

SPRING 2013



WOLSAK
& WYNN



Rosa Rose

By Robert Priest

An inspiring collection of musical poetry about the women and men who have made our world a better place.

From Terry Fox to Ghandi, Rosa Parks to Elijah Harper, Robert Priest has collected some of his most inspiring poems together in this book for young people. Priest, an award-winning poet and musician, has written these thought-provoking poems to introduce children to men and women across the planet that have changed the world. Illustrated with bold line drawings by Joan Krygman, *Rosa Rose* is a captivating book sure to delight all readers.

Rosa Sat

Rosa sat, she sat on the bus,
She sat with a weary smile.
The driver said she must get up
For a white man stood in the aisle

But she refused, she refused,
She stayed in the seat she chose.
She sat until the sheriff came
And only then she rose.

Rosa rose, Rosa rose,
'Cause this was the last straw
And today was just the perfect day
To test an unjust law

Rosa rose, Rosa rose,
She sat and made a stand
Rosa rose and took her case
To the highest court in the land

Yes Rosa rose Rosa rose
And it was as history shows
A different world when she got off
the bus.

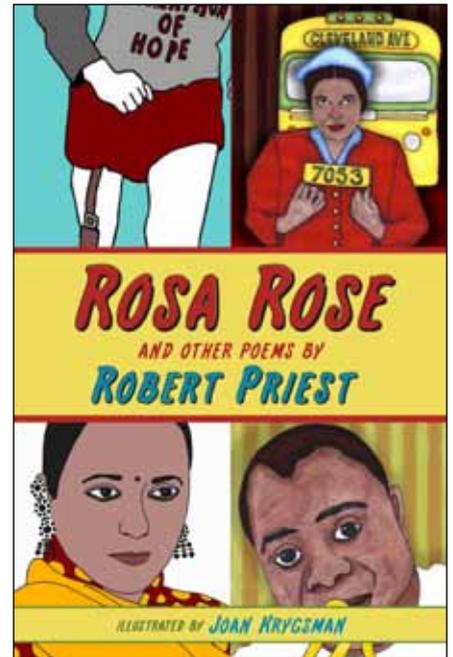
Hallelujah, when Rosa rose!

And freedom rose when Rosa rose.

Hallelujah, when Rosa rose!

As a performer of his own poetry and songs, **Robert Priest** has been delighting children and their parents for twenty-five years. Robert has also written and performed segments for *Sesame Street*, and *Eric's World*. His novel, *Knights of the Endless Day*, received a special choice award from the Children's Book Centre. Robert lives in Toronto where he is writing his second children's novel, *The Paper Sword*.

Joan Krygman is a visual artist and writer from Dundas, Ontario, where she lives with her six-year-old daughter, Fritha. Trained at the Ontario College of Art and Design, Joan works in acrylic, ink, collage and pixels. Along with regular gallery shows, her designs are showcased in children's books, annual festivals across Ontario, and on her website, www.stripedaardvark.com.



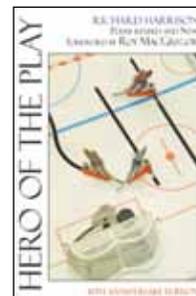
Rosa Rose

By Robert Priest
978-1-894987-73-8
6 x 9 Paperback
50 pp. \$15 June
Children's Poetry

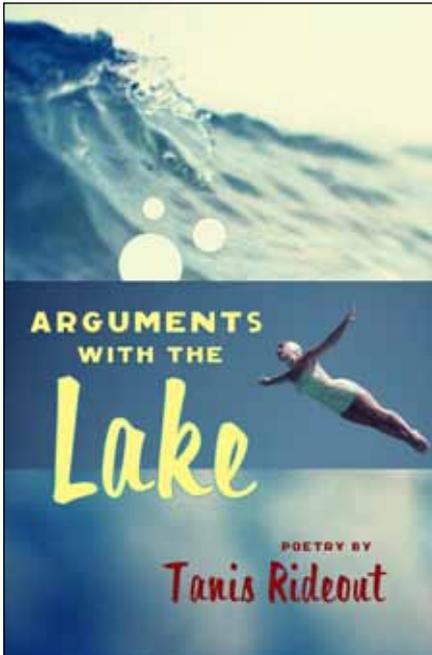
Other Related Titles:

Hero of the Play: *10th Anniversary Edition*

By Richard Harrison
978-0-919897-95-3
96 pp. \$15 2004
Poetry



“Harrison...makes a strong case for hockey as Canadian creation myth, while capturing both the poetry and the culture of the game.” – Adrienne Mercer, *Monday Magazine*



Arguments with the Lake

By Tanis Rideout

978-1-894987-71-4

5.75 x 8.5 Paperback

96 pp. \$17 April

Poetry, Canadian History

Other Related Titles:

Woods Wolf Girl

By Cornelia Hoogland

978-1-894987-53-0

96 pp. \$17 2011

Poetry



“Poet and dramatist Cornelia Hoogland is an expert at spinning fables, and nowhere is this more evident than in the earthy sexual tension exploding between a B.C. Wolf and a girl named Red.” – Kara A. Smith, *BC BookWorld*

Arguments with the Lake

By Tanis Rideout

A triumphant, lyrical portrait of two extraordinary swimmers: one destined for fame and glory, the other on a path toward obscurity and ruin.

In 1954, at the age of sixteen, Marilyn Bell became the first person to swim across Lake Ontario. It brought her fame and adulation; her life seemed charmed. Enter Shirley Campbell, another young swimmer whose accomplishments were poised to rival Bell's, but in falling short in her own attempts to cross the Great Lake, she found herself spiraling out of control into a life of addiction, petty crime, and personal tragedies.

Tanis Rideout weaves the tales of these two remarkable women together in a series of stunning, lyrical poems. It is a story of courage and triumph, but also one of adversity and redemption. This is an exhilarating book of poetry, at once tender and terrifying; like a cold dip in Lake Ontario, it will engulf you and leave you breathless. *Arguments with the Lake* confirms Rideout's arrival as a major new talent in Canadian letters.

Marilyn, mid-lake

Pigeons make their way by magnetic, the trigeminal nerve,
Branched in their brains makes ninety degree turns, orients
by atmospheric odor.

The lake's skin smells of a father's garage: gasoline, aftershave
and repeating Sunday leftovers. A refrain on the tongue
pasted with pablum and honey: *North*.

Swim north and I'll find you. But there's no moon, no
line where the city meets the sky, meets the offing.
The body is an astrolabe, the pull of home in her skull.

Tanis Rideout's work has been shortlisted for several prizes, including the Bronwen Wallace Memorial Award for Emerging Writers and the CBC Literary Awards. In 2006, she was named the Poet Laureate for Lake Ontario by the environmental advocacy group Lake Ontario Waterkeeper and joined singer-songwriter Sarah Harmer and Gord Downie of The Tragically Hip on a tour to promote environmental justice on the lake.



The Civic-mindedness of Trees

By Ken Howe

With rich language and startling imagery, Ken Howe renews our understanding of eco-poetry and of the cities we live in.

In *The Civic-mindedness of Trees*, award-winning poet Ken Howe updates the vocation of the lyrical “nature poet” for the twenty-first century. These poems are witty and philosophical meditations on the haunting presence of the natural world, and on the familiar presence of humanity within it. In this book, eccentric odes to oak trees and ground squirrels renew the mysteries of plant and animal life; it is not an idealized Eden untouched by people, but a world, also, of highways that skirt the abyss and of “the great ruined jobsites of space” – a world all the more strange for being real and lived-in. At once playful and sublime, Ken Howe’s linguistically daring investigations have updated the staid genre of “eco-poetry” for the information age.

