

Unsolicited Press 2022 Catalog

The following is the definitive list of books that will release during 2022 (barring any unforeseen complications). We invite booksellers, educators, and librarians to request electronic review copies to consider purchasing our titles. Books are available through Ingram Book Group, Overdrive, and Audible. Most books are listed with traditional terms. Book reviewers and influencers are also welcome to request an electronic review copy. Physical review copies are only provided to those who commit to a review of the book.

JANUARY 2022

Protectress by Kendra Leonard Preston

1.11.2022

Poetry

978-1-950730-63-6

Protectress is a hybrid poetry-prose novella offering a risky take on the legend of Medusa. With stunning economy of words and a delicate hand, *Protectress* provokes us to think about the feminist identity and the power of compassion. Readers who fell deeply for Emily Wilson's translation of *The Odyssey*, Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*, Madeleine Miller's *Circe*, Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven*, Maria Dahvana Headley's translation of *Beowulf*, and Toby Barlow's *Sharp Teeth* will find themselves enamoured with *Protectress*.

Forms of Defiance by Cynthia Sample

1.25.2022

Fiction

978-1-950730-94-0

An ancient proverb claims that "Every man's way is right in his own eyes." Such is reflected in the various ways people tell themselves their own stories and the meaning within their experiences, but actual revelation of characters' tales defy the traditional methods of the telling. *Forms of Defiance* presents a broad variety of people caught in the complexities of their humanity, revealing their narratives, even to themselves according to their peculiarities – Bible concordance entries, playlists, poems, diaries and others – while dissecting the human complexities they are experiencing, and making choices about them.

The Souls of Others by Shann Ray

1.31.22

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-00-6

The Souls of Others is a powerful essay collection by American Book Award winner Shann Ray. Ray depicts the American west as both magnificent and destitute. The mountains are alive. The people are gritty and resilient. Nature offers its bounty but never gives it with ease. Ray, having spent part of his childhood on the Northern Cheyenne reservation, expertly paints a place of family, sorrow, and a connection to Mother Nature that so many Americans have lost.

February 2022

Metacarpalism by Dan Gutstein

2.2.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-05-1

Per the memo recently circulated in triplicate, *Metacarpalism* establishes new standards for humor, elegy, and form(lessness). [n.b. Future works that don't measure up will be returned to the factory.] These very lovely strophes memorialize after-sex ambiguities, Beef Pineapple Robots, (C)harm Cities, Peoples Who Don't Listen to Music, anybodies (sic) named Danish Kroner, and sonnets, although what is a sonnet, everything is, nothing is, whazzzapppp!

A Closet Feminist by Carla Sarett

2.9.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-02-0

A CLOSET FEMINIST follows the misadventures of 20-something Bella Hirsch as she navigates the world of work and the mystery of sudden romance. Bella hops from New York's whirlwind to a tony grad school in Philadelphia, and discovers not just love, but a surprising ambition. Fast-paced and witty, this is a romantic comedy with a morality tale wrapped inside.

Writing on the Walls at Night by Claudia Serea

2.15.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-01-3

In this new collection of prose poems, Claudia Serea uses surrealism, irony, and black humor to express her experiences from growing up behind the Iron Curtain to emigrating to New York City. She conjures history through nightmares, folk tales, and dreams, remembers war and oppression through the eyes of a child, and

escapes to a metropolis as strange as the past she carries with her. These poems are the magical beans the reader will use to escape again and again, discovering hidden portals with each new reading.

21st Century Autoimmune Blues by Brent Terry

2.28.2022

Poetry

978-1-950730-96-4

21st Century Autoimmune Blues is multi-genre author Brent Terry's fourth collection. Terry brazenly confronts subjects that are simultaneously political and personal. The undertones range from comedic to emotional, stimulating the head, heart, and gut. Every poem in this collection hums with an underlying anxiety caused by living in these fraught and sometimes dismaying times, but Terry never fails to paint a rhythmically sound image.

March 2022

Let Widows Be Widows by Laura Lehew

3.1.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-06-8

Let Widows be Widows is an elegiac collection of poetry. Using diverse points of view, *Widows* illuminates our various states of loss, hope, love and mourning we experience with death. This book is not a lament but rather an exploration on how we overcome grief.

