltrated into Spain and intrigued for power, and the weapons—distortion, secret police, terror, death—they used in a ruthless and cynical exploitation of idealism for their own ends. And it is about those who fought in the streets, crying, ‘Unios! Hermanos proletarios!’



**WILLIAM HERRICK'S** Spanish Civil War is far different from Hemingway's. Equally tragic, equally conscious of the dignity and nobility of the men involved, nevertheless it reveals the harsh and painful reality of the workings of politics. It is also memorable for the passionate story of Jacob Starr and Sarah Ruskin, and for its battle-scenes in which Herrick manages to convey, in his sharp, idiosyncratic and sardonic style, the hope and optimism that turned to despair and inevitable defeat.

### The Uttermost Parts of the Earth

*Frederic Hunter*

ISBN: 978-1-57962-516-0

344 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Kwame Johnson, an African-American academic serving a stint as a cultural diplomat, is sent to visit a remote Congo post where an officer is establishing an American cultural center. But the officer has disappeared. Kwame tries to discover what happened, but in vain. He's instructed to set up the center himself.

Kwame finds companions among the expats living at his hotel. He expects to marry his white fiancée in Paris within several months. But the languor of the town undercuts his plan. While attempting to find out about his fellow officer, he befriends Kalima, the beautiful Congolese wife of an expat who has deserted her. She lives with a Nigerian doctor resident at the hotel. She and Kwame begin an affair. The doctor takes this in stride. He and Kwame arrange to share her favors.

Danger always lurks in the Congo and one danger for Kwame is falling in love with her. An even greater danger is the unrest from neighboring Rwanda where massacres spreads toward Kwame's town, forcing Kwame and Kalima to become exiles who must discover how to flee the Congo and find refuge elsewhere.



**FREDERICK HUNTER'S** first encounter with Africa came as a Foreign Service Officer of the United States Information Service assigned to the Congo. He served there in three posts: Coquilhatville, Bukavu, and Leopoldville and served as the Africa Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor and subsequently written award-winning stage work which have been produced by PBS, ABC and CBS.

### **Fistful of Rain**

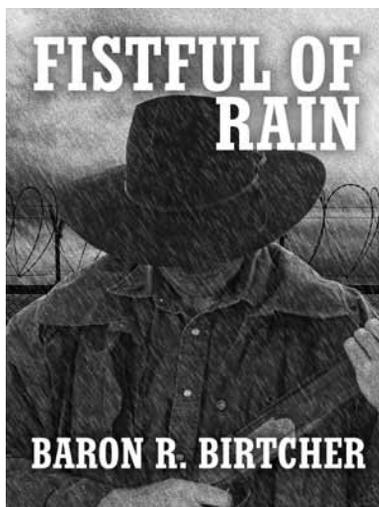
*Baron Birtcher*

ISBN: 978-1-57962-518-4

288 pp. \$29.95 cloth

**FISTFUL OF RAIN** is the sequel to 2016's *South California Purples*. Set in 1975, it is the story of a nation, a rural county, and a small town coming to terms with turbulent change. The theft of a rancher's livestock ends in an assault that escalates into arson, and the murders of nearly a dozen people. Residents of a "hippie" commune are accused of having committed the acts that have led the small county to the brink of a range war, and of feeding the tensions between generations. Sheriff Ty Dawson, a cattle rancher himself, finds himself at the center of a battle between town residents and the "hippies" who appear to be threatening their way of life, a struggle that leads both sides to violence.

Written with equal parts elegance and grit, **FISTFUL OF RAIN** is a fast-paced literary thriller populated by unforgettable characters, outstanding dialogue, and a setting that will have you wishing you could live in it long after the last page has been turned.



**BARON R. BIRTCHER** spent a number of years as a professional musician, and founded an independent record label and management company. Critics have hailed Baron's writing as "the real deal" (*Publishers Weekly*), and his plots as "taut, gritty, and powerfully controlled" (*Kirkus Reviews*).

His first two novels (*Roadhouse Blues* and *Ruby Tuesday*) are Los Angeles Times and Independent Mystery Booksellers Association best sellers, and he has been nominated for a number of literary awards, including the Nero Award (*Hard Latitudes*), the Claymore Awards (*Rain Dogs*), the Left Coast Crime Lefty Award (*Angels Fall*), and won the Silver Falchion Award in 2016 (*Hard Latitudes*).

Baron currently divides his time between Portland, Oregon and Kona, Hawaii.

## An Unexpected Life

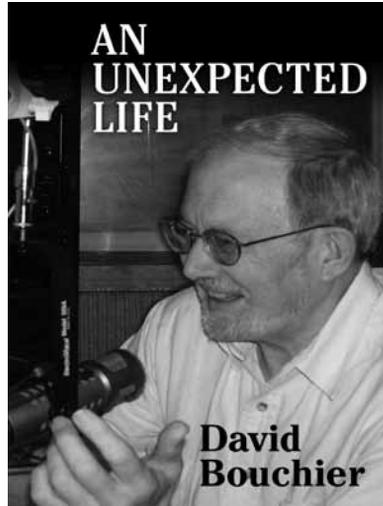
David Bouchier

ISBN: 978-1-57962-519-1

336 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Born in London just in time to experience the German blitzkrieg but too late to fight in the war, David started asking questions almost immediately, and has never stopped. Determined to make sense of an apparently crazy world, he decided to become a serious writer. But an incomplete education and whimsical sense of humor kept getting in the way. This memoir chronicles his childhood in post-war London, delayed education, complete failure as a soldier, three marriages, many cats, and a lifetime fascination with the human comedy.

His search for answers to the Big Questions led him on an irregular but lively journey around the fringes of religion, journalism, education, and philosophy. Arriving in America by accident in middle age, he discovered both his subject and his métier. There was nothing to do but accept his destined role as an essayist for Public Radio. His thoughtful and amused reflections on writing, travel, literature, and the Meaning of Life, have found a wide audience on radio and in print.



**DAVID BOUCHIER** is the award-winning essayist for the WSHU Public Radio Group in New York and Connecticut, and for many years hosted a lively and entertaining classical music program called Sunday Matinée on the same stations. His commentaries and opinion columns have appeared in dozens of newspapers, and for ten years he contributed a regular humor column to the regional edition of the *Sunday New York Times*. Born in London, David has worked as a tour guide, bookseller, journalist, broadcaster, lecturer, freelance writer and college teacher on both sides of the Atlantic. His most recent books are *Not Quite a Stranger*, stories of life in France, and a collection of essays from public radio called *Out of Thin Air*. He lives with his wife in Stony Brook, Long Island, and in a small village in Languedoc region of France.

## MARCH

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### Warning Shots

*Connie Dial*

ISBN: 978-1-57962-529-0

256 pp. \$29.95 cloth

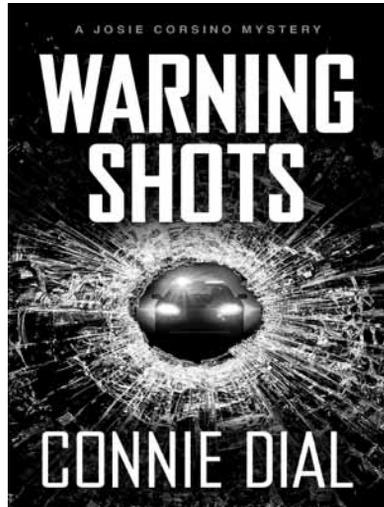
Life becomes more complicated than usual for LAPD Captain Josie Corsino after she chairs a disciplinary board that recommends firing a five-year police officer with a poor performance record and a history of irrational behavior. During his board of rights, the officer swears vengeance against her and anyone he believes is responsible for ruining his life and career.

