

COUNTERPOINT | SOFT SKULL
FRANKFURT 2012 | RIGHTS GUIDE

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MOTHERLAND by Maria Hummel

World English | FICTION | January 2014 | Counterpoint | MSS February 2013

Lifted from the stories of the author's father and his German childhood and letters between her grandparents that were hidden in an attic wall for fifty years, *Motherland* focuses on a German family during WWII: a reconstructive surgeon loses his wife in childbirth and two months later marries a young woman who must look after the baby and his two grieving sons when he is drafted into medical military service. We follow her attempts to keep them safe as their German city is bombed by the Allies, their town is faced with the swelling population of desperate refugees, and one son begins to mentally unravel. Each family member's fateful choices lead them deeper into questions of complicity and innocence, to the novel's unforgettable conclusion.

Maria Hummel is a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University and her work has appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Sun*, *The Believer* and has won a Pushcart Prize. Her first novel, *Wilderness Run* (SMP, 2002) was an alternate selection of Doubleday Lit Guild.

Remaining Rights: Brandt & Hochman



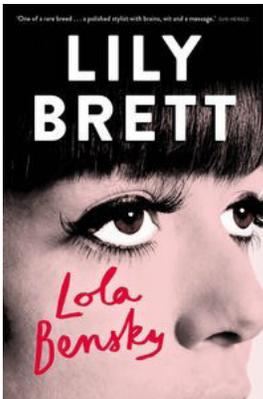
PEERLESS FOUR by Victoria Patterson

World English | FICTION | November 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS January 2013

This slender yet powerful novel reimagines the true story of four young women who were among the first females to ever compete in the Olympic Games. It was the summer of 1928, and Valerie Patterson sensitively captures the time and place, the drama and the desire, the glory and the catastrophe of how these girls got there and what happened to them in Amsterdam that year. She follows as their lives unfold after the vote on allowing women to continue competing in the Olympics went against them.

Victoria Patterson is the author of *This Vacant Paradise* and the story collection *Drift*, which was a finalist for the Commonwealth Club Award and the Story Prize.

Remaining Rights: Inkwell Management



LOLA BENSKY by Lily Brett

World English | FICTION | September 2013 | Soft Skull | MSS

Lola Bensky is nineteen when Keith Moon drops his pants in front of her and Cher borrows her false eyelashes. It's the Sixties, and Lola is a reporter for an Australian newspaper, spending her days planning diets and interviewing rock stars. In London, Mick Jagger makes her a cup of tea and Jimi Hendrix propositions her; at the Monterey International Pop Festival, Lola props up Brian Jones and talks to Janis Joplin about sex; and in Los Angeles, she discusses her weight with Mama Cass and tries to pluck up the courage to ask Cher to return those false eyelashes. Luckily her parents have no idea she's hanging out with people who experiment with drugs and free love. They survived Aushwitz, but this would definitely kill them. As Lola moves through marriage, motherhood, psychoanalysis and a close relationship with an unexpected pair of detectives, she slowly discovers that the question of what it means to be human is the hardest one for anyone—including herself—to answer.

Lily Brett is one of Australia's most beloved, prolific and successful authors. She has published six works of fiction, seven books of poetry, and three essay collections.

Rights sold: AUSTRALIA/Penguin; GERMANY/Suhrkamp

Remaining Rights: Anne Edelstein



THE LAST ANIMAL by Abby Geni

World | SHORT STORIES | September 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS

This brilliant collection, built around one theme, reads like a mixture of Dan Chaon and Hannah Tinti. Here Geni shapes inventive tales about people who use the boundary between the human and the natural world to contend with their modern challenges in love, loss, and family life. There are stories set on an ostrich farm, in an aquarium, a home garden, and at the Natural History Museum. "Captivity" won the Glimmer Train Fiction open competition and was listed in the 2010 Best American Short Stories.

Abby Geni is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and at work on her first novel.



RAKE by Scott Phillips

World English | FICTION | August 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS

Foreign Sales: FRANCE/Editions La Branche

Author of *The Adjustment*, a 2011 *New York Times* Notable Crime Novel, returns with another noir classic. Set in contemporary Paris, the novel follows the actor of a popular American soap in his efforts to get funding for his first feature film. A prominent arms dealer offers the cash, his beautiful wife offers something else, a body gets placed in a trunk (a nod to the author's cult classic *The Ice Harvest*), and things get complicated very quickly. *Rake* features a charming, despicable anti-hero and a funny, satiric take on modern entertainment culture.

Scott Phillips is the author of *The Ice Harvest*, *The Walkaway*, *Cottonwood*, and *The Adjustment*. He was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas, and lived for many years in France.

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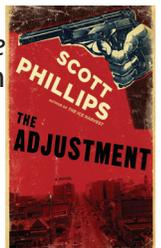
Also available: *The Adjustment*

Praise for The Adjustment:

"The author's unapologetic depiction of a thoroughly bad egg will appeal to hard-boiled fans who don't need redeeming features to become engaged with a character." —*Publisher's Weekly*

"Wayne Ogden is a prince of a fellow, as long as you judge this bad-boy protagonist of Scott Phillips's caustic crime novel . . . according to his own perverse code of ethics." —*New York Times Book Review*

"What draws us to the book is Phillips' taut and vicious vision, so clean we cannot help but inhabit it, even when we find ourselves repelled." —*Los Angeles Times*

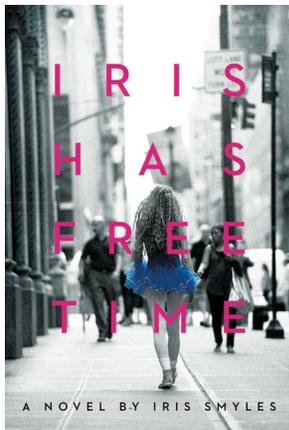


ROCKAWAY by Tara Ison

World | FICTION | June 2013 | Soft Skull | MSS October 2012

Rockaway features a painter caring for elderly parents and lacking inspiration in pursuit of her art. Frustrated and stuck, she exiles herself to her friend's beach house in Rockaway, New York. She falls into a relationship with an older musician who devoutly follows the rules of Judaism. Her exile leads to surprising revelations about her art, her heart, and how far she has drifted from the person she wants to be.

