

## Poetry Books from BC

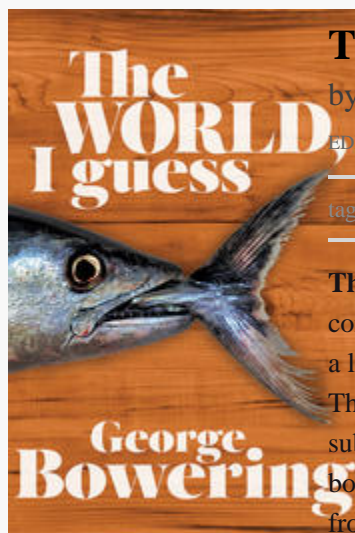
Created by ABPBC on February 12, 2016

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TAGGED: Poetry, BC

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Poetry books from BC.



### **The World, I Guess**

by George Bowering

EDITION: Paperback

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tagged : canadian

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**The World, I Guess** is a substantial book, six sections that demonstrate a command of a broad poetic range, a catholic range of interests, and echoes of a lifetime of reading and learning from Pound, Williams, Stanley, and others. The centrepiece is "The Flood," a long, complex, discursive poem whose subject is poesis and whose interest is in the world around the writer. But the book ends with a suite of translations of the "modern" Canadian poetry canon, from Charles G.D. Roberts and Archibald L ...

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WORLD OF BC BOOKS



## Twenty Seven Stings

by Julie Emerson, illustrated by Roxanna Bikadoroff

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian, women authors

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## Acquired Community

by Jane Byers

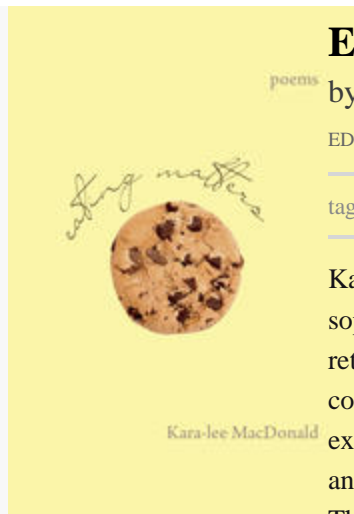
EDITION: Paperback

tagged : lgbt

Jane Byers' *Acquired Community* is both a collection of narrative poems about seminal moments in North American lesbian and gay history, mostly post-World War II, and a series of first person poems that act as a touchstone to compare the narrator's coming out experience within the larger context of the gay liberation movement.

The "parade" poems such as "Celebration Was a Side Effect, 1992" explores the important role parades have played in the queer movement and how they have transformed from act ...

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## Eating Matters

by Kara-Lee MacDonald

EDITION: [Paperback](#)

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tagged : women authors

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Kara-lee MacDonald is a survivor. The poems in *Eating Matters* are sophisticated explorations of anorexia and bulimia, from within and in retrospect, as the semiautobiographical narrator faces and overcomes her complex drives and compulsions. Through a variety of poetic forms, she explores the deep structures of body images and societal pressures that create and promulgate eating disorders and the culture of shame surrounding them. The poems will strike a chord in those who have experience with t ...

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## In Fine Form

The Canadian Book of Form Poetry

edited by Sandy Shreve & Kate Braid

EDITION: [Paperback](#)

ALSO AVAILABLE: [Paperback](#)

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tagged : canadian

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In the decade since the publication of the first edition of *In Fine Form*, there has been a resurgence of Canadian poets writing in "form" - in sonnets and ghazals, triolets and ballads, villanelles and palindromes - and formal poetry has become more visible in books, literary journals and classrooms. The first edition of this anthology was called "groundbreaking," "a paradigm shift" and "a landmark text." Since then, it has gone through several printings and been widely used in classrooms at all ...

