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SPRING 2023

CONTENTS

Don Gillmor

Breaking and Entering / 4

Deborah Dundas

On Class (Field Notes #7) / 6

Heidi LM Jacobs

1934: The Chatham Coloured All-Stars'

Barrier-Breaking Year / 8

Thomas Melle

The World at My Back / 10

Christophe Bernard

The Hollow Beast / 12

Mike Barnes

(ideas of reference) / 14

Jason Guriel

The Full-Moon Whaling Chronicles / 16

Lucian Childs

Dreaming Home / 18

Rodrigo Rey Rosa

The Country of Toó / 20

DON GILLMOR

BREAKING AND ENTERING

During the hottest summer on record, Bea's dangerous new hobby puts everyone's sense of security to the test.



August 15, 2023 | Novel
5.25 × 8.25, 240 pp
\$22.95 | 9781771965231
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Out of Mind, David Bergen
Dual Citizens, Alix Ohlin
To the River,
Don Gillmor

At 49, Beatrice Billings is rudderless. Her marriage is stale, her relationship with her son Thomas is strained, she carries on ongoing arguments with her older sister in her head, and her mother is in the early stages of dementia. Bea misses the momentum she remembers from in her thirties, when she and everyone she knew was buying houses, having children, and renovating kitchens. But when Bea discovers that she has both a talent and a passion for picking locks, the sense of anticipation that had been missing from her life returns. Breaking into other people's houses is something she's good at: she is a quick study, subtle, discreet, and never greedy. It's a dangerous hobby that makes her feel alive—and so she begins the guilty analysis of other people's lives, and eventually, her own. From Governor General's Award-winning Don Gillmor, *Breaking and Entering* is an exacting look at the fragility of all the things we take on faith.

Don Gillmor is the author of three previous novels, nine children's books, and the memoir *To the River*, which won the Governor General's Award for Nonfiction. His journalism has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *GQ*, *The Walrus*, and elsewhere. He lives in Toronto.



PRAISE FOR DON GILLMOR'S *TO THE RIVER*

"*To The River: Losing My Brother* is haunting, beautifully written and rightly hesitant about any certainties regarding an act as ultimately unknowable in social terms as it is in individual decisions." *MACLEAN'S*

"Gillmor took on the thankless, though compelling, existential task of understanding another man's life, happiness and grief. And what makes it worth leaving." *GLOBE AND MAIL*

"As he explores the cultural, sociological and psychological questions surrounding suicide, Gillmor circles ever closer to an answer to the central question of those left behind: Why? On the way, he draws back the curtain on a subject too little discussed ... At its heart, though, *To the River* is a family story, focused on a brother's love and loss. It is a keen-edged, frank book, beautiful and unflinching, painful and important." *ROBERT J. WIERSEMA*

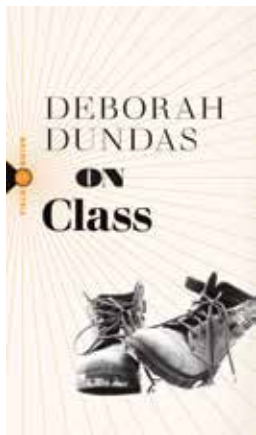
"A beautiful, shattering book. Wise and honest, and exquisitely written. Insight for anyone who has known the gnawing sorrow or the endless accusation of a senseless loss. It will also make you laugh out loud. Go figure."
LINDEN MACINTYRE

DEBORAH DUNDAS

ON CLASS

FIELD NOTES #7

What happens when we don't talk about poverty or class—and what might happen if we did?



Stories about poor people are rarely written by the poor—and when they are written they tend to fit into a hero narrative. Through hard work, smarts, and temerity, the hero pulls themselves up by their bootstraps in a narrative that simply provides an easy exception: look, we don't have to give you more, you just have to work harder. *On Class* is an exploration of the ways we talk about class: of who tells the stories and who doesn't, and why that has to change. It asks the question: What don't we talk about when we don't talk about class? We don't talk about luck, or privilege, or entitlement. We don't talk about the trauma of being poor.

May 2, 2023 | Nonfiction
4.25 x 7.75, 160 pp
\$15.95 | 9781771964814
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:
Sarah Smarsh, *Heartland*
Stephanie Land, *Maid*
JD Vance, *Hillbilly Elegy*



Deborah Dundas is Books Editor at the *Toronto Star* and has been contributing reviews there and elsewhere for over 18 years. She lives in Toronto.