When one of the board members, a prominent gay civil rights attorney, is shot to death outside a Hollywood gay bar, another board member ambushed and Josie's home firebombed, the obvious suspect is the unstable officer, and he soon becomes the target of an intense manhunt causing havoc and fear among those who knew him.

At the same time, Josie and her homicide supervisor Red Behan are trying to find a serial killer in Hollywood who is targeting young gay men. One of his victims is a police commissioner's brother, so there's department pressure to solve that case and political pressure to unravel the mystery of the slain attorney.

Behan is Josie's best detective, but he's retiring in less than a week which increases the pressure on her to quickly and successfully conclude both investigations.. Adding to her stress is the realization that she is once again in love but knows her job is toxic for married life.

It's only after her team finally captures their serial killer that everything falls into place and she knows the truth.



**CONNIE DIAL** is a retired Los Angeles Police Department captain who spent nearly twenty-seven years working, among other assignments, narcotics enforcement in the Hollywood area. *Warning Shots* is her eighth thriller and the fifth installment in the Josie Corsino mystery series about a female captain in Hollywood.

## Annie's Bones

Howard Owen

ISBN: 978-1-57962-522-1

224 pp. \$29.95 cloth

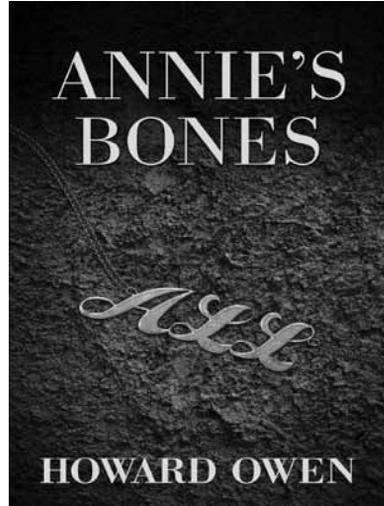
In the fall of 1967, Grayson Melvin met the girl of his dreams. Annie Lineberger was so far out his league that he felt like she was playing an entirely different game, but somehow he won her affections. He couldn't believe his good luck while it lasted. They both were 18, but Grayson was a baby, and Annie had been around. She was beautiful, smart and funny. When she told him she loved him, he would have died for her, right then and there.

Instead, Annie died—or at least disappeared from the face of the earth. On the same night when she broke Grayson's teen-age heart by giving him his walking papers, she vanished.

Everyone believed he killed her. Without a body, though, nothing could be proved. And so Grayson Melvin lived his life. Kicked out of his university, he went from the Army and Vietnam to bartending to another college to newspapers, where he discovered that Annie's well-connected and vengeful family still had the power to step into his stunted life and punish him.

Then, in the spring of 2016, Annie reappears. Our at least her bones do, dug up by a backhoe operator clearing land for a strip mall in a small Virginia town. Grayson, now teaching at a community college in Richmond and creeping toward retirement, is back in a spotlight he has tried to avoid for all his adult life.

With the court of public opinion almost unanimously against him, Grayson goes back to North



Carolina to try to make the past go away, with disastrous results. Then, he gets a call. A woman he doesn't know in a town where he's never been has found a ring—his high school ring—last seen in Annie Lineberger's possession. Grayson Melvin has one chance to prove his innocence, by chasing a ghost and figuring out what happened on that long-ago night, the one when he lost Annie.

This is **HOWARD OWEN'S** 16th novel. Owen was a longtime newspaperman, working at everything from reporter to sports editor to editorial pages editor. He has been writing fiction since 1989. He and his wife, Karen, live in Richmond. Among his earlier novels are the best-selling *Littlejohn* and the Willie Black mystery, *Oregon Hill*, which won the Dashiell Hammett prize for best crime literature in the United States and Canada.

## The Autobiography of Corrine Bernard: A Novel Kathleen Novak

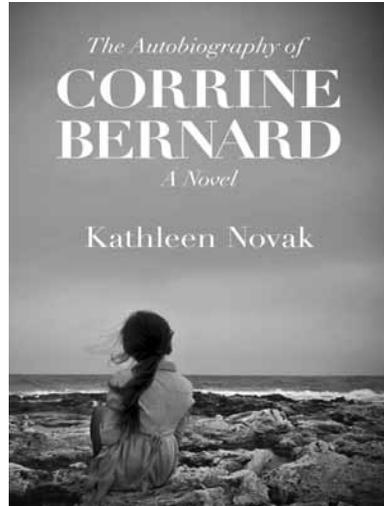
ISBN: 978-1-57962-540-5

232 pp. \$29.95 cloth

The elusive lover of *Do Not Find Me* returns to tell her side of the story in *The Autobiography of Corrine Bernard*. From her hapless childhood under Nazi occupation to her life as a woman of letters in present-day New York City, Corrine remains scrappy and wise. As a schoolgirl in Paris, she goes her own way, disinterested in most friendships, intensely drawn to the heroines she finds in literature and daring in the favors she is willing to trade with boys. When she is seventeen, she travels to America to visit her godmother and meets Charles Bernard, whose wealth and ruthlessness will alter the entire course of her life.

In a bold and mesmerizing voice, Corrine details her intense pull towards Charles, her lifelong attraction to the blue-eyed Italian named Gigi Paulo, and her observations of Paris, New York, St. Johns and London as she roams in exile for decades of her life. Dear Reader, she begins, I have my tales to tell. And so she does in this dark and compelling novel.

Corrine will surprise you, confide in you and ultimately win you, despite her ferocious and singular ways. The severed heart beats wildly beneath the floor boards. Do you hear it, she asks. By the end of her story, you will, dear reader, you will.



**KATHLEEN NOVAK** is a poet and writer who grew up on the iron mining range of northern Minnesota, the granddaughter of Italian and Croatian immigrants. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she is the author of the highly praised novel *Do Not Find Me*, released in 2016. Her poems have been published in small literary magazines nationally and have won recognition in contests as diverse as the AAUW and New York Public Radio. Her writing is fueled by her colorful family history, her love of art, old tunes and cooking. Ms. Novak lives in Minneapolis.