What Have I Done? by Carrie Close

3.8.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-950730-91-9

In *What Have I Done?* Carrie Close writes, "all these little birds keep picking at me/hard, determined beaks peck through skin, scrape/against bone—they dance and chirp ominous tones..." The connection Close builds between themes of love, motherhood, and relationships hits you in the face like a taut rubber band forcing you to hone in on every last detail. Close pens a charged, feminist collection that avoids polishing for the sake of looking good.

Kissing the World Goodbye by Jennifer Clark

3.15.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-07-5

Clark's latest book, *Kissing the World Goodbye*, is a memoir infused with recipes that invites the reader to crouch down and notice the small things in life we too easily overlook. Everything in this world, no matter how small, is worthy of consideration for Clark, from isopods barreling through Tasmanian soil to the origins of childhood nicknames. Big things matter, too, like siblicidal love, a term she coins in an attempt to describe the indescribable connections between siblings. Within this funny, poignant, and often tasty memoir, Clark weaves in serious issues such as the perpetual closeness of various forms of loss, and family members, particularly her sister's, easily moving on in the face of matters that weigh Clark down. And much weighs her down: naming fish, Ernest Borgnine's eyebrows, cell phones, instapots, and more.

Bottom line: this lyrical journey reminds us life is messy, funny, fragile, and fleeting. For even as we kiss the world hello, we kiss it goodbye.

Land of Ale and Gloom: Discovering the Pacific Northwest by Phillip Hurst

3.17.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-03-7

The Land of Ale and Gloom: Discovering the Pacific Northwest concerns the summer of 2016, which the author spent traveling the region in the looming shadow of a Trump presidency, having come to the somewhat blue realization that there perhaps remained just one thing in this world with the power to bring him true happiness: craft beer. And while there's no better place for a beer enthusiast than Oregon and Washington State, a philosophical guide seemed necessary—hence, Robert Burton's *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, an encyclopedic Renaissance-era opus which advises the melancholic patient to treat his affliction with a few cold brews. Along with these elements, *The Land of Ale and Gloom* incorporates the fascinating history and vibrant literature of the Northwest into a comic yet insightful exploration of the region.

Living of Natural Causes by Kadzi Mutizwa

3.29.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-08-2

In these 12 humor-laced personal essays, Kadzi Mutizwa (a midwestern New Yorker) reflects on her trajectory as a high(ish)-functioning outlier. Themes taken up include mounting self-awareness, facing your foibles and

failures, not giving up while becoming more measured about giving in, sucking at yoga, and gradually rising into your full authenticity. *Living of Natural Causes* is about recognizing how complex each of us are and should be.

Love and Genetics by Mark MacDonald and Rachel Elliott

3.22.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-950730-90-2

On Jan 4, 1973, a child was given up for adoption by a teenage girl; quietly, secretly, alone. Decades later, married with children and grandchildren, a stranger reaches out and upends the truths of her carefully built world. Amid the tumult of discovery, exhilaration, and pain, paths are forged as her daughter's breathtaking generosity brings new life and redemption in this story of love, loss, and the meaning of *family*.

April 2022

Tuesday Marriage Death by Theodore Worozbyt

4.5.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-09-9

The first poem in this fourth full-length collection by Theodore Worozbyt closes with an image that suggests a mythical bird, transcendence, unending wealth and success, caesarean birth, violent death, a surgeon lurking in the name of an ancient fish, and an end that comes as a beginning: "Golden eggs /slit from a sturgeon's belly finish it." So begins the undertaking, in this volume, to compress language itself into a ball, to roll it forth, not toward one overwhelming question, but to scores of them. If the title arcs a life with astonishing and unnerving brevity, and if most of those overwhelming questions remain unanswered, the title poem turns to us, on the final page, to offer the only human consolation we ever get to keep: "Let us begin again."

Lines in Opposition by Maureen Sherbondy

4.12.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-10-5

Maureen Sherbondy's poems have appeared in *Prelude*, *Calyx*, *European Judaism*, *The Oakland Review*, and other journals. She has won the Hart Crane Memorial Poetry Contest, the North Carolina Poet Laureate prize, and many other awards. Her most recent poetry books are *Dancing with Dali*, *The Art of Departure*, and *Eulogy*

for an Imperfect Man. Sherbondy teaches English at Alamance Community College in Graham, North Carolina.

