



# HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 12  
DECEMBER, 1985

HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.  
1630 N.W. 19, Okla. City, OK 73106

## OKC GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS NEWS

The Oklahoma City chapter of the state Gay Political Caucus met last month and were told by State Representative Rebecca Hamilton, that AIDS is a "disease that can change history." Hamilton, the chair of the House Public Health Committee, has just returned from a tour of the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta where "even the doctors are afraid. They say it could be right up there with the great plagues of history," Hamilton said.

When asked about new legislation concerning this sensitive subject, Hamilton reported that although there has been some talk about Rep. Bill Graves' pushing a bill that would make AIDS tests mandatory for marriage licenses and with pregnancy tests, she believes that no new legislation is needed, at least in Oklahoma. "By the time laws get passed, they might work against the best interests of those most concerned," she added.

Hamilton agrees that it is a very serious public health problem but says that the State Health Department is handling it. Although she believes in educating the public about AIDS, she says that if the general population realizes the potential of the disease, it will become very scared and the "public is dangerous when scared." "You scare people enough and they'll do anything," she remarked, "things they wouldn't think of doing if they weren't scared."

The best advice she had for swaying legislative opinions was to make ourselves known as people, persons to them. "Once they see that you, the homosexuals, are real people, then maybe they will be less likely to hurt you."

To have an effect on the Legislature, she urged attendees to "get involved with the campaign of supportive candidates, to become faces, persons to legislators and to learn the rules and how to use the rules for one's own purposes."

The Caucus has a very effective lobbyist, Keith Smith. Anyone who would like more information about the organization should write: Oklahoma Gay Political Caucus, P.O. Box 57364, OK 73157.

## WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

AT HERLAND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1985

10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

- \* all day stock reduction sale for last minute holiday shoppers
- \* hot Wassail and refreshment treats and foods of the season  
Pot luck dinner in evening
- \* musical entertainment
- \* jugglers may be present; bad puns may be exchanged

## PSYCHIC FAIR AT ROSE STATE COLLEGE

The Organization for Psychic Research Associates is sponsoring a Psychic Fair, December 8, from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m. This Sunday event is a great opportunity to get a psychic reading, buy Christmas gifts, enjoy some excellent lectures. The event at the Student Union building at Rose State is \$2.50 admission per person.

- 1:00 p.m. "Crystals" by Donna Burham
- 2:00 p.m. "Dreams" by Charlie Wright
- 3:00 p.m. "Astrology" by Gloria Star
- 4:00 p.m. "Graphoanalysis" by Martha Powell
- 5:00 p.m. "Basic Meditation" by Wilma Arnold

Readings will be available for astrology, psychic, numerology, palmistry, reflexology, tarot, past life, handwriting analysis, psychometry, I-Ching. Booths will offer natural health products, astrology books and gifts, crystals, jewelry and astrological and metaphysical associations. Christmas snacks will be plentiful.

OPRA publishes a monthly newsletter. Write to them at P.O. Box 30416, Midwest City, OK 73140-3416 for information.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sisters:

When I returned to Enid after the women's retreat at Osage Hills State Park, I felt compelled to express my impressions of the weekend. I wrote a poem, which I am now submitting to you for possible publication in Herland's newsletter. I feel a personal need to make my own contribution to the efforts that leading Okla. lesbians are currently and courageously putting forth; only through such organized efforts can we approach gaining the human rights that are truly ours.

I sincerely hope that you will publish this poem, as I feel it will offer encouragement to these brave women in continuing to take social risks as a necessary phase of our struggle to be free; I also feel the poem could potentially inspire more women to be honest about and proud of their lesbianism.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter; I can hardly express how vital I feel it is for us to write, each contributing in her own way to the fight against the social biases from which we all suffer. My individual brand of bravery takes form in my willingness to express my convictions regarding our plight, publicly identifying myself as a proud Oklahoma lesbian.

Sincerely,  
Judy Palen, Enid

(An Open Letter to Robert Macy, District Attorney of Oklahoma County)

November 16, 1985

Mr. Macy:

Once again justice has been poorly served in Oklahoma County. On Nov. 15, Sarah Smith was sentenced to prison for shooting and killing her abusive husband.