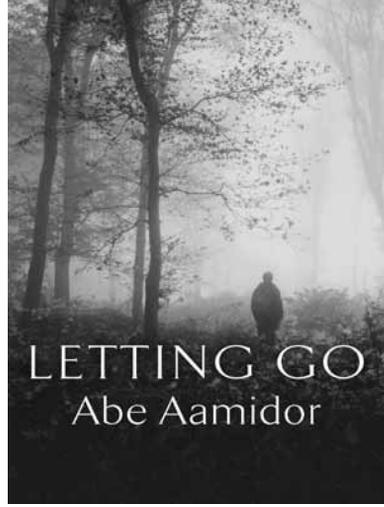
## Letting Go

Abe Aamidor

ISBN: 978-1-57962-538-2

192 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Memory of war always loomed large for Dwight Bogdanovic—after all, his immigrant grandfather volunteered to fight in World War I and his working-class father joined up with the Canadian Army to fight the Nazis early in World War II. Yet it is only when Dwight's soldier son, Bertrand, is killed under mysterious circumstances in Afghanistan that he really tries to understand why men fight and die. Dwight Bogdanovic enjoyed a golden childhood in his idealized vision of 1950s America—freely riding his bicycle in the streets, pick-up ball games in the park, and earning pocket money by shoveling snow or raking leaves for neighbors—but coming of age proved difficult for him. After dropping out of college during the height of the Vietnam War—and after receiving a medical deferment from the draft—he travels the Midwest selling encyclopedias door-to-door to people who don't want them, then returns to his hometown of Indianapolis. There he lands a series of temp jobs and hooks up with a hippie girlfriend before meeting the good woman who will become his wife. All seems right again until, one by one, all his beloveds succumb to their own fates—disease, old age, and war. Especially his son, especially war. Dwight struggles to overcome the loss of Bertrand and constantly replays letters from his late son in his head before realizing, with the help of yet another woman in his



life, that the greatest challenge is not merely to survive, but to let go.

**ABE AAMIDOR'S** short fiction has appeared in *The Gettysburg Review*, *The South Carolina Review*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, *Prick of the Spindle*, *The Arkansas Review*, *Broad River Review*, *Vermont Literary Review*, *The Worcester Review* and elsewhere. His biography, "*Chuck Taylor, All Star: The True Story of the Man behind the Most Famous Athletic Shoe in History*," is published by Indiana University Press.

## Lowdown

Anthony Schneider

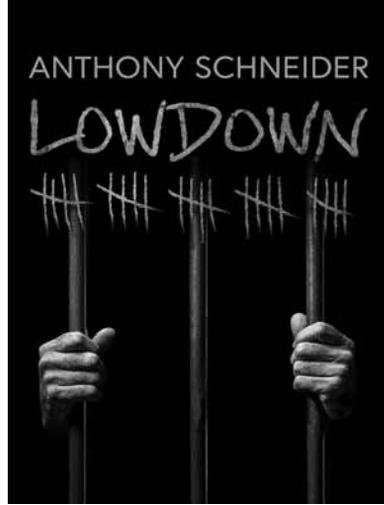
ISBN: 978-1-57962-523-8

272 pp. \$29.95 cloth

*All it takes is one mistake.*

For Jimmy Paccini, savvy and cool-headed, it was joining the Brooklyn mob, the easy way out of a nowhere life that – for arranging the execution of the head of a rival crime family—rewarded him with a quarter-century of hard time. For Milena Cossutta, sexy and smart, it was selling out her dreams to marry a handsome but hot-headed made man, Vinnie DeNunzio, which left her on the run from the feds in Sicily, a stranger in a strange land. And sometimes the mistake is crazy, forbidden love—like the one between Jimmy and Milena. Or could it be their salvation?

Spanning three decades and two continents, soaked in passion, blood and the garish colors of the mean streets, *Lowdown* is a vivid, gripping romantic thriller that follows a twisting road strewn with sorrow and desire, deceit and ecstasy, shocking violence and intimate tenderness, to arrive at a surprising, bittersweet redemption.



**ANTHONY SCHNEIDER** has been published in *McSweeney's*, *Conjunctions*, *Mid-American Review*, and *Details*. Born in South Africa and educated in the United States, he divides his time between London and New York.

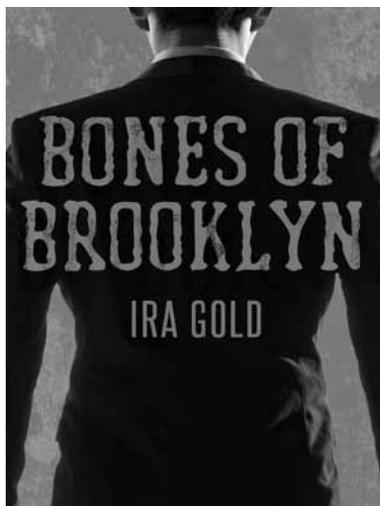
## Bones of Brooklyn

Ira Gold

ISBN: 978-1-57962-526-9

256 pp. \$29.95 cloth

*Bones of Brooklyn* continues the saga of Howard “Windows” Fenster, the reluctant gangster extraordinaire. In *Debasements of Brooklyn*, Howie fights his way out of Sheepshead Bay, using insights gleaned from his father’s collection of Penguin Classics and an automatic handgun provided by his late boss Vinnie Five-Five. Accompanied by his girl Ariel, they mean to make a brief stop at her studio in Greenwich Village before they escape to points west, north, south or east, anywhere out of the murderous precincts of non-gentrified Brooklyn. But inertia and post-traumatic stress nail them in place. Howie grows a top-knot and finds Bohemian café, while Ariel loses herself in the enticing winter scenes painted inside the Grey Goose bottle. It doesn’t take long for Pauli Bones, Howie’s psychopathic patron, to track him down. Howie owes Pauli, and Pauli needs Howie because war decimated the old crew and his new crew consists of inept second stringers and unreliable mercenaries. The journey to self-discovery brings Howie to the very point where he started, this time with a new awareness of his powers. Shock and disappointment overwhelm Howie when he learns just how skilled a gangster he is. Pauli Bones, Rose Spoleto (widow of Vinnie Five-Five,) and the Slavic Goddess Alexandra Rachmaninoff all rely on his professional competence to take care of business. Is this it for Howie? Is his dream of living the life of



the mind over for good? Can Ariel, whose career in marketing is only tangentially related to extortion and murder, adjust to Howie’s new/old life? And if she can, can Howie still love her if he loathes the gangster in himself? The answer to these questions may not satisfy Howie, but they will amuse and horrify everyone else.

**IRA GOLD** writes all the time and publishes occasionally.

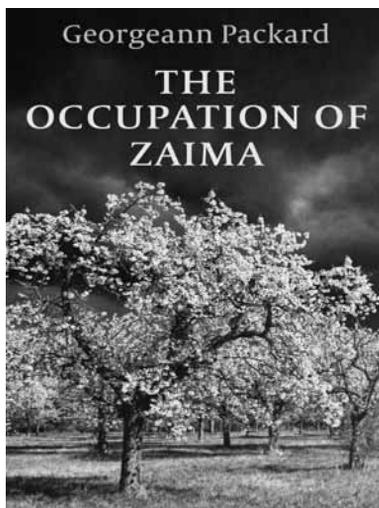
### The Occupation of Zaima

Georgeann Packard

ISBN: 978-1-57962-528-2

272 pp. \$29.95 cloth

For Zaima al-Aziz, her poetry is the most direct expression of her anger and pain. It pours out from her in sharp, clear language, more like expulsion than expression. She is an Iraqi American who has just returned to Michigan from the chaos that is the Iraq War. Now she finds that neither the country of her birth nor the country of her parents is home. Contrast that with the narrative following Theodore Dash, a young man returning to his boyhood summer paradise in northern Michigan from a Franciscan seminary. His grandfather has died and his will challenges Theodore to choose between the life of the cloth and one of the soil. He seems the personification of good intent and selflessness, but there is a dark side to his soul, which he cannot evade. Zaima has a pressing reason to travel to that same small northern village and away from her family in Dearborn. Her life will collide with Theodore's in dramatic and unpredictable ways as they both struggle to unravel who they are and why they are bound so uncomfortably together.