Less Than What You Once Were by Aaron Brown

4.26.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-11-2

Less Than What You Once Were explores the impact of a single moment of trauma--the narrator's experience of living through the 2008 coup d'état attempt in N'Djamena, Chad. As past memories and present experiences unravel in the wake of trauma, Brown reaches for stability in a series of interlinked flash nonfiction vignettes that are as much an essay on transnational identity as they are an elegy for what once was but never can be again.

First Drafts from the Brewery by Rowe Carenen

4.19.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-12-9

Rowe Carenen is a graduate of Salem College and the University of Southern Mississippi. When asked, she'd say that poetry has been her passion ever since she realized that words could convey more than just the facts. Her poems have appeared in various literary journals and magazines, including *The Revenant Culture*, *GERM*, *Terrible Orange Review*, the *Running with Water* anthology, and her first collection, *In the Meantime*, was published by Neverland Publishing in 2014. She lives in Greenville, South Carolina, with her cat Minerva Jane and dog Neville Jameson.

May 2022

Eva Matson by S.B. Borgersen

5.26.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-13-6

S.B. Borgersen is a British/Canadian author, of middle England and Hebridean ancestry, whose favoured genres are flash and micro fiction, and poetry. She had a diverse career path, an analyst in a shoe factory, the same thing for a children's book publisher, teaching art, and filing for the civil service, but mostly she climbed a precarious ladder in the IT industry culminating in strategy and project management, which, by necessity in those days,

included writing writing writing mountains of non-fiction — always allowing herself to be slightly creative with proposals, reports, technical and training documentation.

#NewCrusades by Bill Neumire

5.10.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-14-3

The news in *#TheNewCrusades* is professed through protests, graffiti, broken mirrors, ambient radio, synchronized fires, and all-night newsfeeds—all of it projecting a cryptic and indefinable set of rules that churn about as permutations of some lost algorithm. These poems address a tamed violence held barely in check, examining masculinity and fatherhood and the undercurrents of suburban domesticity. In the end, they are a barrage of cries at breaking the boundary between *you* and *I*, questions rising into prayers that ask, *are we closed or open systems? Can we really know each other at all?*

Hunting Geese by Sarah Rau Petersen

5.17.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-19-8

Hunting Geese by Sarah Rau Peterson is a short story collection that features characters as multi-layered as Montana herself. The unnamed protagonist in *Hunting Geese* grapples with life choices and his just out-of-reach family while positioned on the banks of the frigid Yellowstone River awaiting the descent of geese. *She Would Have* and *The Needing Place* addresses the dynamics of a complicated father-daughter relationship told from each perspective while skirting the issues of generational gaps and aging. *Wednesday's Child's* narrator wonders what she, as a mother, did to push her daughter away, and *Chickens* is about, well, it's about chickens.

Jalubi by Emily Paige Wilson

5.24.22

Poetry

978-1-956692-15-0

Emily Paige Wilson is the author of the forthcoming full-length collection *Jalubi* (Unsolicited Press, 2022) and two chapbooks: *Hypochondria, Least Powerful of the Greek Gods* (Glass Poetry Press, 2020) and *I'll Build Us a Home* (Finishing Line Press, 2018). Her work has been nominated for Best New Poets, Best of the Net, and the Pushcart Prize.

The Criteria by Kami Westhoff

5.31.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-16-7

The Criteria explores unconventional, and at times highly problematic, motherhood. The characters struggle with impossible choices that often lead to heartbreaking behaviors. In the titular story, the main character takes on the burden of breastfeeding infants whose mothers have fallen in while at the same time struggling with the fate of her own infant. Another story imagines a scenario in which the mother/child bond is prohibited, and drastic measures taken to ensure its prevention. The characters are asked to suffer many tragedies, as well as to embrace hope in the most unlikely places.

June 2022

NEON GALAX by Andrew Brenza and Kristine Snodgrass

6.7.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-17-4

Glitched collabs with Brenza and Snodgrass find a neon outlet in the merging of vispo and digital alteration. This book is 100 pages of color-saturated work that enlivens the structural bombast inherent in Brenza's stark visual poetry. What is glitched is not superceded nor muted, rather transformed in a true collaborative spirit.

