HERLAND SISTER resources

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 7 JULY, 1985 HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC. 1630 N.W. 19, Oklahoma City, OK 73106

MUSIC. IDEAS 'BLOOM' AT NWMF

by Marian Hulsey

It was our fifth year to attend the National Women's Music Festival, held at the University of Indiana at Bloomington, and, although I have not attended any other women's music festivals, I still contend that this one is different.

It is a weekend of "dreams come true"; of music--three-hour concerts each night, three hours of Showcase acts in the afternoon (for up and coming artists), the open mike sessions going on throughout the day and after hours; of workshops covering spirituality, creativity, wellness, the music industry, all aspects of sober support, relationships, third-world issues; of living in a dorm with excellent meals; of seeing friends you've made at previous festivals and meeting new ones; of expanding your levels of consciousness almost to the point of overload.

One workshop I attended explored the question, "Do I have to be in physical or emotional pain to be creative?" The consensus was that we can learn to create from positive rather than negative experiences, but that it takes retraining one's work habits. "You must create from a positive self image," according to workshop leader Toni Herring, a sculptor.

A very metaphysical workshop, led by Jan Whitely, explored "Reclaiming the Spiritual Self," stressing that our real strength comes from accepting diversity. "It is important to find the things on which we can agree and then accept diversity," said Whitely, continuing, "There is no more radical act than taking your own power, claiming yourself."

Novelist Lee Lynch and poet/teacher/essayist Judy Grahn led workshops and autographed copies of their books. I attended both sessions of Grahn's, the first being primarily a poetry reading and discussion of her works. She paraphrased Sappho as saying that our culture is what we have when we have each other and what we will never have if we don't have each

other. Sappho believed (600 B.C.) that death was "falling out of the House of the Muse."

In the lecture hour that followed the readings, we moved outside (the auditorium was too cold) and Grahn enlightened the group on many of the things we do and like, i.e. the color purple (signifying high spirituality, transformation), the amethist, which raises vibrations of spirituality, opals do the same. Wearing a ring on your little finger comes naturally because the left little finger was named for Mercury, a gay god.

Fairies wore green and their favorite day of the week was Thursday, their favorite holiday, Halloween.

Certain tribes of American Indians had gay traditions, in which high offices were held by both gay and lesbian priests. There was crossdressing and it was considered good fortune to have such a person in the family. A child could choose which role to take on (male or female). From this came the Ceremonial Dyke. The Indians also believed that being gay meant that there were two people in one body and therefore, imbued with special powers. Grahn's books Another Mother Tongue and The Highest Apple explore these and other traditions in great de-She teaches Gay and Lesbian Studies at New College of San Francisco, and women's Bear's writing at Mama Coffeehouse Berkeley/Oakland.

The Festival's Main Stage was opened by Ronnie Gilbert, accompanied by Adrienne Torf. They had not rehearsed and it took several songs for them to get together, but once they did, it was a good segment. The energy level was not that of the Gilbert/Holly Near concert in Dallas last fall, but that would have been asking too much. Gilbert is broadening her musical repertoire, as a result of her tour and record with Near, and she brings such a social consciousness to the "message" songs she shares.

(Continued on page 3)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

We have come to a time in our society when alcohol consumption is not only the norm, it is expected. Social gatherings, parties, picnics, sports events, etc., are all "appropriate" places to drink. This letter is intended for those women who feel they consume more alcohol or drugs than they really want or intend to.

If, when you honestly look at your drinking pattern, you find that you get drunk more often than you want, or you drink much more than you intended, it is time for you to take charge of your life and your habits.

If you are experiencing "blackouts," mental lapses while you are still awake, or if you are experiencing changes in your behavior while drinking that cause you humiliation or embarrassment, there is something you can do to help you get rid of your desire to drink.

My hope is that this letter makes you think and look deep within for the honesty and courage you will need to objectively look at yourself and your drinking pattern. If you think there may be a problem, quit for 30 days and see if your attitude and life improve. If you have tried to quit, but were unable to, please write to me through Herland.

This is no laughing matter-drinking too much can kill you, and some throughtful introspection may save your life.

J.L. Oklahoma City

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Friday, July 26, 1985

8:00 p.m.

Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 1630 N.W. 19 Oklahoma City

Publisher:

Herland Sister Resources, Inc.

Editor: Typesetter: Elaine Barton Marian Hulsey

Advertising:

Kris Marek, 521-8434

Circulation: 525

Dear Editor:

We are the world. We are the children. We are the ones who make a better day. The key word is "WE," and all of us together make WE. Herland Sister Resources, Inc., offers women in Oklahoma and surrounding areas a chance to come together and form the WE that is needed to make a better day.

Herland has grown from Herland Bookstore and several musical events a year, to Herland Sister Resources, Inc., with a monthly coffeehouse and musical guest. We now also offer workshops and special events throughout the year, designed to help make a better day.

HSR has and will always need your donations, but equally important, HSR needs your ideas, resources and attendance. HSR is here to benefit all who want to make life better and more enjoyable. In order for us to do so, we must have your imput. We need to know what events you would like to see HSR sponsor.

For us to know what you want, you must tell us. If you are like most people, you're too busy to sit down and write a letter, containing your suggestions, and far to busy to mail it. To make your job a little easier, listed below are activities in which you might enjoy participating. Place a check in the blanks that interest you, tear it out and mail it to Dona Williamson, HSR, Inc., 1630 N.W. 19, OKC, OK 73106.

I am interested in:
Lesbian parents support group
Women's health workshop series
Other educational workshops (specify)
Special musical/cultural events (specify)
Monthly women's poetry night
Okla. women's retreat
Travel to music festivals, N.O.W. Conference,
W.A.N.D. Ribbon Wrapping Ceremony; others
(specify)
Exhibition for women artists
Camping, canoeing, skiing (snow, water), swim-
ming, hiking trips; scuba diving expedition;
softball (game or team); other sports activi-
ties (specify)

PLEASE USE ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NEEDED

There are many ways you can contribute to women's causes and equality. HSR has many needs and plans for future growth. Your suggestions and ideas in these areas are needed. Everyone who contributes, whether it be money, time, resources or ideas, is helping to give women something to be proud of and a place to go and be relaxed and free.

Dona W. OKC

Your ideas:

(Continued from page 1)

Ferron fans were thrilled by her performance, but I still don't like her voice. She writes great music and I know I am in the minority, but her "Bob Dylan" voice gets in the way of my enjoying her songs.

Linda Tillery has a great voice, but her stage presence has not loosened up any. She sang many songs from her new album, and a special treat of her set was getting to see and hear Juli Homi on keyboards. She's a fine jazz musician. June Millington also played and sang backup.

Friday night's emcees were Alexander & Noelle, a twosome from Chicago who sang at Showcase last year. They do quite a bit of comedy, but when they settled down to music, it was very good. Unfortunately, Tricia Alexander has decided to strike out as a solo act.

Saturday's opener was Toshi Reagon, with very political songs delivered in a good voice, and excellent guitar playing. She also sang with several other performers. Reagon (pronounced Reegon) was also a Showcase performer last year.

June Millington-so nice to look at and listen to. A little more electronic sound that I like, but a great performance. June is also a fine producer of women's records.

Then, the act I was waiting for on this night-Alive!, minus Carolyn Bandy, plus Stacy Rolls on horns. I am always taken aback by changes in accompanists, groups, etc., but this is one addition that really adds a nice sound. This was the fourth time I have seen Alive!, plus viewing them on the Arts Channel's "Women in Jazz" series, and their blend just gets more complimentary. Rhiannon appeared in a dress with a dropped waistline, and she spent the whole evening tugging at hip sash. (Performers should always wear all actual show clothes at several rehearsals, so they will get used to it. Old trick from speech training days.)

The evening's emcee was Robin Tyler who also did a short comedy routine. She used to be my very favorite, but she was not funny at NWMF in '83, at least not to me. She was better this year, although she did use stories she had told before "Never a Bridesmaid." It seems to me that she has not kept current. She looks different--a little heavier, her hair not as becoming. She had just come from the Southern Festival and was glad to come among those who were "rustically challenged." Maybe I am the one who has changed.