Douglas fir

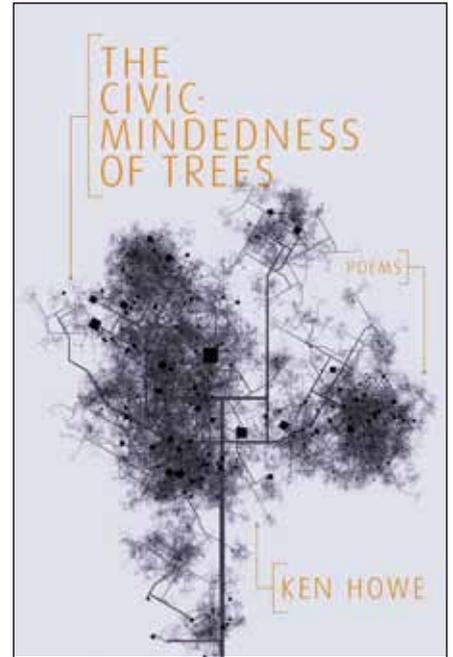
It is easier to apprehend the sacredness of the Douglas Fir in the mountains, where it is more rare.

Frequently alone in a meadow, surrounded by dropped fir-cones, needles bestrewing the pedestal, the dais.

The Douglas Fir can eschew standing in a fire which burns but does not consume when interpolating a Charlton Heston or other zealot. Its aloofness is its interpellation, cleanly articulate in the thin alpine silence.

The meadow is filled with this silence, Ukrainian dolls of it radiating from the tree, a choir of bumblebees in the goat-grazed grass, labyrinth of columbine and saxifrage attaining the ends of the valley to diagram, in labelled SI units, the isobars of its beatitude.

Ken Howe is an award-winning poet, translator, and musician who was a principal horn player with the Regina Symphony Orchestra. He is a recipient of the Saskatchewan Book Award among other literary honours. *The Civic-mindedness of Trees* is his third poetry collection.



The Civic-mindedness of Trees

By Ken Howe

978-1-894987-72-1

5.75 x 8.5 Paperback

90 pp. \$17 April

Poetry

Other Related Titles:

feria: a poempark

By Oana Avasilichioaei

978-1-894987-29-5

104 pp. \$17 2008

Poetry



“Rather than simply relying on comparison in her most recent book *feria: a poempark*, Oana Avasilichioaei pushed beyond simile and metaphor—a poem is (like) a park—creating a third

place privileging neither nature nor culture.” – Michael Roberson, ARC



A Nervous City

By Chris Pannell

978-1-894987-74-5

5.75 x 8.5 Paperback

88 pp. \$17 April

Poetry

Also by this Author:

Drive

By Chris Pannell

978-1-894987-33-2

104 pp. \$17 2009

Poetry



“There are beautifully rendered stories of the passengers he drives, often interwoven with other observations, some of the very casual, minute and fleeting but leading in their meandering

way to thoughts on larger themes.” –
Jeff Mahoney, *The Spectator*

A Nervous City

By Chris Pannell

An array of poems that explore the depth and breadth of the city, capturing both its darkness and its charm.

Whether it is the roads that weave through his native Hamilton, or the crowded streets of Cairo where tourists, it seems, are forbidden to walk, Pannell captures the hum and energy that animates these urban spaces in his latest collection. With an eye for the unexpected and genuine understanding of the common man, Pannell crosses and recrosses the city with his deft lines. In the end, *A Nervous City* walks the reader down streets they thought they knew but now see in a completely different light.

The Yellow Vest

The bright reflective vest of
road workers, police officers
is a loose authority that steps up, after a window shatters
after a loss of light. A brutal yellow that could have only
been made in a chemistry lab, something from which
to avert your eyes, like a concrete sidewalk through a field of corn.
You survived the wreckage, your ex-car towed away.

Even after you let go of the officer
his yellow über-plastic vest
continued to smell like oil
while you hid your face in your hands.

Hours later you note
the purple velvet of sky, of dusk
while travelling in a crowded coach –

homeward
against
white headlights of fear
red tail-lights of anger.

Chris Pannell serves on the board of Hamilton’s annual gritLIT literary festival. He has published three poetry books: *Under Old Stars*, *Sorry I Spent Your Poem* and *Drive*. He is also the author of a set of three poetry broadsheets entitled *Fractures*, *Subluxations* and *Dislocations*, which won the Hamilton & Region Arts Council poetry book award in 1997. From 1993 until 2005 he ran the New Writing Workshop at Hamilton Artists Inc. and edited two book-length anthologies for the group. He has been published in literary magazines across Canada and internationally as well.



