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Canada and the World



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TSAR Publications is devoted to publishing and promoting "new" Canadian writing.
We consider for publication writers of any origin whose work in some way is inspired by the diversity
of our world (specifically Canada) and the interaction and sharing of cultures.

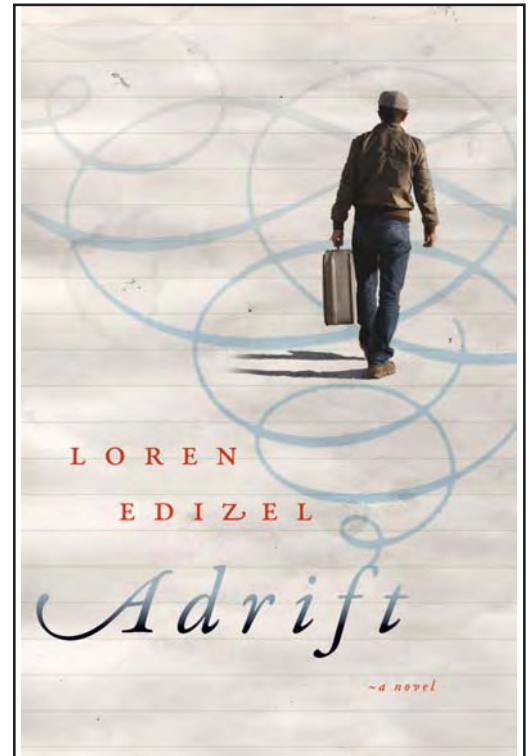
new
FICTION

Adrift

a novel

Loren Edizel

John arrives in a Montreal airport with a suitcase in hand. We do not know where he is from, or who he is. He takes up work as a night-shift nurse and writes his reflections and impressions in a notebook that he carries with him at all times. By means of these personal entries, the novel allows us to explore his identity by following his daily movements and intimate thoughts, as well as his connections to those who come into contact with him. Based in a Montreal neighbourhood called Carré St Louis, the story unfolds through non-linear narrative connections that flow across city blocks, continents and oceans, and meander in and out of the characters' minds, dealing with questions of displacement, identity, and meaning.



Praise for Loren Edizel's *The Ghosts of Smyrna*:

Loren Edizel does not shy from bringing forward an anti-war narrative. The novel . . . takes the scattering of one family and places it in a greater perspective thus enabling the reader to identify with the lives, dreams and sorrows of people from different cultures. Ghosts of Smyrna successfully manages to pour the innumerable sorrows, loves and lives that were left behind from the Fire of Izmir into the pool of literature with an empathetic and impartial approach. It deserves to be read.

—Cumhuriyet (Turkey)

FICTION

978-1-894770-73-6

\$20.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

200 pages

October 2011



Promotion:

ARCs

National review mailing

National author tour

Online media campaign

Loren Edizel was born in Izmir, Turkey and has lived in Canada most of her life. One of her novels, *The Ghosts of Smyrna*, was published in Turkey in 2008 by Senocak Yayinlari (translated by Roza Hakmen) and her short story "The Conch" appeared (November 2009) in Turkish translation as part of an anthology entitled *Izmir in Women's Stories*. *The Imam's Daughter* was published in *Montreal Serai*. She has recently completed a collection of short stories under the title "the confession." She currently lives in Toronto.

new
FICTION

Lingering Tide
and Other Stories

Latha Viswanathan

FICTION/STORIES

978-1-894770-75-0

\$20.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

200 pages

October 2011

Promotion:

Regional author tour

National review mailing

Online media campaign

Latha Viswanathan has worked as a journalist, copywriter, editor and teacher in India, London, Manila, Montreal, Toronto and the United States. These stories have appeared in major American literary magazines and won awards. Her work received a grant from the Texas Commission of the Arts in Fiction, was published in Best New Stories from the South and broadcast on National Public Radio. She currently lives and writes in Houston.

Lingering Tide and Other Stories

stories

Latha Viswanathan

These poignant stories finely depict the lives of immigrants, through the themes of family adjustment, loss, and starting afresh in a new place. Set in suburban Toronto, New Jersey, Texas, and India, they draw out the conflicts in three generations of Indians whose lives interconnect even as they straddle the old and the new. What we sense is both the anguish of loss and the thrill of discovery.