Sunday's concert was begun by a new-to-me artist, Beth York, who accompanied vocally and on piano, The Wright Dance Company. York's music was very different from the rest of the

festival's performers, but extremely interesting and beautiful. Her soft, southern accent seemed reflected in some of the sounds from her piano. The dancers were also good, seeming to be a part of the music itself. The dance company is based in Bloomington and York in Georgia, but the two expressions were very complimentary.

I cannot say enough about Kate Clinton. Appearing with a "new" haircut, bleached part of front and a little squiggle on the side, looking as provocative as ever, she mesmerized the audience at an afternoon Showcase, and on the Sunday night Main Stage. Her humor was as current as that very afternoon, with, "One of the collections going around is for the Bloomington Land Fund. Yes, we are going to buy the University of Indiana. Now, wouldn't you just love to own a piece of Read Hall?" One of the funniest things that occurred was when Kate asked, "How many of you watched the inauguration?" and not one person in the 500+ audience had seen it. She was flustered. started laughing, looked at her list and recovered. She was hot! Although many of her jokes are even funnier if you were brought up in a Catholic background, there is enough commonality to make even those jokes funny. She was introduced as "someone I wish had been my high school English teacher." Wouldn't we all!!

Serving as emcee and sharing several of her characters was Judy Sloan, who has revived the oral tradition of storytelling. She says, "I gave birth at age 23 to an 85 year old woman, Sophie, and I think there is a Sophie in each of us."

The final act of this year's festival was Casselberry and Dupree, a duo who performed last year to enthusiastic fans. They seem to be concentrating so heavily on their political messages, acceptable to all when sung but bordering on too much when spoken between songs, that they have lost some of the momentum they started a year ago with this particular fan. They "do" reggae about as well as it can be done, but somehow their act this year did not have the appeal it did last June. They advertise that their music comes from many parts of the America they have experienced as Black women, but it did not come out sounding like different experiences, different sounds. I was sorely disappointed. Toshi Reagon sang with them on several numbers.

Maybe it is because there was no concert that absolutely bowled me over as in years past, but I did not come home with that feeling of emotional overload. Maybe that's good. It was great, I learned a lot and I will certainly go back every year. Maybe I'm just growing up in this new life.

COMMENTS FROM FESTIVAL NEWGOERS

I was one of several women from Oklahoma who attended the NWMF in Bloomington. My outlook may vary from others because this was my first Festival.

I was enthralled. The residents of Bloomington opened their doors and their community to this event and the women attending. My lover and I walked the streets comfortably holding hands. I have never felt so safe.

The University was beautiful. The one fountain on campus depicted the "Birth of Venus." It seemed as though the University was made for women. Maybe that's why the Festival fit so naturally in this environment.

I would recommend this Festival to anyone in any financial status. It cost me less than \$200 for a full pass, dorm for three days. (divided among four persons), food and the experience of a lifetime.

Craftswomen from all over the country were present with sliding scale prices for jewelry, clothes, crafts, books, periodicals, etc.

The musicians and comedians were all at their best. I saw for the first time June Millington Alive!, Ronnie Gilbert, Robin Tyler and many others. They also interacted easily with folks during the entire Festival.

Next year, consider this Festival for a few days of entertainment for yourself and family. You may want to contact Herland about getting in a caravan and pooling resources.

See Ya There ... Laura Choate

We drove and drove and drove. Then it happened. Many of my friends had told me that it was an experience I would long remember: something for which I would plan year after year. We were in Bloomington, Indiana, at the National Women's Music Festival.

The campus was breathtaking! Trees grew so tall that grass flourished under them. Trees of all kinds reached up to the clouds. A brook ran

down, around and through the campus. Wooden bridges let you cross at will, built strong and enduring. Squirrels, chipmonks and rabbits call it their home and their playground. I stood in calm serenity, breathless.

It only seems natural that the NWMF be held there. Women of all races and nations gathered in a spirit of peace and love to share a part of themselves.

Not only were we all entertained by such greats as Ronnie Gilbert, Ferron, June Millington, Alive!. Robin Tyler. Kate Clinton, Casselberry and DuPree, and Linda Tillery, but many artists also held workshops. We also had the good fortune of meeting and speaking with the artists. The NWMF is a place of learning and of sharing ourselves and what we have learned. Like the surroundings, the women blended together in harmony.

The NWMF is held every year and should be included on everyone's priority list. You will leave exhausted and yet filled with a warm glow that will light your dreams until the next year.