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## All Good Children

by Catherine Austen

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: Hardcover eBook

tagged : dystopian, politics & government, art

**It's the middle of the twenty-first century and the elite children of New Middletown are lined up to receive a treatment that turns them into obedient, well-mannered citizens.**

Maxwell Connors, a fifteen-year-old prankster, misfit and graffiti artist, observes the changes with growing concern, especially when his younger sister, Ally, is targeted. Max and his best friend, Dallas, escape the treatment, but must pretend to be "zombies" while they watch their freedoms and hopes decay. When Max's fam ...

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## The Days

Forecasts, Warnings, Advice

by M.A.C. Farrant

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

tagged : literary

**It's hard to worry about the future when you're laughing at the hilarious absurdity of daily life.**

The days we live go by like slugs eating their way through leaves; everything changes, yet nothing changes, and the years soon accumulate. Who doesn't read their daily horoscope, searching for guidance about what's to come, how to live? What is life, but ordinary and special days, time passing, humour, sex, death, and love (making it all bearable)? All these are repeated gestures that run ...

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## for love and autonomy

by A. Jamali Rad

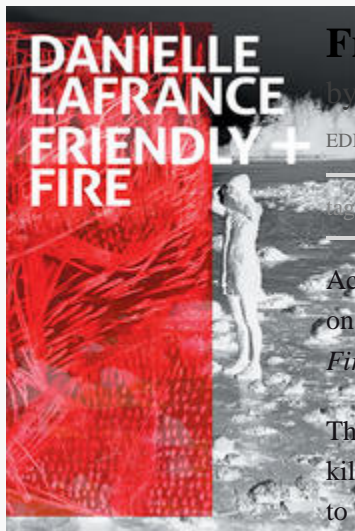
EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

Anahita Jamali Rad's debut book of poetry juxtaposes Marxist economics with pop culture lyrics, from FKA Twigs to Sonic Youth, tangling the "You & I" of relationships and social identification. She asks: How is it possible to communicate when the "I" speaks from the margins? Who is the "I" when Motown's doo-wop and post-punk's Telecaster jangles shake up the body's rhythm?

*for love and autonomy* speaks from a place of discomfort, where internalized pop songs mutate communication and mean ...

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## Friendly + Fire

by Danielle LaFrance

EDITION: [Paperback](#)

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tagged : canadian

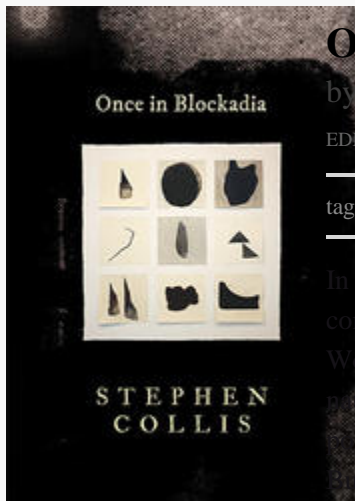
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Act I of LaFrance's first book, *Species Branding*, ends with the line: "crippled on my last leg, where are our friends?" It is a question that led to *Friendly + Fire* (Talonbooks 2016), where LaFrance takes aim at friendship as such.

The Tarnak Farm Incident, where four Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan were killed by American Air Force pilot Harry Schmidt, is used as source material to navigate and build a discourse of friendship in the 21st century. From this case study, *Friendly + Fire* int ...

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## Once in Blockadia

by Stephen Collis

EDITION: [Paperback](#)

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tagged : canadian

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In this collection of long and serial poems, Stephen Collis returns to the commons, and to his ongoing argument with romantic poet William Wordsworth, to rethink the relationship between human beings and the natural world in the Anthropocene. Collis circumambulates Tar Sands tailings ponds and English lakes—and stands in the path of pipelines, where on Burnaby Mountain in 2014 he was sued for \$5.6 million dollars by energy giant Kinder Morgan, whose lawyers glossed Collis's writing in court ...

