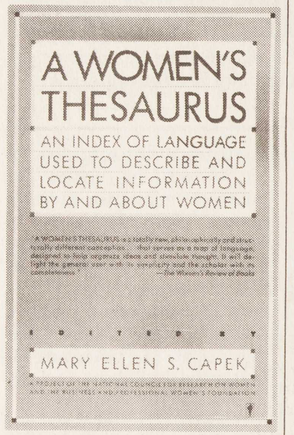
Stein all relied on Anderson's friendship and insight. This engaging autobiography sparkles with Anderson's genius. It traces her life from the early days in Chicago as editor of *The Little Review* to her later moments of quiet contemplation in the French Alps. Anderson's memoirs evoke the élan of her trans-continental lifestyle, and provide us with an enduring portrait of a uniquely American woman.

• *"This is autobiography of the highest order; there are passages of great power that create a sense of time passing, of climate, of season." —Newsweek*



A WOMEN'S THESAURUS, edited by Mary Ellen S. Capek, published at $17.00, now just $12.00. As an up-to-date reference guide for non-sexist use of language, *A Women's Thesaurus* will sharpen accuracy and ensure comprehensiveness in writing and thinking about women, sex, and gender. The result of a massive five-year collaboration by women's studies librarians, scholars, activists, and others, this book sets national standards for terms to use in writing, cataloging, and research.

• *"This superb compilation is recommended for all libraries with women's studies collections and should be on the shelves or desktops of all catalogers, indexers, and researchers working on or with material about women." —ALA's Reference Book Bulletin*

LETTERS
from Alyson readers

✍

Dear Alyson Publications,

Although I don't read much science fiction, a friend gave me a copy of *Journey to Zelindar* before my recent vacation, and I absolutely loved it. Diana Rivers is a great writer! She just pulled me right in with her story, and even though it's a longer book than I usually would read, it ended all too quickly. When will we see more from her?

R.R.
Oregon

Editor's note: *We agree with your praise for Diana Rivers. We held off running this letter until it could appear in the same issue as our announcement of Diana Rivers's newest book, Daughters of the Great Star.*

✍

Dear Kind Souls,

You have no idea what a wonderful service you provide to all of us out here. There are so many gay and lesbian persons who do not have access to a bookstore that can provide reading material. The nearest store to me is two hours away. I have lived in cities in the past that did have gay and lesbian stores, and I miss them greatly.

I pass each of your catalogs on to friends when I finish. Thank you, and have a glorious day!

A.G.
Florida

✍

Dear Alyson Publications,

Thank you, Joan Nestle, so very much for *The Persistent Desire.* I absolutely loved it. Thank you, Alyson, for publishing it!

As a femme, I would have liked to see more written by femmes, but I enjoyed it nonetheless.

I came out in the late '70s and never felt as though I fit in (maybe I wasn't a "real" lesbian?) because I just couldn't get into or feel comfortable with androgyny. Thank goddess that there are women who had the courage to stand up and say, "This is who I am!"

I also felt lesbians were a sexless lot due to their discomfort discussing and enjoying sex. It has been *so validating* to know that I am not alone in my enjoyment of sex and butches (of course they go hand in hand!). *Thank you again!!*

B.K.
California

✍

Dear Alyson Publications,

I have been meaning to write you for a long time, to say how much I appreciate your service, and I've finally decided to sit down and do it.

I greatly enjoy the book excerpts in your catalog, which make it much easier to evaluate a book before ordering. So often with other mail-order companies I'll order a book just from the title and a five-word description, then be disappointed when I get it.

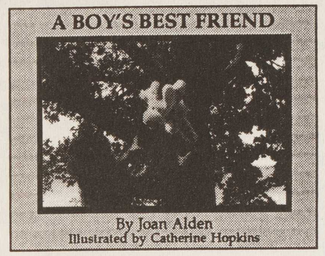
Living on a budget, I also appreciate the way that you keep prices down. Your books aren't as expensive as those from other smaller presses. And your service is great! I got my last books less than two weeks after I ordered.