Kissing the Roadkill Back to Life by Gary Almeter

6.14.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-18-1

Gary M. Almeter grew up on a small dairy farm in Western New York, about 300 child-sized steps from his Grandpa's house, where ice cream - usually Maple Walnut or Butter Pecan - was always available. He is now an attorney whose short stories, essays and humor pieces have appeared in *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, *1966*, *Splitsider*, *Verdad*, and *Writer's Bone*. In addition to winning his 8th grade spelling bee, he has been awarded numerous awards for his non-fiction, including the Maryland Writers Association's Best Essay award in 2015. Gary has a B.A. in English from Le Moyne College; an M.Ed. in Secondary Education from Boston College; and a J.D. from the University of Maryland. He currently lives in Baltimore, MD, about 300 adult-sized steps from the best ice cream shop in Baltimore, with his wife, three children, beagle and numerous deferred domestic projects.

The Craigslist Incident by Jason Fisk

6.15.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-88-4

In *The Craigslist Incident*, Edna Barrett takes an advertisement out on Craigslist: *I'm an 18-year-old female and I want to take a hit out on myself*. Joe Dolsen, a 20-year-old who has suffered from periodic blackouts his whole life, answers the ad. What would bring two people to such ominous points at such young ages, and will they actually go through with it?

Hollow by Matthew Cole Levine

6.21.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-20-4

Matthew Cole Levine is a freelance writer based in Minneapolis, MN. He studied film and literature at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Emory University; he has written screenplays, plays, film reviews, essays, short stories, and one novel, with more on the way. He has written for publications such as [Found Footage Magazine](#), [The Missing Slate](#), [Joyless Creatures](#), the [British Film Institute](#), [Walker Art Center](#), and more, and has presented papers on film theory and history at Indiana University, Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania and elsewhere.

Joy by Francis Daulerio

6.21.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-21-1

Francis Daulerio is a poet and teacher from Blue Bell, Pennsylvania. He received his MFA in Creative Writing from Arcadia University in 2014 before releasing *If & When We Wake* (Unsolicited Press 2015) and *Please Plant This Book* (The Head & The Hand Press 2018), both with illustrations by Scottish artist, Scott Hutchison. Francis has also released *All Is Not Lost*, a collaborative vinyl EP of poetry-infused music to benefit the Tiny Changes charity organization, and *With a Difference* (Trident Boulder 2020), a split book of 'covers' with Philadelphia author Nick Gregorio.

Rook by Stephen Eoannou

6.28.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-04-4

Stephen G. Eoannou holds an MFA from Queens University of Charlotte and an MA from Miami University. His short story collection, *Muscle Cars*, was published by the Santa Fe Writers Project. He has been awarded an Honor Certificate from The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, and won the Best Short Screenplay Award at the 36th Starz Denver Film Festival. He lives and writes in his hometown of Buffalo, New York, the setting and inspiration for much of his work. *Rook* is his first novel.

July 2022

The Guide to Being a Dictator's Mistress by Cedrick Mendoza-Tolentino

7.12.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-22-8

Cedrick Mendoza-Tolentino was a 2014 Emerging Writer's Fellow at the Center for Fiction in New York City. He graduated with honors in the Undergraduate Creative Writing Program at Columbia University. He has had work published in *Liars' League New York*, *Akashic - Mondays are Murder*, *Gargoyle Magazine*, *Joyland*, *Slow Trains* and *Plain Spoke*. His chapbook *Alphabetic: The Other Side of Love* was published by Corgi Snorkel Press.

Fruitcake by Lisa Badner

7.19.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-23-5

Lisa Badner has published poems *Mudlark*, *TriQuarterly*, *Fourteen Hills* and forthcoming in *The Cape Rock*. She lives in Brooklyn, bikes everywhere and has a day job.

Lowercase God by Mark Fleckenstein

7.19.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-24-2

Mark Fleckenstein was born in Chicago, and grew up in Ohio, Michigan, Connecticut, North Carolina, and New Hampshire. He graduated from University of North Carolina in Charlotte with a B.A. in English, Vermont College of Fine Arts and received an MFA in Writing. He's become very involved in the

poetry community in and around Boston, for over 30 years. He was an assistant editor for (BLuR), the Boston Literary Review, founder/coordinator of two bi-weekly poetry reading series in Boston and a workshop leader. He's given poetry readings with famous poets (Charles Simic, Linda Gregg, Mark Doty, Mark Cox and Carl Phillips) and not so famous poets. Six states and dozens of moves later, he settled in Massachusetts. He is also a painter. He has two amazing daughters and an large, eccentric, long-haired black cat named Ariadne.