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## Reading Sveva

by Daphne Marlatt

EDITION: Paperback

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tagged : canadian

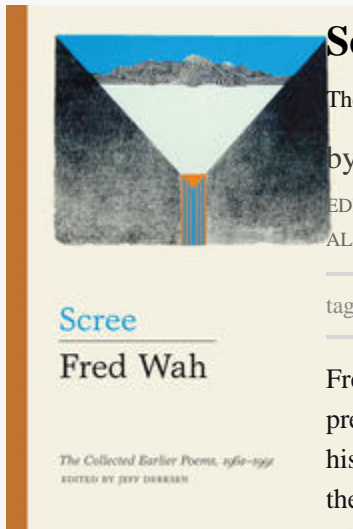
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*Reading Sveva* is award-winning author Daphne Marlatt's response to the life and paintings of Sveva Caetani, an Italian émigré who grew up in Vernon, B.C.

Daughter of an Italian prince, leftist, and scholar of Islam, Sveva grew up with the multilingual and highly cultured European traditions of her parents who moved to Vernon in 1921, when Fascism was on the rise in Italy. At age eighteen, after her father's death in 1939, Sveva was forced into home-seclusion for twenty-five years with her ...

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## Scree

The Collected Earlier Poems, 1962–1991

by Fred Wah, introduction by Jeff Derksen

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: Hardcover

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tagged : canadian

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Fred Wah's career has spanned six decades and a range of formal styles and preoccupations. *Scree* collects Wah's concrete and sound poetry of the 1960s, his landscape-centric work of the 1970s, and his ethnicity-oriented poems of the 1980s. Fred was a founding member of the avant-garde TISH group, which helped turn Canadian poetry, in the West in particular, to a focus on language. He has said that his "writing has been sustained, primarily, by two interests: racial hybridity and the local. ...

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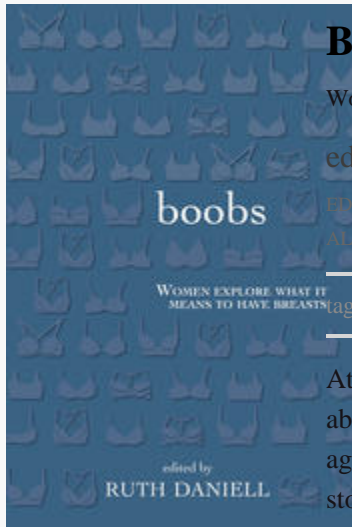
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## Boobs

Women Explore What It Means to Have Breasts

edited by Ruth Daniell

EDITION: Paperback

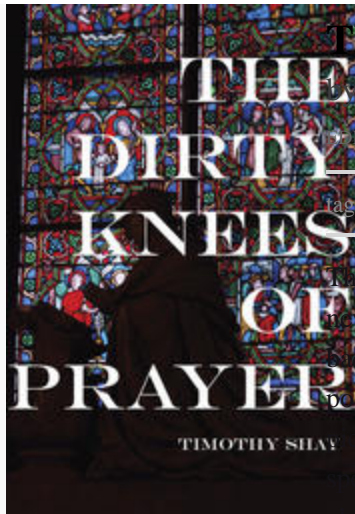
ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

tagged : women authors

At turns heartbreaking and hilarious, BOOBS is a diverse collection of stories about the burdens, expectations and pleasures of having breasts. From the agony of puberty and angst of adolescence to the anxiety of aging, these stories and poems go beyond the usual images of breasts found in fashion magazines and movie posters, instead offering dynamic and honest portraits of desire, acceptance and the desire for acceptance.

Surrounded by flat-chested co-workers in a male-dominated construction cr  
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INCLUDED IN THE SPONSORED COLLECTION: NEW EBOOKS FROM  
CANADIAN INDIES



## The Dirty Knees of Prayer

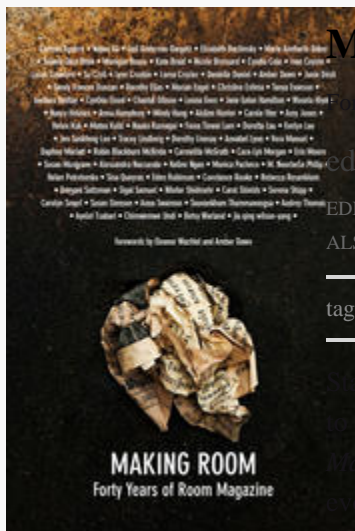
by Timothy Shay

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

The poems in *The Dirty Knees of Prayer* are hot and dark as night rain. The new Honeywell fan blows whips of simmered air against Shay's glistening back. He suspects a dystopian future and apparently it has arrived. These poems shrug at death. A tide of smoke rises and hovers over the city. Shay's future is taken for his collection of grief and apocalyptic love. These poems speak of sadness and self-fated things, how the heat blurs everything, the clouds send shrouds of water down. Here a thin g ...

