

The Gilda Stories

Jewelle Gomez explores the borders that might separate and contain our identities. In evoking the women who raised her and lived on those borders she takes us deep inside her reclamation of her Wampanoag/Ioway/Cape Verdean and Lesbian roots.

An elegant, sensual and naturalistic fantasy -- a black vampire story.

Lesbian sex as you have never read it before - risky, exciting, real

"This book examines the link between blackness and immortality in the fledgling genre of African American vampire fiction"--

Latinos, Asian Americans, and the Achievement Gap
Name Poems

Tales with Fresh Bite

Forty-three Septembers

The City of Palaces

When the Other Writes Back

SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 61-page guide for "The Gilda Stories" by Jewelle Gomez includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 8 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like The Vampire Story as Afrofuturism and The Importance and Fluidity of Family.

The Gilda Stories Expanded 25th Anniversary Edition

Today the achievement gap is hotly debated among pundits, politicians, and educators. In particular this conversation often focuses on the two fastest-growing demographic groups in the United States: Asian Americans and Latinos. In Academic Profiling, Gilda L. Ochoa addresses this so-called gap by going directly to the source. At one California public high school where the controversy is lived every day, Ochoa turns to the students, teachers, and parents to learn about the very real disparities—in opportunity, status, treatment, and assumptions—that lead to more than just gaps in achievement. In candid and at times heart-wrenching detail, the students tell stories of encouragement and neglect on their paths to graduation. Separated by unequal middle schools and curriculum tracking, they are divided by race, class, and gender. While those channeled into an International Baccalaureate Program boast about Socratic classes and stress-release sessions, students left out of such programs commonly describe uninspired teaching and inaccessible counseling. Students unequally labeled encounter differential policing and assumptions based on their abilities—disparities compounded by the growth in the private tutoring industry that favors the already economically privileged. Despite the entrenched inequality in today’s schools, Academic Profiling finds hope in the many ways students and teachers are affirming identities, creating alternative spaces, and fostering critical consciousness. When Ochoa shares the results of her research with the high school, we see the new possibilities—and limits—of change.

Gilda Joyce’s best friend, Wendy Choy, is chosen to participate in a piano competition in Oxford, England, so of course super-sleuth Gilda finds a way to go too. Once there,

the grueling practice schedule takes a backseat to strange and spooky occurrences. There are foreboding tarot cards that keep appearing to the participants and ominous numbers etched in frosty windowpanes. But even more chilling are Wendy's ghostly nightmares of a young boy?and the haunting melody she can't shake out of her mind. Could there be a sinister connection to the piano competition? Gilda has a genuine haunting on her hands, and solving this one will take every ounce of psychic intuition she's got!

Stories

Transgressive Fictions

How to Dispatch a Human

Short Fiction

Still Water

If We Were Electric

"Blood Read is a fresh look at an old form, offering lively, lucid insights into the contemporary explosion of vampire fiction. Nothing else like it exists. This book should set the terms for discussion about vampires for some time to come."--Brian Attebery, Idaho State University

If We Were Electric's twelve stories celebrate New Orleans in all of its beautiful peculiarities: macabre and magical, muddy and exquisite, sensual and spiritual. The stunning debut collection finds its characters in moments of desire and despair, often stuck on the verge of a great metamorphosis, but burdened by some unreasonable love. These are stories about missed opportunities, about people on the outside who don't fit in, about the consequences of not mustering enough courage to overcome the binds. In

“Feux Follet,” an old man’s grief attracts supernatural lights in the dark Louisiana swamps. An exploding transformer’s raw, unnerving energy in the title story matches the strange, ferocious temper of an unlucky hustler. “Blackout” sets the profound numbness of a young man physically abused by his mentally unstable partner beside the meaningful beauty of an unexpected moment of joy with someone else. The teenage narrator in “Before Las Blancas” is so overwhelmed by his sexuality that he abandons everything and everyone he’s known to live in a happy illusion . . . in Mexico. And “Where It Takes Us” is a poignant, understated snapshot of a gay man who accompanies his straight, HIV-positive brother to the race track to bond again.

"In this collection of 15 personal essays ... words flow with an ease, honesty, and intellect that is mesmerizing".

-- Library Journal.