PRAISE FOR THE FIELD NOTES SERIES

“A clear-eyed assessment of the links between property, policing, and the subjugation of Black people ... [A] well-conceived call for change.”

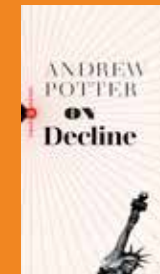
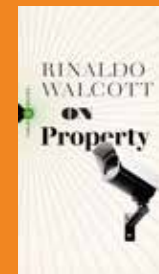
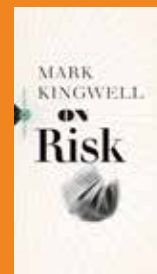
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON *ON PROPERTY*

“Like its historic ancestors, *On Decline* deserves a wide general audience and should be required reading for the incoming federal government.” **WINNIPEG FREE PRESS**

“Timely.” **MARGARET ATWOOD on *ON RISK***

“I devoured this book.” **MARSHA LEDERMAN on *ON THE ORIGIN OF THE DEADLIEST PANDEMIC IN 100 YEARS***

“Slender, thoughtful ... An entertaining gloss on an enduring conundrum.” **KIRKUS on *ON RISK***



HEIDI L.M. JACOBS

1934

THE CHATHAM COLOURED ALL-STARS'
BARRIER-BREAKING YEAR

The true story of the first Black team to win an Ontario Baseball Amateur Association championship.

The pride of Chatham's East End, the Coloured All-Stars featured a roster of players who drew fans to the field with their high energy, no holds-barred style of play while they confronted challenges both on and off the field. Drawing heavily on scrapbooks, newspaper accounts, and oral histories from members of the team and their families, *1934: The Chatham Coloured All-Stars' Barrier-Breaking Year* tells the story of the first Black team to win an Ontario Baseball Amateur Association championship. More than a baseball story, this is a book about a neighbourhood, its citizens, and their pride in an astonishing team. Until recently, this vital story of Canada's racial history and the team's indefatigable spirit was preserved only in family stories, scrapbooks, and ephemera. *1934* introduces readers to these players and to the people who have worked to preserve and celebrate their legacy.

June 6, 2023 | History
5.5 x 8.5, 320pp | \$ 24.95
9781771964777 (paperback)
Forty black and white photographs

COMP TITLES:

They Call Me George, Cecil Foster
The Cloudbuster Nine, Anne R. Keene
100 Miles of Baseball, Dale Jacobs and Heidi LM Jacobs

Heidi L.M. Jacobs is part of the research team behind the award-winning *Breaking the Colour Barrier: Wilfred 'Boomer' Harding and the Chatham Coloured All-Stars* digital project and the co-author of *100 Miles of Baseball: Fifty Games, One Summer* (with Dale Jacobs, Biblioasis, 2021). She lives in Windsor, Ontario.

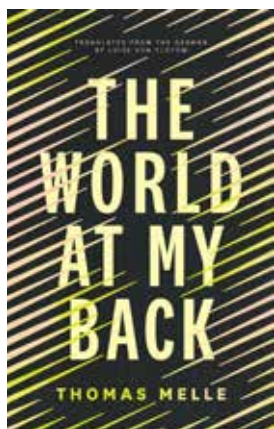


THOMAS MELLE

THE WORLD AT MY BACK

TRANSLATED BY LUISE VON FLOTOW

A writer's wrenching, no-holds-barred confession about his experiences with bipolar disorder.



May 2, 2023 | Memoir
5.25 x 8.25, 304 pp
\$22.95 | 9781771964517
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:
Darkness Visible
William Styron
The Collected Schizophrenias
Esme Weijun Wang
Brain on Fire
Susannah Cahalan

Thomas Melle, a successful young novelist and playwright, suddenly sells off his library without knowing why he's doing it. His personal life disintegrates as his behaviour becomes more irrational. Drunken frenzies, wild imaginings, fantasies about sex with stars, broken relationships, professional scandals, scuffles with the police, and enforced stays on psych wards, take over Melle's life. Possibly the most, precise, intense account ever written of how it feels to suffer from bipolar disorder, *The World at My Back* is a triumph of truth-telling and a masterpiece of elegant literary expression. Balancing exquisite writing with fearless confrontations with brutally self-destructive actions, this book is a wrenching confession and a moving description of the search for emotional balance.