Viswanathan's quiet prose imparts powerful emotions that ring true, and her rendering of cultural clash is truly skilful and nuanced. The depiction of her characters' interior lives is so full and vital that they breathe and walk off the page. The reader is drawn in and completely absorbed into her world of transitions.

Praise for Latha Viswanathan's "Cool Wedding"

Shoba Srinivasan, in the story "Cool Wedding". . . is an Indian woman transplanted to Houston where she is a wife, a mother to two teenagers, and a matchmaker with her own website. The writing sparkles in this story . . . Don't miss this story about assimilation, immigration, culture clash, and women in the 21st century.

—AUGUSTA RUSSEL SCATTERGOOD, *Deep South Reviews*



new
NONFICTION

Equal Before God?

The Question of Women in Contemporary Islam

by
Sheema Khan

Equal Before God?

The Question of Women in Contemporary Islam

cultural studies

Sheema Khan

In the past few years, mainstream Western societies have experienced tensions with the burgeoning Muslims communities living within them. The difficulties towards full integration, moreover, have been exacerbated by terrorism and fundamentalism on one hand and ignorance and fear on the other. This book argues that the main obstacle to successful Muslim integration in the West is not the violent or extremist fringe, but rather the attitudes and cultural practices of Muslim communities in relation to women. The reason is simple: Muslim communities overwhelmingly reject terrorism, whereas they continue to harbour views towards women that are at odds with prevailing Western norms of gender equality. Citing examples from North America, Europe, and elsewhere, the author concludes that the solution to the conundrum is not the abandonment of Islam, as some have proposed, but a reappraisal of its practice in light of history and modernity.

CULTURAL STUDIES

978-1-894770-76-7

\$28.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

168 pages

October 2011

Praise for Sheema Khan's *Of Hockey and Hijab*:

Provocative, intelligent, and—given the thorny nature of the issues explored—surprisingly accessible.

—*Quill & Quire*

Promotion:

National review mailing

National author tour

Online media campaign

Also by Sheema Khan

Of Hockey and Hijab (essays), ISBN 978-1-894770-56-9, \$25.95

Sheema Khan writes a monthly column for the *Globe and Mail* on issues pertaining to Islam and Muslims. She holds a PhD from Harvard University in chemical physics, along with numerous patents on drug delivery technology. She has served on the Board of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (2004–2008) and is the founder of the Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-CAN) and its former chair (2000–2005). She testified as an expert witness on Muslims in Canada before the O'Connor Inquiry and has appeared before a number of parliamentary committees. In addition, she has spoken at numerous NGO conferences and government agencies on issues of security, civil rights, and Muslim cultural practice. She is currently a patent agent in Ottawa.



new
POETRY

Love Cake

poems

by
Leah Lakshmi
Piepzna-Samarasinha

POETRY

978-1-894770-69-9

\$17.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

112 pages

September 2011

Promotion:

Regional author tour

National review mailing

Online media campaign

Love Cake

poems

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

In these poems, Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha explores how queer people of colour resist and transform violence through love and desire. Remembering and testifying about the damage caused by the racial profiling of South Asian and Arab people post 9/11, border crossings and internal and external wars in Sri Lanka and the diaspora, *Love Cake* also documents the persistence of survival and beauty—especially the dangerous beauty found in queer people of colour loving and desiring. *Love Cake* maps the joys and challenges of reclaiming the body and sexuality after violence, examining a family history of violence with compassion and celebrating the resilient, specific ways we create new families, take our bodies back, love, fight, and transform violence.

Praise for Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha's *Consensual Genocide*:

In the poetry of Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, there's a power that's nearly atomic. Leah makes the colonizer's language submit to her tongue.

—BUSHRA REHMAN, co-editor of *Colonize This! Young Women of Color on Today's Feminism*

[Her] words leap off the page—urgent, suptuous writing that demands, and deserves, a wide audience. I'm listening.