Dona W. OKC

when i think of comfort or of love your hands are the only hands and your breasts, the only breasts the music of your voice is the wings of my spirit and the many lights in your eyes weave my days together day after day after day and your face is home thistle

Cassia A. Mealor, M.S.

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ACCIDENT DIVIDES MINNESOTA FAMILY

For four years, K.T. and S.K., 28, lived together in a lesbian relationship. They bought a house on Briggs Lake near St. Cloud, MN, and took out life insurance on each other. Then, on Nov. 13, 1983, their lives changed suddenly when S. suffered brain damage and was left quadriplegic after a car accident, caused by a drunken driver. Now, their relationship and who should supervise S's care is at the center of a hotly disputed legal battle between K. and S's parents. The parents questioned K's daily involvement with S's care and wanted to limit her visiting hours, so K. filed for guardianship. K. then "came out" to S's parents and the dispute became embittered. S's father denied his daughter's lesbianism and accused K. of being "sick" and "crazy." A Sherburne County District Court judge later awarded custody to S's parents, with the provision that K. be granted "equal access" to visitation and medical staff consultations, and that S. remain in St. Cloud. During this time, K. taught S. to communicate with an electric typewriter. After lying comatose for four months, she seemed to be making remarkable progress towards a partial recovery, In September, the family filed successfully to have her moved to Duluth, where she quickly regressed. K. continues to fight to get S. moved back to St. Cloud.

-from Equal Times, reprinted in L.C., Vol. 8, No. 1

PROTECTING OURSELVES AND OUR LOVERS

In reference to (the above news item), K. obviously believes that the loving doesn't stop when the going gets tough! Good for you, K. If put in that position, I can only pray that I would have that kind of courage and patience.

A lot of this grief and at least some of the \$30,000 in legal bills that K. has incurred so far could have been avoided if the wimmin had had a legal document stating the desire to be responsible for each other in case of an illness or accident. You probably have furniture, vehicles, land, a home, etc., that have been purchased together. If both your names aren't on the title, or if the purchase isn't made through a joint checking account, and there is not a will stating that your partner is entitled to that property through partnership--it can end up going to your family.

Laws vary from state to state, but a "Right to Die" document is becoming more popular every day. You need to let your family know how you feel about being hooked up to a machine. Otherwise, all your partner can do is watch your death being prolonged. Name a contingent executor, someone who knows both of you and will speak for you in case the tragedy involves you both. She can fight for your right to die because you have given her that power. Sounds rather messy, right? Well, it happens every day, in every lifestyle. We are considered single wimmin, so we need to let our families, friends, lawyers and doctors know how we feel on legal matters. Without a "will," the responsibility of a single womyn belongs to the parents, including disposal of the body. Think about how helpless your partner would feel.

SHATZY WATSON

SHATZY WATSON

P.O. BOX 10472

MIDWEST CITY

OKLA.

723

knowing that you wanted to be cremated with your ashes spread among some place special to the two of you, but having no say if your parents want a traditional burial somewhere else.

Why take a chance? Be sure that your partner won't be left with nothing, except for maybe a few unpaid bills for the property that may end up going to your family.

Bozeman, MT., from L.C., Vol. 8, No. 1

FORESIGHT CAN BE 20/20, TOO

I would like to comment on the above articles. I live in one of the most conservative states in the nation. My family is old school Southern Baptist. If I were to be incapacitated or die, they would probably react very similarly to the above.

I do not want to be kept alive by artificial means, nor do I want to be in a nursing home, should I not be able to care for my own needs.

I strongly urge all Oklahoma lesbians to look into a Will and a Living Will and name the person of your choice as executor of your estate and your living needs. You may feel you do not have enough personal possessions to warrant a will. Take a few moments to inventory these things and what your personal needs are. You may find a great value to your peace of mind is just as important as making sure things are taken care of to your satisfaction rather than your family's.

Laura Choate OKC



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HERLAND NEWS

It's official--Herland is very pleased to announce our non-profit status under section 501(c)(3) has been approved. Thanks to Kris Marek, our legal counselor, for her outstanding work and many donated hours. Over the past six months we have done the groundwork for an organizational structure which should prove accessible and responsive to the public; flexible and functional enough to provide a base for service for many years to come.