The Boreal Dragon: Encounters with a northern land

By Katherine Bitney

An intricate and beautiful collection of essays considering humanity's relationship with the northern land that the author calls home.

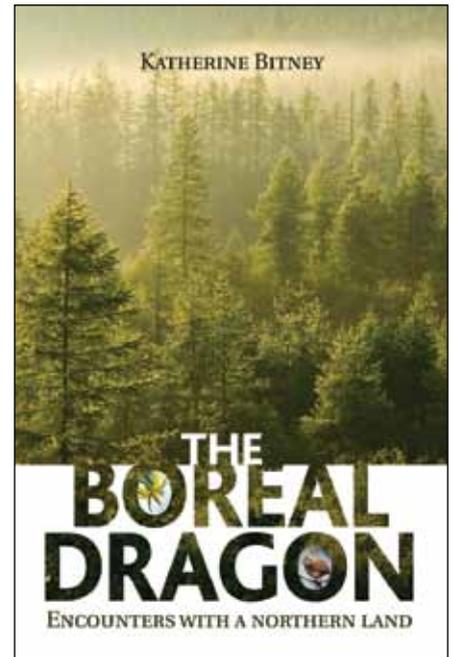
Katherine Bitney is in love with her ecosystem. From the boreal forest to her vegetable garden, Bitney writes of the beauties of a northern natural world, drawing the reader deeply into the dance of the seasons. But it is not all raindrops and flowers. Bitney also challenges the reader to think ethically about the environment. She looks at the uncomfortable parts of nature, and ourselves, and prods us to re-evaluate our own place in the ecosystem. A beautiful and thought-provoking book.

Excerpt from “The Green Dragon”

We lived in the northern forest for two months the summer I was eleven turning twelve. I recall the scents, the height of the trees, the heat of clearings, the sound of feet on moss and cracking twigs. Picking berries, listening to the lap of lake against shore stones. Watching, hearing the little float planes take off and land on the lake.

The scent of the summer forest. The air full of oxygen. Small dusty roads. The taste of bush food: fresh fish caught off the pier, cooked outdoors in a bit of butter and flour; wild raspberries pulled off the bush and popped into the mouth. Bursting with juice and tasting like rubies. Distant wolf voices. The frisson of always knowing there are bears somewhere around, or moose in their craziness charging out of nowhere. Rain in the trees, dripping long after the rain has stopped. Those strange black edges and holes in leaves, bacteria already eating them as they grow. Spindly forest floor plants reaching for what sun they can catch. Treetops tossing with ravens, crows, eagles. Their calls fixing in your heart and memory, your body, somewhere primeval.

Katherine Bitney is the author of three critically acclaimed books of poetry: *While You Were Out*, *Heart and Stone* and *Singing Bone*. A fourth collection is forthcoming from Turnstone Press for fall 2012. She has worked as editor, mentor, creative writing instructor, arts juror and literary creative director for over thirty years in Manitoba. Most recently she developed the text for *Cantus Borealis*, a choral piece on the Boreal with composer Sid Robinovitch (premiered April 2011). Katherine Bitney holds a Master's degree in Religion.



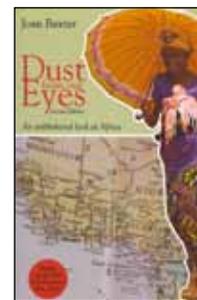
Boreal Dragon: Encounters with a northern land

By Katherine Bitney
978-1-894987-69-1
6 x 9 Paperback
200 pp. \$19 April
Non-fiction

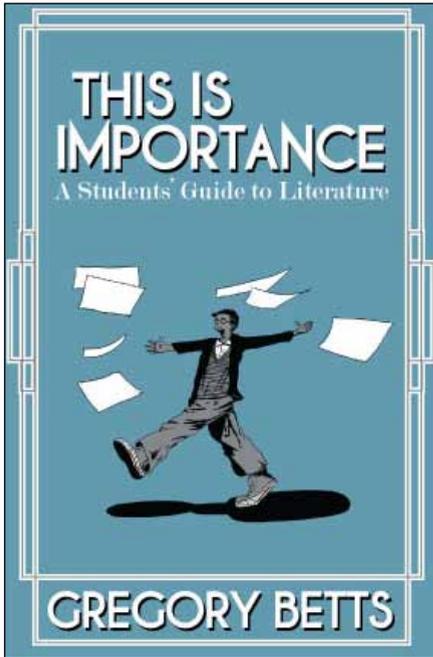
Other Related Titles:

Dust from our Eyes: An unblinkered look at Africa, 2nd edition

By Joan Baxter
978-1-894987-47-9
438 pp. \$25 2010
Non-fiction



“[Joan Baxter’s] deep respect for and keen interest in all things African makes this book both a labour of love and a lament for lost hopes.” – Adelia Neufeld Wiens, *The Winnipeg Free Press*



This is Importance:
A Student's Guide to Literature
 Edited by Gregory Betts
 978-1-894987-75-2
 4 x 6 Paperback
 72 pp. \$10 June
 Culture, Humour

Other Related Titles:

How to Fix Your Head
 by Lesley Choyce
 978-1-894987-54-7
 150 pp. \$17 2011
 Non-fiction



“If there is a lesson to be taken away from Choyce’s own oddball coping mechanisms... it’s that we all need to find a place or activity where we are completely comfortable with letting life happen.”

– Mike Landry, *Telegraph-Journal*

This is Importance:
A Student's Guide to Literature
 Edited by Gregory Betts

Whimsical, absurd and simply hilarious, this collection of mistakes, malapropisms and misinterpretations will have any devotee of literature laughing.

Poet, novelist and teacher Gregory Betts has an ear for a well-turned phrase and an eye for captivating errors. In this highly amusing collection, Betts has pulled together some of the best misinterpretations of literature that he has come across in his years of grading papers. With an introduction on the importance of learning through error in education and a full complement of confusions on authors, styles and the point of reading literature, this book will delight book lovers everywhere.

Excerpt from “On Narrative Form”

- Rising Action is the period before the climax where there is a build-up to prepare the reader for the ultimate high.
- The narrator is bias.
- All literary devices die.
- The average reader expects grammar and punctuality in every sentence.
- Female protagonists take no heed to spiritual warnings.
- It is certain that there is no conclusion.
- Writing is one way to control the truth.

Gregory Betts is an award-winning author, editor and professor at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. He has been teaching literature for a dozen years now at four different universities in Canada and Germany. He has published five books of poetry, edited five books of experimental Canadian writing, and recently published *Avant-Garde Canadian Literature: The Early Manifestations*. He is currently the Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies and Graduate Program Director of Canadian and American Studies at Brock.



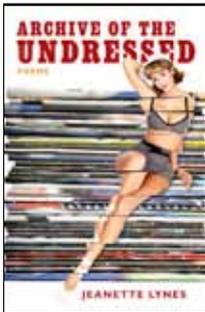
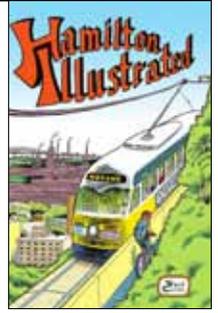
Hamilton Illustrated

By David Collier

A fond, quirky and wry collection of sketches that captures the heart of Hamilton. David Collier's artist's eye is drawn to the beauty of the city and to the warmth of the people who live here. In *Hamilton Illustrated*, he shows the Hamilton he knows and loves. The reader can't help but love it too.

978-1-894987-70-7

88 pp. \$19 Graphic Non-fiction Nov. 2012



Archive of the Undressed

By Jeanette Lynes

From twirling tassels to dead playmates, *Archive of the Undressed* is a sharp, darkly comic look at the image of women in a society between changing sexual mores. A wickedly pointed and funny collection, full of fearless critiques on attitudes towards women and pokes at Canadian identity, *Archive of the Undressed* will overturn any reader's belief that poetry is boring.

