2011 Annotated Bibliography

Art

Hodel, Page. *Monday Hearts for Madalene*. 2010. 112p. Stewart, Tabori & Chang, $16.95. (978-1-58479-778-4). San Francisco DJ Page Hodel used a diversity of objects, organic and otherwise, to create one heart each week for her partner, Madalene Rodriguez, who died of ovarian cancer less than a year after they met. This collection of 100 photographs of the hearts created both before and after Madalene’s death commemorates their relationship. [A]

Shraya, Vivek. *God Loves Hair: Stories*. Il. by Juliana Newfeld. 2010. unp. Vivek Shraya (godloveshair.com), $20.00. (978-0-9865512-0-8). In these short stories accompanied by poignant, sometimes abstract, illustrations, a young boy chronicles his confusion about sexuality, gender, race, religion, and belonging as he struggles with growing up brown, pretty, and soft. [A]

Memoir/Biography


Evans, R. Tripp. *Grant Wood: A Life*. 2010. 402p. Knopf, $37.50. (978-0-307-26629-3). Known as a plain and simple Regionalist painter, most famously of the pitchfork-wielding farmer and his dour companion in American Gothic, Grant Wood is anything but, as shown by the secrets in his personal life, including the question of whether he was gay. [MB]

Griffin, Mark. *A Hundred or More Hidden Things: The Life and Films of Vincente Minnelli*. 2010. 346p. Da Capo Press, $15.95. (978-0-7867-2099-6). Was he gay or not? No one told, not even his four wives, but he wore eye makeup, had “close” relationships with other men, and directed many films on alternative sexualities, including Tea and Sympathy. [MB]


Meade, Marion. *Lonelyhearts: The Screwball World of Nathanael West and Eileen McKenney*. 2010. 392p. Houghton Mifflin, $28.00. (978-0-151011490). The lives of author Nathanael West and Eileen McKenney, best known as the subject of Ruth McKenney’s *My Sister Eileen*, were short, but separately and together they moved among the rich and famous until their deaths in a 1940 car crash. [MB]


Raymond, Dwayne. *Mornings with Mailer: A Recollection of Friendship*. 2010. 342p. Harper Perennial, $13.99. (978-0-06-173359-8). For the last four years of Norman Mailer’s life in Provincetown, Raymond, a gay man, was his personal assistant, a job that covered researching, cooking, organizing papers, and much more. [MB]


Sarfaty, Eddie. *Mental: Funny in the Head*. 2009. 256p. Kensington, $15.00. (978-0-7582-2255-8). Career lows, an adopted cat from hell, drag queens, a mother with wiseacre chutzpah, and coming out to Grandma are only a few of the autobiographical essays from a stand-up performer who weaves the ups and downs of his love life throughout his comic memoir. [MB]


Shepard, Judy, with Jon Barrett. *The Meaning of Matthew: My Son’s Murder in Laramie and a World Transformed*. 2009 (Sept.). 273p. Hudson/Penguin, $25.95. (978-1-59463-057-6). The day that Matthew Shepard, a young student at the University of Wyoming, was violently attacked and left for dead was a turning point for LGBT rights. Matthew’s mother provides a context for her son’s life and a compassionate account of the events surrounding Matthew’s murder. [MB]


**Essays**

Bram, Christopher. *Mapping the Territory: Selected Nonfiction*. 2009. 258p. Alyson, $23.95. (9781593501433). The author of nine novels, including Gods and Monsters, has selected 17 essays written over the past 30 years that he says “form an accidental autobiography.” [E]


Coyote, Ivan E. *Missed Her: Stories*. 2010. 142p. Arsenal Pulp Press, $16.95. (978-1-55152-371-2). From a master storyteller and performer come these funny, wistful tales about growing up in the Canadian north as a butch, examining others’ confusion in the face of gender identity. [E]


Out Loud: *The Best of Rainbow Radio*. Ed. by Ed Madden and Candace Hodge. 2010. 159p. Hub City Press, $14.95. (978-189188576-1). A radio program that began as a six-week experiment in Columbia (SC) is now a weekly half hour that has run continuously since October 9, 2005. Organized
into three sections—listening, learning, and resisting—these broadcasts about being gay in the South make the reader laugh, cry, and want to fight back against the bigotry. [E]