Tara Ison is the author of *A Child out of Alcatraz* (Faber & Faber), a Finalist for the *LA Times* Book Prize, and *The List* (Scribner). Her short fiction and essays have been in *Tin House*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Nerve.com*, *Publishers Weekly*, and numerous anthologies. She is currently Assistant Professor of Fiction at Arizona State University and in another life co-wrote the cult film *Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead*.



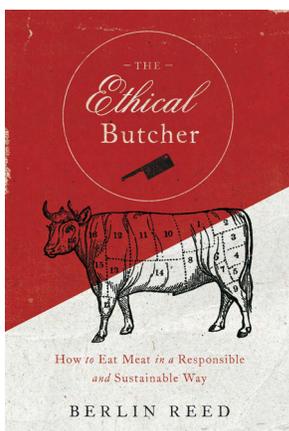
IRIS HAS FREE TIME by Iris Smyles

World English | FICTION | 336 pages | May 2013 | Soft Skull | MSS October 2012

In this daring and hugely funny debut novel, eponymous protagonist Iris narrates an exuberant, comic and wistful picaresque about the struggles of growing up. Fresh out of college and on her own in Manhattan, Iris is utterly befuddled by what to do next. Whether passed out drunk in *The New Yorker's* cartoon office where she's interning; tanking her first job interview, assigning *Cliff's Notes* when hired to teach at a local college; aspiring to write the great American novel but settling for a blog about her ex-boyfriend's penis instead; trying to piece together the events of yet another puzzling blackout—"I prefer to call them pinkouts, because I'm a girl"—Iris is never short on misadventures. From quarter life crisis to the shock of turning 30, Iris charts a madcap, melancholic course through her rocky entry into the real world. Reminiscent of Lena Dunham's *Girls*, but funnier.

Iris Smyles has contributed to a vast array of publications, including *Nerve*, *New York Press*, *McSweeney's*, and *BOMB*, among others. This is her first novel.

Remaining Rights: Inkwell Management



THE ETHICAL BUTCHER: How to Eat Meat in a Responsible and Sustainable Way by Berlin Reed

World English | CULINARY MEMOIR | April 2013 | Soft Skull | MSS October 2012

When Reed could find no other work, this former "vegan punk" grudgingly took a job as a butcher's apprentice in Brooklyn. He fell in love with the art of butchering, and in early 2009 launched his Ethical Butcher enterprise to promote his food philosophy that meat can and should be celebrated and consumed responsibly. Along the way he saw how corporate greed, unsustainable food practices, and outright misinformation gave birth to such falsities as the USDA label 'organic' and the conglomerate of Whole Foods supermarkets. Most people, even those who try to be healthy and green, are not really eating what they think they are eating.

Berlin Reed was profiled in the book *Primal Cuts* as one of the country's top 50 butchers, and is a charter member, and the voice of, the newly formed Butcher's Guild. He's been featured in *O Magazine*, on Today.com, and has appeared several times on NPR. He is currently at work on a pilot episode for a tv series that documents his farm to table dinners across the country. See recent articles in *The Atlantic* where the author went up against James McWilliams, author of *Just Food: Where Locavores Get It Wrong and How We Can Truly Eat Responsibly*.

Remaining Rights: Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency



ORIGINAL DEATH by Eliot Pattison

World | FICTION | 336 pages | April 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS December 2012

The third installment in the acclaimed *Bone Rattler* series is marked by memorable characters, high adventure, and insight into the forces that shaped America's early history. Despite the raging war between French and British, Scottish exile Duncan McCallum has begun to settle into a new life on the fringes of colonial America, traveling the woodlands with his companion Conawago, even joining the old Indian on his quest to find the last surviving members of his tribe. But the joy they feel on reaching the little settlement of Christian Indians is shattered when they find its residents ritually murdered. As terrible as the deaths may be, Conawago perceives something even darker and more alarming: he is convinced they are a sign of a terrible crisis in the spiritworld which he must resolve.

Eliot Pattison is the author of *The Skull Mantra*, winner of the Edgar Award and finalist for the Gold Dagger, *Water Touching Stone*, *Bone Rattler*, *Eye of the Raven*, and most recently *Ashes of the Earth*.

Remaining Rights: Natasha Kern Agency

Also available: *Ashes of the Earth*

HOT LIST

Counterpoint | Soft Skull



THE WRONG DOG DREAM by Jane Vandenburg

World English | DOG MEMOIR | **April 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS November 2012

The author calls this “a true romance,” saying, it’s the part of her personal history she, being superstitious, was almost afraid to write. When this writer, long accustomed to hardship and bad luck, comes across the perfect dog, an English Springer Spaniel named Whistler, he arrives not only as the family pet but as her private symbol of triumph over an age-old sadness. Then their perfect pup grows up to be something of a neurotic mess, snarling at manhole covers, barking at children, growling at people in wheelchairs. And to their liberal horror, this family from Berkeley begins to notice that dear Whistler seems to be racist.

Jane Vandenburg a novelist, teacher, and journalist, is the author of two novels, *Failure to Zig-zag* and *The Physics of Sunset*, and a memoir, *A Pocket History of Sex in the Twentieth Century*.