978-1-894987-66-0

80 pp. \$17 Poetry Sept. 2012

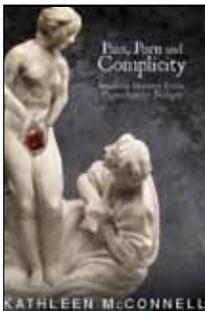
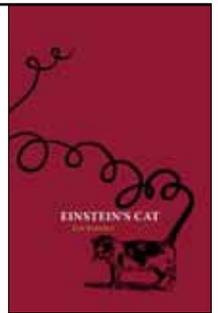
Einstein's Cat

By Zoë Landale

A shimmering tapestry of family, physics, ghosts and storytelling. Shot through with bright colour and sharp natural imagery, this is not a calm, contemplative collection. Indeed, Landale punctuates her own poetic musings with a director's cut, a counterpoint of sly, often acerbic observations on her own lines.

978-1-894987-67-7

88 pp. \$17 Poetry Sept. 2012



Pain, Porn and Complicity:

Women Heroes from Pygmalion to Twilight

By Kathleen McConnell

Why does Bella lie so much in *Twilight*? Why was *Catwoman* such a bad movie? Poet and scholar Kathleen McConnell tackles these, and other, subjects in this collection of essays. Drawing on a large body of research, McConnell starts with *Pygmalion*, and unravels the cultural threads that bind the way women protagonists are characterized in popular culture. This careful, and at times wry, examination considers not only why women are portrayed in these ways, but discusses the effect of those characterizations on the culture that consumes them.

978-1-894987-68-4

200 pp. \$19 Non-fiction Dec. 2012



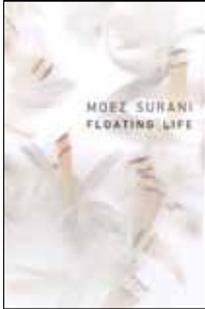
We, Beasts

By Oana Avasilichioaei

With undeniable verve, Oana Avasilichioaei upends expectations of literature and poetry in this fascinating collection. *We, Beasts* is a fairy tale; a book within a book; a collection of verse; a mediation on language, real and imagined, and a sly social commentary all in one.

978-1-894987-62-2

148 pp. \$19 Poetry April 2012



Floating Life

By Moez Surani

Floating Life, Moez Surani's second collection of poetry, takes the reader on a dizzying tour of the world, stopping in Cairo, Muju, Madrid and Cape Breton. Interwoven through these evocative glimpses of places and the people that live in them are poems exploring relationships, reflecting on identity and considering the passing of time.

978-1-894987-63-9

88 pp. \$17 Poetry May 2012

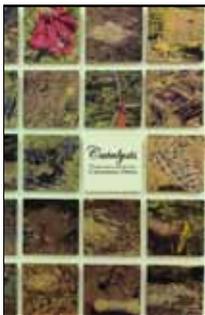
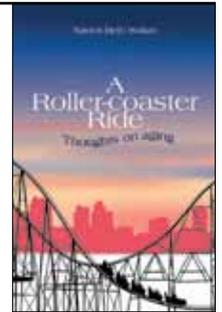
A Roller-coaster Ride: Thoughts on aging

By Naomi Beth Wakan

Now past her eightieth birthday, Naomi Wakan is well-placed to be writing about aging. Qualifying between merely being old and old-old, she considers retirement homes, elder abuse, death and the often thorny question of what to call people once they're past retirement. With humour and honesty she looks at the disconnect between how she sees herself and how the world sees her and concludes it's this inner view that decides nearly everything about aging.

978-1-894987-64-6

230 pp. \$19 Nonfiction April 2012



Catalysts: Confrontations with the muse

Catherine Owen

With her characteristic fearlessness Catherine Owen examines what drives her to write and the influences that shape her writing. From her childhood memories in suburban Vancouver to her willingness to risk all for a glimpse of her muse, the essays in *Catalysts* allow readers unparalleled insight into Owen's creative life. A brilliantly honest collection, these essays should be read by every aspiring author.

978-1-894987-59-2

144 pp. \$17 Non-fiction May 2012

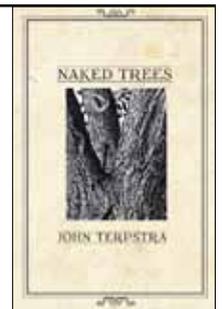
Naked Trees

John Terpstra

Naked Trees is a meditation on urban trees. It explores the life and death of these trees and the people who live with them. We see the trees through the eyes of a child, who finds her tree friendly and inviting, or view the tree's life through the thoughts of a leaf, promised flight, but denied it by the capricious wind. Terpstra finishes the collection with a section on varieties, composed of poems on individual tree types such as *prunus serotina* and *utility pole*.

