



# Small Beer Press

Fall 2004



# Perfect Circle

## Sean Stewart

July 2004 Book Sense Pick

\* “DK—William “Dead” Kennedy, that is—is a haunted man. Literally. He sees dead people with unfinished business. Has all his life. Moreover, he is haunted by an ex-wife he can’t get over, and, recently, long-deceased Uncle Billy has been pestering him for something as yet unidentified. But never mind the dead; things are tough, anyway. DK isn’t exactly a financial success. Always struggling to close the gap between his hourly wage and the cost of fixing his air conditioner, or of taking his savvy 12-year-old daughter to Six Flags, he has just lost his job at Pet-Co for eating cat food in front of a customer to make a point. So when a long-lost cousin calls at 2 a.m. to tell him about the ghost in his garage, it looks like a fast way to a much-needed chunk of change. It is just DK’s luck, however, for a simple plot to thicken like lumpy gravy, and suddenly murder is afoot. Dead funny, a little bit scary, and sometimes warm and fuzzy, but not too. . . . All-around terrific.”

—*Booklist* (starred review)

Stephen King meets Ibsen. Trust me.

—Neal Stephenson, *The Confusion*

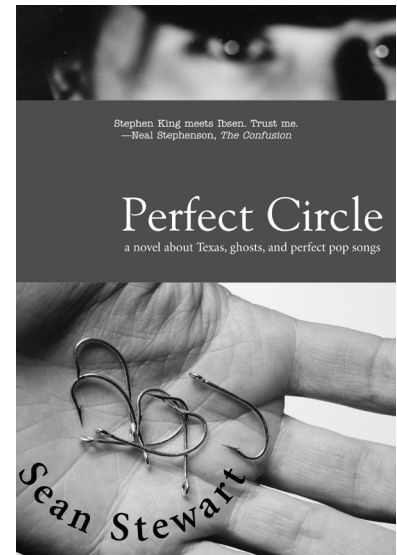
Sean Stewart at his spooky, funny, sad, and haunting best. —Karen Joy Fowler, *The Jane Austen Book Club*

A perfect read, exciting, unique, everything here but the Second Coming, but, Sean Stewart himself is the prize. What a talent. Write on, my man. Write on.

—Joe Lansdale, *Sunset and Sawdust*

Needy ghosts, bar fights, concealed weapons, R.E.M., and ramen noodles—*Perfect Circle* is an irreverent treat —Stewart O’Nan, *The Night Country*

A ghost story for grown-ups, frightening, funny, and finally redemptive. It kept me up way past my bedtime. —Harley Jane Kozak, *Dating Dead Men*



Fiction/Fantastic Fiction,  
5.5" x 8.5"

248 pages

Simultaneous Release:

trade ISBN: 1-931520-11-9 — \$15

hc ISBN: 1-931520-07-0 — \$24

**Free mini-comic, *Family Reunion*,** written by Sean Stewart and illustrated by Steve Lieber ([www.stevelieber.com](http://www.stevelieber.com)) distributed for free by Small Beer Press to celebrate the publication of *Perfect Circle*. If you would like copies of *Family Reunion*, please email Small Beer at [freecomik@lcrw.net](mailto:freecomik@lcrw.net).

National print advertising

National review coverage (*PW*, *Booklist*, *Washington Post*, *Texas Monthly*)

Author tour and BEA signing

Book Sense White Box galley mailing

Book Sense White Box Postcard mailing

Review copies available

[www.lcrw.net/seanstewart](http://www.lcrw.net/seanstewart)

[www.seanstewart.org](http://www.seanstewart.org)

**Sean Stewart** is the author of the novels *The Night Watch*, *Mockingbird*, *Passion Play*, *Nobody's Son*, *Clouds End*, and *The New York Times* Notable Books *Galveston* and *Resurrection Man*. He wrote much of the innovative web game associated with the film *A.I.* His novels have received the Aurora, Arthur Ellis, Sunburst, Canadian Library, and World Fantasy awards. He lives in Davis, CA, with his wife and two daughters.

*A woman stood behind him—no, no mere woman: a bombshell, a vamp, a va-va-voom—a gypsy queen, a menace from Venus.*

## trash sex magic

### Jennifer Stevenson

An unforgettable debut by a promising author.  
—*Booklist*

This just absolutely rocks. It's lyrical, it's weird and it's sexy in a very funky way.