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## Making Room

Forty Years of Room Magazine

edited by Meghan Bell

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

tagged : women authors

A star-studded collection of CanLit's most notable and diverse women authors to be published in Canada's oldest literary journal by and about women. *Making Room: Forty Years of Room Magazine* celebrates the history and evolution of Canadian literature and feminism with some of the most exciting and thought-provoking fiction, poetry, and essays the magazine has published since it was founded in 1975 as *Room of One's Own*. This collection includes poems about men not to be fallen in love with, trans w ...

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## Capricious

by Gabrielle Prendergast

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: Hardcover eBook

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tagged : novels in verse, general (see also headings under social themes), dating & sex

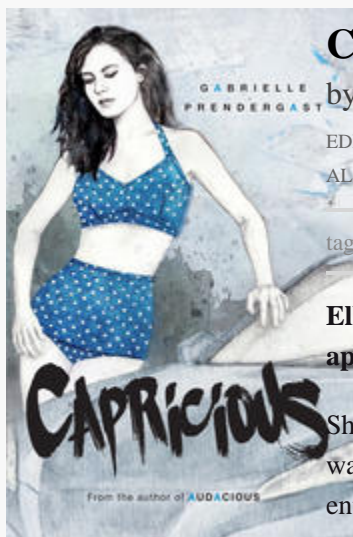
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**Ella's grade-eleven year was a disaster (*Audacious*), but as summer approaches, things are looking up.**

She's back together with her brooding boyfriend, Samir, although they both want to keep that a secret. She's also best buddies with David and still not entirely sure about making him boyfriend number two. Though part of her wants to conform to high school norms, the temptation to be radical is just too great. Managing two secret boyfriends proves harder than Ella expected, especially when S ...

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EDITION: eBook

ALSO AVAILABLE: Paperback

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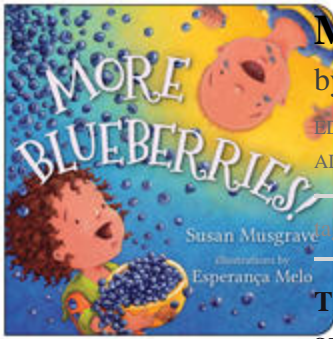
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INCLUDED IN THE SPONSORED COLLECTION: NEW EBOOKS FROM  
CANADIAN INDIES



## More Blueberries!

by Susan Musgrave, illustrated by Esperança Melo

EDITION: Hardcover

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

Tagged : cooking & food, siblings

**These young twins can't get enough of their favorite snack—and they aren't the only ones!**

With playful rhyming text from award-winning poet Susan Musgrave and gorgeous illustrations by Esperança Melo, this exuberant board book will delight little ones and have everyone happily shouting, "More blueberries!"

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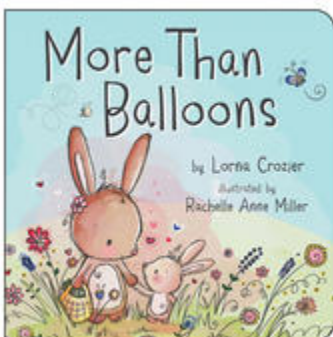
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CANADIAN INDIES



# More Than Balloons

by Lorna Crozier, illustrated by Rachelle Anne Miller

EDITION: Hardcover

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

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tagged : new baby, nursery rhymes

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*Balloons love the moon, and a tuba loves a tune, but these don't compare to the love we have for you.*

Award-winning poet Lorna Crozier uses evocative rhyme, complemented by Rachelle Anne Miller's whimsical imagery, to provide babies and toddlers with common concepts that explain just how great love is.