**GEORGEANN PACKARD** is a fiction writer, graphic designer, and landscape photographer. She also designs and installs gardens on Long Island's North Fork.

Her first novel, *Fall Asleep Forgetting*, was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in 2010 in two categories. *Kirkus* hailed her second book, *Paint the Bird*, as "brilliantly imagined and rendered."

## The Dollar-a-Year Detective

William Wells

ISBN: 978-1-57962-527-4

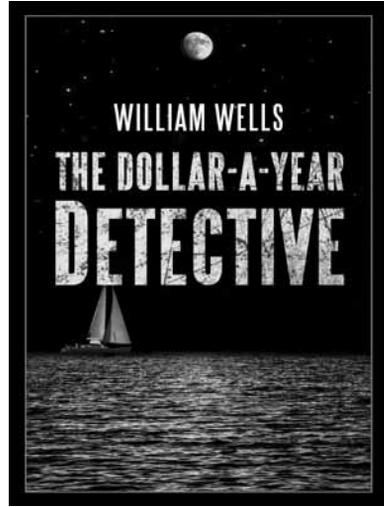
224 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Retired Chicago homicide detective Jack Starkey is living what he calls every cop's retirement dream by owning a successful bar, The Drunken Parrot, and residing on a houseboat in Fort Myers Beach on Florida's Southwest Gulf Coast.

Mostly, it's been working out just fine. Starkey's drink of choice these days is diet root beer and not the hard stuff that ended his marriage and sent him into rehab. He's dating the lovely Marisa Fernandez, who owns a real estate agency and supplements his usual diet of Pop-Tarts and diner food with gourmet Cuban cooking.

But long-term serenity has never been Jack Starkey's destiny. One evening, Starkey's pal Cubby Cullen, the Fort Myers Beach police chief, comes into the Drunken Parrot to ask a favor. The Coast Guard found a sailboat drifting in Pine Island Sound with two dead bodies aboard, a bank president and his wife, both shot once in the forehead execution style. Murders are rare in town; Cubby asks Jack, who has more homicide experience than anyone in the local police department, to take a look at the crime scene—just to offer an opinion.

Starkey agrees, not realizing that this will draw him into an investigation involving offshore oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, corrupt state politicians, a Russian oligarch, and the angry father of a boy who's not getting much playing time on his Little League team. Even in



his prime, Starkey would be hard-pressed to find a connection, and his prime is in his rear-view mirror.

This mystery follows in the tradition of John D. MacDonald, Carl Hiaasen, Lawrence Sanders, and other masters of crime fiction marked by compelling characters, stories with completely unexpected twists and turns, and a strong comic element that will keep a reader thoroughly amused while wondering what could possibly happen next.

**WILLIAM WELLS** knows the territory he writes about. Born in Detroit, he has lived in a Chicago suburb with his wife, Mary, and now resides on the Southwest Florida Gulf Coast. As a speechwriter for a former governor of Michigan, he's published three other novels, *Ride Away Home*, *Face of the Devil*, and *Detective Fiction*.

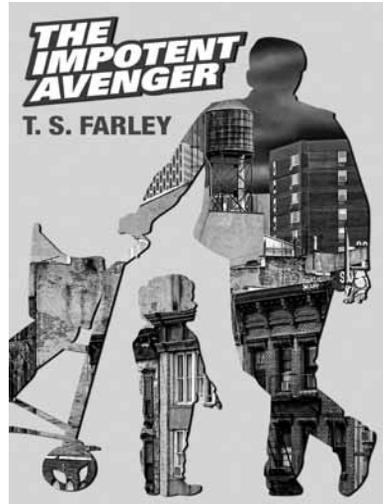
## The Impotent Avenger

T.S. Farley

ISBN: 978-1-57962-533-7

224 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Finn Riley does everything he is supposed to, and a whole bunch of other stuff he probably should not. By day, the middle-aged, stay-at-home New York City dad dotes on the health and well-being of his cancer-stricken wife, helicopter-parents the quote/unquote “gifted and talented” son he calls the Prince of New York, and struggles mightily to eke out a living in an industry he has already led a national protest against. By night, for reasons surely only he can fathom, he takes on the persona of a character called The Curmudgeon Avenger, raising a banner of righteous indignation, social vigilantism, and incipient lunacy in his battle against what he perceives as the many obvious ills of the modern world: namely, maddeningly unaware & iPhone-obsessed Manhattan pedestrians, the proliferation of unwarranted FFM threesomes for the obviously undeserving Millennial male, and way too many god-damned frozen yogurt shops in the East Village. It’s not all fun and games for Finn though. Far from in it, in fact, as Death looms. Death looms. It refuses to offer Finn himself any respite, his own sweet sleep, but for his wife and his city the Grim Reaper maybe already have come calling. Against that, Finn and the Curmudgeon Avenger will fight . . .



**TODD FARLEY** thought he wanted to be a writer in about 1984 but didn’t get around to it until approximately 2007. He is the author of the novel *The Impotent Avenger* and the memoir *Making the Grades: My Misadventures in the Standardized Testing Industry*. He regularly writes about sports and comedy for *HUSTLER* and has been published in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Tampa Bay Tribune*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Education Week*, *Neurology Now*, *Heart Insight*, *New York Press*, *Port City Life*, *Working Waterfront*, and *The Camden-Herald Gazette*. He lives in New York with his wife, his sons, and a Newfoundland named Nana.

### Harms' Way

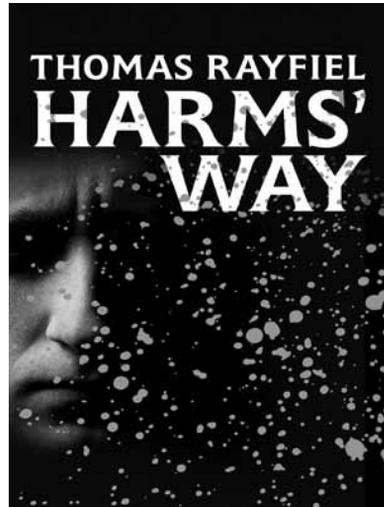
Tom Rayfiel

ISBN: 978-1-57962-533-4

208 pp. \$29.95 cloth

"I am unacquainted with evil, there being no mirrors here," begins the testimony of Ethan Harms, hero of *Harms' Way*, Thomas Rayfiel's dark depiction of prisoners and prison life. *Harms' Way* takes us into the chilling world of a super-max detention facility where America's most psychotic killers are kept in solitary confinement. Yet as we get to know Ethan and explore this world through his wry humor and tragic sense of destiny, we find ourselves uncomfortably at home. We meet Cooney, serial murderer and successful author; Stanley, whose "Halloween-mask features...slack lips and holes-for-eyes" conceal a cunning sadist; Crow, a mute Native American who can spin a man's head 180 degrees so that one hears "minute bones snapping like breadsticks"; and Littlejohn, the dazzlingly handsome new arrival whose victims' mouths were found sealed shut with Super Glue. These "monsters" become as familiar to us as the numbing routine and casual violence of a life lived without hope. While Ethan negotiates this perilous landscape, trying to find redemption, trying to understand his actions, we begin to wonder how much of a difference there is between a prison of steel bars and razor tape and a prison erected by the nature of the human soul itself. In either instance, if one escapes, what lies beyond?

