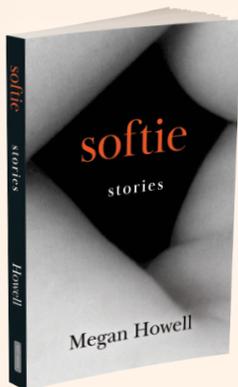


# NEW BOOKS



# FALL 2024

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## Softie Stories

**Megan Howell**

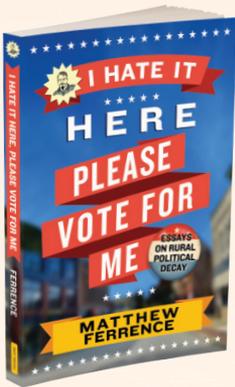
Washington, D.C.

*In beautifully melancholy stories of magical realism, the women and girls in Softie transform their bodies and test their sanity, trying to find meaning in the loneliest of places.*

“Howell’s collection . . . carves a needed space for female characters of color that move beyond the stereotypical white, beautiful, rich characters who dominate the subgenre.”

—Kristen Gentry, author of  
*Mama Said: Stories*

November 2024 · 266pp · 5.5x8.25in  
PB 978-1-959000-31-0 · \$19.99  
eBook 978-1-959000-32-7 · \$19.99



## I Hate It Here, Please Vote for Me

**Essays on Rural  
Political Decay**

**Matthew Ferrence**

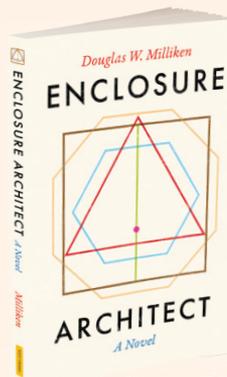
Meadville, PA

*In essays on showing goats at the county fair, planting native grasses in the front lawn, the political power of poetry, and getting wiped out in an election, Ferrence offers a counter-narrative to the stereotypes of monolithic rural American voters.*

“A fascinating look at the making of political and cultural tropes from the inside.”

—Edward Karshner, author  
of *Writing the Self: A  
Phenomenological Approach  
to Composition Theory*

August 2024 · 228pp · 5.5x8.25in  
PB 978-1-959000-27-3 · \$21.99  
eBook 978-1-959000-28-0 · \$21.99



## Enclosure Architect

**A Novel**

**Douglas W. Milliken**

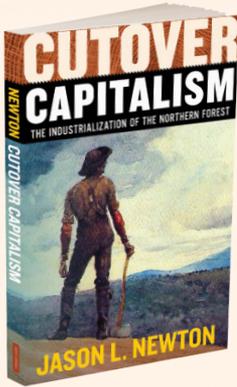
Saco, ME

*An indigent queer sculptor details the culmination and dissolution of her chosen family of artists, bohemians, and libertines in an American city engulfed in civil conflict.*

“Fascinating, strange, and buoyed by a narrative voice that is both somehow floating above the action yet thoroughly grounded in detail . . . there are moments of absolute poetry.”

—Meghan Gilliss, author of  
*Lungfish*

September 2024 · 246pp · 5.5x8.25in  
PB 978-1-959000-21-1 · \$21.99  
eBook 978-1-959000-22-8 · \$21.99  
4 images



## Cutover Capitalism

### The Industrialization of the Northern Forest

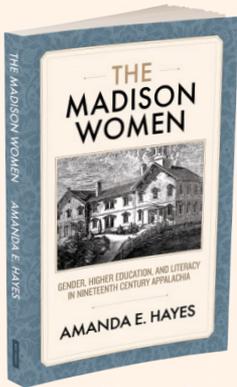
**Jason L. Newton** *Charlotte, NC*

*Compelling, candid, and sometimes violent stories drawn from oral history frame the American lumberjack at the intersection of labor and environment.*

“Blurring the boundary between exploiting trees and exploiting workers, *Cutover Capitalism* is an interesting re-interpretation of the field of forest history.”—Richard W. Judd, author of *Second Nature: An Environmental History of New England*

**Histories of Capitalism and the Environment Series**

October 2024 · 298pp · 6x9in · PB 978-1-959000-29-7 · \$29.99s · eBook 978-1-959000-30-3  
\$29.99 · 5 images · 1 map · 9 tables



## The Madison Women

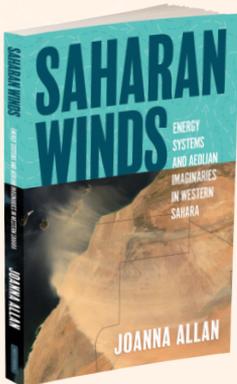
### Gender, Higher Education, and Literacy in Nineteenth-Century Appalachia