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## Collecting Silence

by Ulrike Narwani

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

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tagged : canadian

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The poems in *Collecting Silence* arc through youth, love and loss, to maturation, aging, peace. Wide travels throughout Asia, Europe and North America bring Narwani face to face with the oppressions of poverty, caste and religion, as well as the seductions of magical new beauty. The poems take the reader down the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok, to Chopin's garden; a village of untouchables in India, to remnants of the Berlin Wall; from the Pietà and the Mona Lisa to Magritte's *The False Mirror*. Al ...

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## Defending Darkness

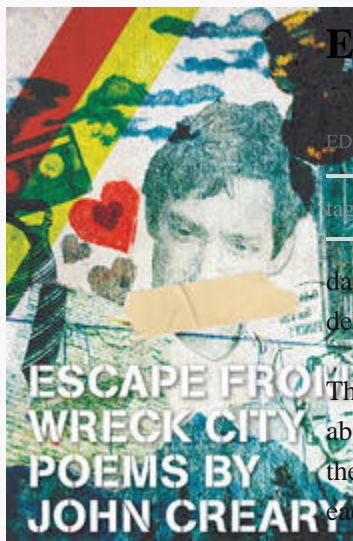
by Pamela Porter

EDITION: eBook

tagged : canadian, death, nature

In *Defending Darkness*, starting over is a constant theme as Pamela Porter explores what wisdom can be gained in “waiting on the heart to finish her grieving,” and then to move on — across borders, through time, even into eternity. These poems carry the adversity we all must endure with a kind of longing that is “older than praise, younger than light, cousin to regret, sister to love,” and finally, to declare, “We were instruments of music, every one . . . we sang for a season.” Wit ...

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## Escape from Wreck City

by John Creary

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

da Vinci Eye Finalist, Eric Hoffer Awards. *Escape from Wreck City* is a debut collection of poetry from Calgary author John Creary.

There are poems about nature, poems about love and relationships, poems about living in the city, and poems about traveling the world. And all at once they capture the thrill of being fully engaged with the world, keenly observing each moment and event that constitutes being human. Whether it's following the "wounded insomniac" through the "desert lushness of sage an ...

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## Leaving Mile End

by Jon Paul Fiorentino

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

Leaving Mile End is Jon Paul Fiorentino's seventh collection of poetry and tenth book-a collection of poems that documents the daily din and clatter of cafés, galleries, and dive bars that make up Mile End in Montreal, perhaps the most artistically vibrant neighbourhood in the world. But this is no ordinary tour-we take a sharp turn and go online as Fiorentino mines the peculiar linguistic resources of a new world of doxxing, swatting, snarking, trolling, catfishing, and shaming. While addressi ...

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## A Temporary Stranger

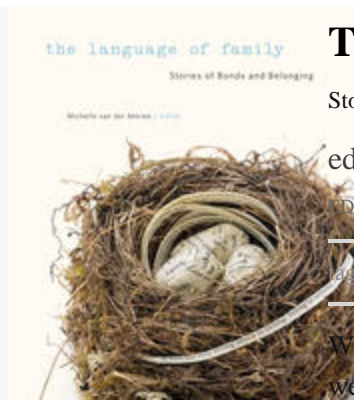
by Jamie Reid

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

A Temporary Stranger is comprised of three sections: Homages, Fake Poems, and Recollections. In Homages we find poems of reverence and honour, tributes to writers who had opened up the world of poetry to Jamie. There are poems to Spicer, Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Breton, Francis Ponge, Tristan Tzara and others. At the centre of A Temporary Stranger are the Fake Poems, so called because "There is no art on earth that can fully represent the exact and flowing experience of viewing stone within the flow ...