978-1-894987-65-3

88 pp. \$17 Poetry May 2012



**Poplar Press:**

■ Agro, Vince. <i>The Good Doctor</i> , 2011. Winner of the F.G. Bressani Literary Prize	ISBN 978-1-894987-61-5	518 pp. \$19
Betts, Gregory, ed. <i>This is Importance: A Student's Guide to Literature</i> , 2013.	ISBN 978-1-894987-75-2	72 pp. \$10
Choyce, Lesley. <i>How to Fix Your Head</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-54-7	150 pp. \$17
Collier, David. <i>Hamilton Illustrated</i> , 2012.	ISBN 978-1-894987-70-7	120 pp. \$19
Gutman, Plyn. <i>The Work of Her Hands: A prairie woman's life in remembrances and recipes</i> , 2010.	ISBN 978-1-894987-51-6	188 pp. \$19
Wakan, Naomi Beth. <i>Book Ends: A year between the covers</i> , 2010.	ISBN 978-1-894987-42-4	254 pp. \$19
■ Wakan, Naomi Beth. <i>A Roller-coaster Ride: Thoughts on aging</i> , 2012. Silver medalist for the Living Now Book Awards	ISBN 978-1-894987-64-6	230 pp. \$19

Wolsak and Wynn:

Armstrong, Luanne, and Zoë Landale, ed. <i>Slice me some truth: An anthology of Canadian creative nonfiction</i> , 2011	ISBN 978-1-894987-60-8	402 pp. \$29
Avasilichioaci, Oana. <i>Abandon</i> , 2005.	ISBN 978-1-894987-05-9	80 pp. \$15
Avasilichioaci, Oana. <i>feria: a poempark</i> , 2008.	ISBN 978-1-894987-29-5	104 pp. \$17
Avasilichioaci, Oana. <i>We, Beasts</i> , 2012.	ISBN 978-1-894987-62-2	148 pp. \$19
Barbour, Douglas. <i>Breath Takes</i> , 2001.	ISBN 978-0-919897-78-6	78 pp. \$15
■ Baxter, Joan. <i>Dust from our Eyes: An unblinkered look at Africa</i> , 2nd edition, 2010 Finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize	ISBN 978-1-894987-47-9	438 pp. \$25
Berger, Maxianne. <i>Dismantled Secrets</i> , 2008.	ISBN 978-1-894987-24-0	96 pp. \$17
Bitney, Katharine. <i>The Boreal Dragon: Encounters with a northern land</i> , 2013.	ISBN 978-1-894987-69-1	200 pp. \$19
Bourne, Lesley-Anne. <i>Labyrinthine</i> , 2004.	ISBN 978-0-919897-99-1	80 pp. \$15
Buncel, Jacquie. <i>Turning the Corner at Dusk</i> , 2010.	ISBN 978-1-894987-36-3	104 pp. \$17
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Choyce, Lesley. <i>Seven Ravens: Two Summers in a Life by the Sea</i> , 2009.	ISBN 978-1-894987-39-4	250 pp. \$19
Cotnoir, Louise. Trans. by Oana Avasilichioaci. <i>The Islands</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-55-4	96 pp. \$17
Cullen, Don. <i>The Bohemian Embassy: Memories and Poems</i> , 2006.	ISBN 978-1-894987-10-3	112 pp. \$17
Dempster, Barry. <i>Dying a Little</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-58-5	104 pp. \$17
Dopp, Jamie, and Richard Harrison, ed. <i>Now is the Winter: Thinking about Hockey</i> , 2009.	ISBN 978-1-894987-34-9	214 pp. \$25
Downie, Glen. <i>Desire Lines</i> , 2002.	ISBN 978-0-919897-84-7	88 pp. \$15
Downie, Glen. <i>Local News</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-52-3	80 pp. \$17
■ Downie, Glen. <i>Loyalty Management</i> , 2007. Winner of the Toronto Book Award	ISBN 978-1-894987-16-5	120 pp. \$17
Downie, Glen. <i>Wishbone Dance</i> , 1999.	ISBN 978-0-919897-64-9	96 pp. \$15
Dupré, Louise. Trans. by Erin Moure. <i>Just Like Her</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-56-1	96 pp. \$17
Dwyer, Deirdre. <i>Going to the Eyestone</i> , 2002.	ISBN 978-0-919897-83-0	96 pp. \$15
Easton, Lee, and Richard Harrison. <i>Secret Identity Reader: Essays on Sex, Death and the Superhero</i> , 2010.	ISBN 978-1-894987-50-9	392 pp. \$25
Folsom, Eric. <i>Icon Driven</i> , 2001.	ISBN 978-0-919897-72-4	98 pp. \$15
García, Griselda. Trans. by Hugh Hazelton. <i>Hallucinations in the Alfalfa and Other Poems</i> , 2010.	ISBN 978-1-894987-43-1	164 pp. \$19