Remaining Rights: Darhansoff Veldmann Agency

AN INTIMATE LIFE: Sex, Love, and My Journey as a Surrogate Partner by Cheryl Cohen Greene and Lorna Garano

World | MEMOIR | **January 2013** | Soft Skull | MSS

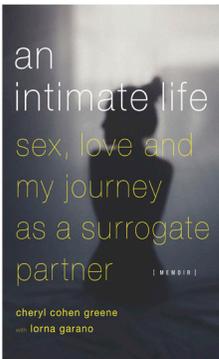
Foreign Sales: TURKEY/Once Kitap, BRAZIL/Grupo Editorial Record

Tying in with the highly anticipated major motion picture, “The Sessions” starring Helen Hunt and John Hawkes. *An Intimate Life* is the gripping memoir of Cheryl Cohen Greene, who has worked as a surrogate partner for nearly forty years. It includes telling accounts of her own life and some of the most riveting case studies from her career.

Cheryl Cohen Greene is a certified Sex Educator, Clinical Sexologist, and Doctor of Human Sexuality. She is trained in the Masters and Johnson modality and has been in private clinical practice as a surrogate partner since 1973. Cohen Greene lectures widely and frequently appears on CNN and the Discovery Channel. She contributes to *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Men’s Health*, and many other national media.

Link to the trailer: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1866249/videogallery>

Global release dates through Fox Searchlight: USA: Limited release 10/18/12, nationwide release 11/16/12. International releases beginning in early 2013.



NEW TITLES



NOT YOUR MOTHER’S MEATLOAF by Saiya Miller and Liza Bley

World | GRAPHIC/SEXUALITY/MEMOIR | **August 2013** | Soft Skull | MSS November 2012

As teenagers today navigate increasingly fluid identities and choices, there is a demand for an accessible, interactive tool to help share knowledge about sex and sexual health; one that demystifies the facts and speaks frankly about experiences whose lessons often fall into the grey areas. Since 2008, the authors have solicited other people’s stories in the form of comic strips, compiling them into the collection that is *Not Your Mother’s Meatloaf*. The work is chosen from a vastly varied group of submissions and attempts to challenge hetero and gender normative practices in sex education. These graphically illustrated personal narratives address different themes, such as “Firsts,” “Bodies,” “Health,” “Age,” and “Endings.” The book also features graphic stories and writing by the editors providing personal and sociological background.

Saiya Miller and **Liza Bley** met in college in New York City where they had this great idea.



NEW TITLES



SEARCH PARTY by Valerie Trueblood

World English | SHORT STORIES | 336 pages | July 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS

From the author of *Seven Loves*, these are stories of astonishing grace in an unpredictable world, linked by a common transcendent human genius. Within these stories are diverse characters whose fates, in lesser hands, might be thought of as hopeless: the fired cop turned security guard, the stolid, 19-year-old nurses' aide who will not be attending art school, and the cynical radio producer who is dying of breast cancer and on a plane on her way to Lourdes.

Valerie Trueblood is the author of the award winning *Seven Loves* and the earlier collection of stories, *Marry or Burn*.

Remaining Rights: Dystel and Goderich Literary Management



EVERYONE SAYS THAT AT THE END OF THE WORLD by Owen Egerton

World English | FICTION | June 2013 | Soft Skull | MSS October 2012

Foreign Sales: Warner Bros. TV (*The Book of Harold*)

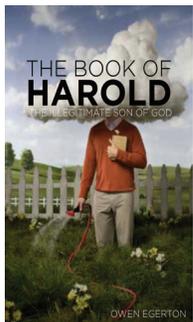
Earth is the mental asylum of the universe and humans are the seemingly incurably inmates. Now they're closing us down. *Everybody Says That at the End of the World* traces the adventures of a slacker couple expecting their first child, an outrageously arrogant television actor seeking redemption and a prophetic hermit crab on a cross country quest as they struggle to survive the final four days of life on Earth. Interdimensional travelers, Jesus clones and prosthetic limbs all play a role in the catastrophic events leading to the planet's end. Combining humor, philosophical inquiry and unforgettable characters, Egerton leads us through the most bizarre apocalypse ever put to paper.

Remaining Rights: Sanford Greenburger Associates

Also available: *The Book of Harold*

The Book of Harold is as profound and deeply respectful a novel as it is irreverent in its wild, often hilarious take on a modern messianic movement in suburbia. The titular and sometimes exasperating hero of this masterful satire is Harold Peeks, a middle-aged suburbanite living a lonely if typical modern life in the outskirts of Houston, Texas. His world feels bland and pointless until one evening at a mundane office party he announces to his stunned co-workers that he is the Second Coming of Christ. Oddly enough, people start to believe him.

Owen Egerton has had a varied yet illustrious career, having worked as a secret fast food inspector, an on-air home shopping host, and a para-church youth leader. He currently writes screenplays and performs standup comedy.



STOLEN GLIMPSES, CAPTIVE SHADOWS: Essays on Film by Geoffrey O'Brien

World English | FILM CRITICISM | 336 pages | June 2013 | Counterpoint | MSS

Featuring in depth analysis on a variety of films from recent indie hits (*Beasts Of A Southern Wild*) to blockbusters (*Spiderman*) to art house classics (*Breathless*), O'Brien debates the role of film in our society, and the battle between film as a medium and as a mass entertainment.

Film is one of our leading art forms: a mode of storytelling, an escape from reality and most of all a way to preserve and present a way of life. O'Brien debates the future of film and its role in our society, applauding the newfound accessibility to technology in the independent film scene, to Hollywood's uninspired reliance on remakes and sequels. *Stolen Glimpses, Captive Shadows* is a comprehensive guide to film and will be appreciated by any avid film viewer.

Geoffrey O'Brien is Editor in Chief of the Library of America and a regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books*. His latest books are *Early Autumn* and *The Fall of the House of Walworth*. (September 2012). He is a widely published poet, critic, editor, and cultural historian and has been honored with a Whiting Award and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the New York Institute for the Humanities.