**Amanda E. Hayes** *New Philadelphia, OH*

*By uncovering how higher education and gender roles evolved in Appalachia over time, this book delivers a history that contradicts the stereotype of the region as hostile to education.*

“A mastery of weaving personal and archival research to resurrect a critical time in education in Appalachia.”—Travis A. Rountree, author of *Hillsville Remembered: Public Memory, Historical Silence, and Appalachia’s Most Notorious Shoot-Out*

September 2024 · 204pp · 6x9in · PB 978-1-959000-25-9 · \$27.99sp · eBook 978-1-959000-26-6  
\$27.99 · 6 images



## Saharan Winds

### Energy Systems and Aeolian Imaginaries in Western Sahara

**Joanna Allan** *Newcastle upon Tyne, UK*

*A history of Saharan winds melds into a discussion of energy development and the politics of energy systems.*

“The mixture of archival, literary and fieldwork-derived ethnographic material is a refreshing approach.”—Dominic Boyer, author of *Energotitics: Wind and Power in the Anthropocene*

**Energy and Society Series**

October 2024 · 274pp · 6x9in · PB 978-1-959000-23-5 · \$29.99s · eBook 978-1-959000-24-2  
\$29.99 · 1 map

# This Book Is Free and Yours to Keep

## Notes from the Appalachian Prison Book Project

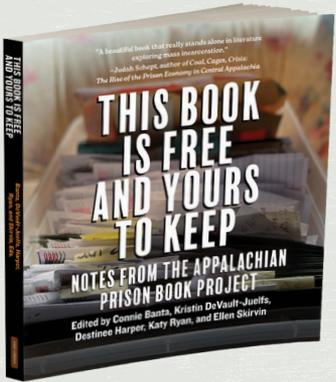
Edited by **Connie Banta, Kristin DeVault-Juelfs, Destinee Harper, Katy Ryan, and Ellen Skirvin**

Morgantown, WV

Through the essays, letters, and artwork created by people in prison, this collection provides insight into the Appalachian Prison Book Project—a nonprofit that provides books to incarcerated people in West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Maryland.

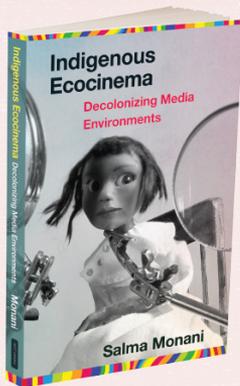
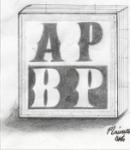
“A beautiful book that really stands alone in literature exploring mass incarceration . . . about the literary and intellectual lives of people incarcerated and the modest but urgent work of grassroots book projects.”

—Judah Schept, author of *Coal, Cages, Crisis: The Rise of the Prison Economy in Central Appalachia*



December 2024 · 208pp · 8x8in  
PB 978-1-959000-35-8 · \$26.99  
eBook 978-1-959000-36-5 · \$26.99  
22 images

Below: *This Book Is Free and Yours to Keep* includes artwork by (L to R): Terry “Mikey” Knightlinger, Maurice, Eric Bramblett, Ralphie, and Markeese Williams



## Indigenous Ecocinema

### Decolonizing Media Environments

**Salma Monani** Gettysburg, PA

Foregrounding the voices of Indigenous intellectuals, Monani reframes our popular and scholarly understandings of Indigenous cinema as discursively and materially entangled in the environment.

“The arguments Monani makes around issues of place, time, and affect comprise a compelling case for the centrality of Indigenous cinematic mediations of ecological consciousness.”

—Joanna Hearne, author of *Native Recognition: Indigenous Cinema and the Western* and *Smoke Signals: Native Cinema Rising*

Salvaging the Anthropocene Series

December 2024 · 200pp · 6x9in · PB 978-1-959000-33-4 · \$26.99s · eBook 978-1-959000-34-1 · \$26.99

# Welcome our new editorial staff!



## Kristen Bettcher

### Managing Editor

Kristen earned her MS in publishing from Pace University and has an extensive background in scholarly and academic publishing. She is thrilled to be working with the authors and staff of WVU Press from her home office in Connecticut, where her partner, children, and unique animal companions keep her company.



## Marguerite Avery

### Editorial Director

Marguerite has over twenty years of acquisitions experience with university presses. She has acquired books across disciplines for Trinity University Press, Texas A&M University Press, and MIT Press, where she created the Essential Knowledge Series and the Infrastructures Series. She holds an MS in Library and Information Science.

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