—ANNA CAMILLERI, author of *I am a Red Dress*, editor *Red Light* and *Brazen Femmes*

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is a Worcester-raised, Toronto-matured, Oakland-based queer Sri Lankan writer, performer, and teacher. She is the co-founder and co-artistic director of Mangos With Chili, North America's only touring cabaret of queer and trans people of colour performing artists. She is a commissioned performer with Sins Invalid, the national performance organization of queer people with disabilities and chronic illnesses. Her one-woman show, *Grown Woman Show*, has toured throughout North America. *The author of Consensual Genocide*, her writing has appeared in numerous anthologies. She writes regularly for *Bitch*, *Colorlines*, *Hyphen*, *Left Turn* and *Make/Shift* magazines. *The Revolution Starts At Home: Confronting Intimate Violence Within Activist Communities*, which she co-edited with Ching-In Chen and Jai Dulani, will be published by South End Press in March 2011. She is one of Feminist Press's 2010 "40 Feminists Under 40 Who Are Shaping the Future" and a 2011 Pushcart Prize nominee.



new
POETRY

You Cannot Turn Away

poems

Tamil/English

R Cheran

translated by Chelva Kanaganayakam

This book provides, for the first time, a bilingual edition of forty poems by R Cheran. Written over a period of three decades, the poems cover a range of experiences, including love, war, despair, hope, and diaspora. Cheran is considered one of the finest contemporary poets in Tamil, and his poetry is read widely in North America, Europe, and South Asia. Both modernist and unfailingly lyrical, his work is a remarkable blend of tradition and innovation. The forty poems in this volume have been translated and introduced by Chelva Kanaganayakam.

Excerpt: from "My Land"

On a hundred thousand shoulders
I stand
this is my land, I shout;
across the seven seas
defying the rising waves
the wind carries
this voice:

My land
My land.

Promotion:

Regional author tour
National review mailing
Online media campaign



POETRY

978-1-894770-74-3

\$24.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

160 pages

September 2011

R Cheran is currently an associate professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology at the University of Windsor. His publications include *History and Imagination: Tamil Culture in the Global Context* (2007), *New Demarcations: Essays in Tamil Studies* (2009), *Pathways of Dissent: Tamil Nationalism in Sri Lanka* (2010), and *Empowering Diasporas: Dynamics of Post War Tamil Transnational Politics* (2011).

Chelva Kanaganayakam is a professor in the Department of English at the University of Toronto and is also the Director for the Centre for South Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. His major publications include *Moveable Margins: The Shifting Spaces of Canadian Literature* (2005), *Counterrealism and Indo Anglian Fiction* (2002), *Lutesong and Lament: Tamil Writing from Sri Lanka* (2001), *Dark Antonyms and Paradise: The Poetry of Rienzi Crusz* (1997), *Configurations of Exile: South Asian Writers and Their World* (1995), and *Structures of Negation: The Writings of Zulfikar Ghose* (1993).

new
POETRY

Lantana Strangling Ixora

poems

Sasenarine Persaud

This collection is as much about love and people in and out of relationships as it is about origins and the process of estrangement. The lantana is a flower of South American origin, and the ixora of Asian origin. The lantana, a creeper that grows profusely, often engulfing other plants, provides a ready metaphor for the consciousness of the Americas overcoming that of India in the Americas—the mainstreaming and divesting of yoga from its Indian origins being the most visible manifestation. This collection ranges widely in its geographical and historical concerns, from Canada to Guyana to India and places in between, exploring the contradictions in our lives: familial influences, terrorism, literature, politics, race, and the power of language and representation. As always in Persaud’s work, love is ever present. This is a collection that displays mastery over nuances of language, and is at once quirky and humorous as it continues an engagement with the theme of “place as muse.”

Praise for Sasenarine Persaud’s poetry:

Persaud's poems . . . are like miniature raags, sensuous units of Indian music obeying conventions mysterious to western ears.