Thomas Melle is a novelist, playwright, and translator. The bestselling German edition of *The World at My Back* was a finalist for the German Book Prize and has been translated into eighteen languages. Melle lives in Berlin.

PRAISE FOR *THE WORLD AT MY BACK*

"Books written out of great emotional distress are often embarrassing. They are rarely great literature. Thomas Melle's book is great literature because he pulls it off without a single false note." *DEUTSCHLANDFUNK*

"Haunting insights into a bipolar identity as seen from the inside ... a poetic of the authentic." *FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE ZEITUNG*

"A wrenching literary event." *DIE ZEIT*

"In spite of the desperation and darkness of the subject, you can hardly help but smile at the absurdities—even as they immediately stick in your throat." *LITERATURKRITIK*

CHRISTOPHE BERNARD

THE HOLLOW BEAST

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY LAZER LEDERHENDLER

Don Quixote meets *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* in this slapstick epic about destiny, family demons, and revenge.



August 8, 2023 | Fiction
5.25 × 8.25, 456pp
\$24.95 | 9781771965552
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

The Dishwasher,
Stéphane Larue
Querelle of Roberval,
Kevin Lambert
Arvida, Samuel Archibald

In 1911, in a hockey game in Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula, local tough guy Billy Joe Pictou fires the puck into Monti Bouge's mouth. When Monti collapses with his head across the goal line, Victor Bradley, erstwhile referee and local mailman, rules that the goal counts. Monti's ensuing revenge for this injustice sprawls over three generations, one hundred years and dozens of alcohol-soaked tall tales, from treachery in northern gold-mining camps to the appearance of a legendary beast by turns playful and ferocious. It's up to Monti's grandson, François, to make sense of the vendetta between Monti and Bradley that has shaped the destiny of their town and everyone who lives there. In a sumptuous, unpredictable language and slapstick comedy, Christophe Bernard reveals himself as a master of epic storytelling.

Christophe Bernard's *The Hollow Beast* was a finalist for the 2018 Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction in French and won the Quebec-Ontario Prize, the Quebec Booksellers' Prize, and the Jovette-Bernier Prize. Originally from Carleton-sur-Mer in the Gaspé region of Quebec, he lives in Burlington, Vermont.



PRAISE FOR CHRISTOPHE BERNARD

"Christophe Bernard has hollowed out the past like a beast and, like an alchemist, has excavated a language of pure gold. He has added a great, savage nugget to Quebec literature." *LA PRESSE* (Montreal)

"Christophe Bernard scores a huge hit with *The Hollow Beast* ... He gives birth to a sort of crazed novel in the form of a fireworks show ... Bernard slips into the patchwork skin of a kind of Thomas Pynchon crossbred with Rabelais and Victory-Lévy Beaulieu (with a pint of James Joyce) ... His writing is flamboyant with vernacular flights. An example of utter mastery." *LE DEVOIR* (Montreal)

"The reader swims in sheer delirium reading *The Hollow Beast*, a novel from the Gaspé that takes place over several generations. Passionate and unsettling ... A universe plugged in at 10,000 volts!" *RADIO CANADA*

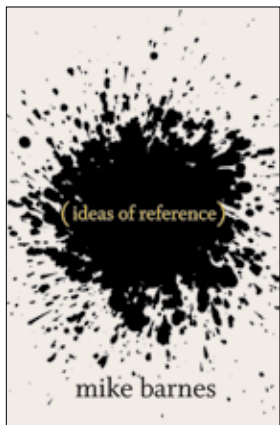
"A tale with plenty of momentum that covers a whole century and is at once fantastic, funny, cruel, brilliant." *LE JOURNAL DE MONTRÉAL*

"A family saga unlike any other ... And it's funny! I envy this writer's talent." *L'ACTUALITÉ* (Montreal)

MIKE BARNES

(IDEAS OF REFERENCE)

A poet recounts his experience with madness and explores the relationship between apprehension and imagination.



In the summer of 1977, standing on a roadside somewhere between Dachau and Munich, twenty-two-year-old Mike Barnes experienced the dawning of the psychic break he'd been anticipating almost all his life. "Times over the years when I have tried to describe what followed," he writes of that moment, "it has always come out wrong." In this finely wrought, deeply intelligent memoir of madness, its antecedents and its aftermath, Barnes reconstructs instead what led him to that moment and offers with his characteristic generosity and candor the captivating account of a mind restlessly aware of itself.