By your own admission (The Daily Oklahoman, 11-15-85), Ms. Smith had been a victim of repeated brutal attacks from Larry Smith. Police had been called repeatedly to the Smith house, yet they had been unable or unwilling to stop the violence. Finally, on June 17, after Larry Smith had severely beaten her and threatened her life and the life of her infant child, Sarah Smith took action to protect herself. Where were you, Mr. Macy, while Larry Smith was repeatedly abusing Sarah Smith? Surely a beating severe enough to cause a miscarriage qualifies as a felony assault. Did you prosecute Larry Smith for the crimes he committed against Sarah?

Was Sarah Smith afforded the full protection of

the law? I think not. Yet, when Ms. Smith acted to protect herself, the full measure of the law was brought against her. As District Attorney, Mr. Macy, you have discretion as to what charges will be filed and who will be prosecuted. It was within your capacity to find that Sarah Smith acted in self-defense and to refuse to file any charges against her. You knew she had been severely beaten on that occasion and throughout the relationship and, according to your statement (The Daily Oklahoman, 11-15-85), "She had a diminished capacity to understand the nature of her acts." In spite of this knowledge, you filed first degree murder charges against Sarah Smith. Even a reduction of the charge can't make your actions just.

Rest assured, Mr. Macy, that we will not forget Sarah Smith and the many other women like her who suffer repeated physical abuse. We are waiting to see that those who commit violent crimes against their wives (or other intimate partners) are arrested and prosecuted for their crimes. We are also watching to see that women who must finally use force to protect themselves are treated with justice.

Mr. Macy, the responsibility for the actions of the prosecutor's office is yours. We are waiting to see the laws equitably enforced for battered women.

Pat Reaves, OKC

Dear Editor and Patti Weaver:

I apologize to you, Patti, for "making light" of something about which you obviously feel very strongly. I was passing on a very old, private joke about fishing, and certainly never meant to offend you.

I would like for you to consider this, though--it seems to me that, in your quest for a world in which meat, fish or fowl is not eaten, let alone "taken" by violence, that you have failed to give me the very basic right to fish and to eat said fish, meat and fowl, if I so choose. I respect your beliefs in this area, but I think that it is vital that my beliefs and practices be respected, or at least tolerated. There seems to be a deeper philosophical question here than meat eating or fishing. I, too, am doing everything I can to make the world less violent. I spend many hours a month, working to make things happen for Herland, this newsletter being just one example.

I don't want you to give up your beliefs, but please don't put me down as a person because mine happen to differ from yours. There's room for us both, and we need all the help we can get.

Marian Hulsey, OKC

## GAYLE MARIE ENCHANTS CITY FANS

Gayle Marie made her fourth appearance in Oklahoma City Friday, November 22, 1985, and lived up to all the claims that her fans had made about her talents.

The distance between that first City performance in 1980 at the Nightlife to 1985 at the First Unitarian Church was reflected in the growth her vocal and composition skills have made. She said of the church's auditorium, "This is the type of place I have hoped to perform in here in Oklahoma City." Later we laughed over the lack of the varoom-varoom that was her background group at the Fairgrounds.

Singing songs from her new album, "Double Talk," just released on the Icebergg label, as well as many favorites from "Night Rainbow," Gayle Marie seemed more relaxed, especially during her moments of reflection and sharing between songs. She did say that her giving up all sugar has helped her health tremendously and that may be reflected in her general demeanor, which is less tense.

She had a lot to say about her recent trip to Europe, where she attended a women's music festival in Holland. "There was every type of music represented at the festival, from opera to rock 'n' roll, but the most amazing thing was that ALL the women shared a dressing room. There were no stars, everyone was treated as an equal, which is what I thought women's music was supposed to do for us all," she said.

Going to Europe and recording another album were two dreams she has had for a long time and they have both come true in the past few months.