Zany Gilda Joyce leaves her wacky disguises at home but brings all her psychic and investigative skills with her as she sets out to investigate a mysterious death at a Catholic girls' school. Is Our Lady of Sorrows really haunted by the ghost of Dolores Lambert? Or is the student body suffering from group hysteria? Solving this mystery will put Gilda in more danger than she ever imagined? and will put all of her brashness, bravery, and smarts to the test.

Stories and Suggestions

The New Moon's Arms

Homemaking

Gilda Radner : a Sort of Love Story

Best Lesbian Erotica 2011

Spirit Messages to My Mother

"The Gilda Stories is groundbreaking not just for the wild lives it portrays, but for how it portrays them--communally, unapologetically, roaming fiercely over space and time."--Emma Donoghue, author of Room

"Jewelle Gomez sees right into the heart. This is a book to give to those you want most to find their own strength."—Dorothy Allison

This remarkable novel begins in 1850s Louisiana, where Gilda escapes slavery and learns about freedom while working in a brothel. After being initiated into eternal life as one who "shares the blood" by two women there, Gilda spends the next two hundred years searching for a place to call home. An instant lesbian classic when it was first published in 1991, *The Gilda Stories* has endured as an auspiciously prescient book in its explorations of blackness, radical ecology, re-definitions of family, and yes, the erotic potential of the vampire story.

Jewelle Gomez is a writer, activist, and the author of many books including *Forty-Three Septembers*, *Don't Explain*, *The Lipstick Papers*, *Flamingoes and Bears*, and *Oral Tradition*. *The Gilda Stories* was the recipient of two Lambda Literary Awards, and was adapted for the stage by the Urban Bush Women theater company in thirteen United States cities. Alexis Pauline Gumbs was named one of *UTNE Reader's* 50 Visionaries Transforming the World, a Reproductive Reality Check Shero, a Black Woman Rising nominee, and was awarded one of the first-ever "Too Sexy for 501c3" trophies. She lives in Durham, North Carolina. More praise for *The Gilda Stories*: "Jewelle's big-

Access Free The Gilda Stories

hearted novel pulls old rhythms out of the earth, the beauty shops and living rooms of black lesbian herstory, expressed by the dazzling vampire Gilda. Her resilience is a testament to black queer women's love, power, and creativity. Brilliant!"--Joan Steinau Lester, author of *Black, White, Other* "In sensuous prose, Jewelle Gomez uses the vampire story as a vehicle for a re-telling of American history in which the disenfranchised finally get their say. Her take on queerness, community, and the vampire legend is as radical and relevant as ever."--Michael Nava, author of *The City of Palaces* "The Gilda Stories are both classic and timely. Gilda emphasizes the import of tenets at the crux of black feminism while her stories ring with the urgency of problems that desperately need to be resolved in our current moment."--Theri A. Pickens, author of *New Body Politics* "The Gilda Stories was ahead of its time when it was first published in 1991, and this anniversary edition reminds us why it's still an important novel. Gomez's characters are rooted in historical reality yet lift seductively out of it, to trouble traditional models of family, identity, and literary genre and imagine for us bold new patterns. A lush, exciting, inspiring read."--Sarah Waters, author of *Tipping the Velvet* ". . . its focus on a black lesbian who possesses considerable agency throughout the centuries, and its commentary on gender and race, remain significant and powerful."--Publishers Weekly

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year! "The Alienist meets *The City & The City* in this brilliant debut that mixes fantasy and mystery. Gilda Carr's 'tiny mysteries' pack a giant punch." --David Morrell, *New*

York Times bestselling author of *Murder As a Fine Art* A young detective who specializes in “tiny mysteries” finds herself at the center of a massive conspiracy in this beguiling historical fantasy set on Manhattan’s Westside—a peculiar and dangerous neighborhood home to strange magic and stranger residents—that blends the vivid atmosphere of Caleb Carr with the imaginative power of Neil Gaiman. It’s 1921, and a thirteen-mile fence running the length of Broadway splits the island of Manhattan, separating the prosperous Eastside from the Westside—an overgrown wasteland whose hostility to modern technology gives it the flavor of old New York. Thousands have disappeared here, and the respectable have fled, leaving behind the killers, thieves, poets, painters, drunks, and those too poor or desperate to leave. It is a hellish landscape, and Gilda Carr proudly calls it home. Slightly built, but with a will of iron, Gilda follows in the footsteps of her late father, a police detective turned private eye. Unlike that larger-than-life man, Gilda solves tiny mysteries: the impossible puzzles that keep us awake at night; the small riddles that destroy us; the questions that spoil marriages, ruin friendships, and curdle joy. Those tiny cases distract her from her grief, and the one impossible question she knows she can’t answer: “How did my father die?” Yet on Gilda’s Westside, tiny mysteries end in blood—even the case of a missing white leather glove. Mrs. Copeland, a well-to-do Eastside housewife, hires Gilda to find it before her irascible merchant husband learns it is gone. When Gilda witnesses Mr. Copeland’s murder at a Westside pier, she finds herself sinking into a mire of bootlegging, smuggling, corruption—and an evil too