—*The Globe and Mail*

Also by Sasenarine Persaud:

In a Boston Night (poetry), ISBN 978-1-894770-49-1, \$16.95

Canada Geese and Apple Chatney (fiction), ISBN 978-0-920661-72-7, \$15.95



POETRY

978-1-894770-72-9

\$17.95 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

112 pages

September 2011



Promotion:

Book launch in Toronto

National review mailing

Online media campaign

Sasenarine Persaud is an essayist, novelist, short-story writer, and poet. He is the author of ten books: seven poetry collections, two novels, and a book of short stories. His latest book, *In a Boston Night*, was published by TSAR in 2008. He was born in Guyana and has lived for several years in Canada. He has served as a vice-president and chair of the membership committee of the League of Canadian Poets, on the Board of Directors of the Scarborough Arts Council (Toronto), and on juries for the Toronto Arts Council and the Ontario Arts Council. He presently resides in Tampa, Florida.

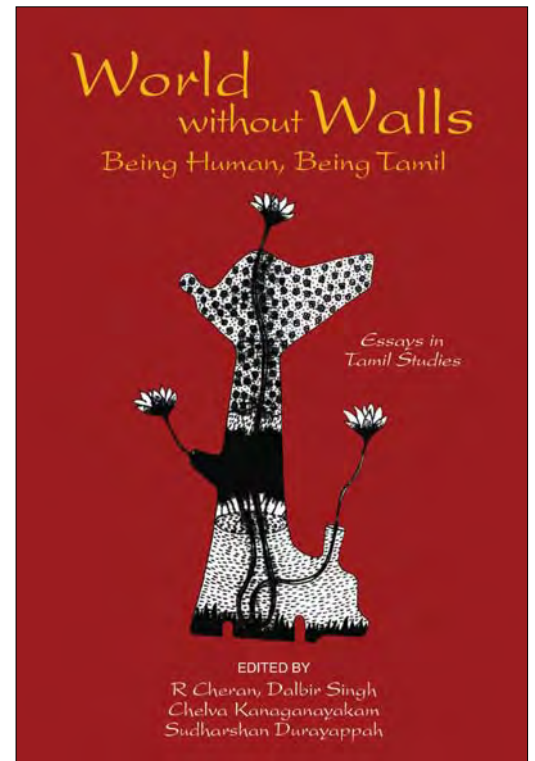
recent
NONFICTION

World Without Walls

Being Human, Being Tamil:
Essays in Tamil Studies

edited by R Cheran, Dalbir Singh, Chelva Kanaganayakam,
Sudharshan Durayappah

In the past few decades, as a growing presence worldwide, Tamil-ness has become an important component of the South Asian diaspora. As one of the few classical languages of the world that is still a living one, Tamil continues to remain a vehicle of secularism while celebrating diverse religious and political traditions. It has served Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, and Christianity, while articulating politics from the time of the ancient kings, through colonialism, to modern times. The essays in this volume offer a nuanced view of “Being Human; Being Tamil” in the context of South Asia and the diaspora. They explore the multiple ways of being Tamil, and the cultural, religious, and poetic linkages that have contributed to the emergence and articulation of Tamilness in a global context.



ESSAYS

978-1-894770-71-2

\$36.00 pb

5.75" x 8.75"

200 pages

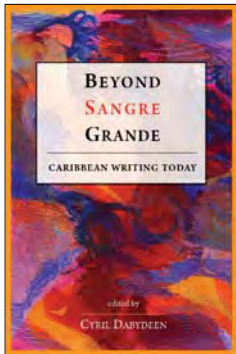
R Cheran is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Windsor. His publications include *History and Imagination: Tamil Culture in the Global Context*, *New Demarcations: Essays in Tamil Studies*, *Pathways of Dissent: Tamil Nationalism in Sri Lanka*, and *Empowering Diasporas: Dynamics of Post-war Tamil Transnational Politics*.

Dalbir Singh is a PhD candidate at the Graduate Drama Centre as well as the Centre for South Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. His publications have appeared in journals and anthologies such as *Canadian Theatre Review*, *Critical Perspectives on Canadian Theatre*, *She Speaks*, and *Red Light: Superheroes, Saints and Sluts*.

Chelva Kanaganayakam is a professor in the Department of English at the University of Toronto and is also the Director for the Centre for South Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. His publications include *Moveable Margins: The Shifting Spaces of Canadian Literature*, *Counterrealism and Indo Anglian Fiction*, *Lutesong and Lament: Tamil Writing from Sri Lanka*, and *Structures of Negation: The Writings of Zulfikar Ghose*.