Remaining Rights: The Zoe Pagnamenta Agency

stolenglimpses



captiveshadows
GEOFFREY O'BRIEN

NOVELS BY CRAIG NOVA



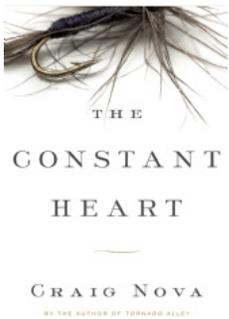
ALL THE DEAD YALE MEN

"[Nova's fiction] is so powerful, so alive, it is a wonder that turning its pages doesn't somehow burn one's hands." —The New York Times

World | FICTION | 336 pages | **June 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS October 2012

Foreign Sales: *The Good Son*: UK/Bodley Head; GERMANY/Rowohlt; SWEDEN/Tidens

This is the long-awaited sequel to the author's classic novel *The Good Son* (still in print since 1982). *The Good Son* followed the story of Chip Mackinnon, just back from WWII, and the class war he waged against his nouveau-riche father, who used money to manipulate the entire family. Chip gave up the love of his life to marry the "right" girl to secure his future—and what were the consequences of that decision? *All the Dead Yale Men* answers that through the story of Frank Mackinnon, Chip's son, a prosecutor in Boston who must deal with the legacy of his father's recent death, the inheritance of his family's beloved land, and a bevy of family secrets that dates back three generations. This not only moves the Mackinnon's story forward, but recasts historical elements of the beloved classic novel.



THE CONSTANT HEART

World | FICTION | **September 2012** | Counterpoint

What does it mean to be a decent man? To love well, with fidelity and constancy? These are the lessons that Jake's father, a wildlife biologist, tries to impart to his son, often on fishing trips to their beloved Furnace Creek. Bound up in the laws of Einstein's theories, these lessons will ultimately influence Jake's own career as an astronomer. Out on the creek, both father and son conquer their greatest challenges: marital infidelity, professional setbacks, and Jake's long term, passionate obsession with his childhood crush.

Craig Nova is the award-winning author of twelve novels and one autobiography including *Cruisers*, *The Good Son*, and *The Informer*. His novel *The Constant Heart* was also released in September 2012.

PRISONER OF ZION by Scott Carrier

World English | STORIES | **May 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS

Following 9/11, journalist and radio documentary producer Scott Carrier attempted to respond to this horrific event. Knowing that an "eye for an eye" would never be the answer, Carrier set out to understand both sides of the equation. He went to meet the foreign enemy first-hand, in order to find out what it's like in their world. Then he studied the enemy here at home, and looked within his own culture to find the source of our fear of others. The stories in this book are an attempt to look at the fear and move toward it rather than away from it.

Scott Carrier is a writer, photographer, and radio producer. His print articles and photos have appeared in *Harper's*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone* and *Mother Jones*. His radio stories have been broadcast by NPR *All Things Considered*, *NPR Day to Day*, *APM The Story*, *Savvy Traveler*, *Hearing Voices* from NPR, and PRI *This American Life*.

Remaining Rights: Scott Carrier

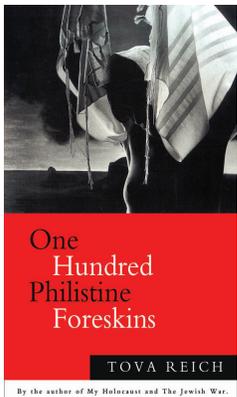
SPIRITUAL AMERICAN TRASH: Portraits of the Margins of Art and Faith by Greg Bottoms

World English | MEMOIR/ART | **May 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS

Bottoms goes beyond the examination of eight "outside artists" and inhabits the spirit of their work and stories in engaging vignettes. From the janitor who created a holy throne room out of scraps in a garage, to the lonely wartime mother who filled her home with driftwood replicas of Bible scenes, Bottoms illustrates the peculiar grace in madness.

Greg Bottoms is an essayist, memoirist, critic, and story writer, and also the author of *The Colorful Apocalypse* and *Fight Scenes*. He teaches creative writing at the University of Vermont.

Remaining Rights: Bent Literary Agency

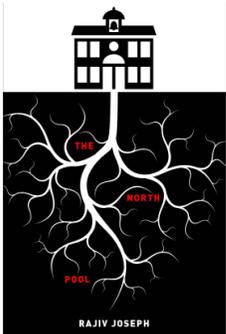


ONE HUNDRED PHILISTINE FORESKINS by Tova Reich

World | LITERARY FICTION | **March 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS

This astonishing novel by Tova Reich centers on the life of Temima Ba’alatOv, a charismatic woman rabbi of extraordinary spiritual power and learning, and an utterly original interpreter of the Hebrew Bible. Temima, known also as Ima Temima, or Mother Temima, is revered as a guru with prophetic, even messianic powers—one who dares to raise her woman’s “naked” voice even in the face of extreme hostility by the traditional establishment. Moving between two worlds—Temima as a child in Brooklyn and Temima as an adult in Jerusalem—the story reveals the forces that shaped her, including the early loss of her mother; her spiritual and intellectual awakening; her complex relationship with her father, a ritual slaughterer; her forced marriage; her “ascent” to Israel; and her intense romantic involvements with charismatic men who launch her toward her destiny as a renowned woman leader in Israel.

Tova Reich is also the author of *My Holocaust* and *The Jewish War*.



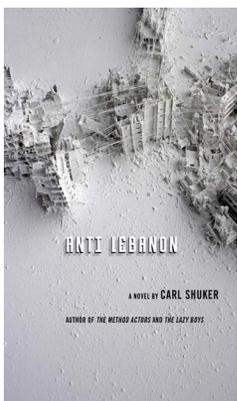
THE NORTH POOL by Rajiv Joseph

World English | DRAMA | **March 2013** | Soft Skull | MSS

Hostility between a Syrian high school student and his Vice Principal intensifies when another student’s tragedy is brought to light. Truth shifts constantly in this riveting cat-and-mouse thriller from Pulitzer Prize finalist Rajiv Joseph. *The North Pool* is a psychological drama that weaves a timely character study about racial and cultural profiling in America, skillfully using an interrogation to peel away ever more unexpected layers of the characters’ lives as they navigate an increasingly complex society.