The support from our community has allowed us to maintain activities and expand. Thanks to everyone who supports our programs with your good words, smiling faces, suggestions and criticisms. If you haven't already done so, consider getting involved. We need you.

To our newsletter readers, beginning with the last issue, we added "Address Correction Requested: Return Postage Guaranteed." For each return we are charged \$.30, in addition to the 12.5 cents initial postage. To insure your newsletter reaching the right place, please let us know if you move. You won't miss a single issue and you will save us money.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME	
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HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.

announces
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WOMEN EXPLORE DISCRIMINATION ISSUES

The following outline is taken from the homophobia workshop conducted by Suzanne Pharr, Director, Arkansas Women's Project, May 4, 1985.

Manifestations of Internalized Homophobia:

Aversion to nurturance, of yourself and of others, and from others to yourself

Self-critical and low self-esteem

Fear and terror (of bodily harm, economic, loss of children, family, friends...)

Self-oppression and oppressing others

Passing as straight and pretending to be somone you're not Self-silencing

Destructive relationships

Additions - drugs, alcohol, food, etc.

Suicide

Fear of success

Settling for less

Unrealistic demands of ourselves and of others

New stereotypes/reverse stereotypes (PC,PI, butch, femme, etc.)

Invalidation of our social roles (in caretaking professions) because we're lesbians

Owing society more than our share/Seeking outside permission to live

Horizontal hostility toward each other and internal hostility toward ourselves are misdirected anger

Avoidance of intimacy

Cutting ourselves off from straight women

Internal (community) prejudice

Withholding support for each other because of our diversity Depression and stress, displaying protective body language

Statements Which are True For All Lesbians:

We are very diverse

We have a same sex orientation

We are all women

Many of us live ordinary lives

We identify with other lesbians (?)

We have commonlities with other women

We all live in a homophobic world

Solutions to the Problems of Internalized Homophobia:

Learn our lineage-either the line of women in our family, or our lesbian heritage

Talk about how we would like to be, as a community and interpersonally

Set personal, freeing goals/Push the limits (of our expression of ourselves as lesbians)

Build family, community, coalition. Create HOME: safety and acceptance

Establish a lesbian presence

Build strong, healing, nurturing relationships/ friendships Create space for ourselves

Organize events to bring lesbians together--events that affirm us

Do public education/internal education

Form support groups/political action groups

Build coalitions with other oppressed groups--connected oppressions

Re-tribalize, seek lesbian role models

Share our stories

Share energy, resources, skills, needs...

Create/reclaim rituals and celebrations to meet our needs for support and acknowledgement

Find allies and supporters

Rehearse for facing homophobia

Self-educate ourselves about our diversity

Develop strategies for defense

ACTIONS FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

There's plenty happening in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Large activities in which you can participate include: 1) the Pantex Pligrimage, August 3-9, an encampment outside the Pantex Plant, contact Nathaniel Batchelder at 524-5577 or Rex Friend at 232-2512 for information; 2) The August Desert Witness, a non-violent witness at the Nevada Nuclear Weapons Test Site near Las Vegas, contact 702-646-4814; 3) The Ribbon Wrapping of the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, August 4, contact Lillian Pawlik at 514-5577. (from Scissortail)

CONFERENCES

Southern Women: Portraits in Diversity. Tulane University, New Orleans. September 26-28, 1985...with Florence Howe and Toni Cade Bambara. For information, call the Newcomb Women's Center, 504-865-5238, or write Beth Willingen, Newcomb Women's Center, Newcomb College, New Orleans, LA 70118

New Jewish Agenda National Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan, July 18-21, 1985...will be addressing the "most troubling issues of our time" in a progressive way. For information, write 149 Church St., #2-N, New York, NY 10007

Women and Technology, Portland Oregon, August 3, 1985...will focus on workplace technology such as electronics, information processing and telecommunications. For information, write P.O. Box 40244, Portland, OR 97240

Racism in the Americas, Cape Cod, August 21-25, 1985...sponsored by the Union for Radical Political Economics. For information, write URPE Conference, 155 West 23rd St., 12th Fl., New York, NY 10011 (212-691-5722)

WHYPPERWILLOW WOMEN SEEK OTHERS

Whypperwillow is 320 acres of meadows and woods, with seasonal springs and a creek running through the middle of the land to the waterfalls. There is one central year-round well, no electricity, no plumbing. One main rough and rocky road leads down into the hollow and lots of new and old paths can be found. Access may deter some. While offering a sense of "other worldness" in her isolation, Whypperwillow is only about 7 miles from Eureka Springs and 35 miles from Fayetteville, Arkansas. Both offer opportunities for employment and city socializing.