Something to Declare: Good Lesbian Travel Writing. Ed. by Gillian Kendall. 2009 (Sept.). 230p. Terrace/University of Wisconsin Press, $15.00. (978-0299233549). Twenty journeys, both fictional and actual, span the globe of the heart as often as through geography. [E]


Fiction


Bellatin, Mario. Beauty Salon. Trans. by Kurt Hollander. 2009 (August). 63p. City Lights Publisher, $10.95. (978-0-87286-473-3). Shunned by family and friends after succumbing to a mysterious plague, the afflicted spend their last days in a former beauty salon, tended by an aging transvestite, where exotic fish die in the aquariums lining the walls, providing an allegory of the events of the world at large. [F]

Bergman, S. Bear. The Nearest Exit May Be Behind You: Essays. 2009. 205p. Arsenal Pulp Press, $18.95. (978-1-55152-264-7). Gender identity and Jewish identity intersect in these poignant, humorous essays reflecting the transmutations of the author from butch and husband of a woman to a transmasculine person (Bergman’s word) and husband of a transman. [E]

Brite, Poppy Z. Second Line: Two Short Novels of Love & Cooking in New Orleans. 2009 (Oct). 259p. Small Beer Press, $16.00. (978-193152060-7). In New Orleans, lovers Ricky and G-man overcome their families’ attempts to separate them, learn to cook, and find that the problems of running a restaurant together threaten to destroy their relationship. [F]

Conroy, Pat. South of Broad. 2009. 514p. Nan A. Talese, $29.95. (978-0-385-41305-3). Gossip columnist Leo Bloom, named by his mother after the character in Ulysses, straddles the divide in his friendships between aristocratic Charleston and the “other side” with its Appalachian orphans and African-Americans as he alternates his story between the high school years of 1969 and the 1989 disasters of AIDS and Hurricane Hugo, when all their lives disintegrate in personal storms. [F]

Cunningham, Michael. By Nightfall: A Novel. 2010. 238p. FSG, $25.00. (978-0-374-29908-8). Peter’s seemingly ideal life with his wife, Rebecca, in Manhattan’s SoHo is turned upside down when Rebecca’s beautiful 23-year-old brother comes for a visit. [F]

Ford, Michael Thomas. *The Road Home*. 2010. 248p. Kensington, $24.00. (978-0-758-1853-7). Recuperating at his father’s small-town Vermont home after a car accident, photographer Burke Crenshaw finds himself drawn into a mystery of a Civil War infantryman and his fiancé as well as his attraction to the 20-year-old son of his old high school crush. [F]


Hall, Catherine. *Days of Grace*. 2010. 294p. Viking, $25.95. (978-0-670-02176-5). At the end of her life, Nora Lynch has decided that she will die alone until she takes a young woman and her just-born daughter into her home, an act that causes her to relive her adolescent days as an World War II evacuee outside London when she suffered from a passion for another girl. [F]


Johnson, Barb. *More of This World or Maybe Another*. 2009 (Oct.). 185p. Harper Perennial, $13.99. (978-0-06-173227-0). Characters in these jewel-like short stories set in an impoverished section of New Orleans come together over a 20-year period as a teenager gives up her fiancé after falling in love with a woman, a misguided young man’s actions to keep his wife turn into disaster, and a lesbian couple fighting to maintain their relationship provide the center of their community. [F]


Mendicino, Tom. *Probation*. 2010. 340p. Kensington, $15.00. (978-0-7582-3878-8). Middle-aged Andy Nocera didn’t expect to come out as a gay man during an anonymous tryst at an Interstate rest area, but his arrest led to divorce, a new job as a traveling salesman, and a home at his mother’s house. Court-ordered therapy with a Jesuit priest lets Andy track his life, both before his “indiscretion” and during the process of becoming openly gay and coping with his mother’s dying. [F]


Nolan, Monica. *Bobby Blanchard, Lesbian Gym Teacher*. 2010. 290p. Kensington, $15.00. (978-0-7582-3206-9). In this tongue-in-cheek novel of the 1950s, Roberta Blanchard, forced to leave the glamorous field of professional hockey, finds a job at a private high school where she struggles with her ignorance about literature and art and with her sexual desire for many of the women, including one of the students. [F]


