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*of* ALBERTA PRESS

SPRING  
2016

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EDMONTON, CANADA

2	Director's Message	12	CIUS Press
3	Nonfiction	13	Awards
5	Memoir	14	Recently Released
6	Biography	17	Top Sellers
7	Literature	19	Sales Representation/ Distribution
9	Poetry		
11	Exhibition Catalogue		



## Director's Message

Once in a while something unusual, something special happens. For the University of Alberta Press team the happening was a generous and thoughtful gift from the late Robert Kroetsch's family. The gift consisted of books from Robert's personal library. As we contemplated the windfall we decided that some of the books would be donated to various literature-related charity events. Others would be used for promotional purposes like giveaways on the popular CKUA radio show *The Road Home* hosted by Bob Chelmick. And we agreed that Press team members, all of whom cared very much for Robert Kroetsch and his work, could take their pick of some of the titles as a way of remembering him. He was so special to us, and we were very grateful to publish several works from this western Canadian, Governor General's Award-winning author.

In August we were pleased to host Peter Berkery, Executive Director of the American Association of University Presses (AAUP). It was, as far as I know, the first visit of an AAUP executive director to the University of Alberta Press. Along with colleagues from Athabasca University Press, we engaged in conversation with Peter about the role of AAUP and the future of university presses. We didn't resolve anything so much as agree that just as the medium of dissemination has changed to embrace the digital world, so too are we required to examine our role and to keep seeking new methods and new partners in our efforts to disseminate scholarship.

The University of Alberta Press, its authors and books continue to shine. We are excited to have won the Alberta Publisher of the Year Award. Turn to page 13 to see our latest awards.

Lastly, let me welcome a new distribution partner: CIUS Press. Several publications from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies are noted on page 12.

Sincerely,  
Linda D. Cameron, Director





# Who Needs Books?

## Reading in the Digital Age

LYNN COADY

PAUL KENNEDY, INTRODUCTION

*More people play games than read books. More people watch porn than read books. More people watch sports and TV and movies than read books.*

—Lynn Coady

What happens if we separate the idea of “the book” from the experience it has traditionally provided? Lynn Coady challenges book lovers addicted to the physical book to confront their darkest fears about the digital world and the future of reading. Is the all-pervasive Internet turning readers into web-surfing automatons and books themselves into museum pieces? The bogeyman of technological change has haunted humans ever since Plato warned about the dangers of the written word, and every generation is convinced its youth will bring about the end of civilization. In *Who Needs Books?*, Coady suggests that, even though digital advances have long been associated with the erosion of literacy, recent technologies have not debased our culture as much as they have simply changed the way we read.

**Lynn Coady** is an award-winning author and journalist. Her first novel, *Strange Heaven*, was nominated for the Governor General's Award, and in 2011, her novel *The Antagonist* was shortlisted for the prestigious Scotiabank Giller Prize, an award she won in 2013 for her short story collection *Hellgoing*. Coady lives in Toronto, where she writes for television.

64 pages • Foreword/liminaire, introduction, notes

Co-published with Canadian Literature Centre / Centre de littérature canadienne

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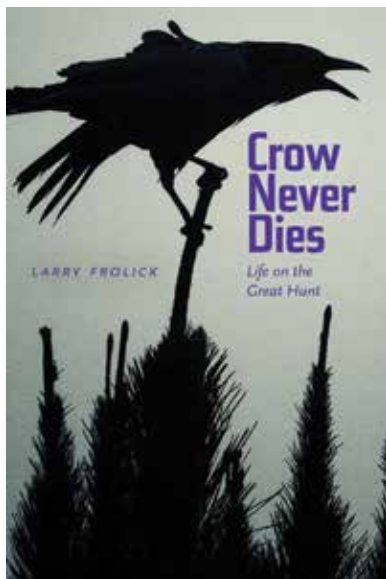
Canadian Literature/Essay

February 2016

ISBN 978-1-77212-124-7



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# Crow Never Dies

## Life on the Great Hunt

LARRY FROLICK

PAUL CARLUCCI, FOREWORD

*You should always go moose hunting with a partner.*

—James Itsi

For over 50,000 years, the Great Hunt has shaped human existence, creating a vital spiritual reality where people, animals, and the land share intimate bonds. In this compelling book, Larry Frolick takes the reader deep into one of the last refuges of hunting society: Canada's far north. The author travelled five years with First Nations Elders in remote communities across the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut, experiencing the raw power of their ancient traditions. His vivid narrative combines accounts of daily life, unpublished archival records, current scientific research, First Nations myths, and personal observation to illuminate the northern wilderness, its people, and their complex relationships. Readers of ecological travel narratives and Arctic adventures will enjoy *Crow Never Dies*.

