

# WINTER READING



Books to sink into as the temperatures drop

by Lee Lynch

**T**his year is heavy on history, a welcome addition to our literature. Somehow, though I've never been a non-fiction buff, when it's about our people, I love it. I have to apologize for the number of hard cover and therefore expensive books on this list. What can I say? We're getting so trendy—and all the authors are worth supporting.

*Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community* by Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy and Madeline D. Davis. Routledge, 1993, \$29.95. A monumental ethnography which takes a working class lesbian community and examines it from the mid-1930s through the '60s. This book discusses the roots of lesbian sexuality, relationships and culture. Savor it slowly.

*Hothead Paisan* by Dianne DiMassa. Cleis, 1993, \$12.95. This is a cartoon about a crazy man-hating dyke who expresses herself with violence and still manages to be both politically insightful and hysterically funny. Hothead and her cat Chicken are irresistible.

*Tahuri* by Ngahua Te Awakotuku. Women's Press, 1993, \$11.95. Stories about a young Maori lesbian in a woman-centered culture. Reads like a myth, but it's one New Zealand lesbian's reality.

*Stone Butch Blues* by Leslie Feinberg. Firebrand, 1993, \$10.95. The important and painful story of a transgendered woman who survives growing up in a tough town, coming out in tough bars as well as trying to find herself in the years of didactic lesbian-feminism.

*Trouble in Transylvania* by Barbara Wilson. Seal, 1993, \$18.95. Wilson's best to date. A non-violent mystery in an exotic setting with a zany heroine and matter-of-factly lesbian characters. Fun!

*The Black Woman's Gumbo Ya-Ya: Quotations by Black Women* by Terri L. Jewell. Crossing, 1993, \$10.95. The volume is a treasure and beautifully presented. "The child who raises its arms will be embraced," Yoruba proverb.

*Lesbian Culture, and Anthology, the Lives, Work, Ideas, Art and Visions of Lesbians Past and Present* edited by Julia Penelope and Susan Wolfe. Crossing, 1993, \$21.95. Wow! A colossal, succulent volume all about dykes. There are 561 oversized pages representing 300 lesbians' visions of our culture: music, art, literature, etc.

*Captain Swing* by Larry Duplechan. Alyson, 1993, \$15.95. Lovely, lovely. Duplechan approaches the lyricism of James Baldwin about losing and grieving, loving and singing.

*Other World* by Sarah Dreher. New Victoria, 1993, \$10.95. Another Stoner McTavish mystery is always reason to rejoice. In this one we go even further into Aunt Hermoine's spirit world without missing any of Marylou's humor. More! More!

*Dog Tags* by Lexis Jude. New Victoria, 1993, \$9.95. I love these lesbians-in-the-military stories. This army book focuses on the interrelations between civilian Korean women and U.S. soldiers.

and women; art as voice.

*Out In The World: Gay and Lesbian Life From Buenos Aires To Bangkok* by Neil Miller. Random House, 1992, \$22.00. Miller wrote the highly successful *In Search of Gay America* while visiting gay and lesbian communities across the country and interviewing lesbians and gay men. In this book he introduces readers to our counterparts across the globe.

*A Dooryard Full of Flowers* by Isabelle Miller. Naiad, 1993, \$9.95. A reassuring brief sequel to *Patience and Sarah* and some wonderful stories from lesbian life since mid-century.

*Heartlands: A Gay Man's Odyssey Across America* by Darrell Yates Rist. Dutton, 1992, \$24.00. A magnificent book about a journey to understand gayness, the gay life and gay male lives. A sincere human struggle beneath occasional pretentiousness.

*A Safe Place to Sleep and Existing Solutions* by Jennifer L. Jordan. Our Power Press, 1993, \$9.95. These are the first and second Kristin Ashe mysteries which manage to be light reading while still incorporating family history and incest issues.

*The Unforgetting Heart: An Anthology of Short Stories by African American Women* edited by Asha Kanwar. Aunt Lute, 1993, \$9.95. This classic anthology includes Becky Birtha's always delectable "Johnnieruth."

*Cherry Grove, Fire Island: Sixty Years In America's First Gay and Lesbian Town* by Esther Newton. Beacon, 1993, \$24.00. Newton is an anthropologist who concentrates here on the notorious resort community from the 1930s to the present. It is precisely researched from primary sources.

*Stonewall* by Martin Duberman. Dutton, 1993, \$23.00. This is told through the stories of six lesbians and gay men, including Karla Jay. Highly readable. It's written by one of our most esteemed gay historians.

*Spiral 7: A Collection of Lesbian Art and Writing From Aotearoa/New Zealand* edited by McPherson, King, Evans, Nunn. Spiral, 1992. Ask your bookstore to stock this and enhance your community's sense of belonging to a worldwide movement.

*Happy Endings: Lesbian Writers Talk About Their Lives and Work* by Kate Brandt. Naiad, 1993, \$10.95. The first of its kind answers, through interviews, the kinds of questions writers get about how-do-you-do-it and gives biographical information.

*The Case of The Not-So-Nice Nurse* by Mabel Nancy. Cleis, 1993, \$9.95. A perfect lesbian parody of Nancy Drew and Cherry Ames.