Rajiv Joseph is an American playwright and a 2010 Pulitzer Prize Finalist for his play, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. His productions include *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, *Animals Out of Paper*, *The Leopard and the Fox*, *Huck & Holden*, and *All This Intimacy*.

Remaining Rights: The Gersh Agency



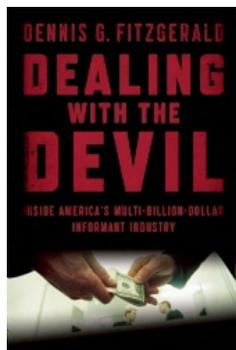
ANTI LEBANON by Carl Shuker

World | FICTION | **February 2013** | Counterpoint | MSS

It is Arab Spring and the fate of the Christians of the Middle East is uncertain. The many Christians of Lebanon are walking a knife-edge, their very survival in their ancestral refuge in doubt, as the Lebanese government becomes Hezbollah-dominated, while Syria convulses with warring religious factions. *Anti Lebanon* is a cross-genre political thriller and horror story embedded within these recent events, featuring a multi-ethnic Christian family living out the lingering after-effects of Lebanon’s civil war as it struggles to deal with its phantoms, its ghosts, and its vampires.

Leon Elias is a young and impoverished Lebanese man whose older sister had joined a Christian militia and has been killed. He becomes caught up in the recent “little war” in Beirut, when the Shi’a resistance/militia Hezbollah takes over most of the city. In this milieu—the emptied streets of Christian east Beirut, the old shell-scarred sandstone villas, the echoing gunfire—he becomes involved, only partly by choice, in the theft of a seriously valuable piece of artisanal jewelry, and is bitten—like a vampire—by its Armenian maker.

Carl Shuker’s first novel, *The Method Actors*, was awarded the “Prize in Modern Letters,” the richest prize in the world for an emerging writer. His second novel, *The Lazy Boys*, is currently being developed into a film by director Brendan Donovan and producer Michael Wrenn.

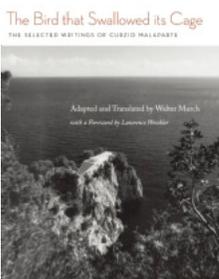


DEALING WITH THE DEVIL: Inside America's Multi-Billion-Dollar Informant Industry by Dennis Fitzgerald

World | **CURRENT AFFAIRS** | **January 2013** | **Soft Skull** | **MSS October 2012**

In the tradition of Jeremy Scahill's *Blackwater* and Naomi Klein's *The Shock Doctrine*, this exposé rips the lid off a twenty-first-century American social phenomenon and sends the rats scurrying.

Dennis Fitzgerald is an attorney, retired U.S. DEA special agent, and former City of Miami police sergeant. He assisted several post-Soviet countries draft laws governing the use of informants, helped create Lithuania's anti-corruption and witness security programs, and was on faculty at the FBI's International Training Academy in Budapest. He is also the author of the *Informant Law Deskbook* and *Informants and Undercover Investigations*.



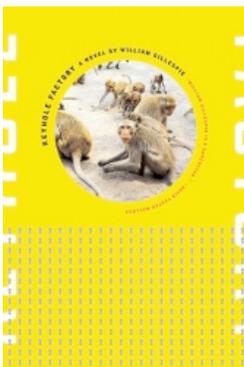
THE BIRD THAT SWALLOWED ITS CAGE: The Selected Writings of Curzio Malaparte translated and edited by Walter Murch

From the Academy Award winning film editor, a gorgeous translation of Curzio Malaparte's renowned works

World | **LITERARY MEMOIR** | **December 2012** | **Counterpoint** | **MSS**

Curzio Malaparte, an Italian born with a German heritage, was a journalist, dramatic, novelist and diplomat. When he wrote a book attacking totalitarianism and Hitler's reign, Mussolini, in no position to support such a body of work, stripped him of his National Fascist Party membership and sent him to internal exile on the island of Lipari. In 1941, he was sent to cover the Eastern Front as a correspondent for *Corriere della Sera*, the Milano daily newspaper. His dispatches from the next three years would be largely suppressed by the Italian government, but reverberated among readers as painfully real depictions of a landscape at war.

Walter Murch is an Academy Award winning film editor and sound designer. His body of work includes *The Rain People*, *American Graffiti*, *The Godfather Parts I-III*, *The Conversation*, *Apocalypse Now*, *Return to Oz*, *The English Patient*, and *Cold Mountain*. He has been nominated for nine Academy Awards, and has won three Oscars for his work on *Apocalypse Now* and *The English Patient*.



KEYHOLE FACTORY by William Gillespie

World English | **LITERARY FICTION** | **November 2012** | **Soft Skull** | **MSS**

Set in an alternate present that is a slightly, if dangerously, skewed version of our own, *Keyhole Factory* tracks the interwoven destinies of disparate characters up to and beyond the end of the world-as-we-know-it, brought on by a global super-virus. Beginning with a biting satire of an academic poetry conference, the novel moves on to encompass the stories of a poet-astronaut, a microbiologist contemplating an exit strategy from her high-level job designing biological weapons, a sports-car-driving killer who stages the aesthetic murders of utopian commune-dwellers, and a lone pirate radio disc jockey who may be the last person left alive broadcasting her story to nobody.

Gillespie spins a glittering fever-dream that questions our assumptions about the way we interpret events and our relation to the planet, without ever losing sight of the underlying experience of what it feels like to be a human being in the world we live in today.

William Gillespie is the creator of a number of favorably reviewed small-press books, an award-winning hypertext novel, and the world's longest literary palindrome (so declared by Paul Braffort of the Oulipo). His writings have appeared in *American Book Review*, *Context*, *The Review of Contemporary Fiction*, and the *& Now Award Anthology*.

