

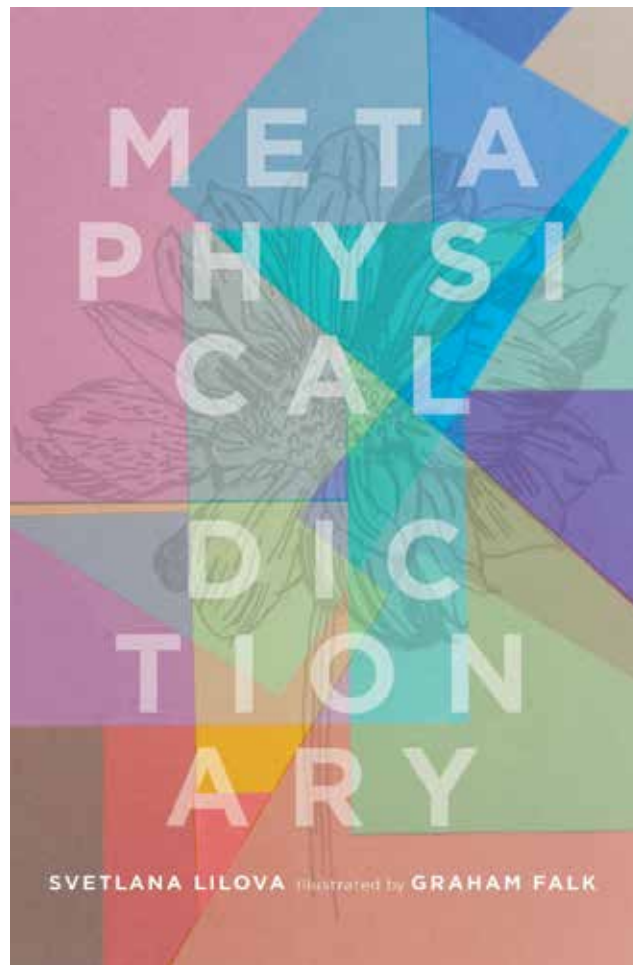
every city is a city of words (**D U M A**
G R A D) books take you to cities unseen
CITY OF WORDS

METAPHYSICAL DICTIONARY
Svetlana Lilova
Illustrator: Graham Falk

Trade paper
96 pages
4.75" x 7"
CAN \$14.95 US \$12.95

978-0-9937909-2-8
May 1 2016

Cover: Natalie Olsen
Printing: Coach House Printing



The (Other) Illustrated Poetry Sensation

Svetlana Lilova's *Metaphysical Dictionary* is a collection of very short poems, framed as term and definition, alphabetically ordered. As individual poems, these are reductions, or Pound's piths and gists in extremis. But as they accumulate and fold back on themselves, elusive thoughts emerge and dissolve, transient origami.

Psychologically acute, suffused with feeling, with a personal narrative slipping between the lines, this book invites total immersion in the private language of its creator, and conveys (us to) the heart of a playful, enigmatic, whimsical, sometimes pained but always hopeful interior.

Profusely illustrated with 65 drawings by legendary animator Graham Falk, whose charming cartoons, melancholy flowers, and effervescent still-lives perfectly echo the tonal variety of Lilova's words.

Perennial bestseller at Toronto poetry shop knife | fork | book

"Profound, whimsical and wise." - *Educateria*
"Mesmerizing." - *Goodreads*
"A surprise at each turn. Virtue: a potency."
- *filling Station*

Svetlana Lilova was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, and was spirited away in the night to Canada in her teens, not knowing a word of English. Soon a dictionary became her indispensable companion. A psychotherapist as well as a poet, she lives in Toronto.

