

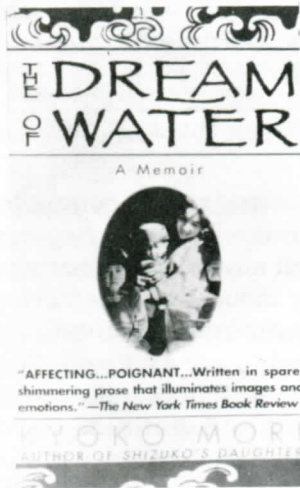
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## Literature

**LIZARD** by Banana Yoshimoto

Fusing traditional and pop culture into thoroughly contemporary portraits of love and life, each of these six tales explores themes of time, healing, and fate—and how young urbanites come to terms with them. Tangled in emotional webs they do not understand, Yoshimoto's men and women embark on journeys of self-discovery, recreating themselves through the power of the stories they tell. (New York: Pocket Books, 1995. 180 p. RN LIT 02522.00B)

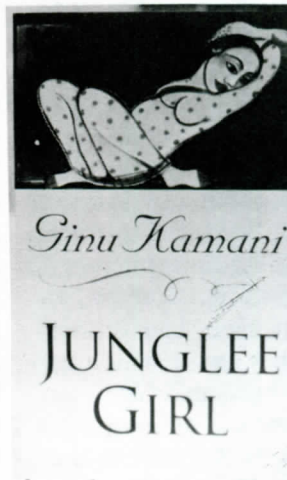


**THE DREAM OF WATER** by Kyoko Mori

In a memoir that is both a search for belonging and a search for understanding, Japanese-American author Kyoko Mori travels back to Kobe, Japan, the city of her birth, in an unspoken desire to come to terms with the memory of her mother's suicide and the family she left behind thirteen years before.

Throughout her seven week-trip, Kyoko struggles with her

ever-present past and the lasting guilt over her mother's death. Although she meets with beloved cousins and other relatives, she agonizes over the frustrating relationship she barely maintains with her father and stepmother. Searching for answers, Kyoko attempts to find new understanding of what her father is really like, and how it has affected her own place in two distinct worlds. As her time to leave draws near, Kyoko begins to understand that her family connections may be a powerful cry of the heart, but it is the new world that has given her escape from a lonely past and the power to believe in herself. (New York: Ballantine Books, 1995. 275 p. RN LIT 02521.00B)



**JUNGLEE GIRL** by Ginu Kamani

"Junglee" girl is a Gujarati term to describe a wild and uncontrollable woman. In her debut collection of stories, Ginu Kamani confronts the untamed, erotic nature of Indian women, often veiled from view under a

very repressive sexual system. Kamani's stories range across caste, gender and generation to reveal both the intensity and familiarity of India's hidden world. (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1996. 195 p. RN LIT 02523.00B)

**KRIK? KRAK!** by Edwidge Danicat

When Haitians tell a story, they say "Krik?" and the eager listeners answer "Kraak!" In *Krik? Krak!* Danicat has crafted nine stories that encompass both the cruelties and the high ideals of Haitian life. They tell of women who continue loving behind prison walls and in the face of unfathomable loss; of a people who resist the brutality of their rulers through the powers of imagination. (New York: Vintage Books, 1996. 224 p. RN LIT 02465.00B)

## Economics

**TECHNOLOGY AND GENDER: WOMEN'S WORK IN ASIA** edited by Cecilia Ng

The impact of technological innovation in women's work is a phenomenon only recently studied and understood, particularly with reference to the developing societies. This volume of theoretical essays and case studies on technological change and working women in Asia looks at the different consequences on women compared to men and attempts to highlight the gender differences and issues so that women can equally benefit from the fruits of development.