Sims, Ruth. *Counterpoint: Dylan’s Story*. 2010. 314p. Dreamspinner Press, $17.99. (978-1-161581533-3). Dylan Rutledge, 18, believes that he will be the greatest composer in the rapidly approaching twentieth century, but his love “that dare not speak its name” for Laurence Northcliff, a young history master, alienates him from his family as he looks for his future in England and Paris. [F]


Irish Catholic parents’ abuse, his brother’s violence, and the daily bullying at his hated South Side Chicago Jesuit high school. [F]

Stuart, Sebastian. *The Hour Between*. 2009 (Sept.). 248p. Alyson, $14.95. (978-0-598350-126-6). After being expelled from a pretentious prep school, wealthy New York teen Arthur MacDougal finds himself attending a down-at-heels private school in the wilds of Connecticut. In his first day, Arthur is informed by quirky Katrina Felt that he is gay. During the following school year Arthur deals with the drugs, the war, sexual freedom, and the anti-establishment rebellion of the late 1960s as well as his attraction to the muscular townie, Lennie. [F]


Truong, Monique. *Bitter in the Mouth: A Novel*. 2010. 282p. Random House, $25.00. (978-1-4000-6908-8). Linda’s life in Boiling Springs (NC) and her relationship with her family and friends is affected by her synesthesia, a condition in which she experiences words as tastes. [F]

**Graphic Narrative**

Hernandez, Jaimie. *Locas II: Maggie, Hopey and Ray (Love and Rocket)*. 2009 (Sept). 418p. Fantagraphics, $39.99. (978-1-60699-156-5). Divorced Maggie pursues Vivian while both Hopey and Ray pursue Maggie. The focus of these graphic vignettes is a variety of colorful characters including Maggie’s Latino family and Vivian’s thug friends. [GN]

Rucka, Greg. *Batwoman: Elegy*. Art by J.H. Williams III; color by Dave Stewart; letters by Todd Klein. 2010.192p. DC Comics, $24.99. (978-1-4012-2692-3). After the “don’t ask don’t tell” policy forces Kate Kane out of West Point, she joins Batman and battles a crazed cult called the Religion of Crime led by an Alice-in-Wonderland look-alike porcelain-pale Goth who may be Kate’s twin, long thought dead. [GN]

**Horror**


Cardamone, Tom. *Pumpkin Teeth*. 2009 (Oct.). 184p. Lethe Press, $15.00. (978-1590211328). In this wicked universe, a boy transforms into lightning and illuminates his emerging sexuality, a nurse finds herself working in a retirement home for vampires, a man questions his decision to live life as a manatee, and more. [H]

Files, Gemma. *A Book of Tongues: Volume One of the Hexslinger Series*. 2010. 274p. Chizine Publications, $16.95. (978-0-9812978-6-6). Following the Civil War, Pinkerton detective Ed Murrow infiltrates a renegade Confederate gang to investigate the hexslinging abilities of Rev. Asher Rook and his psychopathic lover Chess Pargeter, as the goddess Ixchel attempts to reinstate the Aztec gods by seducing Rook into a ritual marriage, forcing his Wild West gang into a journey through Hell. [H, W]

**Mystery**

Bidulka, Anthony. *Date with a Sheesha*. 2010. 262p. Insomniac Press, $16.95. (978-1-897178-90-4). Canadian PI Russell Quant goes undercover and explores the Middle East from Dubai glitz to the sand dunes of Saudi Arabia as he tries to rescue a gay man facing murder. [M]


Redmann, J.M. *Water Mark*. 2010. 281p. Bold Strokes Books, $16.95. (978-1-602821-79-8). Following Hurricane Katrina’s destruction of her beloved New Orleans, private investigator Micky Knight tries to put her life back in order, but at loose ends, with her lover missing and her friends focused on their own losses, Micky decides to investigate one of the many dead bodies in the city, a quixotic quest that leads her to a naive Midwestern teenager in danger of becoming the next unidentified dead body. [M]