Greenberg, Jean. <i>Turning dirt into jewels</i> , 2004.	ISBN 978-0-919897-96-0	88 pp.	\$15
Groulx, David. <i>A Difficult Beauty</i> , 2011.	ISBN 978-1-894987-57-8	104 pp.	\$17
Guppy, Stephen. <i>Understanding Heaven</i> , 2001.	ISBN 978-0-919897-79-3	88 pp.	\$15
■ Harrison, Richard. <i>Big Breath of a Wish</i> , 1998. Nominated for the Governor General's Award for Poetry / Winner of the City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize	ISBN 978-0-919897-62-5	82 pp.	\$15
Harrison, Richard. <i>Hero of the Play: 10th Anniversary Edition</i> , 2004.	ISBN 978-0-919897-95-3	96 pp.	\$15
Harrison, Richard. <i>Worthy of his Fall</i> , 2005.	ISBN 978-1-894987-04-2	78 pp.	\$15
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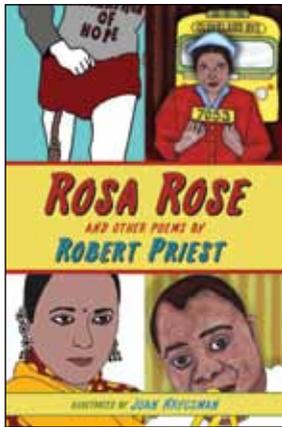
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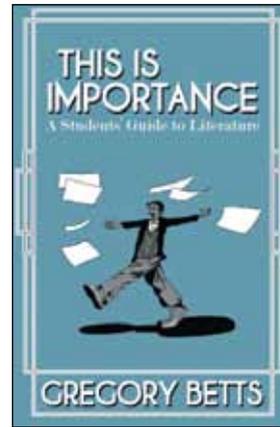
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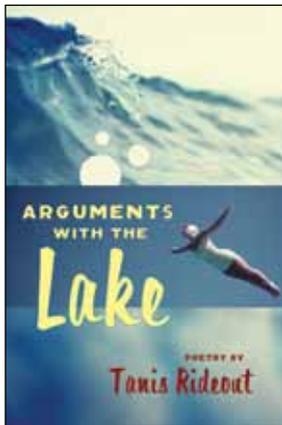
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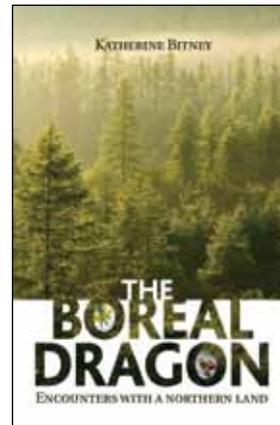
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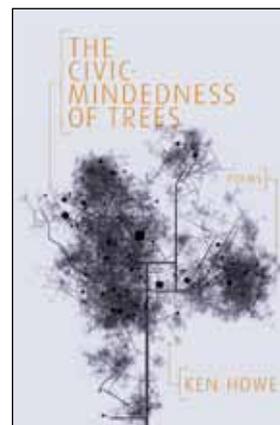
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