Peasant women in the field, rural women workers in the handicraft industry, female

production operators in high-tech semiconductor assembly factories and part-time keying-in typists in the banking and finance sectors are some of the areas covered. (*Malaysia: Women's Studies Unit of the Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, 1987. 150 p. RNECO 02516.00B*)

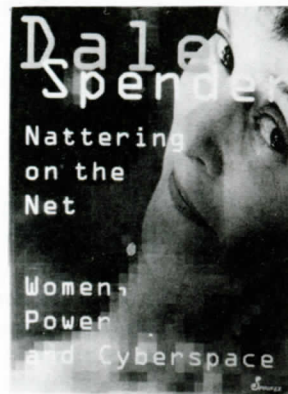
and Southeast Asia in general. This phenomenon of regional growth areas such as "Greater China"—China-Hong Kong-Taiwan—is also taken up.

The full impact of China's emerging economic strength on the world order, and on its relationship with its Asian neighbors, still has to be played out. But there is no doubt that what is happening in China's economy today has an effect on the lives of more people, businesses and governments other than its own. (*Quezon City, Philippines: Philippine-China Development Resource Center, 1995. 73 p. RNECO 02409.00B*)

Susan Bullock, an expert on international labour, development and gender issues, draws together research on gender, work and development, and emphasises that the concept of work should include not only paid labour but all those activities which contribute to production and development. (*London and New Jersey: Zed Books Ltd., 1994. 160 p. RNECO 02262.00B*)

## Communication and Information

**NATTERING ON THE NET: WOMEN, POWER AND CYBERSPACE** by Dale Spender



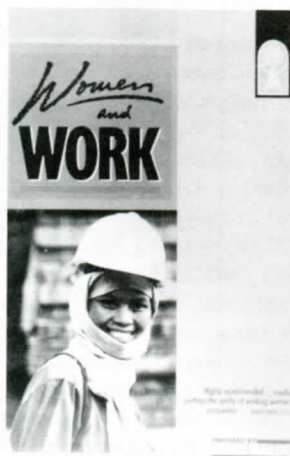
Multimedia, the information highway and the Internet have changed the world beyond recognition. Electronic networks have radically altered the human relationship to time and space, and have undermined national boundaries. But what of class, race and gender boundaries?

And what of the difference between how men and women deal with the new technologies? Is it true that women use technology, while men fall in love with it?

Dale Spender, renowned author and founding editor of the Athene Series and Pandora Press, reveals that men are writing the road rules for the information superhighway sub-

**WOMEN AND WORK** by Susan Bullock

All around the world, women work. Yet the work they do has always been, and continues to be, considered as less important than that performed by men. In many cases, women's activities are not even acknowledged as work. Not only do women encounter more obstacle than men



in education and training, but they are over-represented among the lowest paid, part-time workforce, enjoying few employment rights. Recognition of this has led to the adoption of measures over the past two decades to eliminate gender discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and treatment for women workers.

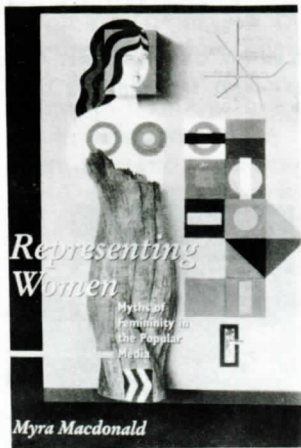
**WOMEN IN THE AGE OF ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION: GENDER IMPACT OF REFORM IN POST-SOCIALIST AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES** edited by Nahid Aslanbeigui, Steven Pressman and Gale Summerfield

Changes are sweeping the world economy and are most apparent in post-socialist Europe and in the developing world. This volume examines the impact these changes are having on women. The authors discuss the evidence of gender bias and reach some telling, if unsurprising, conclusions. Regardless of the country involved, the findings point to consistent female disadvantage in the transformation process. (*London and New York: Routledge, 1994. 232 p. RNECO 02525.00B*)

**CHINA'S ECONOMY AND ASIA** edited by Ma. Teresa D. Pascual

Maria Teresa Pascual, former executive director of Hong Kong-based ARENA, looks at China's increasing integration into the world economy, and the implications this may have on the Philippines in particular and East

jecting women to new forms of sexual harassment and even "data rape." Violence on the Internet is an all too common event in virtual reality. These are some of the problems raised by the new technologies, but Spender also writes about the possibilities of the new media, particularly in the areas of education and authorship. (Australia: Spinifex Press, 1995. 278 p. RN COM 02546.00B)