Sudharshan Durayappah teaches at the University of Toronto, Scarborough and the Royal Ontario Museum. His research interests include Hinduism in the diaspora, trans-Asian religious routes of the 7–9th century A.D., iconography, and Tamil devotional poetry.

recent
POETRY AND ANTHOLOGY



Beyond Sangre Grande

Caribbean Writing Today

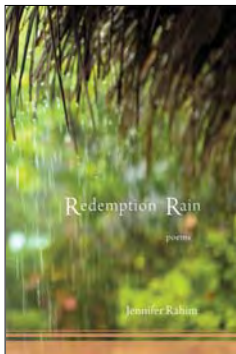
edited by Cyril Dabydeen

anthology

Caribbean literature has always been exciting and diverse, including over the past decades some of the world's most regarded writers. *Beyond Sangre Grande: Caribbean Writing Today* brings together a contemporary selection from key poets and fiction writers living in Canada, the US, the UK, and the Caribbean itself. Fusing creole and other cultural streams from a changing world, these writers capture the cadences and rhythms of the Caribbean while admitting other influences to demonstrate the vigour and vitality of Caribbean writing today. Whether in the poetry of Kamau Brathwaite, Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, David Dabydeen, Dionne Brand, or in the fiction of Shani Mootoo, Austin Clarke, or Elizabeth Nunez, this remarkable collection represents a range of writing that constitutes the rich tapestry of Caribbean literature in new and exciting ways!

Cyril Dabydeen previously edited *A Shapely Fire: Changing the Literary Landscape* (Mosaic Press) and *Another Way to Dance: Contemporary Asian Poetry in Canada and the United States* (TSAR Publications). His work has appeared in the Oxford, Penguin and Heinemann Books of Caribbean Verse, and in over 60 literary magazines world-wide. A former Poet Laureate of Ottawa, his last novel *Drums of My Flesh* (TSAR Publications) won the Guyana Prize for Best Book of Fiction and was nominated for the prestigious IMPAC/Dublin Literary Prize. Cyril is the recipient of the 2010 Guyana Lifetime Achievement Award. He teaches at the University of Ottawa.

ISBN 9781894770668 \$28.95 pb 200 pages



Redemption Rain

Jennifer Rahim

poems

Engaging with a broad range of human experience and concerns, *Redemption Rain* invites the reader into its profound epiphanies through patient revisitation and introspection. Rahim's voice weaves the explosive power of her lively Trinidadian Creole with the searching intensity of one given to appreciating memory's redemptive light. This is a book about the necessary and the unexpected; about costly arrival in the sacred spaces of realization and recognition. Always the impulse is to praise. Hers is a voice that does not shrill but invests in the finer sensibilities of justice, beauty, love, and community to bring out her poetic truth.

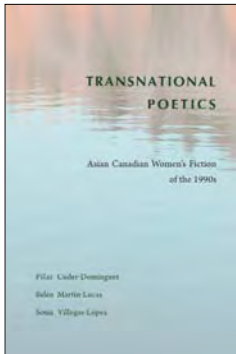
"Redemption Rain provides a tenderly perceptive yet penetratingly measured depiction of the contemplative's path on which spirituality, history, culture, and ecology congregate in unambiguous communal celebration . . . Here then is a poetry that speaks directly to our sense of human belonging, our recognition of smallness within vastness, our experiential encounters with love and loss."

—S ROSE-ANN WALKER, The University of Trinidad and Tobago

Jennifer Rahim is the author of three volumes of poetry, *Mothers Are Not the Only Linguists* (1992), *Between the Fence and the Forest* (2002), and *Approaching Sabbaths* (2009), and a collection of short stories, *Songster and Other Stories* (2007). *Approaching Sabbaths* was awarded the 2010 Casa de las Américas Prize for best book in the category Caribbean Literature in English or Creole. Rahim is a senior lecturer in literature at the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