Reynolds, Sean. *Dying for a Change*. 2009 (Sept.). 256p. Suspect Thoughts Press, $16.95. (978-0-9789023-15). In the sweltering Chicago summer of 1965, lesbian Chan Parker--tall, handsome, and Black--decides to leave the mob and go legit as a private detective. With the help of best friend Henrietta Wild Cherry, Parker investigates the murder of famous drag queen Miss Dove, but finds that her former career isn’t so easy to shake off. [M]

Ryan, Garry. *Smoked: A Detective Lane Mystery*. 2010. 228p. NeWest, $18.95. (978-1-897126-62-2). When Jennifer Towers is found dead in a graffiti-tagged dumpster, Detectives Lane and Harper must decode the artwork and infiltrate the underground graffiti culture to solve the case. [M]

**Nonfiction**


Ball, Carlos A. *From the Closet to the Courtroom: Five LGBT Rights Lawsuits that Have Changed Our Nation*. 2010. 286p. Beacon Press, $27.95. (978-0-8070-0078-6). Among the many legal battles surrounding LGBT rights, five U.S. cases have changed history. [N]

Chapman, David and Brett Josef Grubisic. *American Hunks*. 2009 (Oct.). 352p. Arsenal Pulp Press, $29.95. (978-1-55152-256-2). Images of the muscular American male shown in popular culture from 1860 to 1970 demonstrate how masculine imagery has been used to sell everything from military involvement to laundry detergents. [N]

Donoghue, Emma. *Inseparable: Desire between Women in Literature*. 2010. 271p. Knopf, $27.95. (978-0-307-27094-8). Donoghue traces the history of lesbian literary passion from ancient times to the present, discussing “texts in which the attraction between women is undeniably there [and has] consequences for the story.” [N]


Echols, Alice. *Hot Stuff: Disco and the Remaking of American Culture*. 2010. 338p. Norton, $26.95. (978-0-393-0667503). More than a representation of a shallow decade, disco helped shape the culture of blacks, feminists, and gays in a time when they were searching for safe places. [N]

Fellows, Will and Helen P. Branson. *Gay Bar: The Fabulous, True Story of a Daring Woman and Her Boys in the 1950s*. 2010. 166p. University of Wisconsin Press, $26.95. (978-0-2992485-0-5). At a time when laws barred gays from meeting in bars, a straight woman in her 60s provided a gay haven in her Los Angeles tavern for nine years and published a supportive book about her “boys” in 1957; this book expands the original publication with a gay historical perspective on the 1950s. [N]

Gambone, Philip. *Travels in a Gay Nation: Portraits of LGBTQ Americans*. 2010. 294p. University of Wisconsin Press, $26.95. (978-0-29923684-7). From a gay teenager born with AIDS to an 85-year-old writer, the LGBTQ people in these 40 interviews come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds and careers in the arts, entertainment, religion, politics, activism, etc. to provide a portrait of queer humanity. [N]


Herman, Joanne. *Transgender Explained: For Those Who Are Not*. 2009 (Sept.). 148p. AuthorHouse, $14.95. (978-1-4490-2966-1). The complex world of transgender is explored through the personal reflections of the author as she describes issues of employment, marriage, insurance, childhood, medical procedures, and more. [N]

Keep Your Wives Away from Them: Orthodox Women Unorthodox Desires. Ed. by Miryam Kabakov. 2010. 169p. North Atlantic Books, $16.95. (978-1-55643-897-0). First-person accounts of 14 lesbians living at the intersection of conflicting sexual and religious identities describe their experiences as individuals and community members, reconciling their commitment to Orthodox Judaism and living as out lesbians. [N]

Kicked Out. Ed. by Sassafras Lowrey; foreword by Judy Shepard. 2010. 222p. Homofactus Press, $19.95. (978-0-97859736-8). Interviews, poetry, and pictures show the resilience and courage of LGBT youth forced to leave their homes after coming out to their parents. [N]
Kinsman, Gary and Patrizia Gentile. *The Canadian War on Queers: National Security as Sexual Regulation*. 2010. 554p. University of British Columbia Press, $37.95. (978-0-7748-1628-1). Drawing on official security documents and interviews with the investigators and investigated, this book chronicles the campaigns of fear and lies that shattered the lives of gay and lesbian Canadians in the name of national security during the second half of the twentieth century. [N]