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## The Language of Family

Stories of Bonds and Belonging

edited by Michelle van der Merwe

EDITION: Paperback

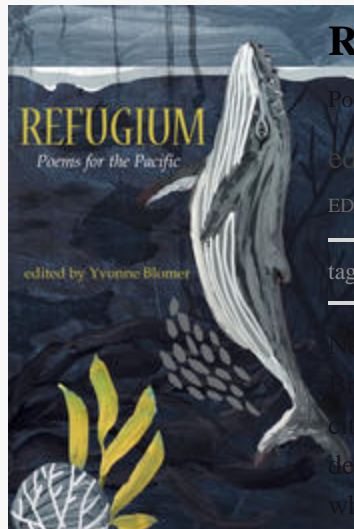
tagged :

What is family? Is it defined by blood and birth? Or can we invite whomever we want into that intimate embrace?

The Royal BC Museum's new book, *The Language of Family: Stories of Bonds and Belonging*, invites readers to pull up a guest chair at the family table.

Twenty contributors from across British Columbia – museum curators, cultural luminaries, writers and thinkers young and old, from First Nations, LGBTQ, Japanese Canadian and Punjabi communities, among others – share their vastly different ...

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## Refugium

Poems for the Pacific

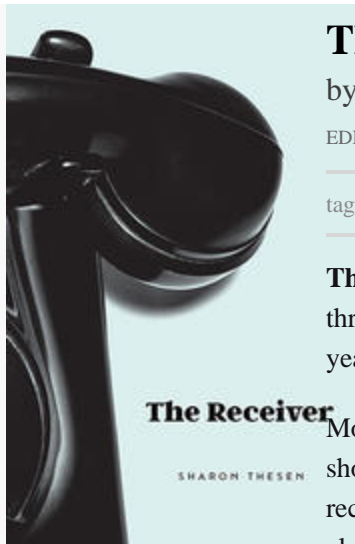
edited by Yvonne Blomer

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : anthologies (multiple authors)

New poetry written by prize-winning BC poets, musicians, and artists such as Bruce Cockburn, Brian Brett and Lorna Crozier, anthologized by Victoria's city poet-laureate. While in the world of politics there are still climate change deniers, the poets watch the warming seas, the dying birds slicked in oil, the whales, the jellies, the sea otters and the octopus. They stand, as close to the shore as possible, watch the slow turning tide. In this collection of poems from the coast of B.C., Califor ...

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## The Receiver

by Sharon Thesen

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

**The Receiver** is Sharon Thesen's thirteenth book, and the first from the three-time Governor-General's Award finalist since Oyama Pink Shale, six years ago.

More formally various than Thesen's recent books, **The Receiver** includes the short lyrics documenting the poet's witnessing that readers of her work will recognize, as well as various kinds of found poems, translations, prose poems, alongside some brief essays or memoirs.

Thesen's mother and father, friends, poets in her own life, their poems, m ...

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## Neighbours

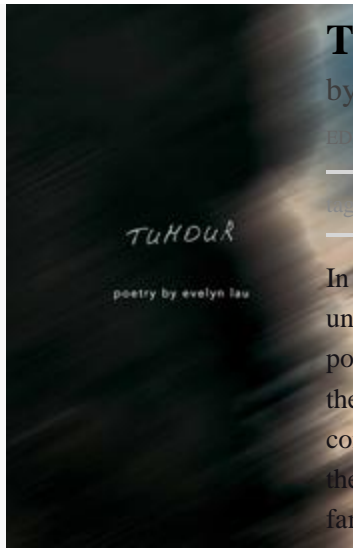
by W. H. New

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

What is a neighbourhood? What holds it together? What tears it apart? Each has its own geography, relying on such social networks as schools, parks, libraries, community centres, and places of worship and commerce. Each is made up of neighbours: the families in the house across the lane or those over the road, open to view or behind a hedge. **Neighbours** is a book that affirms; we are all neighbours, wherever we live. Following YVR, with its exploration of Vancouver, W. H. New gives shape and soun ...