Whypperwillow is seeking other wymin to join her. No specific "rules" or "conditions" exist that one must complete to be eligible for membership. We each have our own interests and needs regarding

this land. We feel a magic here and look forward to the journeys of other wymin as they spiral their ways here and home.

Whypperwillow Wymin, Route 1, Box 198, Eureka Springs, AR 72632

WOMEN'S PROGRAMS AT ROSE STATE COLLEGE

The Office of Women's Programs at Rose State College, 6420 S.E. 15th Street, Midwest City, seeks to provide a support system for students new to college or those re-entering the academic environment. Special services provided include counseling on class schedules and role conflicts, information on study skills and career selections, and special seminars and classes designed to meet the needs of women on campus.

For additional information, contact the Office of Women's Programs, Administration Bldg., Rm. 106, or call 733-7389.

A CLOSER LOOK AT "DOUBLE TALK"

Review by Sara Miller

Singer/songwriter Gayle Marie has released her second album, "Double Talk." For those already enchanted by Gayle's lyrical voice and mellow love songs, you won't be disappointed, but watch out--"cause you're headed for a pretty wild ride."

"Double Talk" includes that blues-ballad "Love Triangle" and "Love's Sweet Song," but Gayle has also wandered into the land of funk and jazz. The title cut is an upbeat cynical look at the double talk that spouts from the mouths of our nation's leaders.

"Versatile" is the adjective most often used to describe Gayle Marie. She is able to sing her love songs with a poignant simplicity that can send shivers dancing up and down your spine, but then she shifts into high gear and it's your feet that are dancing.

Take Gayle's dare: "...come a little bit closer ...can't you taste the excitement?" You won't regret it and that's not double talk!

"Double Talk" available on record or cassette order from Herland, \$8.98

Beverly K. Evans, M.S.W. 527 N.W. 23rd Street Oklahoma City, OK 73103 (405) 521-8241 Fran Peavey, Heart Politics (New Society, \$9.95)

Teacher, comedian and social change catalyst Peavey of the internationally-touring "Atomic Comics" tells of her encounters with the fears and hopes we all carry inside us. Hers is a journey of connections—with elderly tenants facing eviction from their residential hotel, with alcoholics and street people longing for self-respect, with ordinary Americans awakening to the threat of nuclear war, with Indians dedicated to cleaning up the Ganges River, with prostitutes in Bangkok worried about their children's education, with civilians caught in the tragedy of the Middle East conflict. Her tales show us that we can respond to the critical issues of our lives with humanity and humor.

Lisa Alther, Other Women (Knopf, \$15.95)

Caroline Kelley discovers that Hannah, her confident and successful therapist, is as strong, stubborn, determined—and giving—as herself. If you liked Judith Rossner's <u>August</u>, you'll find <u>Other Women</u> as compelling, but more fun.

Marge Piercy, My Mother's Body (Knopf, \$7.95)

Marge Piercy's tenth book of poetry features a powerful sequence of poems to her mother. Poems of Jewish identity, of nature and themes central to women's lives find the beautiful in the everyday.

Janet Kauffman, Places in the World a Woman Could Walk (Penguin, \$4.95)

Janet Kauffman's writing is bold, sparse and at times sensuous. To quote from one selection, "My Mother Surrounded Me," each story is a "hand-held charm." This collection of short stories is now out in paper.

Ursula Owens, ed., <u>Fathers: Reflections by Daughters</u> (Pantheon, \$7.95)

Several writers have recently explored the mother/daughter relationship, but until now, little has been written of the father/daughter relationship, one that is perhaps more complex and unresolved. Major American and British writers, among them Doris Lessing, Mary Gordon, Alice Munro, Adrienne Rich and Grace Paley, discuss their fathers and how they shaped their lives.