—Audrey Niffenegger, *The Time Traveler's Wife*

"She turned a page and showed him a woodcut, a very tiny woodcut, and when he bent his head to peer at it, the woodcut grew large, turned into a photograph, grew larger still and became a movie. The movie grew and grew until it swallowed him up.

"Inside her movie, the men were changed to dumb beasts. The woman Rae stood on her hind legs and walked among them, touching each one and quieting it, all the while talking to Walter, instructing him. To his embarrassment he realized that everything she pointed to was sex: the long fiery backbones of the men gamboling at her feet, the perpendicular spines of trees and buildings, even the stones and the black deeps of the river, with its occasional flashes of fish like lightning: all about sex, a sexiness that was bigger than the world itself, so that finally it swallowed the world and knew it through and through."

I'd scarcely begun when I fell under the author's spell. —Gene Wolfe, *The Knight*

A winning, touching, open-eyed love letter—but with trash, sex, and magic too. Unusual and wonderfully done. —John Crowley, *The Translator*

Jennifer Stevenson's debut novel *Trash Sex Magic* is a tender, joyful, raunchy, sprawling, radiant novel about two people who fall in love; two families who have lived in poverty for generations; about magic. Imagine *The Metamorphoses* or *A Midsummer Night's Dream* transported to the woods of Illinois. When a development company clears the meadow across from the river, and tries to drive out the two families, strange things start to happen.



Fiction/Fantastic Fiction,  
5.5" x 8.25"

320 pages

Simultaneous Release:

trade ISBN: 1-931520-12-7 — \$16

hc ISBN: 1-931520-06-2 — \$26

National print advertising  
National cinema ad campaign  
National review coverage  
Author tour and BEA signing  
Book Sense Advance Access mailing  
Book Sense White Box Postcard mailing  
Temporary tattoos available on request  
Review copies available  
[www.lcrw.net/stevenson](http://www.lcrw.net/stevenson)  
[www.jenniferstevenson.com](http://www.jenniferstevenson.com)

With her husband of twenty-six years, Jennifer Stevenson owns Hawkeye Scenic Studios, Inc., a scenery construction shop located in Chicago. Her stories have been published in a number of anthologies. "Solstice" was published as a chapbook by Green Man Review. *Trash Sex Magic* is Jennifer Stevenson's first novel. She is currently working on a series of romantic comedies.

## Carmen Dog

### Carol Emshwiller

An inspired feminist fable. . . . A wise and funny book.  
—*The New York Times*

In this dangerous and sharp-eyed look at men, women, and the world we live in, everything is changing: women are turning into animals, and animals are turning into women. Pooch, a golden setter, is turning into a beautiful woman—although she still has some of her canine traits: she just can't shuck that loyalty thing—and her former owner has turned into a snapping turtle. When the turtle tries to take a bite of her own baby, Pooch snatches the baby and runs. Meanwhile, there's a dangerous wolverine on the loose, men are desperately trying to figure out what's going on, and Pooch discovers what she really wants: to sing Carmen.

*Carmen Dog* is the funny feminist classic that inspired writers Pat Murphy and Karen Joy Fowler to create the James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award. We are very pleased to publish it as the debut title in our new Peapod Press reprint line.

Carol is the most unappreciated great writer we've got. *Carmen Dog* ought to be a classic in the colleges by now. . . . It's so funny, and it's so keen.

—Ursula K. Le Guin

Her fantastic premise allows Emshwiller canny and frequently hilarious insights into the damaging sex-role stereotypes both men and women perpetuate.

—*Publishers Weekly*

Combines the cruel humor of *Candide* with the allegorical panache of *Animal Farm*. . . . a singy combination of imaginative energy, feminist outrage, and sheer literary muscle.—*Entertainment Weekly*

This trenchant feminist fantasy-satire mixes elements of *Animal Farm*, *Rhinoceros* and *The Handmaid's Tale*. . . . Imagination and absurdist humor mark [*Carmen Dog*] throughout, and Emshwiller is engaging even when most savage about male-female relationships. —*Booklist*

cover art  
not finalized

November 2004

Fiction/Fantastic Fiction  
5" x 7.5"