Larry Frolick has travelled and worked in the Arctic since 2005. He is an award-winning author of books on global culture. Previously with the Gwich'in Tribal Council in Inuvik, Larry Frolick is Communications Officer with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

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# One Child Reading

## My Auto-Bibliography

MARGARET MACKEY

ROBERTA SEELINGER TRITES,  
FOREWORD

*The miracle of the preserved word, in whatever medium—print, audio text, video recording, digital exchange—means that it may transfer into new times and new places.*

—From the Introduction

In a significant and unique contribution to our understanding of reading and literacy development, Margaret Mackey draws together memory, textual criticism, social analysis, and reading theory in an extraordinary act of self-study. *One Child Reading* reflects a remarkable academic undertaking. Seeking a deeper sense of what happens when we read, Mackey revisited the texts she read, viewed, listened to, and played as she became literate in the 1950s and 1960s in St. John's, Newfoundland. This tremendous sweep of reading included school texts, knitting patterns, and games, as well as hundreds of books. The result is not a memoir but rather a deftly theorized exploration of how a reader is constructed. This is an essential book for librarians, classroom teachers, those involved in literacy development, and all serious readers.

**Margaret Mackey** is Professor in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta. She has published widely on the subject of young people's reading and their multimedia and digital literacies. A voracious reader, she lives in Edmonton.

504 pages • 140 B&W images, foreword, bibliography, index  
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Literacy/Reading  
April 2016

ISBN 978-1-77212-039-4



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HOWARD LEESON

Foreword by  
RACHEL NOTLEY

# Grant Notley

The Social  
Conscience  
of Alberta

Grant Notley, leader of Alberta's New Democratic Party from 1968 to 1984, stood out in Alberta politics. His goals, his personal integrity, his obvious dedication to social change, and his "practical idealism" made him the social conscience of Alberta. He bridged the old and the new; he provided the necessary hard work to ensure the continuation of a social democratic party in Alberta. Albertans felt intuitively that he represented a part of their collective being, and his untimely death in 1984 touched them deeply. Leeson's new introduction recognizes Grant Notley's significant contribution to the continuity and health of his party while acknowledging the important work of his daughter, Rachel Notley, who led the Alberta NDP to electoral victory in 2015. Readers of politics, biography, and social history will appreciate this new edition of an important book.

**Howard Leeson's** biography of Grant Notley is based on his years of association with the NDP. He was Mr. Notley's first executive assistant in 1971. He is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Regina. He and his wife Ede live on a small farm just outside of Regina.

392 pages • 22 B&W photographs, foreword, notes,  
bibliography, index

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Biography/Political Science/Alberta Politics

October 2015

## Grant Notley

The Social Conscience  
of Alberta, Second Edition

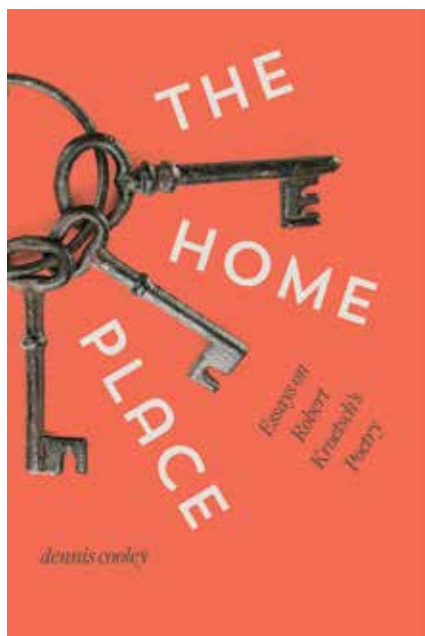
HOWARD LEESON

RACHEL NOTLEY, FOREWORD

ISBN 978-1-77212-125-4



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## The Home Place

### Essays on Robert Kroetsch's Poetry

DENNIS COOLEY

*He wants to sit and visit at the  
kitchen table, and he can hardly wait  
to get on the road again.*

—From Chapter 1

Robert Kroetsch, one of Canada's most important writers, was a fierce regionalist with a porous yet resilient sense of "home." Although his criticism and fiction have received extensive attention, his poetry remains underexplored. This exuberantly polyvocal text, insightfully written by dennis cooley—who knew Kroetsch and worked with him for decades—seeks to correct that imbalance. *The Home Place* offers a dazzling, playful, and intellectually complex conversation drawing together personal recollections, Kroetsch's archival materials, and the international body of Kroetsch scholarship. For literary scholars and anyone who appreciates Canadian literature, *The Home Place* will represent the standard critical evaluation of Kroetsch's poetry for years to come.

**dennis cooley** was born in Estevan, Saskatchewan. He later moved to Manitoba, where he helped to start the Manitoba Writers' Guild, was a founding member of Turnstone Press, and was a professor of English at the University of Manitoba. He has published widely, most recently *abecedarium* (UAP 2014). dennis cooley lives in Winnipeg.