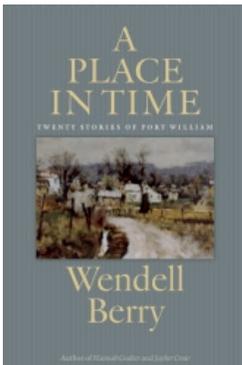
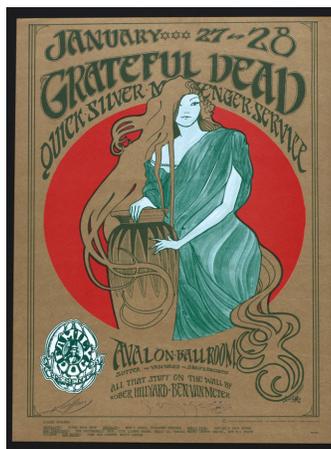
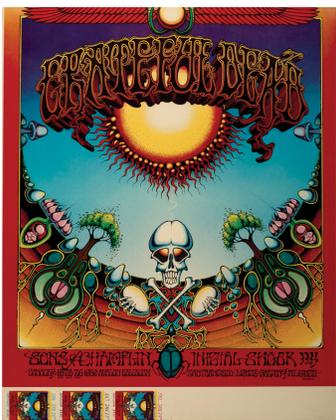
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ART OF THE DEAD Edited by Phil Cushway

World | ART/MUSIC | 208 pages | December 2012 | Soft Skull | Interior

A celebration of the artists and art of the American Rock Poster Movement through the Grateful Dead's rich graphic legacy

Phil Cushway is the owner of Artrock, the most extensive collection of rock posters in the world. He is widely credited with reviving interest in the original posters as well as spawning a whole new generation of artists. He has published over 500 prints for bands like The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, and The Grateful Dead, and has published all of the key artists including, Griffin, Moscoso, Mouse, Kelley, Wilson, Kozik, Armiski and Coop.



A PLACE IN TIME: Twenty Stories of the Port William Membership by Wendell Berry

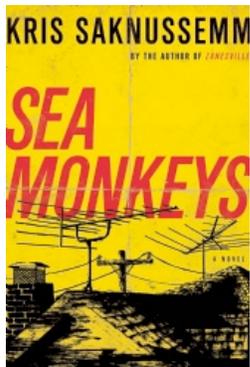
World | FICTION | **November 2012** | Counterpoint | Books

For more than fifty years, Wendell Berry has been telling us stories about Port William, a mythical town on the banks of the Kentucky River, populated over the years by a cast of unforgettable characters living in a single place over a long time. In this new collection, the author's first piece of new fiction since the publication of *Andy Catlett* in 2006, the stories date's range from 1864, when Rebecca Dawe finds herself in her own reflection at the end of the Civil War, to one from 1991 when Grover Gibbs' widow, Beulah, attends the auction as her home place is offered for sale.

Those just now joining the Membership will be charmed. Those who've attended before will be enriched.

Wendell Berry is the author of more than fifty books of poetry, fiction, and essays. He was recently awarded the National Humanities Medal, the Cleanth Brooks Medal for Lifetime Achievement by the Fellowship of Southern Writers, and the Louis Bromfield Society Award.

NEW TITLES



SEA MONKEYS: A MEMORY BOOK by Kris Saknussemm

World English | MEMOIR | November 2012 | Soft Skull | Books

Bowling lessons with a hunchback. A bizarre first-grade teacher who hallucinates in class. A tragically innocent family blind-sided by flower power, and the salvation of soul music at a radio station straight out of a Quentin Tarantino version of *The Twilight Zone*. These are just a few of the luminous characters and conjurings Kris Saknussemm delivers in his kaleidoscopic *Sea Monkeys*—the story of his growing up in the counterculture San Francisco Bay Area and central California in the 1960s.

Kris Saknussemm's books include the poetry collection *In the Name of the Father*, the novels *Enigmatic Pilot*, *Zanesville*, and *Private Midnight*, and a portfolio book of his paintings titled *The Colors of Compulsion*.

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TWO-PART INVENTIONS by Lynn Sharon Schwartz

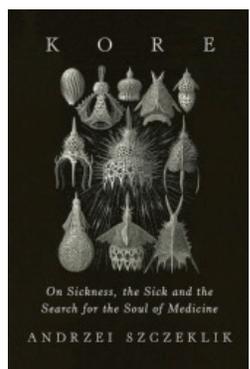
World English | FICTION | November 2012 | Counterpoint | Books

Two-Part Inventions begins when Suzanne, a concert pianist, dies suddenly of a stroke in the New York City apartment she shares with her producer husband Philip. Rather than mourn in peace, Philip becomes deeply paranoid: their life is based on a fraud and the acclaimed music the couple created is about to be exposed. Philip had built a career for his wife by altering her recordings by taking a portion of a song here and there from other pianists. Syncing the alterations seamlessly, he created a piece of flawless music with Suzanne getting sole credit.

In this urban, psychological novel, Schwartz brilliantly guides the reader through a flawed marriage and calculated career. Beginning with Suzanne's death and moving backwards in time, Schwartz examines their life together while contemplating the nature of truth, marriage, and the pursuit of perfection.

Lynne Sharon-Schwartz is the acclaimed author of several books, including *Ruined by Reading*, *Disturbances in the Field*, *In the Family Way* and *The Writing on the Wall*.

Remaining rights represented by: Sterling Lord Literistic



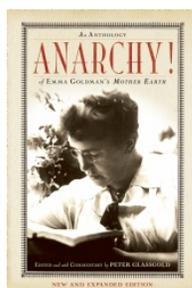
KORE: On Sickness, the Sick, and the Search for the Soul of Medicine by Andrzej Szczeklik

World English | MEDICAL ESSAYS | November 2012 | Counterpoint | MSS

There is a grand tradition of physicians who are also great writers and philosophers. From Copernicus and Paracelsus, to Chekov, Osler and Frankl. And most recently Sherwin Nuland and Oliver Sacks have gained broad readerships and made huge contributions to the way we think and the way we live our lives. Andrzej Szczeklik is entirely worthy to join their company. When his first book, *Catharsis*, was published in English, critics from Seamus Heaney to Czeslaw Milosz stood to applaud. Now he has followed with an ever deeper and more accomplished book.