Dream Pop Origami by Jackson Bliss

7.26.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-74-7

This experimental memoir combines lyric personal essays with autobiographical lists about growing up as a hapa teenager in small town America, falling in love in the big city, growing through the pain of cultural hyphenation, traveling to Japan for the first time as a Nisei, and teaching/serving abroad in Argentina and Burkina Faso. *Dream Pop Origami* is textual choreography between author and reader, an anti-memoir that resists narrative linearity at every turn, and also a series of intersecting circles, vignettes, and confessions about mixed-race Asian identity. DPO is told with a voice, an ambition, and an affection for the world that is larger than life, each narrative strand intersecting into an innovative, cohesive, and multimodal tapestry about multicultural self-discovery and racial metamorphosis.

August 2022

Letting the House Go by Robert Crooke

8.2.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-25-9

Letting the House Go follows the spiritual journey of an outwardly successful man whose antiquated sense of entitlement leaves him isolated and stranded in self-pity until his private grievances and faulty memory are challenged by an unexpected trip to the past.

Dark Roux by Toby LeBlanc

8.9.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-26-6

Dark Roux is a 98,000 word novel of a family simmering on the verge of burning to ruin. The delicate nature of this sauce depicts how Cajun culture survives Americanization along parade routes and swamps in South Louisiana. The Mouton family approaches Mardi Gras 1999 expecting traditional joy and release. But teenage struggles with sexual orientation and independence, the ambiguity of young love complicated by the racism of the South, motherhood leaving little room to love one's self (even when two non-family women are waiting to help), and blind ambition as a way to deal with the past, all plague the family. The lines tying them together become taut, threatening to fail and toss them into the hurricane of the future.

Black Wool Cape by Alison C. Sussman

8.9.2022

Poetry

978-1-950730-89-6

The More You Hate Me by Andy Smart

8.16.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-27-3

Andy Smart earned his Master of Fine Arts degree from the Solstice Low-Residency Creative Writing Program at Pine Manor College. His poems have appeared, or are forthcoming in: *Lily Poetry Review*, *River Heron Review*, *Red Fez*, *Two-Thirds North*, *The American Journal of Poetry*, and elsewhere. His essays have been published in the anthologies *Show Me All Your Scars* (In Fact Books) and *Come Shining: Poems and Essays on Writing in a Dark Time* (Kelson Books), as well as: *Sleet Magazine*, *Moon City Review*, and *Glassworks* (forthcoming).

because God loves the wasp by Elisabeth Blair

8.30.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-28-0

Elisabeth Blair is a poet and multidisciplinary artist. She has been artist-in-residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, and ACRE. From 2016-19 she hosted and produced the podcast *Listening to Ladies*. Her publications include a forthcoming full-length collection (Unsolicited Press 2022), two chapbooks—*We He She/It* (Dancing Girl Press, 2016) and *without saying* (Ethel Press, 2020)—and poems in a variety of journals, including *Harpur Palate* (forthcoming), *Feminist Studies*, *cream city review*, and *Juked*. She works as a freelance editor and manuscript consultant.

September 2022

Scapegoat by T.K. Lee

9.6.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-29-7

T.K. LEE is an award-winning member of the Dramatists Guild of America and the Society for Stage Directors and Choreographers, among others. A published writer of Pushcart-nominated fiction, in addition to award-winning poetry, he is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in the MFA program at the Mississippi University for Women, in historic Columbus, Mississippi, birthplace of Tennessee Williams.

Water Signs by Liz Kellebrew

9.13.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-30-3

Written while riding the ferry across Puget Sound, Liz Kellebrew's poems explore the liminal places between cities and forests, animals and people, the sky and the sea. This gorgeous and impactful debut gazes unflinchingly at the twin crises of climate change and human hubris, urging us to look closer at the creatures who co-exist with us in the space between wild and tame.

She Was Horrid by Morgan Waites

9/13/2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-31-0

Eve only has sex with men who pay her, and she doesn't particularly enjoy it, but she's self-destructive and has sworn off love forever anyway. But then she goes and falls in love, and with a broke guy, at that. But when it doesn't work out, she goes on a downward spiral, until finally being forced to face her inner demons.

