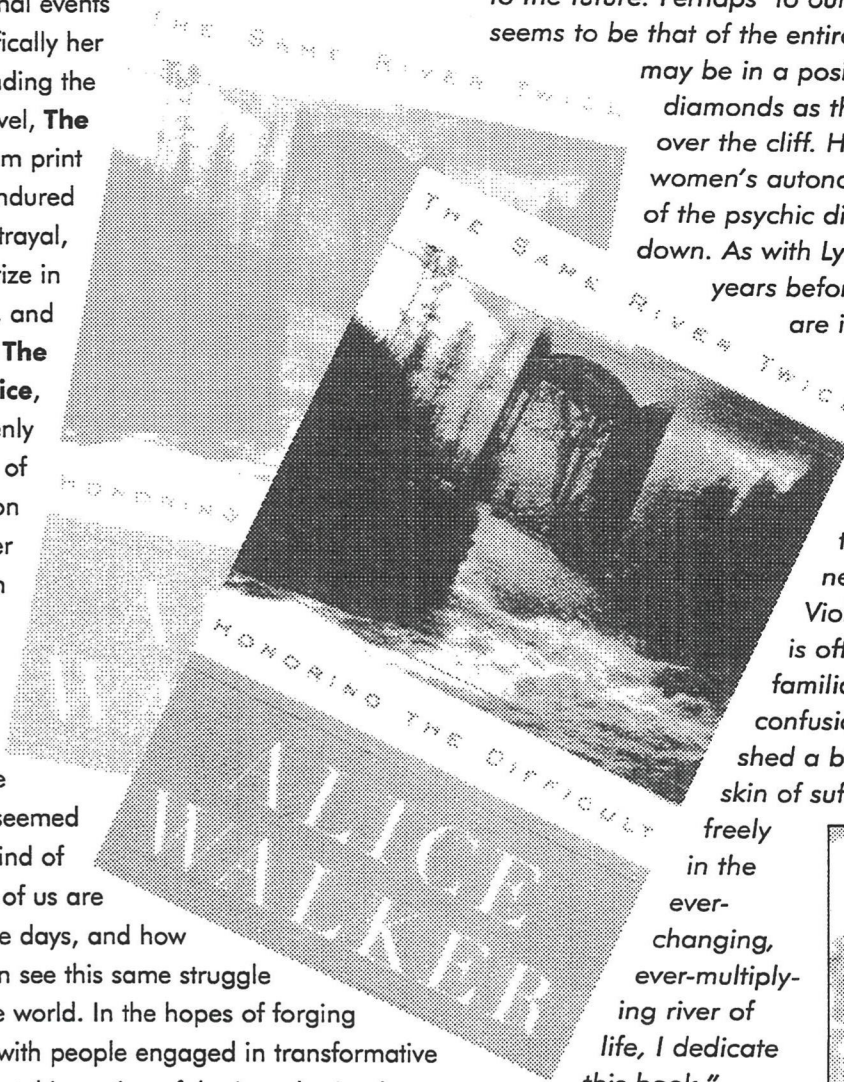


## NEW ALICE WALKER OFFERS HOPE IN TROUBLING TIMES

Alice Walker has a new book coming out early in 1996 entitled, **The Same River Twice: Honouring the Difficult**, published by Scribner. Like so much literature that generates a universal response, Walker's book describes very personal events in her life, specifically her experiences surrounding the transition of her novel, **The Colour Purple**, from print to screen. Walker endured fame, illness, betrayal, and the Pulitzer Prize in relation to the book, and in her newest work, **The Same River Twice**, she speaks openly about the impact of these experiences on her life and her evolution as an artist. In reading the Introduction to her new work, I was struck by a part of the dedication that seemed to capture the kind of struggle many of us are engaged in these days, and how vividly we can see this same struggle elsewhere in the world. In the hopes of forging another small link with people engaged in transformative work, we reprint this section of the introduction here.



*"As people of colour and as women, as a non-establishment or politically disempowered people, we face an increasing challenge simply to stay alive on the planet. To be healthy, hopefully and committed to the future. Perhaps to our surprise, this condition seems to be that of the entire world, though some may be in a position to buff their diamonds as they race their Jaguars over the cliff. Hatred of women and of women's autonomy is the most intimate of the psychic diseases that bring us down. As with Lyme disease, it can be years before we even recognize we are infected. More years pass before treatment is sought. Sometimes there doesn't even seem to be a name for the way one feels. All the while there is weakness, bitterness, and pain. Violence, in word or deed, is often the only language familiar enough to express our confusion. To those who wish to shed a bit of this particular old skin of suffering, to swim more freely in the ever-changing, ever-multiplying river of life, I dedicate this book."*

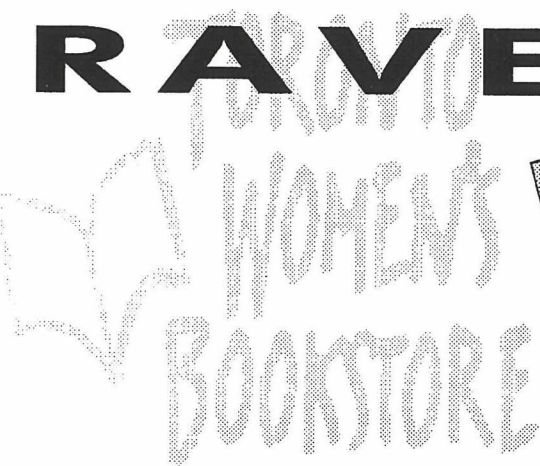


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# RAVES



**MARILYN**  
**Bastard Out Of Carolina** by Dorothy Allison \$13.<sup>99</sup> The pages burn with the friction between rage and poetry.