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## Tumour

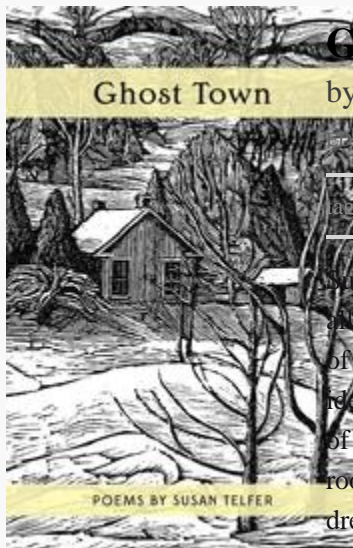
by Evelyn Lau

EDITION: Paperback

Tagged : canadian, women authors

In her seventh book of poetry, **Evelyn Lau** digs up her deepest fears to unearth the universal hope we all have — of a life that matters. ***Tumour's*** power lies in Lau's ability to talk about the things we don't like to talk about, the things we avoid with lotions and potions and self-medication. ***Tumour*** compels sober self-reflection and shining light into the corners of the mind. In the book's first part, Lau roots through the forces of life that shaped her — the family legacy, the cultural inher ...

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## Ghost Town

by Susan Telfer

EDITION: Paperback

Tagged : canadian

Susan Telfer's intense poems in ***Ghost Town*** are possessed of a wild brilliance all their own. There is a raw, unruly, exhumed energy coming to the surface of these poems, which is the source of their power. This book's themes are identity, a struggle for self, invention and re-invention, against the undertow of family dysfunction, of ancestral influences, of grief and loss. They are rooted in the West Coast, explicitly located on the fault line as well as in dreams. Sometimes poetic forms offer t ...

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## Waiting for the Albatross

by Sandy Shreve

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : family, women authors

*Waiting for the Albatross* is Sandy Shreve's fifth collection of poetry. It features found poems composed using fragments from a diary her father, Jack Shreve, wrote in 1936 when, at age 21, he embarked overseas as a deck hand on a freighter. The five-month trip took him from Halifax, through the Panama Canal and across the Pacific to New Zealand and Australia; then back again, docking at Montreal. Shreve's poems are illustrated with photos from the journey, taking the reader into the life of a y ...

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## The Fire Extinguisher

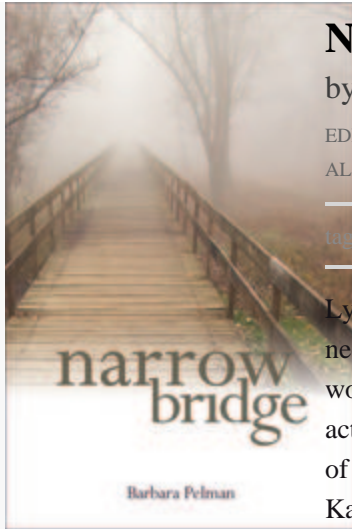
by Miranda Pearson

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian, women authors

Miranda Pearson's exquisite poems in *The Fire Extinguisher* reveal the individual psyche in a way that is both painstakingly beautiful and generous. No detail is too small to find a place in her constantly shifting vision of how we live in the contemporary world. Conscious of how vulnerable she is in this detached gypsy life many of us are forced to live, she longs for something more stable, more permanent. To find an answer, she travels the globe and asks the question, how do we cope with the un ...

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## Narrow Bridge

by Barbara Pelman

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

tagged : canadian

Lyric poems that are open to readers; Strong imagery; Poems that describe the need to build "bridges" between people; Interesting accounts of a single woman in Italy; The difficulties involved in learning to age gracefully; The act of writing as a means of living with courage in crossing the narrow bridge of life. COMPARATIVE TITLES: The Road in Is Not the Same Road Out by Karen Solie (Anansi, 2015); The Wrong Cat by Lorna Crozier (McClelland & Stewart, 2015); The Waking Comes Late by Steven Hei ...