I Still Go to Bed with Water by Melanie Sevcenko

9.20.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-32-7

Melanie Sevcenko is a published poet, journalist, and radio producer currently residing in Portland, Oregon. Her poetry and short fiction has appeared in several literary publications, including *Poetry Quarterly*, *Verse*

Daily, *Black Heart Magazine*, *apt*, *The Fourth River*, *BlazeVOX*, *Reunion: The Dallas Review*, and more. Her poetry chapbook, *We Slept in Body Bags, Just in Case*, was published in 2013 by Finishing Line Press and was nominated for the Mass Book Awards. She is currently the producer and editor of *Live Wire*, a weekly arts and culture program from PRI, which is broadcast on over 150 public radio stations across the nation and reaches over 300,000 listeners.

The Year of the Monster by Tara Stillions Whitehead

9.27.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-33-4

The Year of the Monster explores the impact of American culture as commodity and comorbidity. From black holes to animal extinctions, from 24-hour death row media coverage to the redacted scripts of Hollywood abuses, these sixteen stories challenge the moral binaries of traditional notions of justice, challenging vulnerable characters to survive in transgressive spaces. Mixing traditional prose with screenplay and script-hybrid, Stillions Whitehead revives important questions about media consumption and the prescient human condition, encouraging us to examine our collective complicity in the evolving climate crisis, dangerous addiction narratives, rampant celebrity fetish, and persistent victim shaming.

October 2022

an open door by Anne Leigh Parrish

10.4.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-34-1

It's 1948 and the freedom granted women by the Second World War is gone. Edith Sloan, earning her doctorate, is told by her law student husband to cancel her academic plans. His bright future requires a certain kind of wife: one in the kitchen making dinner for important guests. Frustrated and defiant, Edith leaves him but returns when his begging letters become too much. Trapped by marriage and her husband's ambition, Edith struggles to find her footing and the means to her own survival.

Walks Through Memories of Oblivion by Fernando Andres Torres

10.11.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-35-8

Walks Through Memories of Oblivion is a collection of short stories and essays about resistance, prison, and exile; a creative nonfiction narrative based on true events; flashbacks from the former political prisoner I once was at eighteen years of age, during the military regime that overthrew democracy and established a brutal dictatorship (1973-90) in Chile, my homeland. The stories range from my arrest until my expulsion into exile; in some of them I describe the mental disorders: how sanity finds its limits in confinement; the paradoxical everyday life inside the prison; others tell the horror of torture and death, another is the story of a woman searching for her missing son. These stories are not about politics, they are personal; the flesh and bones behind the young and restless student militant that once I was; there is a good game of dark humor and tales of subtle and small victories of human endurance and perseverance.

Lily Narcissus by Jonathan Lerner

10.20.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-36-5

LILY NARCISSUS is the story of a woman who arrives in an exotic and challenging locale — the world of expats and diplomatic intrigue, in Vietnam War-era Asia — and seizes the opportunities it provides to reinvent herself as powerful, though in ways perhaps unrecognizable to the feminists of recent generations. In doing so, she leaves behind her close friends, her Jewish identity, even her own family. So this is also the slow-motion story of a family's disintegration.

The Paper Boy & The Winter War by R. E. Hengsterman

10.31.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-37-2

R.E Hengsterman's writing appears in over fifty online and print publications including Across The Margin, Maudlin House, Bluntly Magazine, Eunoia Review, Queen Mob's Tea House, Barren Magazine, Riggwelter, Phenomenal Literature, Former Cactus, The Aironaut, Thorn Literary Magazine, Dodging The Rain, The Blotter Magazine and many others.

November 2022

The Runestone's Promise by Mari Mathias

11.1.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-38-9

Gertine's sister, Karen, is days away from being married when their mother abruptly and inexplicably calls off the wedding off, yet Karen sneaks off to marry anyway. As Gertine struggles to understand her mother's seemingly irrational actions that threaten to tear the family apart, she discovers that certain facts about her life are in fact not true at all. Her idyllic world is upended. Inspired by a runestone she finds in the woods, Gertine follows one family secret to another in her need to find the real truth. She finds family she hadn't known she had and she uncovers the story of her mother's past as well as her own.