She shared a song-in-progress, written just the morning of the concert, about the modern-day tragedy of bag ladies. It was a thrill to hear it and even more of a thrill to realize that when this appears on a future album, all of this audience can say, "We heard it when it was only hours old!"

The ever-popular "Hummingbird" from her first album has taken on new performance status, with the accompanying story about a P.E. teacher's using it for calisthenic music for her fourth grade class in Tuba City, Arizona. The Navajo kids loved it so much that they made her a tape of their rendition of it. "It came at a time when I was really low and it picked me up so that I started to write them a thank you note, but, instead, a song came out," she related. That song, which she now sings right after the hummingbird song, is a beautiful companion piece. She said she received such cute letters from this class, and from other kids in the school.

Gayle Marie's classical piano and voice training are still evident in her marvelous piano accompaniments, which closely approximate the instrumentals that back her up on the record.

Oklahoma City's own Mary Reynolds opened for Gayle Marie, and Mary and Elyse Angelo provided guitar, vocal and bongo additions for several of her songs.

This was the first concert for the Herland Collective, as such, to produce, and its success has reminded us of how long it has been since OKC had a major concert, as well as assuring the Collective that, indeed, there is an audience out there that will support our bringing live women's music to the area.

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## LOCAL NEWS

**\*\*The Norman Women's Political Caucus will hold elections for officers and at-large members at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 9, at 734 Westridge Terrace, Norman. They invite any interested person to run for one of 12 positions which comprise the steering committee. NWPC leaders advise that 1986 is likely to be the most important legislative election year to occur for some time. Call Dixie Jackson, 360-2903, Betty or Jerri Culpepper, 321-4829, or Vickie White, 364-9847 for additional information.**

**\*\*The Norman Chapter of the Association for Women in Science promotes better employment opportunities for professional women. The Norman Network News is the official newsletter of the chapter. For copies or to submit articles, contact Dr. Patricia A. Gilman, Editor, Dept. of Anthropology, OU, 455 W. Lindsey, Rm. 521, Norman, OK 73019, 405-325-3261.**

**\*\*The OU women's volleyball team clinched second place in the regular season and the second seed in the Big Eight Volleyball Championship. The Sooners are 22-12 for the season, 7-2 in Big Eight play.**

**\*\*A Christmas Carnival will benefit Oasis Gay Community Center and one other needy organization yet to be decided. The Carnival will be Dec. 16, from 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., at Angles, 2117 N.W. 39, OKC. The cost is \$3 for drag shows, music, booths; also included are door prizes, raffles, a bake sale and other entertainment.**

**Oasis: The Community Center, is located at 2135 N.W. 39, OKC, 405-525-2437. Hours are Mon.-Thurs., 7:00-11:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., Friday and Saturday.**

**The Oasis Crisis Relief Fund provides emergency funds and temporary housing for OKC gay men and women in crisis situations.**



announces

the next meeting of the Collective  
Open to the Public

Sunday, December 15, 1985, 6:30 p.m.  
1630 N.W. 19

## 1985-86 OU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 2	Creighton, 7:00 p.m.*
Dec. 6	Texas A&M, 7:00 p.m.*
Dec. 9	at New Mexico, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 11	Tulsa, 7:00 p.m.*
Dec. 21	at Arkansas, 2:00 p.m.
Dec. 30	at West Texas, 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 3-5	at Miami New Year's Classic
Jan. 11	Oral Roberts, 1:30 p.m.*
Jan. 15	at Colorado, 5:45 p.m.
Jan. 18	Iowa State, TBA*
Jan. 22	at Kansas State, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	Nebraska, 5:30 p.m.*
Feb. 1	at Kansas, TBA
Feb. 5	Oklahoma State, 5:30 p.m.*
Feb. 8	at Iowa State, TBA
Feb. 11	Kansas State, 5:30 p.m.*
Feb. 15	Colorado, 1:30 p.m.*
Feb. 18	at Nebraska, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	Missouri, TBA*
Feb. 26	Kansas, 7:00 p.m.*
March 2	at Oklahoma State, 2:00 p.m.
March 4	Big Eight First Round, Campus Sites
March 6-8	Big Eight Semifinals and Finals Kansas City, Missouri