160 pages

ISBN: 1931520089

\$14

National print advertising (*Rain Taxi*, *Conjunctions*, *Bitch*, *F&SF*)  
National review coverage  
Book Sense Advance Access mailing  
Book Sense White Box Postcard mailing  
Review copies available  
Emshwiller recently won both the Nebula and Philip K. Dick awards  
Penguin will reprint *The Mount* and release her new young adult title, *Mr. Boots*, in Spring '05  
[www.lcrw.net/peapod/](http://www.lcrw.net/peapod/)  
[www.sfw.org/members/emshwiller/](http://www.sfw.org/members/emshwiller/)

Carol Emshwiller grew up in Michigan and France. She is the author of the novels *Ledyot*, *Leaping Man Hill*, and *The Mount*, and four collections of short fiction, *The Start of the End of it All*, *Joy in Our Cause*, *Verging on the Pertinent*, and *Report to the Men's Club*. Carol splits her time between New York City, where she teaches fiction writing at the New School, and Bishop, CA.

# KALPA IMPERIAL

the greatest empire that never was

Angélica Gorodischer  
translated by Ursula K. Le Guin

The dreamy, ancient voice is not unlike Le Guin's . . . this collection should appeal to her fans as well as to those of literary fantasy and Latin American fiction.

—*Library Journal*

Multiple storytellers tell of a fabled nameless empire which has risen and fallen innumerable times. Fairy tales, oral histories, and political commentaries are woven tapestry-style: beggars become emperors, democracies become dictatorships, and history becomes legends and stories.

Kalpa Imperial is more than a simple political allegory or fable. It's also a celebration of storytelling. Gorodischer and acclaimed poet, writer, and translator Ursula K. Le Guin are a well-matched, sly and delightful team of magician-storytellers.

Buy this Book!—*Locus*

---

## Trampoline: an anthology

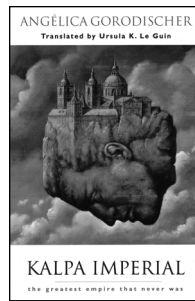
edited by Kelly Link

An original anthology edited by Kelly Link, author of *Stranger Things Happen*, and co-editor of the zine *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*.

*Trampoline*: twenty astounding and surprising stories by Christopher Barzak, Richard Butner, Alan DeNiro, Carol Emshwiller, Jeffrey Ford, Karen Joy Fowler, Greer Gilman, John Gonzalez, Glen Hirshberg, Samantha Hunt, Alex Irvine, Shelley Jackson, Beth Adele Long, Maureen McHugh, Susan Mosser, Ed Park, Christopher Rowe, Dave Shaw, Vandana Singh, and Rosalind Palermo Stevenson.

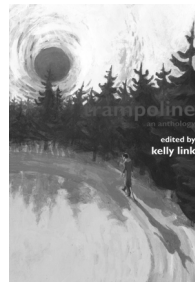
No unblinkered, gloveless reader can resist the stream of associations unleashed by Ford's story and the rest of *Trampoline*: influences as disparate as science fiction, magic realism, pulp, and *Twilight Zone* morality plays.—*Village Voice*

Fabulous tales—*Washington Post*



Fiction  
5.5" x 8.5"  
256pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-05-4  
\$16  
Review copies available  
[www.lcrw.net/kalpa](http://www.lcrw.net/kalpa)

Angélica Gorodischer was born in Buenos Aires and since 1936 has lived in Rosario, Argentina. Ursula K. Le Guin has been awarded the National Book Award, the PEN/Malamud Award, Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, five Hugo and five Nebula Awards.



Fiction/Short Stories  
6" x 9"  
336pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-04-6  
\$17  
Review copies available  
[www.lcrw.net/trampoline](http://www.lcrw.net/trampoline)  
Selections reprinted in three Best of the Year anthologies.

Kelly Link has won the Nebula, Tiptree, and World Fantasy Awards. Most recently, her stories have appeared in *Conjunctions* and *McSweeney's*.

## The Mount

Carol Emshwiller

Carol Emshwiller's "complex and compelling" (School Library Journal) fourth novel, *The Mount*, received rave reviews and is still being discovered by readers of all ages.

This poetic, funny and above all humane novel deserves to be read and cherished as a fundamental fable for our material-minded times.

—*Publisher's Weekly* (starred review)

Charley is fourteen. He wants to be the fastest runner in the world; but he isn't a runner, he's a mount. Charley belongs to the alien invaders and lives in a stable.