Although set in 1799 Norway, the women in the story battle complex issues that are relevant to women today. By uncovering her mother's history, Gertine takes control of her own destiny. She must get past her guilt and worry, own her own choices and learn to accept things that are outside her control; they don't have to define her.

Lost and Found in the 60s by Paul Justison

11.8.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-39-6

Paul Justison left high school early for the bright lights of Haight-Ashbury. Later, he earned two anthropology degrees, but never worked in the field. Instead, he pursued a lengthy career in planning and consulting. In retirement, he turned to writing, another endeavor for which he has no specific training. "April, 1968" is an excerpt from his unpublished novel, *Lost and Found in the 60s*. You can also find his work at *The Gambler Mag*.

I Bought My Husband's Mistress Lingerie by Stacey Freeman

11.15.2022

Creative Nonfiction

978-1-956692-40-2

I Bought My Husband's Mistress Lingerie tells Stacey Freeman's uplifting story beginning when she made a life-changing discovery in her husband's suitcase. Set in Short Hills, New Jersey, her memoir in essays takes readers around the world and back in time for an emotional ride through her childhood and adolescence, marriage, separation and divorce, navigation of bicontinental co-parenting, introduction to mid-life dating, and return to work. Oscillating between periods of despair and laughter and often landing somewhere in between, this slice-of-life essay collection serves as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and how sometimes gifts can come from the most unexpected people and places.

When Fire Splits the Sky by Tyler James Russell

11.22.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-41-9

What's the worth of a relationship at the end of the world? Following a mysterious, cataclysmic blast, Maranda, a trauma survivor with multiple personalities, and Ben, her almost-ex-husband, flee north in the same car, on a seemingly hopeless quest to reunite with a missing family member before it's too late. Along the way, they are pursued by two men with dark ties to Maranda's past.

December 2022

backbeat ocean by Janette Kennedy

12.6.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-42-6

JANETTE KENNEDY, MAEd, MFA frequently dreams of multi-textured colors connecting people. Her poetry has appeared at Mothers Always Write and on the Tiferet Journal community blog. Ever since she wrote her education thesis on using comics in the classroom, she has been fascinated by the intersection of language and visual art. At present, she *tutors students with diverse needs and lives with her family in Tennessee.*

Transit by J.D. Smith

12.6.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-43-3

J.D. Smith's fourth collection of poetry, *The Killing Tree*, was published in 2016, and in 2007 he was awarded a fellowship in poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts. His first collection of fiction, *Transit*, is forthcoming in 2022. His books in other genres include the essay collection *Dowsing and Science* (2011). His first children's book, *The Best Mariachi in the World*, was published in 2008. Smith works as a writer and editor in Washington, DC, where he lives with his wife, Paula Van Lare, and their companion animals.

The Bunker Book by Anne Babson

12.13.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-44-0

Anne Babson's first collection *The White Trash Pantheon* won the Colby H. Kullman prize from the Southern Writers Southern Writing Conference in Oxford, Mississippi. She wrote the libretto for the opera *Lotus Lives*,

which has been performed in multiple cities and is slated for production once more in Montreal in 2018. She is the author of three chapbooks— *Poems Under Surveillance* is still in print with Finishing Line Press, and she has a forthcoming chapbook from Dancing Girl Press entitled *Dolly Shot*. She has been anthologized in the United States and in England, most recently in the notable collection *Nasty Women Poets: an Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse* released in 2017. Her work has appeared in literary journals on five continents and has won numerous editorial awards. She has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize four times. She has received residency grants from Yaddo and Vermont Studio Center. Her blog about moving south, *The Carpetbaggers Journal*, has close to 50,000 hits and has been picked up by *Y'all Politics* and PBS-related websites. She writes lyrics for a variety of musical projects, most recently a blues album. She teaches writing and literature at Southeastern Louisiana University. She writes and lives in New Orleans. She will read there at this year's Tennessee Williams Festival.

Womenscape by Susan Helene

12.20.2022

Fiction

978-1-956692-45-7

In every person's life there are life-changing moments—sometimes for good and sometimes not. The stories in *Womenscape* follow twelve women from age five to ninety-five as they navigate the landscape of their lives. Life is not predictable as these women and you, the reader, will find out.

Shedding by M.J. Daly

12.31.2022

Poetry

978-1-956692-46-4