\*Home games at Lloyd Noble Center, Norman

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**First Impressions**  
NOVELTY GREETINGS

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## NATIONAL NEWS

After a two-month delay caused by pressure from right-wing thinktanks and conservative lawmakers, the Justice Department finally approved a \$581,621 grant to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Patrick McGuigan of the Free Congress Foundation, which had complained to Ed Meese that NCADV was "pro-Lesbian, hard-core feminists," called the decision to okay the funding "a great disappointment." The award, originally set at \$625,000, is earmarked for developing materials about domestic violence, creating an information and referral clearinghouse and providing technical assistance to organizations developing domestic violence programs. The reduction is due to the elimination of a proposed Speaker's Bureau and some other revisions. The materials produced will now be distributed by the government rather than the Coalition, and the training programs have been shifted to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia. Sharon Parker, Executive Director of NCADV, noted that the effort by conservative activists to stop the award had helped to point out how much key segments of society need to be better informed about the seriousness of domestic violence.

### --Washington Post

It seems that there will be no close encounters of the Lesbian kind in the movie version of The Color Purple. Syndicated entertainment columnist Marilyn Beck revealed that the relationship between battered wife Celie and blues singer Shug Avery will be presented as a "very strong friendship with only the suggestion it could have been more, leaving it up to the audience to decide." So, Steven Spielberg, the man who made a movie about a relationship between a boy and an extra-terrestrial, shies away from a story of two women!

### --Off Our Backs

(NOTE: Posted at Herland is a copy of remarks made to Holly Near and Amy Bank by Alice Walker on the movie of her book, printed in Voices, The Newsletter of Redwood Records Cultural & Educational Fund, No. 5, Fall 1985)

A new book is supporting what members of a women's peace camp have said for almost two years, namely that an army depot in upstate New York does indeed hold nuclear warheads. The book, Nuclear Battlefields: Global Links in the Arms Race, estimates that the Seneca Army Depot houses 1265 weapons, making it the single largest site in the entire world. Written by two members of the well-known Institute for Policy Studies, the book is based on declassified documents, Congressional hearing transcripts and in-

ternational military maps, and, say members of the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice, "confirms what we have known all along."

### --Her Say

The hour is growing late for the people of Big Mountain. The Hopi and Navajo (who call themselves Diné) have shared the Joint Use Area in northeastern Arizona for hundreds of years. In 1974, Congress passed the Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act (Public Law 93-531), which authorized a 50-50 split of the land. The law also ordered a 90% reduction of livestock herds, upon which the people depend for sustenance, and ordered an end to all building and land improvements. According to Mae Banally in an Akwesasne Notes interview, in order to justify livestock reduction, chemicals were sprayed over the area during the 1960s to kill the vegetation, making the land appear as if it were overgrazed. Between 1979 and 1983, 100% of the uranium mined in the United States came from Indian lands, according to Big Mountain News. In July, 1986, U.S. marshalls, followed by the military, will go onto the ancestral homelands of 14-20,000 Diné (Navajo) people, to remove them forcibly. Most of these traditional people have no desire to relocate. The multinational corporations want the uranium and the coal. To join a letter-writing campaign or make contributions, contact Big Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee, 124 San Francisco, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001, 602-744-6923.

### --Plexus

KRISTINA S. MAREK

Attorney and Counselor at Law

- \*CONTRACTS
- \*INCORPORATIONS
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- \*WILLS/PROBATE
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1137 N.W. 31st Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118  
405-521-8434, after 5:00 P.M.