TORONTO STAR
"This sly, whimsical debut collection by Toronto poet Svetlana Lilova is not much more than pocket-sized, but its poetic reach is expansive... At their best, these epigrammatic gems resonate profoundly."
- Barb Carey, Jan 7 2017



HE DOESN'T HURT PEOPLE ANYMORE

Dane Swan

Trade paper, 96 pages

5.06" x 7.68"

CAN \$9.95 US \$8.95

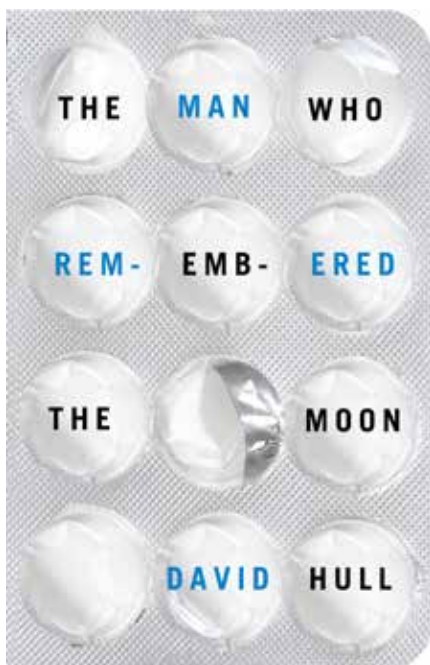
978-0-9937909-9-7

Oct 11 2017

A retired fighter finds fleeting consolation as he wraps the hands of the boxercise ladies at his gym. A classical musician resists an old Rasta's entreaties to put a spell on his violin. The top performer at an employment agency mocks the failures who bring her their broken dreams. Victims of a psychological sadist turn the tables on their tormentor.

The seven slices of urban life in Dane Swan's debut collection *He Doesn't Hurt People Anymore* offer tales of redemption, reconciliation—and revenge too. Swan sketches out these stories with a poet's economy of style, and with a master's feel for the moment that exposes not only character, but fate.

Swan was a finalist for the 2017 Trillium Book Award for poetry for his collection *A Mingus Lullaby*. *He Doesn't Hurt People Anymore* marks the arrival of a bold and confident new voice in Canadian fiction.



THE MAN WHO REMEMBERED THE MOON

David Hull

Trade paper, 72 pages

5.06" x 7.68"

CAN \$9.95 US \$8.95

978-0-9937909-0-4

Sept 2015

Cover: David Drummond

Fiction Cover of the Year - The Book Designer

Notable Covers 2015 - Casual Optimist

Best Covers 2015 (Fiction) - Bookish.com

He says it's gone. They say it never existed.

"A Chekhovian Ward No. 6 for a new millenium. A beautifully executed, hypnotic shape-shifter." – Christine Fischer Guy (The Umbrella Mender)

Released initially in Amazon's prestigious Kindle Singles program, *The Man Who Remembered the Moon* has won rave reviews in the book blog world. A cerebral, witty meditation on longing and loss that also succeeds as a page-turning puzzler, David Hull's novella ultimately packs an unexpected emotional punch.

"Thoroughly satisfying." – The Globe and Mail

The immaculate print edition includes a bonus story, "The One About the Ballard Fanatic."

AMAZON TOP 100 - KINDLE FICTION - 100+ WEEKS



CITY COLOUR

Graham Falk

Postcard book

36 pages, perforated

5.87" x 4.25"

CAN \$9.95

978-0-9937909-3-5

Dec 4 2015

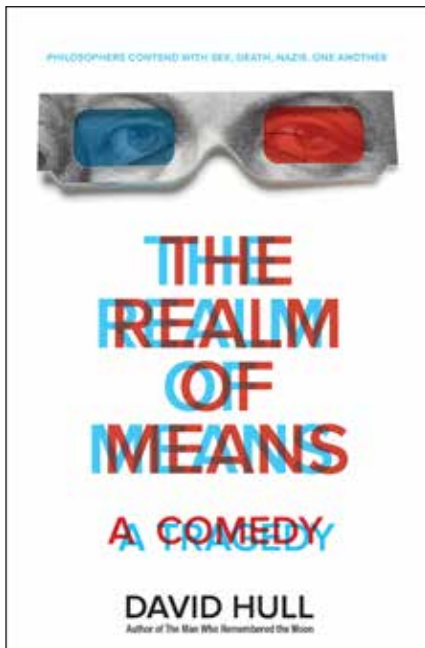
SECOND PRINTING

ALMOST SOLD OUT

We picked up one of those adult colouring books recently. It was nice enough, but we found ourselves thinking: what's so *adult* about this? It looked just like a normal colouring book, only with more lines.

These scenes of inobtrusive, almost unseen urban places seem much more grown-up to us. Yes, there are plenty of nice little details to satisfy your OCD and soothe your ADD (we speak from experience!). But Graham Falk is first and foremost an animator; when he draws, he instinctively leaves room for a colourist—someone to *complete* the creative process, not simply fill in the lines.