**MALA**  
**Like Water For Chocolate** by Laura Esquivel \$7.<sup>99</sup> Rosaura speaks for the erotic chef in all of us!

**ABBY**  
**In The Company Of My Sister: Black Women and Self-Esteem** by Julia A. Boyd \$25.<sup>99</sup> "Girlfriends, loving ain't supposed to hurt."

**RONA**  
**Nothing Is Black** by Deirdre Madden \$14.<sup>99</sup> Get into the minds of her women as she explores friendship, family, and the nature of creativity. Excellent.

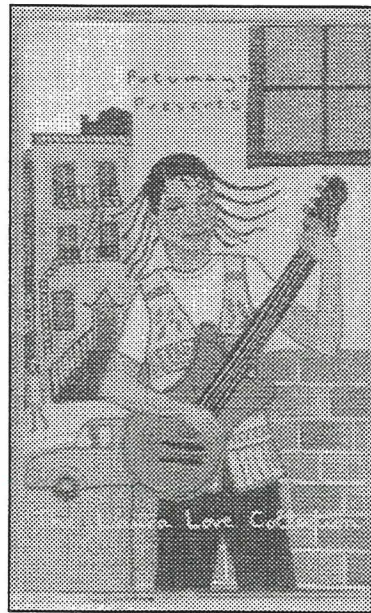
**MARY ELLEN**  
**Legal Tender** by Marion Foster \$18.<sup>50</sup> Intriguing mystery with appealing characters, set in Toronto and Georgian bay. Makes you want more.

**CLARE**  
**Their Eyes Were Watching God** by Zora Neale Hurston \$17.<sup>50</sup>  
...because Janie Crawford is running things...

**eloise**  
**Sisters Of The Yam** by bell hooks \$16.<sup>95</sup>  
I have a number of favourite books for different reasons, however, if I had to limit it to one choice, I would have to say: bell hooks, "Sisters Of The Yam."

**MARISS**  
**Sister Outsider** by Audre Lorde \$15.<sup>95</sup>  
The universality of Lorde's message combined with her accessible writing style makes this collection appealing to all women.

**ESTHER**  
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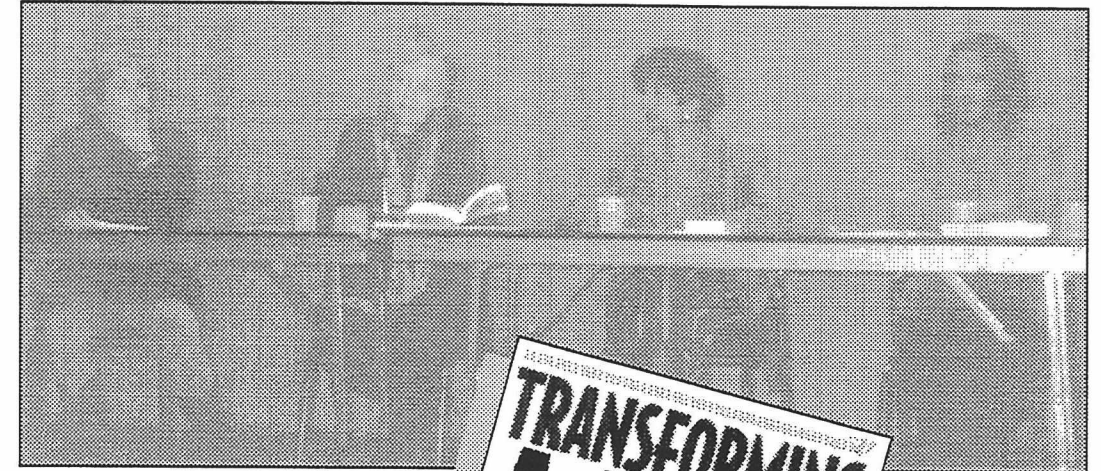
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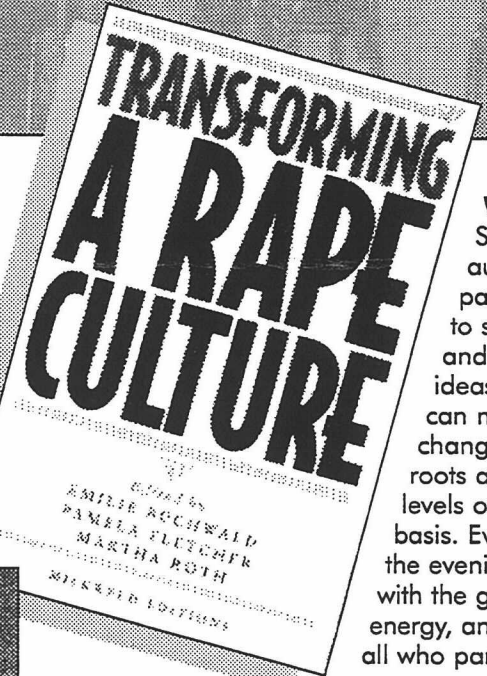
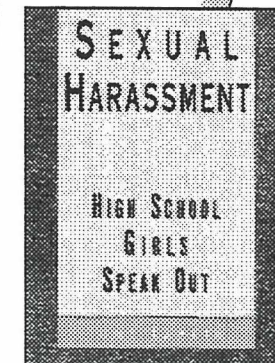
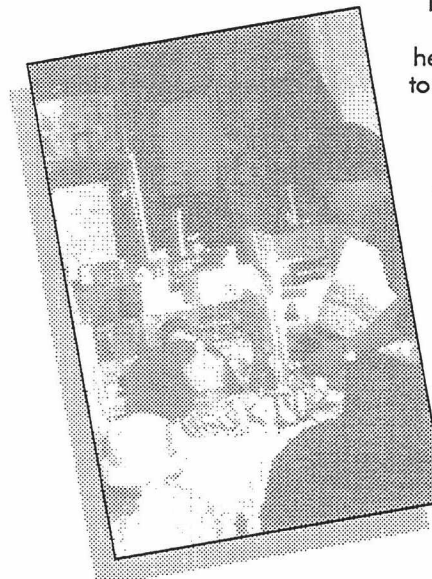
On Thursday night, September 28th, the **Toronto Women's Bookstore** exploded with the synergies of approximately 100 persons. They were mainly women of colour, and we were all gathered in celebrating black women entrepreneurs; to share ventures with each other, and to generally have a good time. The intent of the evening was the Bookstore saying "thank you" to its customers and supporters for continued support. And to do so by providing the space and opportunity for some networking and celebrating.