376 pages • Bibliography, notes, index  
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Literary Criticism/Poetry/Place  
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ISBN 978-1-77212-119-3



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## Counterblasting Canada

Marshall McLuhan,  
Wyndham Lewis,  
Wilfred Watson, and  
Sheila Watson

GREGORY BETTS,  
PAUL HJARTARSON  
& KRISTINE SMITKA, EDITORS

In 1914, Ezra Pound and Wyndham Lewis—the founders of Vorticism—undertook an unprecedented analysis of the present, its technologies, communication, politics, and architecture. The essays in *Counterblasting Canada* trace the influence of Vorticism on Marshall McLuhan and Canadian Modernism. Building on the initial accomplishment of *Blast*, McLuhan's subsequent *Counterblast*, and the network of artistic and intellectual relationships that flourished in Canadian Vorticism, the contributors offer groundbreaking examinations of postwar Canadian literary culture, particularly the legacies of Sheila and Wilfred Watson. Intended primarily for scholars of literature and communications, *Counterblasting Canada* explores a crucial and long-overlooked strand in Canadian cultural and literary history.

**Contributors:** Gregory Betts, Adam Hammond, Dean Irvine, Elena Lamberti, Philip Monk, Linda Morra, Kristine Smitka, Leon Surette, Paul Tiessen, Adam Welch, Darren Wershler

**Gregory Betts** is the Chancellor's Chair for Research Excellence at Brock University in St. Catharines, the Director of Canadian Studies, and an Associate Professor in English.

**Paul Hjartarson** is Professor Emeritus in English and Film Studies. **Kristine Smitka** teaches in the Department of English and Film Studies. Both are from the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

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Literary History/Cultural History  
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## 100 Days

JULIANE OKOT BITEK

CECILY NICHOLSON, FOREWORD

100 days.

100 days that should not have been.

100 days the world could have stopped. But did not.

For 100 days, Juliane Okot Bitek recorded the lingering nightmare of the Rwandan genocide in a poem—each poem recalling the senseless loss of life and of innocence. Okot Bitek draws on her own family's experience of displacement under the regime of Idi Amin, pulling in fragments of the poetic traditions she encounters along the way: the Ugandan Acholi oral tradition of her father—the poet Okot p'Bitek; Anglican hymns; the rhythms and sounds of slave songs from the Americas; and the beat of spoken word and hip-hop. *100 Days* is a collection of poetry that will stop you in your tracks.

**Juliane Okot Bitek** is a PhD candidate (Interdisciplinary Studies) at the University of British Columbia's Liu Institute for Global Issues in Vancouver. Some of her essays and creative writing can be found at [julianeokotbitek.com](http://julianeokotbitek.com).

128 pages • Foreword, author note

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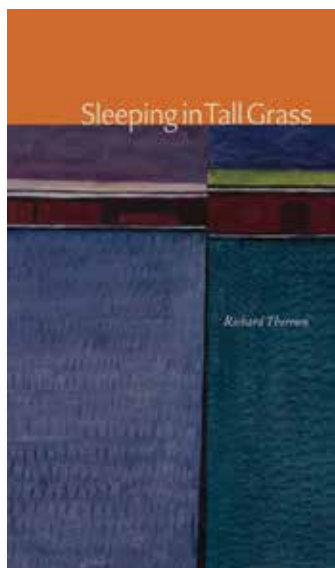
Poetry

February 2016

ISBN 978-1-77212-121-6



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## Sleeping in Tall Grass

RICHARD THERRIEN

*My emptiness will not be  
frenetic with the friction  
of my father's silences  
but still as the unmarked graves  
of his many forgotten selves*

—From "Salt"

A cycle of poems, *Sleeping in Tall Grass* takes an unsparing look at a painful, abusive, yet strangely redemptive family story enfolded within the body of the Canadian prairie itself—at once physical, historical, and metaphysical. These intensely personal poems reflect the complex relationships between sound and space, language and silence. Treating time as more layered than sequential, they reflect a process of organic composition distilled from Therrien's iterative observations and utterances. This is writing that reaches "into the very grain of existence"—a sonorous re-presentation of the human presence on the dispassionate but eternally giving plains.

Poet and editor **Richard Therrien** has been a cultural worker, labourer, activist, filmmaker, and ghost-writer. Born and raised on—and a repeated escapee from—the Canadian prairie, he has published across North America and currently works and lives in North Vancouver.