ISBN 9781894770705 \$17.95 pb 104 pages

recent
NONFICTION



Transnational Poetics

Asian Canadian Women's Fiction of the 1990s

edited by Pilar Cuder-Domínguez, Belén Martín-Lucas, Sonia Villegas-López

This substantial book examines the fiction of Asian Canadian women writers—Indian, Chinese and Japanese—of the 1990s, specifically how their work reveals their self-perception as members of minority subcultures. By close readings of the fiction and related texts, the authors consider to what extent and in what manner these authors—Evelyn Lau, Larissa Lai, Joy Kogawa, Shauna Singh Baldwin, Anita Rau Badami and others—feel at ease or at odds in the cultural climate of Canada. A variety of subjects are covered: feminist anti-racism, resistance to Indo-Chic, feminist fictions, the racialization of bodies, the trauma of Canadian Japanese internment, etc.

Pilar Cuder-Domínguez is Associate Professor at the University of Huelva, Spain, where she teaches British and English-Canadian Literature and Feminist Theory. She is the author of *Margaret Atwood: A Beginner's Guide* and the (co)editor of five collections of essays.

Belén Martín-Lucas is Associate Professor at the University of Vigo, Spain where she teaches Postcolonial Literatures in English and Diasporic Film and Literatures. She has co-edited a Special Issue of *The Atlantic Literary Review on National Literatures in English and the Gobar Market*, among other publications.

Sonia Villegas-López is Associate Professor of English Literature at the University of Huelva, Spain. She is the author of a monograph on anglophone women's fiction of the late 20th century.

ISBN 9781894770682 \$28.95 pb 192 pages



Peng Ma

Abstract Ink Painting

edited with an introduction by Lien Chao

This book provides a critical study of the abstract ink painting of the Chinese Canadian artist Peng Ma, who early in his career saw abstraction as an artistic advancement on tradition. Chao's critical approach to Ma's work juxtaposes stimulation and resistance as the ongoing impact of Western abstract painting on contemporary Chinese brush painting. She goes on to investigate how Ma's cross-cultural experience has gradually developed his hybrid aesthetics to embrace Eastern and Western art traditions to create his own distinctive art. Includes 210 reproductions.

Peng Ma studied brush painting and sculpture in China and for many years taught fine art at the Zhejiang Fine Art Institute before immigrating to Canada in 1989. He has exhibited works in China and Canada. In 2002 he was awarded the Excellence Award for his sculpture *Mother Love*, now permanently installed at the Beijing International Sculpture Park. Many of his paintings apply the brush painting technique to depict Canadian landscape themes. Peng Ma lives in Toronto.

Lien Chao came from China to Canada in 1984. Her first book, *Beyond Silence: Chinese Canadian Literature in English*, was published in 1997 and won the Gabrielle Roy Award for Canadian Criticism. Her work includes two volumes of bilingual poetry (*Maples and the Stream* and *More Than Skin Deep*), and a creative memoir (*Tiger Girl (Hu Nu)*), and she is the co-editor, with Jim Wong-Chu, of *Strike the Wok: An Anthology of Contemporary Chinese Canadian Fiction*. She lives in Toronto.

ISBN 9781894770576 \$48.00 pb 100 pages, illustrated (colour)

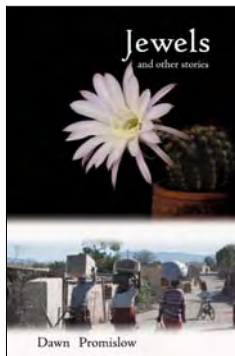
recent
FICTION

Jewels and Other
Stories

stories

Dawn Promislow

The landscape of 1970s South Africa lives and breathes in these stories, populated by a wide and surprising range of unforgettable characters.



“Wonderful reading from an astonishingly fresh and original writer.” —OLIVE SENIOR

“[Promislow] writes of Africa and Africans with unflinching, but loving, insight.” —GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

“...the stories have a compression of description and a simplicity of narrative arc that can indeed be jewel-like in lucidity. . . . The deadlocked society of apartheid is strikingly rendered.”
—The Globe and Mail

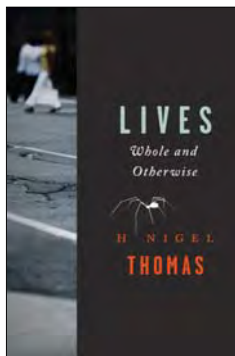
ISBN 9781894770651 \$20.95 112 pages paper

Lives: Whole and
Otherwise

stories

H Nigel Thomas

These stories from Montreal present a gallery of characters, Caribbean immigrants desperate and triumphant, always struggling against the odds, as they make their way through the maze of urban life. *Lives* breaks the stereotypes to give us a side of Canada rarely acknowledged.