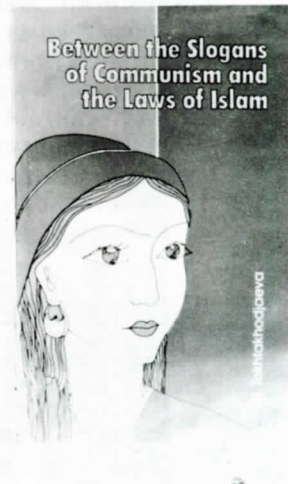
**REPRESENTING WOMEN: MYTHS OF FEMININITY IN THE POPULAR MEDIA** by Myra Macdonald

Drawing on texts from hit movies like *Aliens* to television sitcoms like *The Golden Girls*, Myra Macdonald reassess the ways in which women are talked about and constructed visually across a range of popular media. Surveying a variety of discipline—psychology, psychoanalysis, sociology, art history and cultural studies—Macdonald introduce the various approaches students of gender representation in modern media will encounter, and enables them to compare perspectives. In the second half of the book, Macdonald analyses in detail the myths of femininity, as enigmatic, as caring and nurturing and as constructed in myths of female sexuality and the female body: (London and New York: Edward Arnold, 1995. 250 p. RN COM 02518.00B)

**Sisters from Central Asia**

**BETWEEN THE SLOGANS OF COMMUNISM AND THE LAW OF ISLAM: THE WOMEN OF UZBEKISTAN** by Marfua Tokhtakhodjaeva (edited by Cassandra Balchin, translated from Russian by Sufian Aslam)

While Soviet socialism brought education and an end to segregation, it also placed great pressure on women, not least the double burden of job and home. If the feudal and patriarchal traditions of Central Asia, reflected through the mirror of Islam, have remained a source of women's oppression, then they have also provided support systems which enabled women to survive in times of adversity.



Marfua Takhtakhodjaeva, an architect by training and profession and founding member of the very first women's resource center in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, explores the historical context and women's perspectives on the status of women in her country. In this, the very first history of Uzbekistan's women published abroad, Marfua Takhtakhodjaeva provides a counterpoint to the political and economic analysis of post-Soviet society. (Lahore, Pakistan: Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, 1995. 271 p. RN SEX 02517.00B)

**The Daughters of Amazons**  
Voices from Central Asia



**THE DAUGHTERS OF AMAZONS: VOICES FROM CENTRAL ASIA** by Marfua Tokhtakhodjaeva and Elmira Turgumbekova (edited by Cassandra Balchin, translated from Russian by Sufian Aslam)

The transition to a market economy and independent nationhood has brought sweeping change to the lives of the peoples of former Soviet Central Asia. The impact of this transition has been most keenly felt by the region's women, who have been the first in line to lose their jobs and the focus of a political challenge to democracy and secularism.

The result of an unprecedented survey among women from five diverse Central Asia republics, *Daughters of Amazons* offers a window onto the historical, economic, political and social contexts to the debates confronting the emerging women's movement in Central Asia, along with the growing issues of nationalism and religious obscurantism. (Lahore, Pakistan: Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, 1996. 240 p. RN SEX 02527.00B)

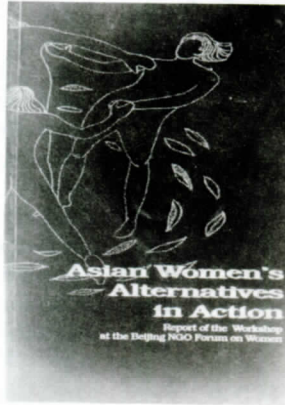
**MAKING A DIFFERENCE: FEMINIST PUBLISHING IN THE SOUTH** by Urvashi Butalia and Ritu Menon