Andrzej Szczeklik is chairman of the Department of Medicine at Jagiellonian University of Poland. He has received numerous awards from the Royal College of Physicians, the Lancet, and the Foundation for Political Science. His previous book, *Catharsis*, was published in English in 2005 by The University of Chicago Press.

Remaining Rights: ZNAK



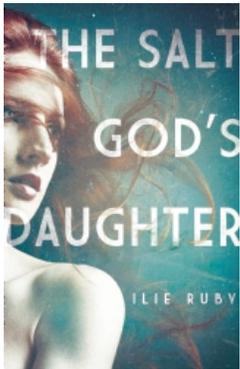
ANARCHY! An Anthology of Emma Goldman's Mother Earth Edited by Peter Glassgold

World | POLITICAL SCIENCE | November 2012 | Counterpoint | Books

Originally published by Counterpoint in 2001, now with a new preface by the editor, this book offers historical grounding to many of our contemporary political movements, from libertarians to the Occupy! actions, *Anarchy!* provides unprecedented access to Goldman's beliefs, offering insight to the political activism that existed at the time.

Peter Glassgold has worked extensively in the field of translation, and from 1970 to 2005 was an editor at New Directions.

NOTEWORTHY TITLES



THE SALT GOD'S DAUGHTER by Ilie Ruby

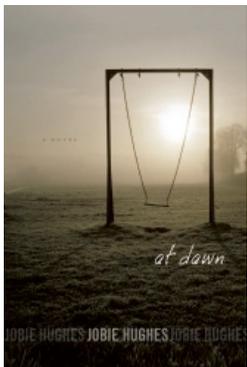
World English | FICTION | **September 2012** | Soft Skull

Set in Long Beach, California, beginning in the 1970s, *The Salt God's Daughter* follows Ruthie and her older sister Dolly as they struggle for survival in a place governed by an enchanted ocean and exotic folklore. Guided by a mother ruled by magical, elaborately-told stories of the full moons, the two girls are often homeless, often on their own, fiercely protective of each other, and unaware of how far they have drifted from traditional society as they carve a real life from their imagined stories.

The early death of their mother leads them to the Bethesda Home for Girls, where they come of age, running wild at night in the search for belonging and love. After an unplanned pregnancy, Ruthie ends a short, abusive marriage and discovers the first real home she has ever known: Wild Acres, an old hotel on the beach amidst giant bougainvilleas, glowing tides, and the spirits of sea animals. There, she finds refuge in an affair with a mysterious fisherman. Ruthie's daughter, Naida, is born into this magical landscape with an uncanny ability to swim and a secret she tries to keep hidden. Bullied by her peers, she finds solace in the ocean and embarks on the search for the father, who might know the true source of her gifts and her secrets.

Ilie Ruby is the winner of the Edwin L. Moses Award for Fiction, chosen by T.C. Boyle; a Kerr Foundation Fiction Scholarship; and the Phi Kappa Phi Award for Creative Achievement in Fiction.

Remaining rights represented by: Brick House Literary Agents



AT DAWN by Jobie Hughes

World English | FICTION | **September 2012** | Soft Skull

Caught in haphazard underemployment, at turns violent and unpredictable, with no family or friends to speak of, Stratton Brown longs for the chance to escape his small-town past and build a new life. He sets out for Chicago, where he meets a new and fresh hell: a nine-to-five in a nondescript, meaningless company, and an obsessive love affair with woman who may be a bit too attached to her abusive ex-boyfriend. Is this all America has to offer its twenty-somethings? He'll soon have to figure out that beneath the gruff labor of building a new life lies the presence of something much more true: a way past his violent childhood and a new path to the American dream.

Jobie Hughes is the author of two previous novels, both of which were #1 New York Times best sellers and have sold over a million copies worldwide. His work has been translated into twenty-six languages and published in forty-eight countries.

Remaining rights represented by: Jennifer Lyons



SEX AND PUNISHMENT: Four Thousand Years of Judging Desire by Eric Berkowitz

World | SOCIAL HISTORY | B&W Illustrations | **May 2012** | Counterpoint

Foreign Sales: Westbourne Press (**UK**), Hara Shobo (**Japan**), Thinkingdom (**China**), Kolektif (**Turkey**)

"[An] extraordinary book... I don't think I've ever read such an entertaining historical work."—*The Guardian*

Writer and lawyer Eric Berkowitz uses flesh-and-blood cases—much flesh and even more blood—to evoke the entire sweep of Western sex law, from the savage impalement of an Ancient Mesopotamian adulteress to the imprisonment of Oscar Wilde in 1895 for "gross indecency." The cast of *Sex and Punishment* is as varied as the forms taken by human desire itself: royal mistresses, gay charioteers, medieval transvestites, lonely goat-lovers, prostitutes of all stripes, London rent boys. Each of them had forbidden sex, and each was judged—and justice, as Berkowitz shows, rarely had much to do with it.