In *Harms' Way*, Thomas Rayfiel delivers a gripping read that also poses disturbing questions about



our fundamental qualities as moral beings, about the inherent vices and virtues of our much-vaunted "humanity."

**THOMAS RAYFIEL** is the author of seven previous novels. He has also published essays, short stories, and obituaries.

## Four Thousand Rounds

Chris Knopf

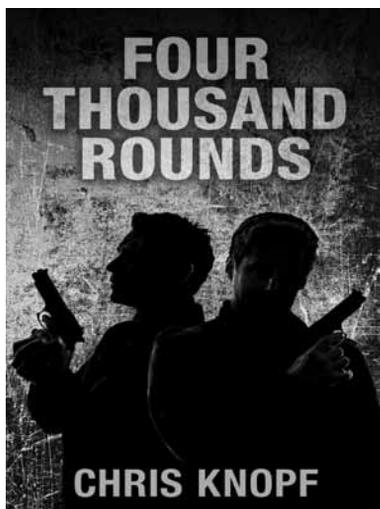
ISBN: 978-1-57962-541-2

288 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Archie McArtle moves things around the world for a living. Anything you want, especially the ultra-precious, the dangerous and sometimes questionably legal. With some exceptions: “He drew a hard line on drugs, human trafficking and endangered species. This definitely narrowed his options, but he wanted to shave every morning without averting his eyes from his own reflection.”

It’s not just a good living, it’s a suitable life for Archie—a man whose dislike for authority runs to the pathological, thus rendering him unemployable in any other way. The same is true of Brian Oakley, a former cop and retired military man, Archie’s partner since childhood and a specialist in keeping Archie out of trouble. At least until recently, with the emergence of a sex-pot blogger of indeterminate national origin, a poorly endowed, rage-aholic Russian gangster, and a woman who is just as good at stealing exotic things as Archie is at shipping them to parts unknown. This becomes increasingly terrifying and life-threatening as far as Archie and Brian are concerned.

*Back Lash*, **CHRIS KNOPF’S** seventh Sam Acquillo Mystery Series published in 2016, received a starred review from *Booklist*. It followed *Cop Job* in 2015, about which *Booklist* said: “Another winner from a consistently strong author. “Knopf’s first novel, *The Last Refuge* (2005) and follow



up in 2007, *Two Time*, were both reviewed by Marilyn Stasio of the *New York Times*. *Head Wounds* was cited as one of the best mysteries of 2008 by both *Mysterious Reviews* and *Deadly Pleasures*, and was winner of the 2008 Benjamin Franklin Award for Best Mystery. His thriller series featuring off-the-grid sleuth Arthur Cathcart began with *Dead Anyway*, which received starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus* and *Library Journal*. It was named one of The Best Crime Novels of 2012 by *The Boston Globe* and won the 2013 Nero Award.

Chris Knopf had a long, award-winning career in advertising, focused on the creative side of the business, and agency management as CEO of Mintz + Hoke. He’s also a house designer and cabinetmaker, single-handed sailor, rock musician and custodian of terriers. He and his wife Mary Farrell split their time between Avon, CT and Southampton, NY.

## The Kortelisy Escape

Leonard Rosen

ISBN: 978-1-57962-542-9

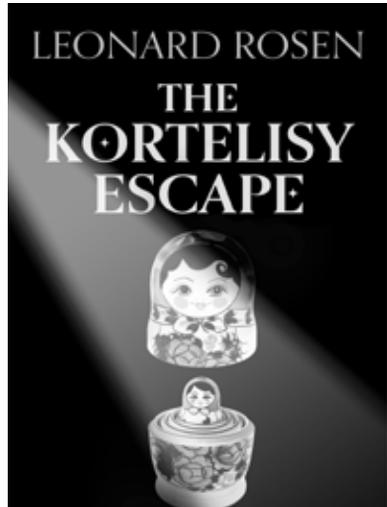
288 pp. \$29.95 cloth

Caught in a Three Strikes law that sends him to prison for life, Nate Larson negotiates with prosecutors for an early release in exchange for testifying against his brother in an upcoming trial. As part of the deal, he demands custody of his fourteen-year-old granddaughter, Grace, who's survived a string of disastrous foster homes.

Nate studied close-up magic during his time in prison. He's good, and despite her wariness Grace joins him for a touring magic show of New England. Nate's actual plan: to spend a few pleasant months with his granddaughter then run alone to Canada in hopes of undermining the case against his brother, who's been falsely accused of trafficking. Pressure comes from that direction, too, from the actual traffickers who have hijacked the family's legitimate, though secretive, connections to Eastern Europe and the Ukrainian village of Kortelisy.

Facing certain violence unless he runs, distraught at the prospect of wounding Grace unless he stays, Nate must thread a dangerous needle. And Grace, learning to perform some magic herself, must grow up in a hurry if she's to save the only person she has ever trusted.

*The Kortelisy Escape* is a moving, unlikely love story narrated in alternating chapters by Grace and Nate Larson. It's also a coming-of-age story enriched by mounting tension and large questions concerning magic, loyalty and wonder. It's a book for young and



old, intergenerational book clubs especially.

**LEONARD ROSEN** is the multiply translated author of the Henri Poincaré series, praised by both literary and genre reviewers as “ingenious” (NPR), “richly descriptive” (*Washington Post*), and “exceptional” (Mysterious Books). Finalist for an Edgar Award and the Chautauqua Prize, winner of the Macavity and Foreword Reviews’ coveted Editor’s Choice (best of the independent press), Len has been praised for the “rare pleasure” of creating “a protagonist who reads like a literary figure in a thriller.” *The Kortelisy Escape* is his third novel.

## BACKLIST

The following titles from both **The Permanent Press** and its **Second Chance Press** imprint are arranged alphabetically by author. (See pages 70–75 for alphabetical listing by title.)

### **A Thinking Man's Bully**

*Michael Adelberg*

\$26 cloth 190pp ISBN 978-1-57962-228-2

"The author, a 'reformed high school troublemaker,' offers a fresh perspective on bullying by seamlessly intertwining the actions, the results, and the lasting consequences of brutality into a novel brimming with personality and narrative brio."

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Saving the Hooker**

*Michael Adelberg*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-368-5

"A funny tale of a lazy and unprincipled postdoc whose brain resides firmly in his crotch. There is plenty to like in Adelberg's comic romp, which also has a serious undercurrent: Who says a hooker needs saving, anyway? And what business is it of a man? This one's well-crafted and enjoyable if you're up for a rather raunchy read."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

### **Castle Garden**

*Bill Albert*

\$28 cloth 346pp ISBN 1-877946-67-2

"In 1898, an 11-year-old runs from home, hides out with 'Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show,' meets Wobblie leader Big Bill Haywood, and famous and infamous others who cross the boy's path. A rip-roaring saga."