dark to face. All she wants is to find one dainty ladies' glove. She doesn't want to know why this merchant was on the wrong side of town—or why he was murdered in cold blood. But as she begins to see the connection between his murder, her father's death, and the darkness plaguing the Westside, she faces the hard truth: she must save her city or die with it. Introducing a truly remarkable female detective, Westside is a mystery steeped in the supernatural and shot through with gunfights, rotgut whiskey, and sizzling Dixieland jazz. Full of dazzling color, delightful twists, and truly thrilling action, it announces the arrival of a wonderful new talent.

A collection of autobiographical essays about identity, the author's family, growing up and growing older, and related topics

(Applause Books). In a series of funny, tender, and touching dialogues, former Saturday Night Live writer Zweibel recalls his buddy-and-almost-lover friendship with SNL actress Gilda Radner, who died of ovarian cancer. Zweibel claims he "merely scribbled the dialogues playing in my head," and, indeed, these recreated conversations have a neurotic, sarcastic, and vulnerable air of authenticity. The actress and writer become fast friends on the SNL set and segue into personal revelation.

Fledgling

Bunny, Bunny

Dark Corner

King of the Worlds

Academic Profiling

Expanded 25th Anniversary Edition

In this daring collection of speculative fiction, Stephanie

Andrea Allen attends to the lives of Black women, mostly lesbian or queer, all keenly aware of the forces seeking to consume them. A Black lesbian working the gig economy runs into a trio of motorized scooters and helps them escape from Earth. An enchanted sleep mask gives a woman the gift of slumber, but what will it cost her? A suburban housewife is framed for murder by her homophobic neighbor. And in the follow up to "Luna 6000," a young woman investigates her mother's untimely death, and learns the truth about her family. Stephanie Allen's *How to Dispatch a Human: Stories and Suggestions* is an unapologetic, often humorous, foray into the quotidian magic that envelops Black women's lives. The eleven stories in this collection are filled with characters who will entice and delight readers as they traverse the worlds around them. With a mix of fabulism, near future, and speculative fictions, Allen reminds us in exquisitely nuanced prose that the fantastical can be found amongst the ordinary. This paper will examine Jewelle Gomez's *The Gilda Stories* and Octavia Butler's *Fledgling*, two contemporary vampire narratives written by black women writers who rewrite traditional vampire mythology by casting black women as vampires. Conventional vampire folklore arose out of a fear of the Other, specifically the racialized Other, and because of this, I will argue that it is necessary that the black female writer offer a new vision of the figure of the vampire. Many of the familiar characteristics of the vampire imply that the creature is intended to be a metaphor for the outsider or marginalized individual and demonizes the individual by

deeming the Other as monstrous. Race becomes a marker for monstrosity. Therefore, I will argue that it is necessary for the black female writer to transform these monstrous images from mainstream horror into figures of empowerment and redirect audience sympathy towards the "monsters" rather than normal human victims. I will begin by offering a brief history of the fictional vampire and how it has come to function as a metaphor for the Other, narrowing in on Bram Stoker's *Dracula* because Stoker's vampire is recognized as the most familiar fictional vampire, and many works of vampire fiction use *Dracula* as a template. Furthermore, *Dracula* was crafted as a representation of the racial Other, specifically the Jew. Using this figure as a representation of the traditional vampire, I will then examine the very different ways that Gomez and Butler conceptualize their vampires in an effort to show how their respective takes on the vampire narrative seek to reconfigure difference and rewrite Otherness as a subject position of strength. This eye-opening, 5x8, 428 page, non-fiction book contains a multitude of inspirational messages received by the extraordinary trance medium Monserrate Conesa, as dictated to her daughter Gilda Miros. A compilation of fifty years of communications with "The World Beyond." This incredible and heartwarming book contains messages that will inspire the readers; provoking an awareness of their immortality and confirming that there is life after death. These fascinating spirit messages reveal - once and for all - that reincarnation does exist; that loving family members and close friends continue to seek one another after this life, and that death is just a

swift transition from one world to another Spirit life stories, eternal loves, mother/daughter past lives and spirit advice; written with great love and accuracy by the author Gilda Miros. This true incredible account of psychic communication is a marvelous gift to the world. Short stories featuring lesbians. The story, Houston, is on a black lesbian vampire, while Water with Wine is on a love affair between a black professor and a white student.