Women's publishing faces many challenges in developing countries. If the publishing industry's problems are generally daunting—lack of capital, lack of trained personnel, lack of effective ways of marketing books—women's publishing is doubly difficult. This short but inspiring monograph was written by Urvashi Butalia and Ritu Menon, founders and editors of the well-respected feminist publishing outfit, *Kali for Women* based in New Delhi, India. Citing important examples throughout the South of successful women's and feminist publishing, Butalia and Menon show that despite the many obstacles, women involved in social movements are strongly committed to women's publishing. Problems of distribution, the kinds of network women's presses have been able to set up, disastrous market behaviour, and the politics and ideology of feminist publishing are also tackled by Butalia and Menon. Finally, they also discuss the possible directions toward which women's publishing in the South can or may go in the future. (Massachusetts, USA: Bellagio Publishing Network, 1995. 82 p. RN COM 02367.00B)

## Beijing and Beyond

**ASIAN WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVES IN ACTION: REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP AT THE BEIJING NGO FORUM ON WOMEN** edited by Dessa Quesada and Lau Kin Chi

This slim volume gathers together the papers presented by women leaders and community workers in the "Workshop on Alternatives in Action among Asian Women" held during the NGO Forum on Women in 1995 in Huairou. The papers ranged through a variety of women's initiatives: environmental education curriculum in Thailand,



women's credit cooperatives in China, people-to-people trading and marketing arrangements in Japan and the Philippines, cloth toy library, food processing, and farmers' shop. Also included here are an edited transcription of the workshop proceedings, and reflections of the workshop organizers on the aftermath of Beijing. (Hong Kong: AJWRC, CSD, and RUA, 1996. 73 p. RN DEV 02548.00B)

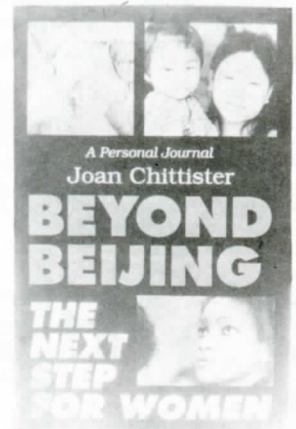
**TOWARDS BEIJING AND BEYOND: WOMEN SHAPING POLICIES IN AREAS OF CONCERN** edited by Khaleda Salahuddin, Ishrat Shamim

This monograph is an outcome of the two-day roundtable discussion jointly organized in 1995 by the *Centre for Women and Children Studies* (CWCS) and *PACT Bangladesh/PRIP*, in preparation for the World Conference on Women in Beijing. The discussion brought together women activists, NGO workers, policy planners and researchers to tackle critical areas of concern for women in Bangladesh, and to put forth a joint message and policy document for the Beijing Conference. The themes tackled in the discussion, and which are documented in this monograph include economics and poverty, education, health and reproductive rights, human rights, violence against women, political participation, and environment and natural disaster. (Dhaka,

Bangladesh: CWCS and PACT Bangladesh/PRIP, 1995. 109 p. RN DEV 02519.00B)

**BEYOND BEIJING: THE NEXT STEP FOR WOMEN** by Joan Chittister

*Beyond Beijing* chronicles Joan Chittister's trip via the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*-organized Peace Train from Helsinki to Beijing for the United Nations Conference on Women. In this personal journal, Chittister explores the significance of the



UN Conference and its effects on the changing situation of women in today's world. Chittister is an ordained Catholic nun and past president of the *Leadership Conference on Women Religious*. (Kansas, USA: Sheed and Ward, 1996. 174 p. RN SEX 02520.00B)

**CAIRO, BEIJING, AND BEYOND: A HANDBOOK ON ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN LEADERS**

The purpose of this handbook, says its publisher Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA), is to help women continue their advocacy activities after the Cairo, Copenhagen and Beijing Conferences. Focusing on expanding women's leadership in development work, the handbook presents advocacy strategies in four sections: (1) planning for advocacy; (2) taking message to the public; (3) forging alliances; and