*The Mount* is a literary fable, a major science fiction novel, and a coming-of-age novel reminiscent of *Holes*, *The Giver*, and John Wyndham's *The Chrysalids*. It's about freedom, loyalty, humanity, and growing up in a world that doesn't belong to you.

This person needs to be really, really famous.

—Paul Ingram, *Prairie Lights*

Emshwiller's prose is beautiful—Laura Miller, *Salon*

---

## Report to the Men's Club & Other Stories

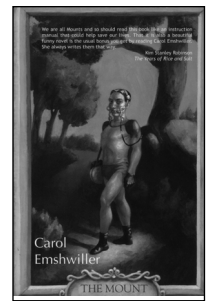
Carol Emshwiller

This is Emshwiller's "surreal, beautiful" (*Jane Magazine*) first collection since the World Fantasy Award-winning *The Start of the End of It All*. It was nominated for the Philip K. Dick Award and includes the Nebula Award-winning "Creature."

A daring, eccentric, and welcome observer of darkly human ways emerges from these 19 motley tales.

—*Kirkus Reviews*

Emshwiller lends her elegant wit to . . . a collection of 19 fantastic short fictions treating the war between the sexes . . . brim-full of wry insights into male-female relationships.—*Publishers Weekly*



Mass Market Reprint rights to Penguin Firebird  
Third printing  
Best of the Year: *Locus*, *Village Voice*, *Book Magazine*, *San Francisco Chronicle*

Fiction/Fantastic Fiction  
5.5" x 8.25"  
232pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-03-8  
\$16



Fiction/Fantastic Fiction  
5.5" x 8.5"  
\$16  
270pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-02-X  
[www.lcrw.net/carolemshwiller](http://www.lcrw.net/carolemshwiller)

**Carol Emshwiller** grew up in Michigan and France. She is the author of the novels *Ledoyt*, *Leaping Man Hill*, and *The Mount*, and four collections of short fiction, *The Start of the End of it All*, *Joy in Our Cause*, *Verging on the Pertinent*, and *Report to the Men's Club*. Carol splits her time between New York City, where she teaches fiction writing at the New School, and Bishop, CA.

## Stranger Things Happen

Kelly Link

At their best, her stories have the vibrancy, the buzzing resonance and the oddly insistent quality of dreams.

—*New York Times Book Review*

Kelly Link's ("a writer to watch"—*Kirkus*) debut collection is now in its fourth printing. She writes about beauty pageant contestants, cannibals, girl detectives, magicians, and amnesiacs. *Stranger Things Happen* was selected by *Salon* and *The Village Voice* as a Book of the Year and contains Tiptree, Nebula, and World Fantasy Award-winning stories.

The exact best and strangest and funniest short story writer on earth that you have never heard of.

—Jonathan Lethem

Funny, moving, tender, brave and dangerous.

—Neil Gaiman

Lovers of short fiction should fall over themselves getting out the door to find a copy.

—*Washington Post Book World*

## Meet Me in the Moon Room

Ray Vukcevic

Weird, wonderful stories of men, women, teleportation, wind-up cats, and brown paper bags. Vukcevic's loopy, fun-house mirror take on everyday life belongs to the same absurdist school of work as that of George Saunders, David Sedaris, Ken Kalfus, and Victor Pelevin.

Ray Vukcevic is a master of the last line. . . . Often it's a perfect line of dialogue that opens up the whole story.

—*The Review of Contemporary Fiction*

The 33 brief stories . . . defy categorization or genre.

—*Hartford Courant*

Inventive and entertaining, these stories yield more emotional truth than much more comparatively realistic fiction."

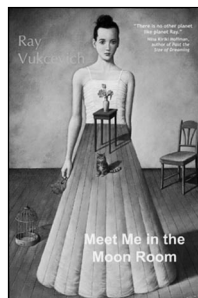
—*Publishers Weekly*



Fourth printing  
Firecracker Nominee

Fiction/Fantastic Fiction  
5.5" x 8.5"  
266pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-00-3  
\$16  
www.kellylink.net

Kelly Link is currently writing more short stories. Her fiction has appeared in *Fence*, *Conjunctions*, and *McSweeney's*.



Second printing  
Philip K. Dick Award Nominee  
Locus Best of the Year  
Fiction  
5.5" x 8.5"  
256pp  
trade paperback  
1-931520-01-1  
\$16  
www.lcrw.net/rayvukcevic

Ray Vukcevic's short fiction has appeared in *Rosebud*, *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *The Infinite Matrix*, and elsewhere. In his other life, he works for a couple of university brain labs.