Playmates from Heaven

The Vampire as Metaphor in Contemporary Culture

The Story of a Jewish Family in WWII London

A Novel

The Paradox of Blackness in African American Vampire Fiction

Study Guide

Cockney Girl is a second-generation Jewish-British child's eyewitness account of tumultuous East London and her eccentric family in England 1934-1950, from the time she was five years old to age twenty. It is what Elie Wiesel called "unmapped history," the story of a family, based on memories and diaries. and is, according to Elie Wiesel, 'unmapped history.' Gilda Haber says, "Joyce Kennel and I roamed East London most Saturdays while my operaphile mother set and permed ladies hair and my deaf barber father, shaved dockers for pub nights and Christmas. One Christmas, Mummy dropped me, aged five, at a Dickensian orphanage for two years. I joyously returned to sooty East London witnessing the 600,000 Fascist - Anti-Fascist 1936 Cable Street Battle and was bridesmaid at my aunt Mitzi's posh wedding. In 1939, London children were hastily evacuated from expected Nazi bombing

to country foster parents who ranged from kind to concupiscent. When I was 14, Mummy sent me to The White House Jewish refugee orphanage: Great Chesterford. Here, contemporaneously with Anne Frank, I began my diary, rejoined the tribe and, while a teenager, met Yank servicemen and wounded British soldiers. With peace, aged 16, I returned home, a stranger, attended LSE and immigrated to America, but remained a Cockney Girl."

To honor the twentieth anniversary of beloved comedienne Gilda Radner's death from ovarian cancer comes a commemorative edition of her memoir, *It's Always Something*—featuring a newly updated resource guide for people living with cancer and a tribute by Radner's former colleagues at *Saturday Night Live*. As a cast member on the original *Saturday Night Live*, Gilda Radner created a compelling character named "Roseann Rosannadanna" who habitually ended her routine with the line, "It's always something," which was her father's favorite expression about life. Radner chose the catch-phrase she made famous as the title to her brave, funny, and painfully honest memoir: the story of her struggle against cancer and her determination to continue laughing. Gilda's Club, a network of affiliate clubhouses that seeks to provide a social and emotional support community to people living with cancer, was founded in Radner's memory in 1991. The name of the organization comes from a remark Gilda once made, that cancer gave her "membership to an elite club I'd rather not belong to." In partnership with Gilda's Club, *It's Always Something* includes valuable information for all whose lives have been touched by cancer and reminds us of the important place laughter has in healing. Told as only Gilda Radner could tell it, *It's Always Something* is the inspiring story of a courageous, funny woman

fighting to enjoy life no matter what the circumstances. She died in 1989. Gilda's Club is distinguished by its unique philosophy and program, "cancer support for the whole family, the whole time." Learn more about Gilda's Club at GildasClub.org.

This "vigorous, witty look at the undead as cultural icons in 19th- and 20th-century England and America" examines the many meanings of the vampire myth (Kirkus Reviews). From Byron's Lord Ruthven to Anne Rice's Lestat to the black bisexual heroine of Jewelle Gomez's *The Gilda Stories*, vampires have taken many forms, capturing and recapturing our imaginations for centuries. In *Our Vampires, Ourselves*, Nina Auerbach explores the rich history of this literary and cultural phenomenon to illuminate how every age embraces the vampire it needs—and gets the vampire it deserves. Working with a wide range of texts, as well as movies and television, Auerbach follows the evolution of the vampire from 19th century England to 20th century America. Using the mercurial figure as a lens for viewing the last two hundred years of Anglo-American cultural history, "this seductive work offers profound insights into many of the urgent concerns of our time" (Wendy Doniger, *The Nation*).