Serwatka, Thomas S. *Queer Questions, Clear Answers: The Contemporary Debates on Sexual Orientation*. 2010. 265p. Praeger, $44.95. (978-0-313-38612-1). In a conversational question and answer format, Serwatka explores issues of religion, history, “reparative therapy,” stereotypes, civil rights, and schooling in the ongoing cultural and political debates about lesbians, gays, and bisexuals. [N]

Sheng, Jeff. *Don't Ask, Don't Tell, V. 1*. 2010. Jeff Sheng Studios, $24.95. (978-0-9844474-1-1). The misery of enforced closeting of patriotic gays and lesbians by the U.S. military is powerfully illuminated in these 20 photographic portraits accompanied by selected anonymous emails courageously describing their silent war. [N]

**Poetry**


Xavier, Emanuel. If Jesus Were Gay & Other Poems. 2010. 135p. Queer Mojo/Rebel Satori, $14.95. (978-1-60864-032-4). Love, lust, religion, race, sadness, and memory are the focus of these sometimes raw but always honest poems, both personal and universal, that make the ordinary extraordinary. [P]

Speculative Fiction


Clark, Naomi. Silver Kiss: An Urban Wolf Novel. 2010. 218p. Queered Fiction, $14.99. (978-1-920441-12-8). Lesbian shapeshifter Ayla Hammond returns home to mend fences with her parents and solve a missing persons case, while she debates whether she wants to rejoin the werewolf pack which might demand more than she is willing to sacrifice. [SF]

Dellamonicia, A.M. Indigo Springs. 2009 (Oct.). 317p. Tor, $14.99. (978-0-7653-1947-0). As society teeters on the brink of magical ruin and revolution, government hostage negotiator Will Forest interrogates Astrid Lethewood, whose ability to enchant ordinary objects holds the keys to set the world right. [SF]

Lanyon, Josh. Strange Fortune. 2009 (Dec.). 311p. Blind Eye Books, $14.95. (978-1-03557-00-5). In an alternate universe reminiscent of India during its final days as a British colony, bisexual adventurer Valentine Strange and witch Aleister Grimshaw develop a mutual attraction and face traitors, wild animals, political monks, and a renegade spiritual force when they set out on a quest to a remote mountain monastery searching for a goddess’s lost diadem. [SF]

McDonald, Sandra. Diana Comet: And Other Improbable Stories. 2010. 282p. Lethe Press, $15.00. (978-1-59021-094-9). Fifteen linked short stories set in an alternate Earth meld magic and the mundane through the exploits of heroic and complex characters, including the intrepid cross-dressing spy, Diana Comet. [SF]

Pitts, J.A. Black Blade Blues. 2010. 398p. Tor, $25.99. (978-0-7653-2467-2). Norse mythology meets the Pacific Northwest in this tale of dragons posing as investment bankers, as lesbian blacksmith Sarah Beauhall battles demons both without and within herself. [SF]

Schulman, Sarah. The Mere Future. 2009 (Sept.).183p. Arsenal Pulp Press, $22.95. (978-1-55152-257-9). In a near-future New York the charismatic mayor decrees that there will be no public advertising, no chain stores, and no homelessness. Citizens begin to wonder who is paying for the changes. [SF]

Western

Files, Gemma. A Book of Tongues: Volume One of the Hexslinger Series. 2010. 274p. Chizine Publications, $16.95. (978-0-9812978-6-6). Following the Civil War, Pinkerton detective Ed Murrow infiltrates a renegade Confederate gang to investigate the hexslinging abilities of Rev. Asher Rook and his psychopathic lover Chess Pargeter, as the goddess Ixchel attempts to reinstate the Aztec gods by seducing Rook into a ritual marriage, forcing his Wild West gang into a journey through Hell. [H,W]

Perez, Emma. Forgetting the Alamo, or Blood Memory. 2009. 206p. University of Texas, $24.95. (978-0-292-7218-9). The vows of Micaela Campos, a Chicana lesbian cowgirl, to avenge the murder
of her father and her younger siblings in the aftermath of the Alamo lead her into a violent collision of culture and politics involving Mexicans, African-Americans, Anglos, and indigenous peoples. [W]