Rosemary Curb, Nancy Manahan, eds., <u>Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence</u> (Naiad Press, \$9.95)

We always knew there were lesbian nuns, didn't we? Now, after centuries of silence, the editors have gathered fifty "coming out" stories told by lesbian nuns and ex-nuns. Told with candor, warmth and humor, these women share their discovery of "particular friendships" and their sometimes painful struggle to remain true to the Church and to themselves. Many of the women's commitment to achieve humanitarian goals remains as strong, but has been redirected into the lesbian/feminist community. Photographs.

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Judy Grahn, Another Mother Tongue (Beacon Press, \$16.95)

Why is lavendar a gay color? Who were the "manly hearted women" of the Sioux Indians? What is the origin of the word bulldyke? Weaving tales of mythology, the occult, witch rituals and Indian tribal customs with her own personal history, Grahn explores the roots of gay culture from ancient times to today. Her own stories (in the military, in the gay bars of the fifties) told to the memory of her first lover are witty and startingly honest. (See NWMF article, page 1)

Louise Erdich, Love Medicine (HRW, \$13.95)

Erdich weaves this tale about the Kashpaws and the Samartines on and around a North Dakota reservation from 1934-1984. The lives and loves of this exiled people are keenly and tenderly recreated.

Also by Erdich, Jacklight, \$6.95

Erdich, a Native American woman whose depiction of the Midwest is brought to life with keen vision; her poems conjure passion and magic.

Gloria Naylor, Linden Hills (Ticknor & Fields, \$16.95)

Naylor, winner of the American Book Award for The Women of Brewster Place (\$4.95), returns with a novel about a middle-class black community. "Naylor is not afraid to grapple with life's big subjects: sex, birth, love, death, grief. Her talent glows like beaten copper." Washington Post Book World

Mary Renault, <u>The Friendly Young Ladies</u> (Random House, \$6.95)

Originally published as <u>The Middle Mist</u> in 1945, Renault wrote this bold and forthright novel at a time when few lesbian novels were in print. The story is of two modern young women, Helen and Leo, in thirties London, who have been living and loving for several years on a houseboat on the Thames. When Leo's teenage sister comes to stay, their cheerful Bohemian life is turned upside down.

KRISTINA S. MAREK

Attorney and Counselor at Law

1137 N.W. 31st Street Oklahoma City, OK 73118 521-8434, after 5:00 P.M.



THIS SPACE FOR RENT

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write: HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.

1630 N.W. 19th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73106 Janice Radway, Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy and Popular Literature (Univ. of N. Carolina Press, \$7.95)

Examines the enormous popularity of romance fiction: the readers and their romances, the act of reading, the ideal romance novel, and the patriarchal implications shrouded in the romances.

Bell Hooks, <u>Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center</u> (South End Press, \$8.00)

Using examples that are close to home, Hooks strives to imagine a feminist movement that encompasses the diversity of all women's experiences. Includes separate chapters on Black women, men: comrades in opposition, educating women, and parenting.

Andrea Freud Lowenstein, This Place (Pandora)

An important first novel that recreates daily life in a woman's prison through the eyes of four women on both sides of the bars.

Judith L. Weidman, Women Ministers (Harper & Row)

An updated and expanded edition of the collective of firsthand accounts of clergywomen working in parish settings. Three new chapters discuss spiritual direction, healing and spirituality and community ministry.

Lynn V. Andrews, <u>Jaguar Woman: And the Wisdom of the</u> Butterfly Tree (Harper & Row)

Continuing the story begun in <u>Medicine Woman</u> and carried through <u>Flight of the Seventh Moon</u>, this gripping account shares Lynn Andrews' ongoing quest for inner knowledge and the power of women as expressed in Native American culture. In Yucatan, she encounters the mysteries of ancient Mayan goddesses and discovers the secrets of the "Jaguar Woman."

Wendy Chavkin, ed., <u>Double Exposure</u>: Women's Health Hazards on the Job and at Home (New Feminist Library, \$10)

Covers occupations such as nursing, office work, electronics, farmwork and housework. The essays are rich in research, statistics, law and critical analysis.