Fledgling, Octavia Butler's last novel, is the story of an apparently young, amnesiac girl whose alarmingly un-human needs and abilities lead her to a startling conclusion: she is in fact a genetically modified, 53-year-old vampire. Forced to discover what she can about her stolen former life, she must at the same time learn who wanted—and still wants—to destroy her and those she cares for, and how she can save herself. *Fledgling* is a captivating novel that tests the limits of "otherness" and questions what it means to be truly human.

Blood Read

Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator

Gilda the Giant Sheep

Image of Emeralds and Chocolate

Dark Thirst

The Gilda Stories

"Boundary-pushing... Stories that stake a new claim on old tropes." —Publishers Weekly, starred review Eleven fresh vampire stories from young adult fiction's leading voices in this bestselling anthology! In this delicious new collection, you'll find stories about lurking vampires of social media, rebellious vampires hungry for more than just blood, eager vampires coming out—and going out for their first kill—and other bold, breathtaking, dangerous, dreamy, eerie, iconic, powerful creatures of the night. Welcome to the evolution of the vampire—and a revolution on the page. Vampires Never Get Old includes stories by authors both bestselling and acclaimed, including Samira Ahmed, Dhonielle Clayton, Zoraida Córdova and Natalie C. Parker, Tessa Gratton, Heidi Heilig, Julie Murphy, Mark Oshiro, Rebecca Roanhorse, Laura Ruby, Victoria "V. E." Schwab, and Kayla Whaley. An Imprint Book "Vampire fans, sink your teeth into this satisfying collection." —Kirkus Reviews

*First published in 1996. The present volume, **Homemaking: Women Writers and the Politics and Poetics of Home**, enters the critical discourse on gender by way of two of its most pressing issues: the politics of women's locations at the end of the twentieth century, and the division of experience into public and private. That the emergence of systematic feminist thought in the west coincided with the invention of "private life" should not surprise us. Feminist thinkers from Mary Wollstonecroft on were quick to realize that the designation of the public and the private, male and female, was key to the subordination of women. In Louisiana, Eric Peterson is a talented high school senior*

enrolled in a creative writing course at Loyola University. Insecure and inexperienced, he often daydreams about finding love. His fantasies quickly become reality when a strikingly attractive new student, Marquis LeBlanc, is assigned as his writing partner. But the man of Eric's dreams is hiding something. If Marquis reveals his secret, will Eric accept him ... or even believe him?

A haunting anthology of vampire fiction -- one that brings a colorful new dimension to one of the world's most erotic and enduring myths. FEATURING STORIES FROM SOME OF TODAY'S MOST POPULAR AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS

- *OMAR TYREE writing as The Urban Griot The Old South falls prey to a handsome young vampire with a real taste for the ladies. Love at first bite never hurt so good.*
- *ANGELA C. ALLEN The mafia is no match for the wicked charms of a beautiful young vampire once she's let loose on the New York City streets.*
- *MONICA JACKSON Can a pair of fangs help a sister burn more calories? A full-figured woman goes on a thirst-quenching search for the perfect low-carb diet.*
- *LINDA ADDISON It's a matter of life and the living dead for a half-vampire whose greatest wish is to save lives...and become human again.*
- *DONNA HILL A sensuous vampire thirsts for something more...but can she find it without getting a dagger in her own heart?*
- *KEVIN S. BROCKENBROUGH A vengeful vampire pushes one woman to the edge, unaware that her family secret gives her the power to fight back.*

"poaching," "bargain Shopping," and Rewriting the Vampire Narrative in Jewelle Gomez's "The Gilda Stories" and Octavia Butler's "Fledgling"

Essays

Poems

Vampires Never Get Old

Women Writers and the Politics and Poetics of Home

Lesbian Gothic

Before Buffy, before Twilight, before Octavia Butler's Fledgling, there was The Gilda Stories, Jewelle Gomez's sexy vampire novel." From Brandon Massey, award-winning author of Thunderland, comes a terrifying new novel about a town besieged by evil . . . and the one man who is determined to fight the darkness . . . When renowned author Richard Hunter dies in a boating accident, his son David travels to Mason's Corner, Mississippi, to find out more about the father he never really knew. At first, Mason's Corner seems friendly and unassuming--the perfect small town. But after a newcomer moves into the old--and supposedly haunted--mansion on the hill, everything changes . . . People begin to disappear. Dogs viciously attack. And soon David discovers that the terror consuming this place has its roots in his own family tree . . . For something has risen in Mason's Corner. Something with bloody ties to the town's past. Something undead--and hungering for vengeance . . .