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Desert Blues**

*Bill Albert*

\$24 cloth 188pp ISBN 1-877946-49-4

\$16 paper ISBN 1-877946-65-6

"A funny first novel pairs an awkward orphaned adolescent immersed in 1950's

rock 'n' roll and an unconventional 'kept' woman." —*Publishers Weekly*

### **Locus Amoenus**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-391-3

"Locus Amoenus, is set in Amenia and relates the story of a modern-day Hamlet whose father died in 9/11. It is a scathing commentary on government-subsidized food programs in schools, low-level abuses of authority in local government and the destructive effects of war and pharmaceuticals." —*The Millbrook Independent*

### **Naked Singularity**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$24 cloth 190pp ISBN 1-57962-078-7

A provocative tale about a daughter's choice to assist her father's death from cancer is "touching and stunningly well written." —*CityLink Magazine*

### **Smoking Hopes**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$24 cloth 208pp ISBN 1-877946-69-9

"The narrator of this stunning first novel works as a hostess in a club for Japanese businessmen. A well-crafted bittersweet story." —*San Antonio Express-News*

**Washington Prize for Fiction**

### **Give My Heart Ease**

*Grace Andreacchi*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 0-932966-90-X

"A graphic, moving first novel about a beautiful young woman caught in a sado-masochistic love affair." —*Kirkus Reviews*

**New American Writing Award**

### **How to Beat the System**

*Denison Andrews*

\$28 cloth 284pp ISBN 0-932966-74-8

"This trenchant cultural satire examines the life of a '60s dropout who stayed dropped-out." —*Kirkus Reviews*

## Callgirl

*Jeannette Angell*

\$26 cloth 248pp ISBN 1-57962-110-4

“An engrossing, no-holds-barred story of a college lecturer by day and a callgirl by night.”  
—*Kirkus Reviews*

a Book Sense selection

## Madam

*Jeannette Angell*

\$18 paper 226pp ISBN 978-1-57962-116-2

“A sympathetic biography of the madam of the escort service Angell worked for.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## The Mask of Sanity

*Jacob M. Appel*

\$28 cloth 256pp ISBN 978-1-57962-495-8

“Dr. Jeremy Balint, discovers his inner psychopath in Appel’s deeply unsettling novel set in what might be upstate New York. When Balint discovers that his wife, Amanda, is having an affair with his fellow doctor Warren Sugarman, he feels an overwhelming desire to murder Sugarman, and fulfilling this need soon consumes his otherwise normal life. Appel shows us the world through Balint’s eyes and leaves the reader with a horrifying understanding of his actions.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Someplace Like This

*Renée Ashley*

\$26 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-57962-090-6

“A woman must put herself back together after being estranged from her second husband. A fine work about the ebb and flow of relationships.” —*Library Journal*

a Book Sense selection

## Entering Ephesus

*Daphne Athas*

\$26 paper 440pp ISBN 0-933256-79-5

“A large novel within a well-known Southern landscape: the fire which is in its belly is considerable, is largely female and

Promethean, amoral, devouring, a seeking of height in the perverse depths.”

—*Times Literary Supplement*

New American Writing Award

## Nakamura Reality

*Alex Austin*

\$29 cloth 272pp ISBN 978-1-57962-409-5

“Hugh Mcpherson, the hero of Alex Austin’s first novel, is at an Oceanside, Calif., beach with his 11-year-old twin sons when a chance encounter with a former girlfriend distracts him. A short time later, the boys are gone. Austin’s writing is powerful and moving, whether he’s describing Hugh’s heartrending quest or quoting passages from the novel within the novel. The book’s interplay between fantasy and reality demands close attention, but readers who make the effort will be more than amply rewarded.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## Revelation of Fire

*Alla Avilova*

\$28 cloth 288pp ISBN 978-1-57962-168-1

“A Dutch scholar and a female archivist discover that a two hundred year old manuscript is missing from Moscow’s Historical Archive. The story includes Russian history, art, politics and religion.”

—*Around the World in Books*

## Alone in the Valley

*Kenneth Waymon Baker*

\$28 cloth 296pp ISBN 1-877946-17-6

“What distinguishes this novel about an infantryman in Vietnam is the touching naiveté of its young hero, caught up in something monstrous, trying merely to survive.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

## Houri

*Mehrdad Balali*

\$29 cloth 304pp ISBN 978-1-57962-177-3

“Journalist Balali’s bitter first novel about Iran, from which he is now banned, contrasts his native country before and after

the Islamic revolution. Comparisons to *The Kite Runner* are unavoidable.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

### **Mr. Right**

*Carolyn Banks*

\$25 cloth 256pp ISBN 0-933256-91-4

“A too smart for her job teacher at a community college is constantly looking for love in all the wrong places. That her Mr. Right turns out to be a reclusive novelist and self-confessed murderer works well as a plot.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Love in Atlantis**

*Bonnie L. Barrett*

\$24 cloth 182pp ISBN 0-933256-77-9

“This appealing novel charts the rites of passage of a 14-year-old, in a little beach town, recalling life in the ’30s with affection.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **No Direction Rome**

*Kaushik Barua*

\$29.95 cloth 200pp ISBN 978-1-57962-512-2

Krantic, a young Indian working in Rome, is adrift: cynical, jaded and bored. His personal revelations and delusions of grandeur are alternately exquisitely funny, devastatingly poignant, and at times crude, capturing the confused apathy of ‘millennials.’ Jack Kerouac meets James Joyce. This wildly inventive portrait of a generation is a clever, bizarre tour de force.

### **After Byron**

*Norman Beim*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-387-6

“This quaint epistolary novel is steeped in the lore of Lord Byron and his scandalous exploits. Beim gives his tale a believable period texture by referring throughout to Gothic literature and incidents in Byron’s life. We follow a likable rogue with old-fashioned swagger, and his adventures will appeal to readers of historical fiction.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **The Man On The Third Floor**

*Anne Bernays*

\$26 cloth 184pp ISBN 978-1-57962-285-5

“A middle-aged and apparently happy married man finds himself falling in love with another man. Witty, full of surprises, sharp as a pin, above all a suspenseful and unexpected exploration of the intricacies and complications of the human heart.”

—*Michael Korda, Author of Her*

### **Upstate**

*Sallie Bingham*

\$16 paper 128pp ISBN 1-877946-50-8

“A woman’s obsession drives an affair out of control, violating social contracts and devastating the people in its path. Impressive.”

—*Library Journal*

### **South California Purples**

*Baron R. Birtcher*

\$28 cloth 248pp ISBN 978-1-57962-500-9

“Set in 1973, this fast-moving series launch from Birtcher perfectly captures its era. Vietnam vets are coming home to a mixed reception, the American Indian Movement is standing off the government at Wounded Knee, and in Meriwether County, Oregon, something unexplainable is killing rancher Tyler Dawson’s cattle. More mayhem ensues, including a deadly standoff between a biker gang and Ty’s people. Birtcher takes readers on an exciting ride.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Rain Dogs**

*Baron R. Birtcher*

\$29 cloth 288pp ISBN 978-1-57962-318-0

“White-knuckle tension and crisp, clean prose distinguish this outstanding stand-alone from Birtcher. The narrator is running a small-scale marijuana operation in California, until bandits raid his farm. He flees to Mexico, where he collides with the local drug lord. Many books call themselves thrillers, but this is the real deal.”

—*Publishers Weekly, starred review*

## Hard Latitudes

*Baron R. Birtcher*

\$29.95 cloth 336pp ISBN 978-1-57962-390-6  
“Birtcher returns to his Mike Travis series in this fast-paced mystery. It’s 2004, and a panicked call from his brother reunites him with the families of fortune he turned his back on when he became a cop. Fans will hope that Birtcher’s engaging series has a long life.”