“In Thomas’ hands the interior monologue becomes a powerful tool for voicing character and experience. Time and again he demonstrates his skill at reproducing the speech patterns of characters with Caribbean origins to mesmerizing effect. . . . H. Nigel Thomas gives voice to a hard social reality that refuses the glib formulas of traditional narrative form.” —The Rover

ISBN 9781894770613 \$20.95 160 pages paper

Echoes from the Other
Land

stories

Ava Homa

These haunting stories beautifully evoke the oppressive lives of modern women in Iran.



“This is a voice we all need to hear.”

—SUSAN HOLBROOK, author of *Joy Is So Exhausting*

“Homa announces new beginnings—less irony, more hope—and from a breathtaking multicultural and international perspective.” —LOUIS CABRI

“This elusive approach to storytelling is subtle and powerful, haunting the reader with the silence between the words.”

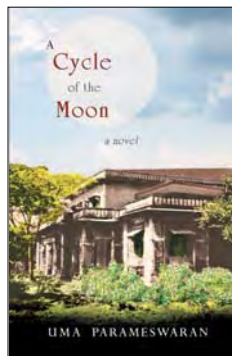
—CAROLE GIANGRANDE

ISBN 9781894770644 \$19.95 112 pages paper

A Cycle of the Moon
novel

Uma Parameswaran

It is a tense autumn the year Mayura comes away from her husband, saying she will never return to the uncouth, lustful monster . . .



Using a deceptively simple and intimate style, Parameswaran explores the subtleties of love, marriage, sex, and family life in a changing South Indian environment.

“. . . a thoroughly enjoyable read. [. . .] Uma Parameswaran takes us deep into the politics of the extended family, tracing its complex interrelationships, intrigues, histories and developments through a period of crisis. [. . .] Parameswaran is an historian of a vanishing tribe.” —RAJESWARI SUNDER RAJAN, Global Distinguished Professor of English, New York University

“[A] delightful novel. . . . With Cycle of the Moon, Winnipeg’s Uma Parameswaran has added yet another fascinating piece to the rich field of Indo-Canadian literature.” —Winnipeg Free Press

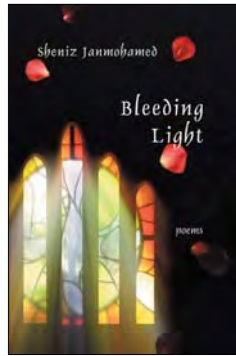
ISBN 9781894770620 \$20.95 224 pages paper

recent
POETRY

Bleeding Light

Sheniz Janmohamed

Bleeding Light is a collection of poems in ghazal form that traces the steps of a woman's journey through night. Each couplet is an independent thought and reflection, a pearl strung into a necklace.



"The couplets in her eloquent and appealing ghazals dazzle one with their precision, sudden turns and brilliant use of the cultural memory of language and imagery." —The Late DR KULDIP GILL (Professor, Poet and Mentor)

"... the ghazals are refreshing and make you see the world differently. Once the light touches your soul, you can't remain unmoved." —MAYANK BHATT, Generally About Books

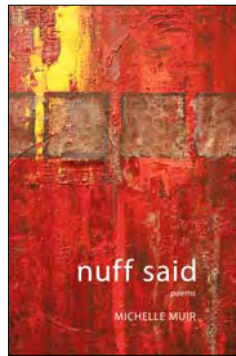
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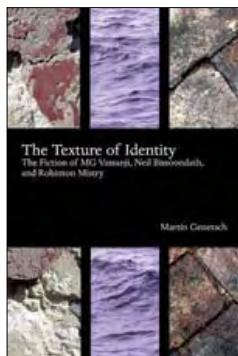


