

# THE INDEPENDENT HANDSELLERS LIST

*Local interest, obscure gems and tried and true favourites make up this assortment of titles that Canadian independent booksellers recommend with confidence.*

## Pennywise Books, Brandon, MB

### **Removing the Hutterite Kerchief**

by Rebecca Hofer, with her daughter Helen Kubisewsky (Published in association with the Okanagan Institute Collegium)

With Hutterite colonies a common sight in Manitoba, people are interested in learning more about what occurs within them. *Removing the Hutterite Kerchief* is a controversial book that names names and gives details as to why 40 men, women and children walked away from their culture on a cold winter day.



### **Every Stone a Story II**

by Dale Brawn (Great Plains Publications)

Another book with a local focus—people who love history or have simply lived in southwest Manitoba for any period of time are



often fascinated by the stories of individuals who lived and died in the region.

- Keith Edmunds

## Gulliver's Quality Books & Toys, North Bay, ON

Well, some of our handselling titles have local connections, such as titles by Giles Blunt and Joseph Boyden. Others belong to authors who have either visited the store or participated in Books by the Bay, our annual book festival, such as Linwood Barclay and Lawrence Hill. Others include:

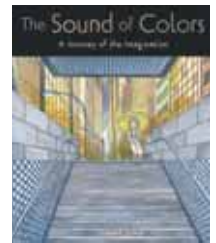
### **When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals** (Delta/RHC)

by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and **Police Stories: Tales from a Small-Town Cop** (Borealis Press) by George Berrigan, both of which are well-received suggestions. **May I Walk you Home?: Courage and Comfort for Caregivers of the Very Ill** (Ave Maria Press) by




Joyce Rupp and Joyce Hutchison was bought in quantity for palliative care/Red Cross use on our recommendation.

Children's books are a specialty of ours, and we all have our favourites: **Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig** (Simon & Schuster) by Eugene Trivizas; **The Sound of Colors: A Journey of Imagination** (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers) by Jimmy Liao; and **Farley Follows his Nose** (Harper Trophy Canada) by Lynn Johnston (this one also has a local connection).



- Suzanne Brooks

*Thanks to all of our bookseller contributors who responded so thoughtfully and eloquently. If you've got a handselling hit on your hands, or staff recommendations to offer, please forward your picks to [esinkins@cbabook.org](mailto:esinkins@cbabook.org) *

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pleted, would the book ever have been written?"

Perish the thought. Chicken, Pig and Cow—both the illustrated versions and the originals—are an utter delight. In the second book, *Chicken, Pig, Cow on the Move*, the friends look for a new home, only to realize that they like their own barn best. Ohi revealed that the third and most recent title, *Chicken, Pig, Cow and the Purple Problem*, "came from my daughter saying, 'And the cow has purple spots because I didn't have any brown clay.' And I thought to myself, 'But what if Cow didn't want to look different?'"

Her stories don't have morals, or lessons; Ohi doesn't work that way. "I would make a poor educator." But what gives the CPC books their punch is that all the feelings are *real*. Sometimes they're funny, sometimes they're afraid, sometime they compliment others on their shoes. "Chicken, Pig and Cow are innocent. They are imperfect, but appealing." Yes, yes and yes.

Though for someone who claims to be a poor educator, Ohi spends a great deal of time in schools and libraries, giving presentations to students, and to teachers and librarians as well. The pattern began years ago when the wife of her grade eight teacher asked her to speak at her librarian group. "From that evening came the first invitations to share my work with children,

and from there it was word of mouth. Educators have been very generous with opportunities to share my work with students and with other educators."

That generosity goes both ways. Ohi's dynamic school presentations include slide shows, drawing demonstrations and chances for the students to make their own illustrations. The effects are long lasting. "Some of my favourite school or library readings end with a young person approaching me with a book to sign. It is one that they brought from home and it has obviously been well read—worn at the corners, dinged pages, cover falling off—enjoyed. It doesn't get much better than that." 