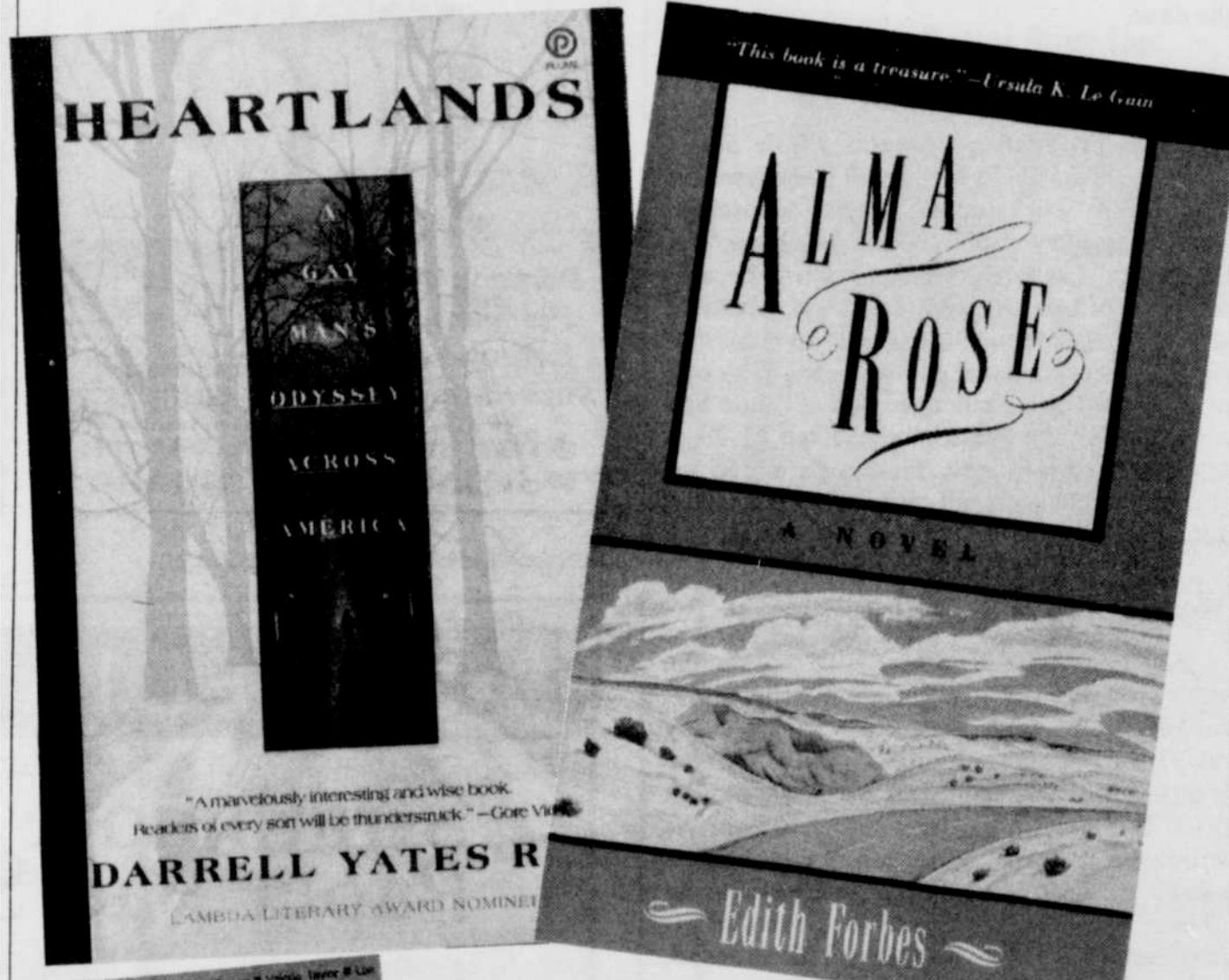
*Friends and Lovers* by Jackie Calhoun. Naiad, 1993, \$9.95. A comfy book about multiple relationships. A slice of lesbian real life.

*The Color of Trees* by Canaan Parker. Alyson, 1992, \$8.95. A fine first novel about a young black man from Harlem in a white prep school.

*Sinister Paradise* by Becky Bohan. Madwoman, 1993, \$9.95. There is nice detailing with an exotic setting in this first novel of love and intrigue.

*Women's Glib Cartoon Calendar 1994 and What is this Thing Called Sex?* edited by Roz Warren. Crossing, 1993, \$9.95. A liberal sprinkling of lesbian cartoonists.

*Timber City Masks* by Kieran York. Third Side, 1993, \$9.95. A first mystery featuring Royce Madison (deputy sheriff). Some insights into small-town Colorado.



Jewelle Gomez speaks out in Kate Brandt's *Happy Endings*

*Lesbians in the Military Speak Out* by Winni S. Webber. Madwoman Press, 1993, \$9.95. A collection of interviews. "I didn't feel being a lesbian hindered me. There were so many of us—it was normal. It may not have been legal, but it was certainly normal."

*Eyes of Desire: A Deaf Lesbian and Gay Reader* edited by Raymond Luczak. Alyson, 1993, \$9.95. Interviews, some untranslated, from

American Sign Language and Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) transcripts. It also includes photos, poetry and stories revealing a large variety of experiences.

*Stonehurst* by Barbara Johnson. Naiad, 1992, \$9.95. A lesbian Regency novel. Enjoy!

*Alma Rose* by Edith Forbes. Seal, 1993, \$10.95. A well done tale of an introspective lesbian life in a small western town. Love of land

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