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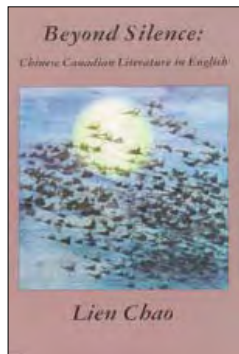
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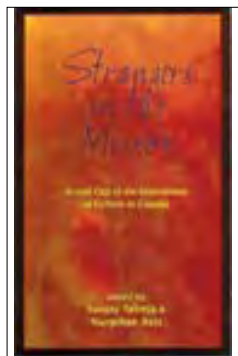
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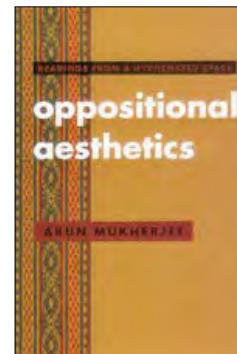


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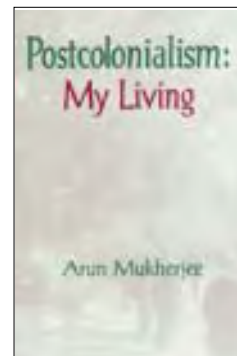
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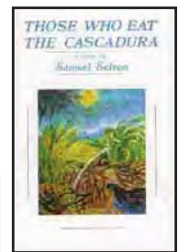
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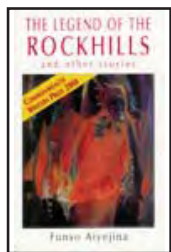
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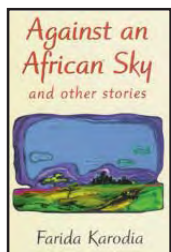
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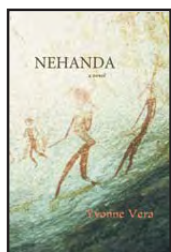
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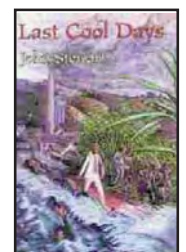
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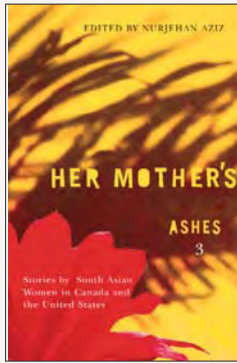
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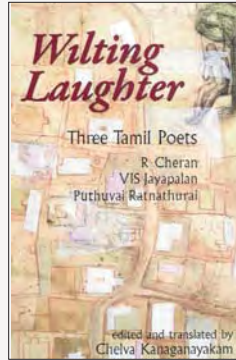


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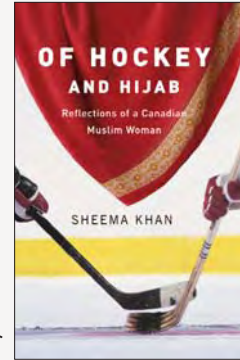
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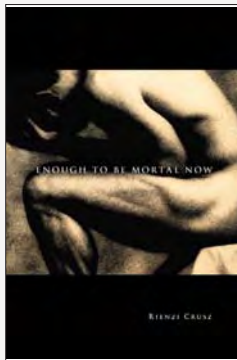


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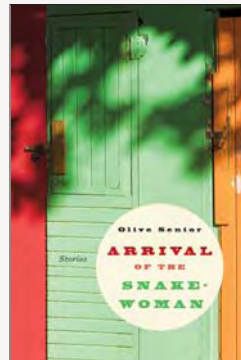


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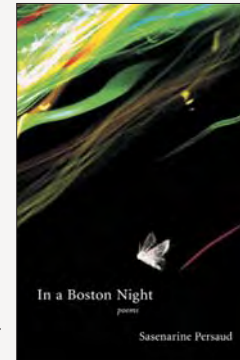


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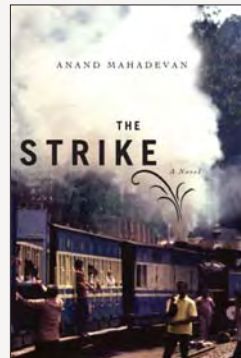


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