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## full-metal indigiqueer

the pro(1,0)zoa

by Joshua Whitehead

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : lgbt, canadian, indigenous

This poetry collections focuses on a hybridized Indigiqueer Trickster character named Zoa who brings together the organic (the protozoan) and the technologic (the binaric) in order to re-beautify and re-member queer Indigeneity. This Trickster is a Two-Spirit / Indigiqueer invention that surges in the apocalypse to haunt, atrophy, and to reclaim. Following oral tradition (à la Iktomi, Nanaboozho, Wovoka), Zoa infects, invades, and becomes a virus to canonical and popular works in order to re- ...

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## Intertidal

The Collected Earlier Poems 1968–2008

by Daphne Marlatt, edited by Susan Holbrook

EDITION: Hardcover

ALSO AVAILABLE: Paperback

tagged : canadian, lgbt, women authors

An early member of the avant-garde TISH group, which turned Canadian poetry for the first time to a focus on language, Marlatt's career has spanned five decades and a range of formal styles and concerns. *Intertidal: The Collected Earlier Poems* offers Marlatt's perceptual and Vancouver-centric work of the 1970s, her feminist writing of the 1980s, and her later collaborative work. *Intertidal* collects a broad selection of this poet's groundbreaking work, including poetry from sixteen publish ...

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## Reveries of a Solitary Biker

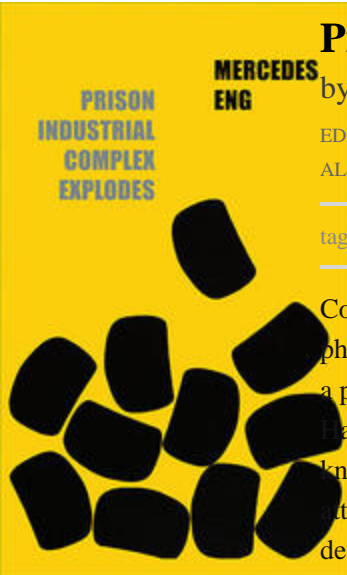
by Catriona Strang

EDITION: Paperback

tagged : canadian

In 1776, at the age of sixty-four, an embittered Jean-Jacques Rousseau took to rambling. Feeling rejected, neglected, and condemned, he turned his back on the society in which he had never managed to feel at ease, and found peace in wandering the fields outside Paris, noting interesting flora and fauna, and ruminating on his life and career. Rousseau jotted down his musings on playing cards he carried in his pocket; these notes would form the basis for his last book, *Les rêveries du promeneur s ...*

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## Prison Industrial Complex Explodes

by Mercedes Eng

EDITION: Paperback

ALSO AVAILABLE: eBook

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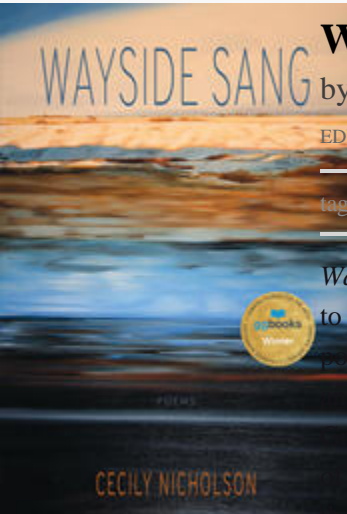
tagged : canadian, non-classifiable

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Combining text from government questionnaires and reports, lyric poetry, and photography, *Prison Industrial Complex Explodes* examines the possibility of a privatized prison system in Canada leading up to then Prime Minister Harper's Conservative government passing the Anti-Terrorism Act, also known as Bill C-51. This legislation criminalizes Indigenous peoples' attempts to protect their traditional and unceded territories from ecological destruction by classifying their actions as acts of te ...

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## Wayside Sang

by Cecily Nicholson

EDITION: Paperback

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tagged : canadian

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*Wayside Sang* concerns entwined migrations of Black-other diaspora coming to terms with fossil-fuel psyches in times of trauma and movement. This is a poetic account of economy travel on North American roadways, across Peace and Ambassador bridges and through the Fleetway tunnel, above and beneath Great Lake rivers between nation states. Nicholson reimagines the trajectories of her birth father and his labour as it criss-crossed these borders in a study that engages the automobile object, its ind ...

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