88 pages

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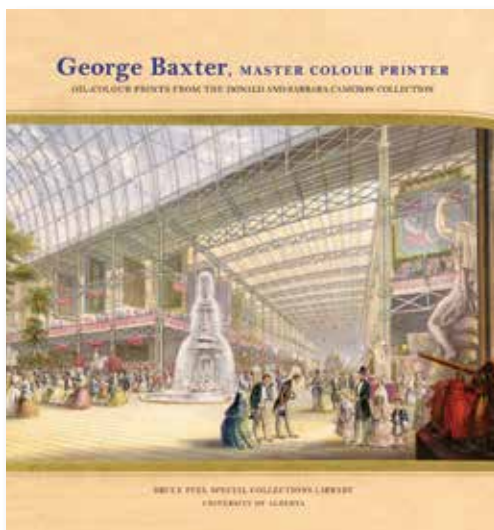
Poetry

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# George Baxter, Master Colour Printer

## Oil-Colour Prints from the Donald and Barbara Cameron Collection

MERRILL DISTAD

George Baxter (1804–1867) was a pioneer in advancing the art of colour printing. A perfectionist, Baxter not only engraved but also examined the prints as they were produced, often providing touch-ups by hand. Baxter's process was, in the end, uneconomical, and he died bankrupt, but no one did more to bring vivid artworks within financial reach of every household, or leave a more colourful legacy for generations of admiring collectors of Victoriana. His oil-coloured prints have given viewers pleasure since they began appearing in the 1830s. Thanks to Donald and Barbara Cameron's generous donation of their Baxter collection in 2010, the Bruce Peel Special Collections & Archives was able to mount a remarkable exhibition.

**Merrill Distad** was Associate University Librarian for Research & Special Collections Services at the University of Alberta.

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UAP welcomes a new distribution partner: CIUS Press.



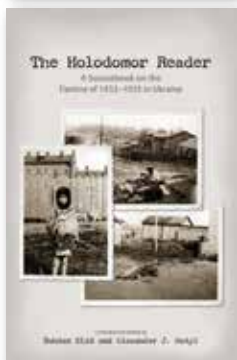
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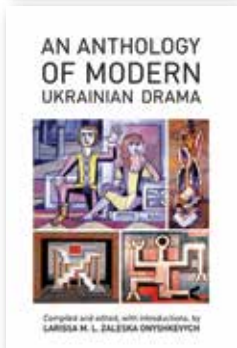
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# University of Alberta Press books are in the news and winning awards.

*This has been a remarkable year for the University of Alberta Press. Its director, Linda Cameron, recently received the President's Award from the Association of Canadian Publishers for her decades of exemplary service to the Canadian publishing industry. Now, the team has been recognized as Publisher of the Year by the Book Publishers Association of Alberta.*

—Gerald Beasley, Vice-Provost & Chief Librarian at the University of Alberta

## 2015 Publisher of the Year

Book Publishers Association of Alberta

### Linda Cameron

#### President's Award

Association of Canadian Publishers



FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Cathie Crooks, Sales / Marketing Manager; Linda Cameron, Director

BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Peter Midgley, Senior Editor (Acquisitions); Colleen Skidmore, Scholar-in-Residence; Duncan Turner, Digital Coordinator; Monika Igali, Marketing Assistant; Sharon Wilson, Administrative Assistant; Mary Lou Roy, Production Editor; Alan Brownoff, Designer

MISSING FROM THE PHOTO: Frederic Bohm, Acquiring Editor (US) and Roger Epp, Acquiring Editor (Northern Studies)



Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award  
Book Publishers Association of Alberta

*small things left behind*

Ella Zeltserman

Clio Prize (Prairies)

Canadian Historical Association

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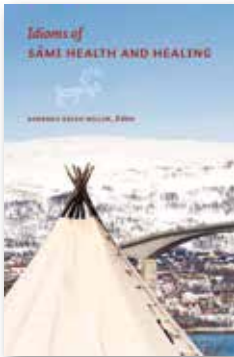


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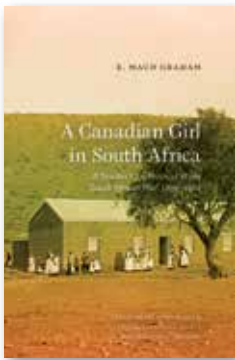


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E. MAUD GRAHAM

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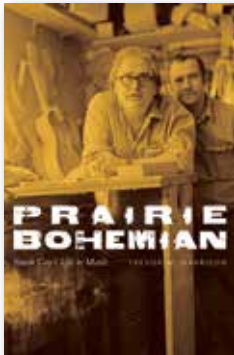
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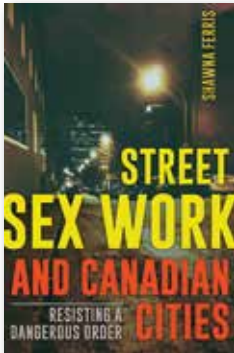
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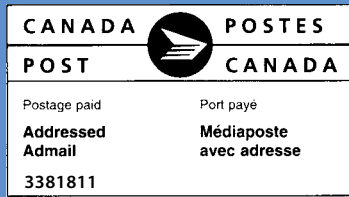
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