**Pamela Fletcher**, co-editor and contributor to **Transforming a Rape Culture**, spoke movingly of the value of the female body, as part one of **Visions for a**



Contributors to the evening included **SISTERVISION PRESS**, Author **HAZELLE PALMER**, **CULTUREKITCHEN** from **CULTURELINK**, **APPIAH DESIGNS**, **AFRICAN ORACLE**, **AT THE CROSSROADS**, **FUTU FUTU JEWELRY**, and much more...

Those of you who did not attend, you missed one helluva vibe. Look forward to more events of a similar nature co-sponsored by the Bookstore and other community organizations. Join Us!

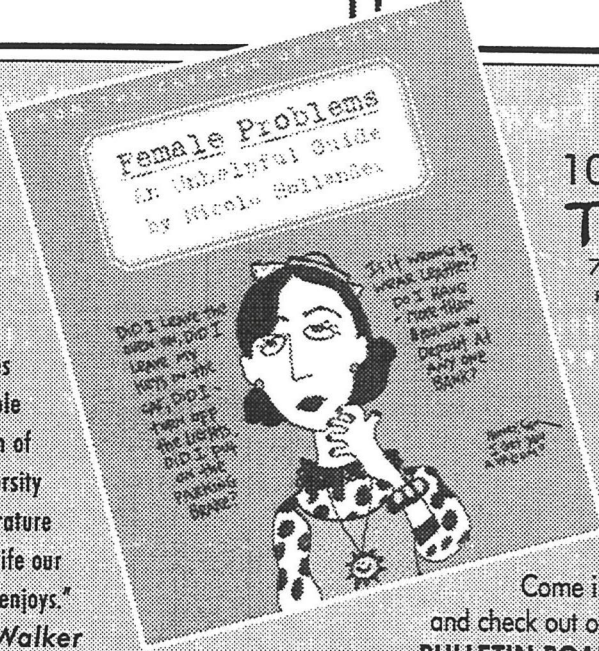
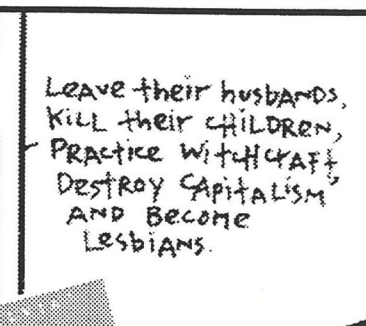


**Future Without Rape.** She encouraged audience and panel members to share their work and experience and ideas on how we can make vital changes on grass-roots and internal levels on a daily basis. Everyone left the evening charged with the gathering's energy, and we thank all who participated.

Part Two took place **Nov 22nd**, with **June Larkin**, author of **Sexual Harassment: High School Girls Speak Out**. June spoke about the issues related to the education system and was followed by a panel of Toronto high school girls, including **Debbie Young**, **Ivana Shein**, and **Sarah Latha-Elliott**. Stay tuned for our next events review!







"...women's bookstores are responsible for so much of the rich diversity in literature and life our culture enjoys." Alice Walker

Come in and check out our **BULLETIN BOARD** for listings of jobs, housing, committee meetings, support groups, and many other events you won't want to miss!

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