And therein lies the beauty of this small book: these are wonderful drawings which also happen to be very rewarding to colour, if you feel so inclined.



THE REALM OF MEANS

David Hull

Trade paper, 236 pages

5.25" x 8"

CAN \$15 US \$12

978-1-988887-02-9

Oct 2017

Cover: 13Jupiters

Editor: Kate Unrau

4.6/5 at Goodreads

Allen Smythe's first week on staff is not going well. He's been falsely accused of a crime (which he may have accidentally committed), falsely accused of indiscretion with a student by his ex (is it his fault if she's infatuated?), embarrassed by his hated rival, and shaken by rumours that his beloved mentor may retire. But he remains hopeful. Surely a philosophy department is composed of rational beings, governed by the deep deliberations they bring to bear on their actions.

Then a shocking death throws the faculty into disarray and casts Allen into the most treacherous of dimensions: the moral one.

Amis père meets Heinrich Böll in a raucous comedy that takes a dark turn into the past. *The Realm of Means* gives us a man trying hard to remember why we're supposed to be good, caught between hope and doubt, silence and betrayal—in the space between means and ends



YOU CALL THIS HOME

Joan Lane

Trade paper, 124 pages

5.06" x 7.81"

CAN \$10.95 US \$8.95

978-0-9937909-4-2

Nov 2016

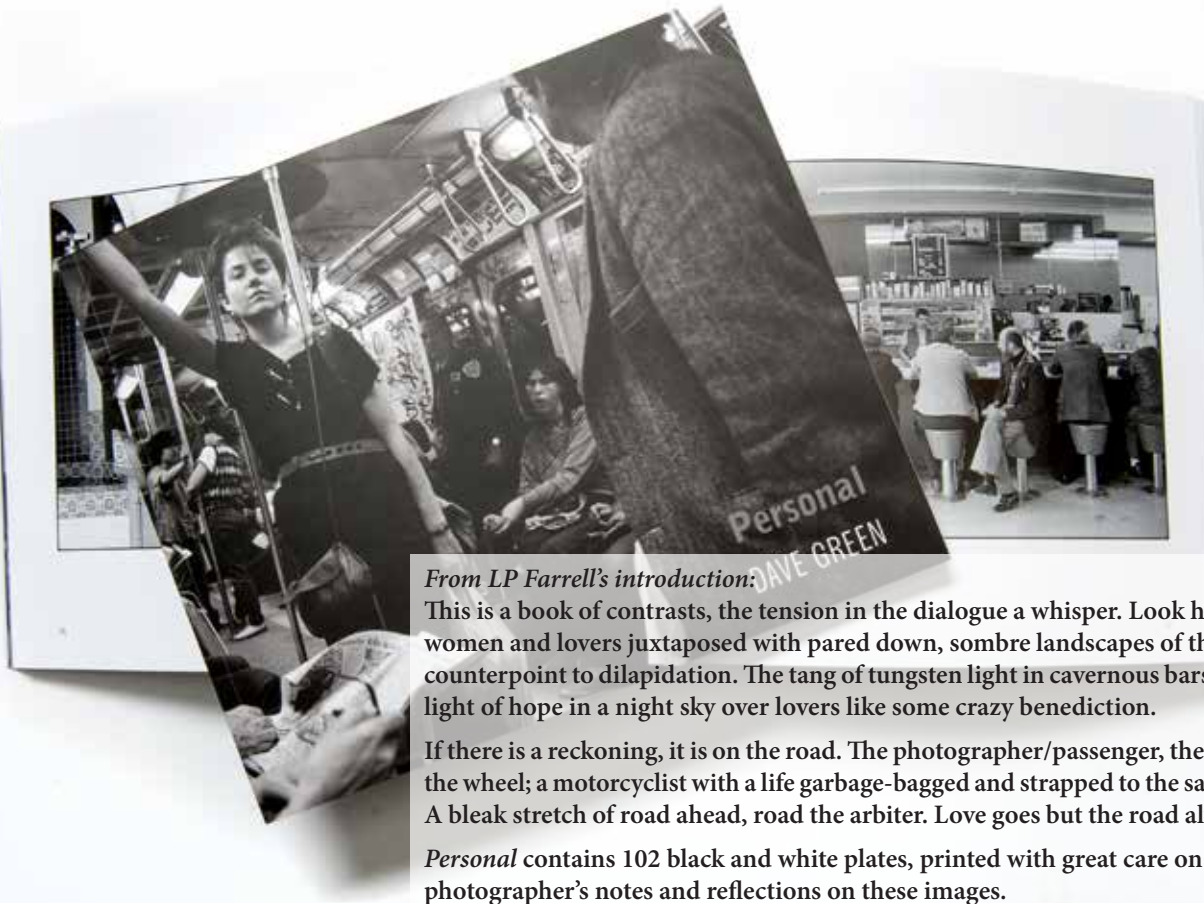
Cover: Dorothy Knowles

The natural inclination, upon finishing *You Call This Home*, might be to describe it as a fine volume in the tradition of Alice Munro. One problem: Joan Lane wrote these stories while in her twenties in the early 1950s—just when Munro was starting out.

These eight moving tales offer exquisite depictions of the very young, vivid snapshots of the timeless cynicism of youth, the sorrows of mothers who foresee the lives of their daughters in a flash, and the muffled private heartbreak of women life has swept aside.

Set in small town Saskatchewan before and after the war, the yearnings in these stories are familiar, the emotions eternal, and the voice clear and distinctive already.

Cover: "Setting Sun," Dorothy Knowles, 1980.



PERSONAL

Dave Green

Trade paper, 128 pages

9.5" w x 8" h

CAN \$30 US \$25

978-0-9937909-5-9

Feb 1 2017

Design: Associés Libres

From LP Farrell's introduction:

This is a book of contrasts, the tension in the dialogue a whisper. Look here: youthful lust and yearning, women and lovers juxtaposed with pared down, sombre landscapes of the city and the country. Lust is a counterpoint to dilapidation. The tang of tungsten light in cavernous bars and then a street lamp, a votive light of hope in a night sky over lovers like some crazy benediction.

If there is a reckoning, it is on the road. The photographer/passenger, the night and a beautiful woman at the wheel; a motorcyclist with a life garbage-bagged and strapped to the saddle of his BSA, maybe in flight. A bleak stretch of road ahead, road the arbiter. Love goes but the road always stays. Road, the redeemer.

Personal contains 102 black and white plates, printed with great care on silk coated 100# stock, plus the photographer's notes and reflections on these images.



A FILM BY VALERIE BUHAGIAR



IT'S HARD TO BE HUMAN
Valerie Buhagiar

Trade paper, 144 pages
6.75" w x 9" h
CAN \$20 US \$18

978-1-988887-00-5

COMING SPRING 2018

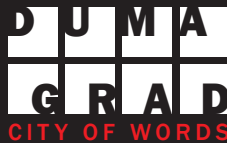
Agnes is a young woman who feels betrayed by the cruelties of existence. As teens will, she takes her frustrations out against her father. Who, in her case, is God.

A free adaptation of Strindberg's *A Dream Play*, *It's Hard To Be Human* preserves the surreal tone and disrupted time sequences of the original, while rooting the story in contemporary teen life. In commentary, Buhagiar explains why she considers this her most personal film, touching as it does on her past preoccupations with faith, in a style that represents a culmination of her daring explorations over twenty years of visionary film-making.

The print edition includes Buhagiar's original script, scores of full colour stills from the film, extracts of interviews with the director, and notes from her journals, in which she expands on the eternal moral questions that underpin the sometimes nightmarish imagery of this unique film.



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



Dumagrad Books
a city of words

info@dumagrad.com
dumagrad.com

ORDERING INFORMATION

Canadian trade distribution by Books in Hand,
a division of LitDistCo.

LitDistCo
c/o 100 Armstrong Avenue
Georgetown, ON L7G 5S4
Toll-free-phone (Canada, US): 1.800.591.6250
Toll-free-fax (Canada, US): 1.800.591.6251
Email: orders@litdistco.ca

DUMAGRAD/CITY OF WORDS

Dumagrad Books
355 Parkside Dr
Toronto, ON M6R 2Z4
Phone: 647.273.3658

Email: info@dumagrad.com

dumagrad.com
twitter: @dumagrad