**\*\*The Women's Studies Program at OU has announced its spring semester course listings:**

CLC	3023-1	Roman Women-Empire	Herrick
ENG	1213-3	Women Writers-20th C	Wallace
ENG	1213-5	Women in Literature	G. Davis
ENG	3023-1	Feminist Lit in 20th C	Wallace
HIST	2120-1	Intro to Women's Studies	Affleck
HIST	3673-1	Women & Work in America	Griswold
HIST	3840-1	Gender-Modern China	Ng
HIST	4120-1	Hist of Feminist Thought	Lewis
IFD	2613-1	Human Sexuality	Hayes
IFD	5603-1	Family Crises	Walker
IFD	5603-1	Adv Family Development	Walker
HR	4120-1	Cont Feminist Thought	B. Davis
	5120-1		
SOC	2120-1	Intro to Women's Studies	Affleck
SOC	3733-1	Sociology of Women	Affleck
SOC	5733-900	Seminar-Sex Roles	Morgan

The following courses are taught by members of the Women's Studies faculty and include W.S. scholarship:

AH	4013-1	Art Since 1950	Caldwell
HIST	3430-1	Mod Amer Social History	Griswold
IFD	1603-1	Contemporary Marriage	Lewis
IFD	4603-900	Alternate Life Styles	Hayes

The following course, although it is not a Women's Studies course, is suggested as related to the area.

HIST	3060-900	Women, Sex, Family in Medieval Europe	Miller
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A minor in Women's Studies requires 18 credit hours in courses officially listed by the Program as Women's Studies courses. For more information, contact them at 325-3481, Rm. 530 PhSC.

*Sally R. Cole, Ph.D.*  
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The end of the tax year is approaching. If you have books, other items, cash, now is the time to make your tax-deductible donation to Herland. Thanks, readers, customers, supporters for your generous contributions during 1985!

#### Impressions of a Retreat

I've just passed a time with a group at Osage;  
These strong, leading women have written a page  
To be added to thriving, reviving new book,  
Layed open, bravely, to welcome a look  
From a woman who's ready to leave her own cage.

One impressed value for physical care;  
Another showed methods to loosen the snare  
Of our families' fear, as it's filtered inside;  
One spoke out, boldly, from judicial side,  
Advising us of legal strategy dares.

One wed our races, conducting a flow  
Of our group awareness, while one sister dared show  
Us her soul-deep despair from a sisterless strife;  
Another, too, knew pain of a different life;  
Her golden tones urged gently not to say no.

Although few in number, these women comprise  
All the courage required to forfeit disguise  
(Which we lesbians are taught to dutifully don);  
As these women help us to refuse to be pawns,  
Their leading edge grants us permission to rise.

Each woman I spoke with showed me, in her way  
The price she was paying to influence sway  
Of the unthinking sheep who bleat, glibly, "Conform";  
These masses who outline society's form  
Cannot, with mere fetters, keep women at bay.

My hope is renewed by these folks at Osage;  
These strong, leading women have written a page  
To be added to thriving, reviving new book,  
Layed open, bravely, to welcome a look  
From a woman who's ready to leave her own cage.