—*Booklist*

*finalist 2016 Nero Award; winner Silver Falchion Mystery Award*

## Fluke

*Martin Blinder*

\$24 cloth 216pp ISBN 1-57962-017-5  
“Skillfully recreates the romance of President Warren G. Harding with a woman half his age, while depicting an era that was notorious for financial chicanery.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Transvaal Episode

*Harry Bloom*

\$22 paper 320pp ISBN 0-933256-25-6  
“Bloom’s novel about the grisly aspects of life in apartheid South Africa is a classic of modern literature and deserves a wide audience.”

—*Booklist*

## The Night Battles

*M.F. Bloxam*

\$28 cloth 240pp ISBN 978-1-57962-171-6  
“Bloxam delivers fine Sicilian literary horror in the vein of Tom Piccirilli and Sara Gran. Her ornate prose is the perfect complement to her complex heroine and the creepy goings-on in this eerie novel.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

*finalist ForeWord Magazine’s Book of the Year Award, 2008*

## A Richer Dust

*Amy Boaz*

\$26 cloth 184pp ISBN 978-1-57962-159-9  
“Based on D.H. Lawrence’s 1924 pilgrimage to Taos, N.M. where he hoped to

create an artist’s Utopia, Boaz’s diamond-cut debut follows Doll, a shy, near-deaf painter who accompanied him, where she finds love with a younger man.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*

*finalist ForeWord Magazine’s Book of the Year Award, 2008*

## Beat

*Amy Boaz*

\$26 cloth 198pp ISBN 978-1-57962-186-5  
“A woman caught between stifling domesticity and passion flees to Paris, where she and her daughter have come to escape the drama back home. A compelling picture of love and its attendant travails.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Redeeming Eve

*Nicole Bokat*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 1-57962-064-7  
“When a literature scholar tries to model her hectic life on the elegant world of Jane Austen, chaos ensues. A juicy book.”

—*McCall’s*

## The Great Equalizer

*Rick Borsten*

\$24 paper 334pp ISBN 1-579622-10-7  
Can a young man find love and fulfillment in a home for retarded adults? “A tender, loving story and a ringing reaffirmation of life.”

—*Chicago Sun-Times*

*New American Writing Award Oregon Book Award*

## Living Doll

*Jane Bradley*

\$24 cloth 202pp ISBN 1-877946-54-0  
“A literary gem capturing the reality of sexual abuse in a boldly different way. Powerful insights.”

—*Alida Brill*

## East Justice

*Melanie Braverman*

\$24 cloth 133pp ISBN 1-877946-72-9  
“An exquisite evocation of loneliness and desire.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## **A Selfish Woman**

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$24 cloth 144pp ISBN 1-57962-036-1

“Brookhouse writes about a breast cancer survivor and her year long relationship with a younger man, beautifully capturing her acute sensibility to the passing seasons.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## **Dear Otto**

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$24 cloth 160pp ISBN 1-877946-63-X

“With quirky elegance Brookhouse highlights the interplay between reality, fiction, and creativity while telling the story of three writers at a summer workshop.”

—*Library Journal*

## **Silence**

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$16 paper 152pp ISBN 978-1-57962-179-7

“A haunting novel of interlaced secrets, suggesting how much goes unspoken: affairs, adoption, abortion. A memorable story by a writer who understands women better than most women understand themselves.”

—*Doris Betts*

## **A Studied Madness**

*Heywood Hale Broun*

\$28 cloth 298pp ISBN 0-933256-00-0

“The most ruefully articulate, inside look at the American theater in years.”

—*John Barkham*

## **An Unclean Act**

*Dean Burgess*

\$26 cloth 254pp ISBN 1-57962-046-9

“A well-researched tale of love and faith in 17th-century Massachusetts, this novel will help shake the dust from Puritan history books.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

a Book Sense selection

## **Writer-in-Residence**

*Herbert Burkholz*

\$28 cloth 310pp ISBN 1-877946-11-7

“A writer-in-residence tells his graduate students about a fictional American

painter living in Ibiza. Kaleidoscopic and rewarding.”

—*Booklist*

## **Attic Light**

*Carol Burnham*

\$24 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-877946-88-5

“Infused with light and powered by darkness: the light of Greece, of California, and the darkness of history, myth, and deep passion. This novel is a feast for the senses.”

—*Alison Anderson*

## **The Eulogist**

*Jeffrey B. Burton*

\$29.95 cloth 360pp ISBN 978-1-57962-502-3

“Intriguing coincidences, fascinating side-characters, and enticing red herrings abound in this mystery as it twists and turns, changes direction, slides to an almost-conclusion then shifts again. It’s all told with a very natural voice, well-chosen analogies deepening character as well as providing description, and the reader is quickly drawn in. The final scene in this book isn’t a eulogy, but it’s a message after death just the same, and it’s the measure of men whose paths and ends collided strangely, sadly, and satisfyingly in the course of the novel. The giver of this final eulogy measures up well, as does the author.”

—*Sheila’s Reviews*

## **Townie**

*John Butman*

\$24 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-57962-080-9

“This inventive novel that approaches almost any situation as a comedy of manners is built around the art of the deal, as a rich resident of a New England village takes in a homeless narrator and makes him his butler.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## **The Dissemblers**

*Liza Campbell*

\$28 cloth 200pp ISBN 978-1-57962-205-3

“A female art-school graduate chasing the muse of Georgia O’Keeffe in Santa Fe is drawn into a forgery ring. An affecting

novel that draws emotional resonance from the parallels she sees between her life and O'Keeffe's." —*Kirkus Reviews*  
*finalist 2011 ForeWord Magazine*  
**Book of the Year Award**

## The Running War

*E. L. Carter*

\$20 paper 264pp ISBN 978-1-57962-510-8  
A first novel, part mystery, part meditation, about a young woman whose brother suicides after fighting in the Iraq War, and her search for answers.

## Millersberg

*Harry Cauley*

\$26 cloth 206pp ISBN 1-57962-133-3  
"A chilling, beautifully characterized account of a family torn apart after a dual murder strikes their small New Jersey town on the eve of World War II. Heartfelt and soundly crafted." —*Kirkus Reviews*  
**a Book Sense selection**

## Dobryd

*Ann Charney*

\$16 paper 172pp ISBN 978-1-57962-289-3  
"An illuminating, unsentimental, autobiographical novel of a young Jewish girl when she, her mother and aunt are liberated by Soviet soldiers after years of hiding from the Nazis." —*Library Journal*

## Rousseau's Garden

*Ann Charney*

\$24 cloth 207pp ISBN 1-57962-033-7  
"A lovely little gem with insights for one's own life." —*Library Journal*

## Lydia Cassatt Reading the Morning Paper

*Harriet Scott Chessman*

\$24 cloth 176pp ISBN 1-58322-272-3  
"An entrancing novel. Like Mary Cassatt's art, its odd angles and delicate, inevitable details make themselves felt long after finishing this fine period piece." —*Newsday*  
**a Book Sense selection**

## Ohio Angels

*Harriet Scott Chessman*

*licensed to Seven Stories Press*

\$16.00 paper ISBN 1-57962-071-X  
"When Virginia Greaves takes an overdose of sleeping pills, her daughter returns and recognizes that opening up the chambers of the past is the only way to move on." —*Publishers Weekly*

## Kuperman's Fire

*John J. Clayton*

\$28 cloth 304pp ISBN 978-1-57962-152-0  
"On the cusp of a hoped-for merger with Chemicorp, Michael Kuperman learns that they are making chemicals for nefarious clients. A morality tale combining thriller elements and Michael's resonant, Jewish legacy." —*Publishers Weekly*