S.J.
Illinois

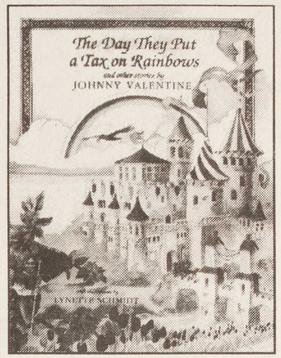
We welcome your letters and comments. Please note that we will print only your initials unless you specifically give us permission to include your full name.

ALYSON WONDERLAND
Two new titles...

A BOY'S BEST FRIEND, by Joan Alden, illustrated with photos by Catherine Hopkins, cloth, $13.00. Will, a seven-year-old asthma sufferer, has proclaimed that he wants nothing at all for his birthday if he can't have a dog. He sees his birthday come and almost go without a gift. But at the last hour, Will's two moms present him with a dog who will make a difference by being different. Ages 4 to 8.

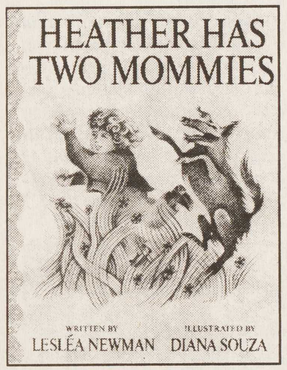


THE DAY THEY PUT A TAX ON RAINBOWS, by Johnny Valentine, illustrated by Lynette Schmidt, cloth, $13.00. Three brothers use their unique talents to discover hidden treasure ... a girl is washed off her boat during a storm and discovers a kingdom beneath the sea ... and a young boy saves his village from a future without rainbows. These three new fairy tales, by the author and illustrator of *The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans,* feature the adventures of kids who happen to have lesbian and gay parents. Ages 5 to 10.



...and two established favorites

HEATHER HAS TWO MOMMIES, by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Diana Souza, $8.00. As the daughter of a lesbian couple, three-year-old Heather sees nothing unusual in having two mommies. When she joins a playgroup and discovers that other children have "daddies" her confusion is dispelled by an adult instructor and the other children who describe their own different families. Warmly illustrated by Diana Souza, *Heather Has Two Mommies* realistically approaches issues central to lesbian parenting: artificial insemination, the birthing process, and the needs of a lesbian household. Ages 3 to 8.

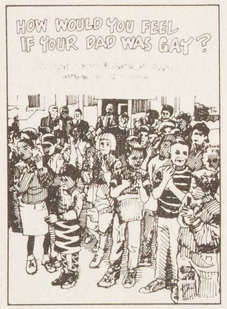


• *"Every preschool and kindergarten, every church sunday school room, every doctor's office waiting room, every summer camp should have this book, if only to show children that differences are natural. Here's to a much needed genre — may its titles increase!" —Off Our Backs*

• *"Just as wonderful as we had hoped. This one is sunny, accepting, up-to-date, and informative. Multi-racial. Order lots!" —Feminist Bookstore News*

• *"A great book for children of heterosexual parents, exposing them to families different from their own." —The Washington Blade*

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOUR DAD WAS GAY?, by Ann Heron and Meredith Maran; illustrated by Kris Kovick, cloth, $10.00. Jasmine, Michael, and Noah are all regular kids except for one thing: Jasmine and Michael have two gay fathers. Noah has a gay mother. They have some unique concerns that they've never seen discussed by anyone else. This book, written by two lesbian mothers with help from their sons, will be a lifeline for other young people who face the same issues. It will also help their classmates, teachers, and parents to better understand just how varied today's families can be. Ages 6 to 12.



• *"Kris Kovick's black-and-white line drawings are as interesting and complex as this story is. This is a solid book. You will find it a great teaching tool." —Off Our Backs*

• *"The illustrations by Kris Kovick lend welcome racial diversity to a story that explores the feelings of three children growing up with lesbian and gay parents. The authors pull no punches and thankfully do not opt for quick-fix solutions to problems confronted by their characters." —Lambda Book Report*

• *"This is the best children's book to come out about gay/lesbian issues since the genre first burst into bloom. The refreshing complexity with which these authors invest a simple children's story is both realistic and moving." —Bay Area Reporter*