

Sinister Wisdom

A Multicultural Lesbian Literary & Art Journal

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***Sinister Wisdom 94: Lesbians and Exile* Published Guest Edited by Joan Nestle and Yasmin Tambiah**

Sinister Wisdom announces the release of *Sinister Wisdom 94: Lesbians and Exile*. Joan Nestle, award-winning author and anthologist, and Yasmin Tambiah, researcher and award-winning writer, edited *Sinister Wisdom 94: Lesbians and Exile*.

Dedicated to Sunila Abeysekera, a Sri Lankan feminist and human rights activist, *Sinister Wisdom 94: Lesbians and Exile* investigates the challenges faced by lesbians around the world, examining lesbian identity in relation to social marginalization, dislocation, war and survival.

Sinister Wisdom 94 includes work by lesbians from around the globe. Activist Mariam Gagoshashvili wrote *Reportage: My Experience on May 17th 2013, IDAHO Day, in Tbilisi*, a detailed, personal account of an attack by counter-protestors in Georgia (Eurasia). The issue includes letters written by out lesbians from Kosovo, poetry by Palestinian writer khulud khamis breaches the subject of citizenship and identity, and Xi'an Glynn's "There is no place for us," which considers exile occurring within the United States itself.

Guest Editors Joan Nestle and Yasmin Tambiah write in the "Notes for a Magazine:" "We decided to provoke questions about the utility and limits of the term exile by including a spectrum of other processes and states of dislocation, displacement, eviction, illegitimacy, and rejection. These states cannot be considered without simultaneously foregrounding acts of dissent, resistance, and transformations, and always from a lesbian perspective or on a lesbian continuum."

Julie R. Enszer, Editor and Publisher of *Sinister Wisdom*, says: “The rich material gathered in this issue of *Sinister Wisdom* considers the many facets of exile and its fractured, resilient, and complicated relationship to identity.”

Always radical in its subject matter and a frank exploration of the exile experience, *Sinister Wisdom 94: Lesbians and Exile* spans the breadth of literary form, from firsthand accounts of violence to personal memoir and poetry.

Joan Nestle was born in the Bronx in 1940 and spent most of her life in New York City, where, in 1958, she entered public lesbian life in the bars of Greenwich Village. She taught writing in the SEEK Program at Queens College from 1965 to 1990. In 1974 she cofounded the Lesbian Herstory Archives which still thrives today in its Brooklyn home. Her own provinciality ended, she hopes, when she moved to Melbourne, Australia, in 2002 to be with her lover, Dianne Otto. At seventy-three Nestle is most grateful when she is forced to see with new eyes that which she thought she knew. She is the author of *A Restricted Country* (Cleis Press, San Francisco, 2003, first published Firebrand Press, Ithaca N.Y., 1987) and *A Fragile Union* (Cleis Press, San Francisco, 1998) and editor of seven other books exploring the lesbian body and imagination. For her most recent writing, see <http://Joannestle.com>.

Yasmin Tambiah grew up in Sri Lanka and lived there before and during the war years. She has spent long periods of her adult life in the U.S. and Australia, with stints in Trinidad, India, the U.K. and Spain. Trained as a European medievalist she now researches issues at the crossing points of law, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and militarization in postcolonial states, and also works in research management. Her creative writing has appeared, among others, in *Conditions* (New York), *Options* (Colombo), *Nethra* (Colombo) and *ZineWest* (Sydney), as well as in anthologies edited by Joan Nestle and by Yasmine Gooneratne. She has won awards for writing from the Astraea Lesbian Foundation in New York and, most recently, from ZineWest in Sydney.

Sinister Wisdom is a multicultural lesbian literary & art journal that publishes three issues each year. Publishing since 1976, *Sinister Wisdom* works to create a multicultural, multi-class lesbian space. *Sinister Wisdom* seeks to open, consider and advance the exploration of community issues. *Sinister Wisdom* recognizes the power of language to reflect our diverse experiences and to enhance our ability to develop critical judgment, as lesbians evaluating our community and our world. Julie R. Enszer is the editor and publisher of *Sinister Wisdom*. For more information: www.sinisterwisdom.org

Sinister Wisdom is available to the trade through Small Press Distribution.