## \$5 CHAPBOOK SERIES (WHICH CANNOT BE BEATEN FOR QUALITY NOR PRICE) FEATURES TWO NEW TITLES FOR FALL 2004

**HORSES BLOW UP DOG CITY & OTHER STORIES**, Richard Butner  
Cover photo ("Jungle Room, Graceland") by Maria Daniels

Butner's meticulous prose lays a cool surface over some twisty terrain. Understated and profound, deft and smooth, these stories sneak up on you and then don't let go.

—Karen Joy Fowler, *The Jane Austen Book Club*

Gorgeous, heartfelt stories that are completely his own, each propelled by an inner logic that may or may not match consensus reality, each ringing utterly true.

—Lewis Shiner, *Say Goodbye*

**THE ROSE IN TWELVE PETALS**, Theodora Goss  
Cover illustration by Charles Vess

Beautiful stories from one of the best writers to begin publishing in recent years. Goss's stories are rich, deep, and above categorization.

**OTHER CITIES**, Benjamin Rosenbaum  
Illustrated by Peter Reiss

"14 gems, expertly cut."—Jeffrey Ford

**BITTERSWEET CREEK**, Christopher Rowe  
Cover illustration by Shelley Jackson.

"Smart, sleek, scary little book"—Terry Bisson

**FOREIGNERS, AND OTHER FAMILIAR FACES**  
written and illustrated by Mark Rich

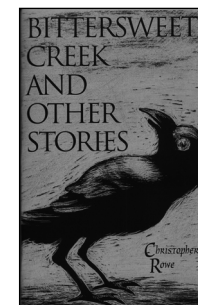
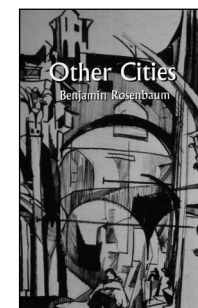
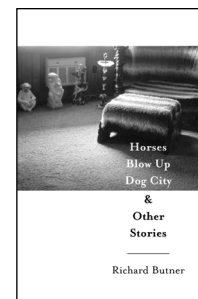
"The only writer in existence who can make my mouth fall open."—Michael Kandel

**LORD STINK**, Judith Berman  
Cover illustration by Shelley Jackson.

"A skillful, passionate writer."—*Asimov's*

**ROSSETTI SONG**, Alex Irvine  
Designed and illustrated by Thom Davidsohn.

"An excellent introduction"  
—Charles DeLint, *F&SF*



# Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet

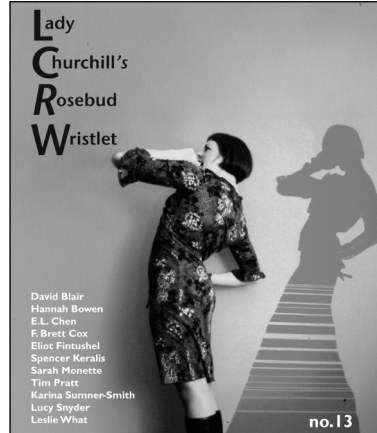
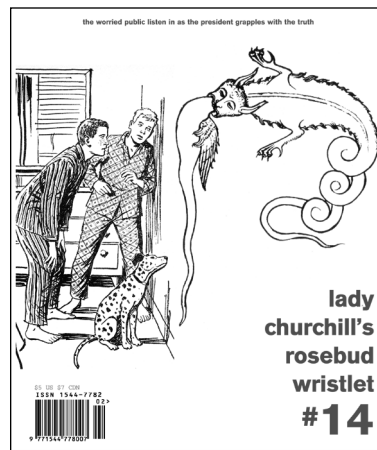
Collecting fiction, nonfiction, & poetry twice a year. Past contributors have included: Nalo Hopkinson, Jeffrey Ford, Jan Lars Jensen, Ursula Pflug, Karen Joy Fowler, Leslie What, & many more. Fiction, poetry, and nonfiction from LCRW has been reprinted in *The Year's Best Fantasy & Horror*, *The Best of the Rest*, and the *Zine Yearbook*. Stories from LCRW have been finalists for the Nebula and World Fantasy and have won the Gaylactic Spectrum Award.