Eric Berkowitz is a writer, lawyer and journalist. He has published in *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Los Angeles Weekly*, and for the Associated Press. **He is currently at work on a sequel, which will begin after the time of Oscar Wilde and explore sex and law through present-day. Counterpoint will publish this in Fall 2014, with a manuscript expected to deliver in Summer of 2013.**

NOTEWORTHY TITLES



LONESOME ANIMALS by Bruce Holbert

World | FICTION | **May 2012** | Counterpoint

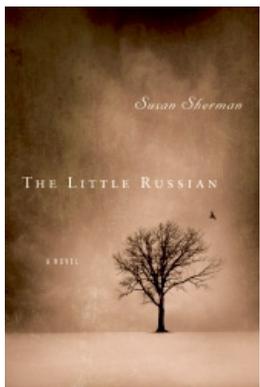
Foreign Sales: Gallmeister (**France**)

In the vein of *True Grit* and *Blood Meridian*, this is a startling, powerful western novel reinvented about the hunt for a vicious killer in the 1930s. Arthur Strawl, a tormented former lawman, is called out of retirement to hunt a serial killer with a sense of the macabre who has been leaving elaborately carved bodies of Native Americans across three counties. As the pursuit ensues, Strawl's own dark and violent history weaves itself into the hunt, shedding light on the remains of his broken family: one wife taken by the river, one by his own hand; an adopted Native American son who fancies himself a Catholic prophet; and a daughter, whose temerity and stoicism contrast against the romantic notions of how the west was won.

"From the opening sentence of Holbert's remarkable debut, it is obvious that we are in the hands of a master storyteller . . . Holbert's prose is simultaneously roughly hewn and elegant, and recalls Cormac McCarthy at his best, as do his insights into the relationship between predator and prey. Call it literary fiction, classic western realism, or historical noir, Holbert is a writer of formidable skill and this auspicious debut should have considerable crossover appeal." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred)

"Holbert has gone all-in: This book is audacious." —*Kirkus*

Bruce Holbert is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop. This is his first novel.



THE LITTLE RUSSIAN by Susan Sherman

World | LITERARY FICTION | **January 2012** | Counterpoint

Foreign Sales: Beijing Times (**China**), Bellona Publishing (**Poland**), Simanim Publishers (**Israel**)

This tells the story of Berta Alshonsky, who revels in childhood memories of her time spent with a wealthy family in Moscow—a life filled with salons, balls, and all the trappings of the Upper Class—very different from her current life as a grocer's daughter in the Jewish townlet of Mosny. So when a mysterious and cultured wheat merchant walks into the grocery, Berta's life is forever altered. She falls in love, unaware that he is a member of the Bund, The Jewish Worker's League, smuggling arms to the shtetls to defend them against the pogroms sweeping the Little Russian countryside.

Praise for *The Little Russian*:

"Susan Sherman offers much more than an eloquently gripping narrative set against an explosive backdrop. She is inviting us to consider the too-often unsung heroines of history, the women whose ferocious willpower and dazzling ingenuity can be more potent than gunpowder when it comes to changing the world." —*The Los Angeles Review of Books*

"Sherman's extraordinary debut novel plunges her readers into the bitter cold, deprivation, and upheaval of early 20th-century wartime Russia. Berta is a fascinating mix of petty vanity, devoted parenting, and breathtaking courage, fleshed out with cinematic detail that's both irresistible and spectacularly illuminating. All fiction readers will enjoy." —*Library Journal* (starred)

"An impressive fiction debut with an epic tale of war's transformative effects on one Russian woman and her family." —*Publishers Weekly*

"[An] impressive debut . . . Sherman's sweeping saga works on multiple levels, from its grim depiction of war's depredations to its harsh portrayals of anti-Semitism to its fiery love story. A mesmerizing read." —*Booklist* (starred)

"If Margaret Mitchell and Isaac Bashevis Singer had a baby, it would be *The Little Russian*... A moving and brilliantly researched debut, I just loved it." —Sheri Holman, author of *The Dress Lodger*

Susan Sherman is a former Chairman of the Art Department of Whittier College, and the co-creator of "That's So Raven," one of the most successful television shows for children in the history of the Disney Network. This is her first novel.

RECENT SALES

COUNTERPOINT:

THE CAPITALISM PAPERS, Jerry Mander: Gimm Young (Korea)

EVERY NIGHT'S A SATURDAY NIGHT, Bobby Keys: Omnibus (UK)

THE LANKAVATARA SUTRA, Bill Porter: Astrolabio (Italy)

THE LITTLE RUSSIAN, Susan Sherman: Beijing Times (China), Simanim Publishers (Israel), Bellona Publishing (Poland)

LONESOME ANIMALS, Bruce Holbert: Gallmeister (France)

THE MORE I OWE YOU, Michael Sledge: Vaso Rato (Spain) in addition to LeYa (Brazil)

MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS WITHOUT END, Gary Snyder: Guangxi University Press (China)

PRACTICE OF THE WILD, Gary Snyder: Guangxi University Press (China)

ROAD TO HEAVEN, Bill Porter: Astrolabio (Italy), in addition to Simsan (Korea)

SEX & PUNISHMENT, Eric Berkwotiz: Westbourne Press (UK), Kolektif (Turkey), Thinkindom (China), Hara Shobo (Japan)

THE SILVER LOTUS, Thomas Steinbeck: La Factoria de Ideas (Spain), Nemesis-Cakiltasi (Turkey), in addition to Kossuth (Hungary)

WATERGATE, Lamar Waldron: Scribe (Australia)

WHAT MATTERS, Wendell Berry: Green Review Press (Korea)

SOFT SKULL:

AN INTIMATE LIFE, Cheryl Cohen Greene: Once Kitap (Turkey)

COMPLICATION, Isaac Adamson: Epsilon (Turkey)

HOW THE WORLD WORKS, Noam Chomsky: Inkilap (Turkey), Editions Ecosociete (France), Phoenix (China), AST (Russia), in addition to Kedros (Greece), Piemme (Italy), WIndows of Times (Korea), Katz (Spain), Penguin (UK)

LOVE, INSHALLAH, Nura Maznavi & Ayesha Mattu: Gramedia Pustaka Utama (Indonesia)

THE TAQWACORES, Michael Muhammad Knight: OkuyanUs (Turkey), in addition to Ginger Ape (Spain), Rogner & Bernhard (Germany)

WILLIAM S. BURROUGHS VS. THE QUR'AN, Michael Muhammad Knight: OkuyanUs (Turkey)

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Chris Lin/Taiwan
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