-Judy Palen



**SELECTED TITLES AVAILABLE FROM HERLAND**

The Absence of the Dead. Trautmann. \$8.95  
Against Our Will. Brownmiller. \$4.95  
Against the Season. Rule. \$7.95  
Ain't I a Woman. Hooks. \$8.00  
All True Lovers. Aldridge. \$6.95  
Amateur City. Forrest. \$7.95  
Ambitious Women. Wilson. \$7.95  
Among Women. Bernikow. \$4.95  
Ancient Mirrors of Womanhood. Stone. \$10.95  
Are You a Target? Fein. \$8.95  
Ariadne's Thread. Lifshind \$6.95  
Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas. Stein. \$3.95  
Battered Wives. Martin. \$3.95  
Beebo Brinker. Bannon. \$3.95  
The Bell Jar. Plath. \$3.95  
Between Mothers & Daughters. Koppleman. \$8.95  
Between Ourselves. Payne. \$8.95  
Beyond God the Father. Daly. \$6.95  
The Birth Project. Chicago. \$17.95  
The Black and White of It. Shockley. \$5.95  
Black Lesbians in White America. Cornwell. \$7.50  
Black Lesbians: Annotated Bib. Roberts. \$5.95  
The Black Unicorn. Lorde. \$5.95  
Blood Sisters. Miner. \$6.95  
Bones and Kim. Strongin. \$5.50  
Braided Lives. Piercy. \$3.95  
Breast Cancer: A Woman's Handbook. Dewar. \$8.95  
Brown Girl, Brownstones. Marshall. \$7.95  
Burning. Chambers. \$6.95  
The Burning Bed. McNulty. \$3.95  
The Burnton Widows. McConnell. \$7.95  
But Some of Us Are Brave. Hull, ed. \$9.95  
Calyx: Bearing Witness Spr. 84. \$4.50  
The Cancer Journals. Lorde. \$5.00  
The Charlotte Perkins Gilman Reader. Lane. \$5.95  
Choices: A Novel About Lesbian Love. Toder. \$6.95  
Chosen Poems Old and New. Lorde. \$5.95  
Circles on the Water. Piercy. \$8.95  
The Color Purple. Walker. \$6.95  
Conspiracy of Silence. Butler. \$10.00  
Contract with the World. Rule. \$7.95  
Crimes Against Women. Russell. \$7.95  
Cuentos: Stories by Latinas. Gomez. \$7.95  
Curious Wine. Forrest. \$7.50  
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Daughters of a Coral Dawn. Forrest. \$7.95  
Daughters of Copper Woman. Cameron. \$7.95  
Desert of the Heart. Rule. \$3.95  
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Drawing Down the Moon. Alder. \$10.95  
The Dream of a Common Language. Rich. \$4.95  
Dreaming the Dark. Starhawk. \$8.95  
An Emergence of Green. Forrest. \$7.95  
The Eye of the Child. Mueller. \$7.95  
Eye to Eye: Portraits of Lesbians. JEB. \$8.95  
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Faultline. Taylor. \$6.95  
Females Fight Back Against Rape! Henderson. \$6.95

Femininity. Brownmiller. \$7.95  
Feminist Theorists. Spender. \$10.95  
Feminist Theory. Hooks. \$8.00  
Fight Back! Delacoste. \$13.95  
Fighting Sexual Harassment. A.A.S.H. \$3.95  
Folly, A Novel. Brady. \$7.95  
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For Her Own Good. Ehrenreich. \$5.95  
For Nights Like This One. Birtha. \$4.75  
From the Center: Feminist Essays. Lippard. \$11.50  
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Gathering Ground: New Writing. Cochran. \$6.95  
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Law of Return. Bloch. \$7.95  
Learning Our Way. Bunch. \$10.95  
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Lesbian Images. Rule. \$6.95  
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Lesbian Nuns. Curb. \$9.95  
Lesbian Poetry. Bulkin. \$10.95  
The Lesbian Reader. covina. \$7.95  
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Lesbian/Woman. Martin. \$3.95  
Lesbian Writer: Claudia Scott. Scott. \$4.50  
Lesbiana. Grier. \$5.00  
Lifetime Guarantee. Bloch. \$6.95  
Long Way Home. Jullion. \$8.95  
Lovers in the Present Afternoon. Fleming. \$8.50  
Loving in the War Years. Moraga. \$7.00  
Loving Women. Nomadic Sisters. \$7.95  
Ma, Can I Be a Feminist? Hollander. \$4.95  
Madame Aurora. Aldridge. \$7.95  
Magic Mommas, Trembling Sisters... Russ. \$6.95  
The Maimie Papers. Rosen. \$7.95  
The Marquise & the Novice. Ramstetter. \$4.95  
Medicine Woman. Andrews. \$6.95  
The Mermaid and the Minotaur. Dinnerstein. \$5.95  
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Mother Wit. Mariechild. \$8.95  
Motherpeace. Noble. \$12.95  
Movement, a Novel. Miner. \$5.95  
Movement in Black. Parker. \$5.95

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Murder in the Collective. Wilson. \$7.95  
Muse of the Violets. Vivien. \$4.00  
My Blue Heaven. Chambers. \$4.95  
My Mother's Body. Piercy. \$7.95  
The Nesting Place. Aldridge. \$6.95  
New Lesbian Writing. Cruikshank. \$7.95  
New Lesbians. Galana. \$4.95  
New Our Bodies, Ourselves. Boston WHBC. \$12.95  
New Plays by Women. Latempa. \$3.95  
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