## The Man I Never Wanted To Be

*John J. Clayton*

\$24 cloth 230pp ISBN 1-57962-014-0  
\$16 paper ISBN 1-57962-057-4  
"A harrowing novel about a fascinatingly flawed, arrogantly 'nice' character who is pulled into events that cause him to question his basic beliefs about himself, including the belief that he is not the murdering kind." —*Publishers Weekly*

## KAL Flight 007: The Hidden Story

*Oliver Clubb*

\$24 cloth 182pp ISBN 1-57962-136-8  
"I have reached the conclusion that the charges in this concise, splendid study are true. A bombshell." —*Newsday*

## Seasons

*Judith Beth Cohen*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 0-932966-23-1  
"In the '60s, the counter-culture ran head on into radical New England individualism. Cohen has caught its significance better than anyone I know." —*Hayden Carruth*

## **Life Goes Sleeping**

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$20 paper 230pp ISBN 978-157962-192-6  
“This hard-boiled detective novel, with salty, quick-witted dialogue recalls pulp fiction of the 40’s.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## **Little Easter**

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$18 paper 221pp ISBN 1-57962-139-2  
“A somber and gripping crime story.”  
—*Publishers Weekly*

## **They Don’t Play Stickball in Milwaukee**

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$16 paper 208pp ISBN 1-57962-016-7  
“A mystery with good lines and a sound sense of pacing.” —*Boston Globe*

## **Walking the Perfect Square**

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$20 paper 264pp ISBN 978-1-57962-290-9  
“Coleman blows the dust off mystery conventions with a mystery that would get under anyone’s skin.” —*New York Times*  
a Book Sense selection

## **Gulf Stream North**

*Earl Conrad*

\$26 cloth 248pp ISBN 0-933256-13-2  
\$18 paper ISBN 0-933256-17-5  
“A graphic recounting of five days at sea. The crew is black, the captain white, but all are bound together in the mystique and commerce of fishing. A first class reissue.”  
—*San Diego Union*

## **The Coyote Hunter of Acquidneck Island**

*James Conroy*

\$29.95 cloth 344pp ISBN 978-1-57962-493-4  
“When coyotes spread east and threaten the comfortable peace of a small Rhode Island community, the decision is made to hire a professional hunter. The hunt should be discrete, humane, and fast, but can killing ever really be that? Coyote

Hunter is a truly beautiful book, a hauntingly evocative story, and a vision that expands to encompass far more. Highly recommended.” —*Sheila’s Reviews*

## **Fellow Travelers**

*James Cook*

\$18 paper 240pp ISBN 1-57962-052-3  
“This compelling novel based on Armand Hammer, oil magnate, bootlegger, self-proclaimed friend of Lenin, and world class womanizer provides an intriguing glimpse into the Soviet Russia of Lenin and Stalin.” —*Forbes Magazine*

## **The Gesture**

*John Cobb Cooper*

\$28 cloth 253pp ISBN 0-933256-69-8  
“A provocative novel about a bomber squadron based in England during World War II. Below the surface it touches nerves of military competence and racial bigotry.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## **The Sorcerer**

*Anne Eliot Crompton*

\$24 cloth 176pp ISBN 0-933256-36-1  
“This classic of children’s historical fiction recreates the life of prehistoric hunters who roamed the world 50,000 years ago. A rare book, entertaining for older readers as well.” —*Booklist*

## **Exiles**

*M. Cruz*

\$28 cloth 294pp ISBN 0-932966-71-3  
“In Jordan, a diplomat’s wife is attracted to a Muslim bureaucrat. Their affair is an authentic exploration of the harsh contradictions of marriage, friendship, and personal identity.” —*Library Journal*

## **The Geometry of Love**

*Joan Fay Cuccio*

\$24 cloth 172pp ISBN 1-877946-82-6  
“Darcy is fleeing her estranged husband, whom she left lying in the wreckage of her

kitchen. Her halting courage and uncommon longing will disturb the reader for a long time.” —*Publishers Weekly*  
*finalist Oklahoma Book Award*

## **Branches**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 198pp ISBN 1-5796-061-2

“A chillingly effective novel-in-verse told by a murderous Texas sheriff who is bound to remind readers of the narrator of Thompson’s 1952 classic, *The Killer Inside Me*.” —*Ellery Queen*

## **The Cosmology of Bing**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 208pp ISBN 1-57962-030-2

“Sexual confusion and academic in-fighting abound in this comic novel about an aging astronomy professor. It has enough edge to keep it poking away at your memory.” —*New York Times*

## **Undersurface**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 166pp ISBN 1-57962-077-9

“Cullin uses a true story to record the unraveling of a high school English teacher as he moves inexorably from heterosexual life to a gay nightlife, and ultimately to murder.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

## **Whompyjawed**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$16 paper 188pp ISBN 978-1-57962-199-5

“Cullin has created the loneliness and emptiness of a small West Texas town, with a vivid sense of place and time that stays with you.” —*Horton Foote*

**Notable Book, American Library Assoc.**

## **Concrete Carnival**

*Danner Darcleight*

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—*Publishers Weekly*

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—*Kirkus Reviews*

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—*Midwest Book Review*

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—*Kirkus Reviews*

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—*Marilyn Stasio, New York Times*

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—*Best Seller*

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—*Newsweek*

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**New American Writing Award**

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### 1996 Best Fiction List

*Dictionary of Literary Biography*

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—*Booklist*

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**Jerome Lowell DeJur Award**

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—*Kirkus Reviews*

## Harry and Ruth

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winner 2012 Hammett Prize

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“In Hammett Prize-winner Owen’s enjoyable third mystery featuring Richmond newspaper reporter Willie Black, Willie rushes to the scene of a shooting in Monroe Park. The deliciously flawed Willie must contend with ex-wives and offbeat friends, not to mention an adversarial relationship

with newspaper management and Richmond police on his way to righting another injustice.” —*Publishers Weekly*

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Howard Owen

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“The prodigal daughter of Owen’s *Littlejohn*, returns to her birthplace hoping to sell Littlejohn’s house. Her homecoming is complicated by the drowning of her elderly cousin. A haunting murder mystery.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

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“Willie Black longs for the days when reporters were bourbon soaked and bringing down scoundrels. Nowadays, Willie’s paper in Richmond is staffed by sycophants, and he loves to tell us all about it, until he’s interrupted by a series of murders. Willie faces the killer, while displaying an easy humor and a sweet good nature that belies his cynicism.”

—*Booklist*

## The Devil’s Triangle

Howard Owen

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“Richmond reporter Willie Black’s sixth adventure kicks off when one of his favorite watering holes becomes the site of a truly epic brush with the law when a twin-engine Beechcraft comes through the front window to make an unscheduled landing. What looked at first like a horrible accident soon shows signs of being altogether more sinister. Owen produces another grim, tightly woven, and resolutely professional piece of work with a memorably nightmarish payoff.”—*Kirkus*

## The Philadelphia Quarry

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class struggle plot to a new level. His second entry featuring crime reporter Willie Black is a stellar mystery deserving of a wide readership.” —*Library Journal*

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Howard Owen

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“Packard’s book layers symbolism on its pages, but it’s also an entrancing

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—*Kirkus, starred review*

## Hotline Heaven

Frances Park

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