August 22, 2023 | Memoir
4.5 x 7.5, 112pp
\$19.95 | 9781771965125
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Darkness Visible, William Styron
The Collected Schizophrenias,
Esme Weijun Wang
Be With, Mike Barnes

Mike Barnes has published eleven books across a range of genres: poetry, short fiction, novels, and memoir. His last nonfiction book, *Be With: Letters to a Caregiver*, has been praised by Margaret Atwood as "Timely, lyrical, tough, accurate." He lives in Toronto.



PRAISE FOR MIKE BARNES

"(*Ideas of Reference*) is an intricately structured rendering of madness and memory, a mix of hallucination and dense, concrete realism, which only makes the phantasmagoria of illusion all the more poignant. This is an amazing work—supremely intelligent, coolly self-analytical, eerie, melancholy, revelatory and terrifying." DOUGLAS GLOVER

"Poetically compelling and evocative ... *The Lily Pond* is the ultimate act of recollection." *QUILL AND QUIRE*

"Fiercely alive, marked by a sharp, unerring eye for detail and a wonderful way with metaphors." *TORONTO STAR*

"Masterful ... *The Adjustment League* is suspenseful, exquisite-written and—at times—corrosively funny." *MACLEAN'S*

JASON GURIEL

THE FULL-MOON WHALING CHRONICLES

The follow-up to the *NYT* New & Noteworthy *Forgotten Work* is a mashup of *Moby-Dick*, *The Lord of the Rings*, Byron, cyberpunk, *Swamp Thing*, *Teen Wolf* ... and more.



August 1, 2023 | Fiction
5.25 x 8.25, 288pp
\$16.95 | 9781771965514
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Forgotten Work,
Jason Guriel
Poguemahone,
Patrick McCabe
Scattered All Over the Earth,
Yoko Tawada

It's 2070. Newfoundland has vanished, Tokyo is a new Venice, and many people have retreated to "bonsai housing": hives that compress matter in a world that's losing ground to rising tides. Enter Kaye, an English literature student searching for the reclusive author of a YA classic—a beloved novel about teenage werewolves sailing to a fabled sea monster's nest. Kaye's quest will intersect with obsessive fan subcultures, corporate conspiracies, flying gondolas, an anthropomorphic stove, and the molecular limits of reality itself.

Set in the same world as Jason Guriel's critically acclaimed verse novel *Forgotten Work*, which the *New York Times* called "unlikely, audacious, and ingenious," and written in virtuosic rhyming couplets, *The Full-Moon Whaling Chronicles* cuts between Kaye's quest, chapters from the YA novel, and guerilla works of fanfic in a genetically modified monsterpiece: a visionary verse novel destined to draw its own cult-following.

Jason Guriel is the author of several books including the verse novel *Forgotten Work* (Biblioasis, 2020). His writing has appeared in *Air Mail*, *The Atlantic*, *Slate*, *The New Republic*, *The Yale Review*, *The Walrus*, *Poetry*, and elsewhere. He lives in Toronto.



PRAISE FOR *FORGOTTEN WORK*

"A futuristic dystopian rock novel in rhymed couplets, this rollicking book is as unlikely, audacious and ingenious as the premise suggests." *NEW YORK TIMES*

"A wondrous novel." *WASHINGTON POST*

"What do you get when you throw John Shade, Nick Drake, Don Juan, Sarah Records, and Philip K. Dick into a rhymed couplet machine? Equal parts memory and forgetting, detritus and elegy, imagination and fancy, *Forgotten Work* could be the most singular novel-in-verse since Vikram Seth's *The Golden Gate*. Thanks to Jason Guriel's dexterity in metaphor-making, I found myself stopping and rereading every five lines or so, to affirm my surprise and delight." STEPHEN METCALF

"This book has no business being as good as it is. Heroic couplets in the twenty-first century? It's not a promising idea, but *Forgotten Work* is intelligent, fluent, funny, and wholly original. I can't believe it exists." CHRISTIAN WIMAN

LUCIAN CHILDS

DREAMING HOME

A queer coming-of-age—and coming-to-terms—follows the aftereffects of betrayal and poignantly explores the ways we search for home.



Dreaming Home chronicles the fragmenting of an American family. A sister's casual act of betrayal awakens the father's demons, ones spawned during his time in prisoner-of-war camps in Vietnam. The effects of the ensuing moment of violence against his son ripple out over the course of forty years, from Lubbock to San Francisco to Fort Lauderdale. Swept up in this arc, the members of this family and those they love tell their tales.