Zillah Eisenstein, ed., <u>Capitalist Patriarchy and the Case for Socialist Peminism</u> (New Feminist Library, \$8.00)

Fourteen provocative papers on the oppression of women in capitalist countries, coupled with three articles on the subordinate position of women in two communist countries, Cuba and China.

Ruth Mueller, The Rye of the Child (New Society Publishers, \$7.95)

A haunting tale of the future in which a six-year-old gypsy girl, abandoned on the outskirts of The Sprawl learns that she can speak Bird. Living atop an abandoned garbage dump and communing with the natural world, she shares in a knowledge we have always had, yet never truly known.

Joanna Rogers Macy, <u>Despair and Personal Power in the Nuclear Age</u> (New Society Publishers, \$8.95)

A groundbreaking work for overcoming the "psychic numbing" which prevents us from coming to terms with the real threats of nuclear and ecological disaster.

IT'S AVAILABLE

<u>Lesbian and Gay Issues: A Resource Manual for Social Workers</u> is available from the National Association of Social Workers, Inc., 7981 Eastern Ave., Silver Springs, MD 20910.

Attorney's Directory, published by Gay and lesbian Advocates and Defenders, a legal support group operating in the New England area. For copies, write to P.O. Box 218, Boston, MA 02112.

The Celibate Woman provides a communication network among women who are interested in exploring new and meaningful ways of relating to others-including those with whom they are intimate-rather than taking their affections in a sexual direction. Published irregularly, subscriptions are \$4 per issue from 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Aurora is a magazine containing material about science fiction and fantasy with a decidedly feminist bias. Subscriptions are \$8 per year for 3 issues from P.O. Box 1624, Madison, WI 53704.

Connexions is a quarterly journal specializing in English translations of work from the feminist press outside the U.S. Subscriptions are \$12 from 4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609.

Minerva was established as an aid to networking for the many groups and individuals concerned with some aspect of women and the military. Subscripsions are \$30 for 4 issues from 1101 S. Arlington Ridge Rd. #210, Arlington, VA 22202.

Women's Sports and Fitness is the official publication of the Women's Sports Foundation, a non-profit corporation founded in 1974 by a group of women athletes (headed by Billie Jean King and Donna de Varona) to encourage women of all ages to participate in sports and work toward equality for women in sports. Subscriptions are \$12 for 12 issues from P.O. Box 612, Holmes, PA 19043.

Aegis provides practical information and resources on rape, battering, child sexual assault, sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women. Subscriptions are \$10.50 for 4 issues from P.O. Box 21033, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Trivia publishes current non-academic feminist theory and scholarship. Subscriptions are \$10 for 3 issues from P.O. Box 606, N. Amherst, MA 01059.

Cassandra is the newsletter of Cassandra, a radical feminist nurses' network. Subscriptions for 3 issues are \$35 for women in nursing, \$25 for those not in nursing from P.O. Box 341, Williamsville, NY 14221.

The National Women's Health Report provides clear and understandable health care information for women of all ages. Subscriptions are \$18 for the monthly from P.O. Box 25307, Georgetown Stn., Washington, D.C. 20007.

Women in Business is the publication of the American Business Women's Association. Subscriptions are \$10 for the bimonthly from 9100 Ward Parkway, P.O. Box 8728, Kansas City, MO 64114.

The Childbirth Alternatives Quarterly provides consumeroriented information on alternatives in childbirth, home birth, midwifery and maternal/child health. Subscriptions are \$10 for 4 issues from Bin 62, SLAC, Stanford, CA 94305.

Women Artists News contains reviews, feature articles, resources of interest to women in the visual arts. Subscriptions are \$8.50 for the bimonthly from P.O. Box 3304, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

Women & Performance is the first journal to address performance from a feminist perspective. Subscriptions are \$9 for 2 issues from 51 W. 4th St., Rm. 300, New York University, New York, NY 10012.

The Feminist Teacher is a quarterly publication for teachers from preschool to graduate school. Subscriptions are \$12 frm Ballantine 442, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Tradeswoman Magazine is about women working in nontraditional blue collar jobs. Subscriptions are \$10 for 4 issues from P.O. Box 40664, San Francisco, CA 94140.

9-5 Newsletter addresses issues of concern to clerical workers. Subscriptions are \$15-\$20 for the bimonthly from 1224 Huron Road, Cleveland, OH 44115.