Current issue: No.14  
6/04, \$5, 68pp

ISSN 1554-7782  
Distributed by  
Last Gasp & Small Beer

Samples available.

"tiny but celebrated"  
—*Washington Post*



## Sup scribe. Sub scrape. Subscribe to LCRW.

Level	Price	Tag	Ingredients
1	\$5	one-off	sample issue
2	\$20	Hello	US/Canada 4 issues
2a	\$30	Hello	4 issues: international
2b	\$40	Yoohoo, Sailor	as no.2 & a 4-issue chapbook subscription
12	\$38	Friendly	4 issues for you + 4 for someone else
3	\$35	Yes, please	as no.2 & a good chocolate bar each time.
4	\$59	Comfy	as no.2 & a T-shirt
5	\$75	Surprisy	as no.2 & a little surprise (not of the there's-nothing-there kind)
6	\$250	Deluxy	as no.2 & everything we've printed that's still in print.
7	\$2,700	Zombie	as no.2 & William Smith explains his zombie contingency plan
8	\$4999	Ha Ha	the whole damn magazine (add a folly for only \$10,000 more!)
9	\$5,000	Visiting	as no.2: all issues hand-delivered (in the US & Canada)
10	\$5,020	Ariel	as no.2: all issues hand-delivered and abridged in song by Ariel Franklin-Hudson (in the US & Canada)
11	\$100,000	Diebold	as no.2 & any election you choose (Please write check to GOP)

Title	Author	Page
<i>Carmen Dog</i>	Emshwiller, Carol	3
<i>Kalpa Imperial</i>	Gorodischer, Angelica (Le Guin, Ursula K., trans)	4
<i>Meet Me in the Moon Room</i>	Vukceвич, Ray	6
<i>Mount, The</i>	Emshwiller, Carol	5
<i>Perfect Circle</i>	Stewart, Sean	1
<i>Report to the Men's Club</i>	Emshwiller, Carol	5
<i>Stranger Things Happen</i>	Link, Kelly	6
<i>Trampoline</i>	Link, Kelly (ed.)	4
<i>Trash Sex Magic</i>	Stevenson, Jennifer	2

Our books are distributed to the trade in the USA and Canada by:

SCB Distributors  
15608 South New Century Drive  
Gardena, CA 90248  
(800) 729-6423

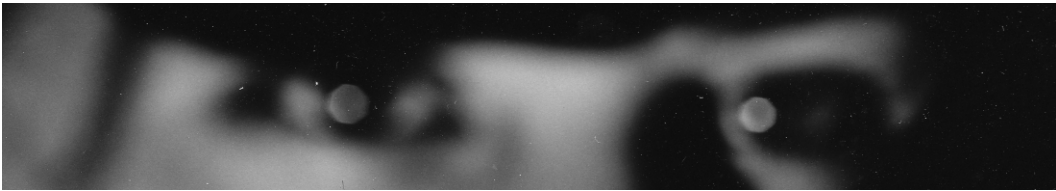
Since 1996 Gavin J. Grant and Kelly Link (that's us) have published a twice-yearly literary zine, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*. In 2001 we started Small Beer Press to publish story collections and novels by excellent, off-beat writers such as Ray Vukceвич. Later this year we publish the debut title in our Peapod Classics line, Carol Emshwiller's transgressive (and funny) classic feminist novel *Carmen Dog*. Next in line after that are two novels by one of our favorite writers (obviously) Sean Stewart and Naomi Mitchison's indescribably rich and wonderful novel *Travel Light*. (If you have any recommendations for this line, please email us.)

We still publish our zine (up to #14 now: subscribe at the chocolate level and we send you a [good] chocolate bar with each issue) and publish chapbooks (usually two per year), and we attend quite a few trade and literary shows and love to go to bookshops, and literary festivals. Maybe we'll see you there?

For publicity, rights, or other information, please contact:

Gavin J. Grant/Kelly Link  
Small Beer Press, 176 Prospect Ave., Northampton, MA 01060  
t/f: 413-584-2662  
info@lcrw.net  
www.lcrw.net

Front cover images: "Face" by Maria Daniels (*Trash Sex Magic*); "Hand" by Jim Gipe (*Perfect Circle*).  
Back cover image: "Eyes" by Maria Daniels (*Perfect Circle*).



Small Beer Press  
176 Prospect Ave  
Northampton, MA  
**01060**