June 6, 2023 | Fiction
5 x 8, 224pp
\$22.95 | 9781771965491
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Householders, Kate Cayley
Scarborough,
Catherine Hernandez
The Music Game,
Stéphanie Clermont

Lucian Childs has been the recipient of fellowships from the *Kenyon Review* Writers Workshop and the Rasmuson Foundation, a finalist for the Faulkner-Wisdom Short Story Award, and a Lambda Literary Award finalist. He lives in Toronto.



FROM *DREAMING HOME*

Dad was waiting at the front door. I lifted up the magazine, the centerfold tumbling back out, and told him. On Dad's face, a pained look broke out into a sneer, then into a full-blown Halloween monster mask. He stormed through the house, but my brother wasn't there. Not in the backyard either. Or the treehouse. His bike had disappeared.

My father scrambled back into his truck and squealed off. As Mom and I were finishing supper, he came back empty-handed and told her she better call the cops. Within minutes, red-and-blue lights were spinning out front and a good ole boy, whose belly hung over his belt, was at the door taking a description.

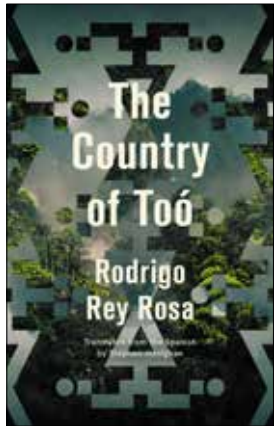
Around midnight, the policeman was back with Kyle in handcuffs, just to scare some sense into him, Dad told me later. The cop picked up my brother at a rest stop on I-35 trying to hitch a ride south. When the officer asked Kyle where in the heck was he running to, all Kyle said was, away.

RODRIGO REY ROSA

THE COUNTRY OF TOÓ

TRANSLATED FROM THE SPANISH BY STEPHEN HENIGHAN

This sumptuously written thriller asks probing questions about how we live with each other and with our planet.



Jan 24, 2023 | Fiction
5.25 x 8.25, 240pp
\$22.95 | 9781771965149
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

The Fallen
Carlos Manuel Alvarez
His Name Was Death
Rafael Bernal
Human Matter
Rodrigo Rey Rosa

The Cobra is a hard man in a brutal world. Expelled from El Salvador after a drug bust and working as a Guatemalan businessman's enforcer, he meets and comes to admire Polo, a human rights campaigner who defends the Mayan people. When the Cobra's boss orders him to murder Polo, a last-minute stab of conscience brings him into conflict with drug-dealing oligarchs. Now a marked man, he's offered a chance to escape to a remote Mayan community facing down its own assassin: the encroaching mining companies who want the land regardless of their impact on the planet. Can the Cobra change his solipsistic ways and learn to defend a culture caught in the crosshairs of another kind of battle? By the writer Roberto Bolaño has called the most rigorous of his generation, Rodrigo Rey Rosa's *The Country of Toó* is gripping thriller about power and redemption.

Rodrigo Rey Rosa is the author of five collections of short stories and more than a dozen novels that have been published in sixteen languages.

PRAISE FOR RODRIGO REY ROSA

"Intense ... By the end of this novel you feel glad to have come out on the other side and carry the hope that Rodrigo Rey Rosa, those close to him, and his fellow countrymen will do so, too." *NEW YORK JOURNAL OF BOOKS*

"Rodrigo Rey Rosa creates stories of mythic proportions." *SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE*

"[*Human Matter's*] exploration of the history of violence and secrecy in Central America has obvious relevance to today's politics, but the tale of a writer trying to understand the truth behind the things he's seeing gives the novel a resounding, universal echo." *VANITY FAIR*

"To read him is to learn how to write and is also an invitation to the pure pleasure of allowing oneself to be borne along by sinister or fantastic stories ... Rey Rosa is the most rigorous writer of my generation, and at the same time the clearest, the one who weaves his stories together best, the most brilliant of them all." **ROBERTO BOLAÑO**

DON GILLMOR
DEBORAH DUNDAS
HEIDI L.M. JACOBS
THOMAS MELLE
CHRISTOPHE BERNARD
MIKE BARNES
JASON GURIEL
LUCIAN CHILDS
RODRIGO REY ROSA