"A mainstream magical realism novel set in the Caribbean on the fictional island of Dolorosse. It tells the story of a 50-something grandmother whose mother disappeared when she was a teenager and whose father has just passed away as she begins menopause.

In the years before the Mexican Revolution, Mexico is ruled by a tiny elite that apes European culture, grows rich from foreign investment, and prizes racial purity. The vast majority of Mexicans, who are native or of mixed native and Spanish blood, are politically powerless and slowly starving to death. Presiding over this corrupt system is Don Porfirio Díaz, the ruthless and inscrutable president of the Republic. Against this backdrop, The City of Palaces opens in a Mexico City jail with the meeting of Miguel Sarmiento and Alicia Gavilán. Miguel is a principled young doctor, only recently returned from Europe but wracked by guilt for a crime he committed as a medical student ten years earlier. Alicia is the spinster daughter of an aristocratic family. Disfigured by smallpox, she has devoted herself to working with the city's destitute. This unlikely pair—he a scientist and atheist and she a committed Christian—will marry. Through their eyes and the eyes of their young son, José, readers follow the collapse of the old order and its bloody aftermath. The City of Palaces is a sweeping novel of interwoven lives: Miguel and Alicia; José, a boy as beautiful and lonely as a child in a fairy tale; the idealistic Francisco Madero,

who overthrows Díaz but is nevertheless destroyed by the tyrant's political system; and Miguel's cousin Luis, shunned as a "sodomite." A glittering mosaic of the colonial past and the wealth of the modern age, *The City of Palaces* is a story of faith and reason, cathedrals and hovels, barefoot street vendors and frock-coated businessmen, grand opera and silent film, presidents and peasants, the living and the dead. Winner, International Latino Book Award for Latino Fiction, Latino Literacy Now Second place, International Latino Book Award for Historical Fiction, Latino Literacy Now Finalist, Gay Fiction, Lambda Literary Awards Honorable Mention in Drama, Latino Books into Movies Award, International Latino Book Awards Best Books for General Audiences, selected by the American Association of School Librarians Outstanding Book, selected by the Public Library Reviewers

Don't Explain
Black Like Us
Bones & Ash
***The Gilda Stories* by Jewelle Gomez**
(SuperSummary)
Gilda Joyce: The Ghost Sonata
Novel Approaches to Lesbian History
When Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco

mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his thirteen-year-old daughter, she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower.

Chronicles one hundred years of African-American homosexual literature, from the turn-of-the-century writings of Alice Dunbar Nelson, to the Harlem Renaissance of Langston Hughes, to the emerging sexual liberation movements of the later postwar era as reflected by James Baldwin. Original.

This dark comedy explores the lost universes of disgraced idol Dylan Greenyears. Dylan had always wanted to live as many lives as he could—that was the appeal of being an actor. But at the end of a brief stint as a Hollywood heartthrob, Dylan loses the lead in Titanic and exiles himself and his wife to a recently settled exoplanet called New Taiwan. At first, life beyond Earth seems uncannily un-wondrous. Dylan teaches at an American prep school, raises a family with his high school sweetheart, and lives out his restlessness through literature. But then a box of old fan mail (and the hint of a galaxy-wide conspiracy) offers Dylan a chance to recapture the past. As he tries to balance this transdimensional midlife crisis against family life, Dylan encounters a cast of extraordinary characters: a supercomputer with aspirations of godhood, a Mormon-fundamentalist superfan, an old-school psychoanalyst, a sampling of his alternate selves, and, once again, the love of his lives. King of the Worlds throws cosmology, technology, nineties pop culture, and religion into an existential blender for a mix that is by turns tragic and absurd, elegiac and filled with wonder. M. Thomas Gammarino is the

author of the novel *Big in Japan* and the novella *Jellyfish Dreams*. His short fiction has appeared in the *New York Tyrant*, *Tinfish*, *Word Riot*, and the *Hawai'i Review*, among others. In 2014, Gammarino received the Elliot Cades Award for Literature, Hawaii's highest literary honor. He lives and teaches in Honolulu, Hawaii.

As children, many of us have special, invisible playmates. We run and play with them; we turn to them when we are lonely. They stand by our side when times are difficult. For some, those playmates are extra special, because they are sent from the heavenly Father. In *Playmates from Heaven*, author Gilda Jean Rose tells the story of her invisible childhood playmates, sent to her from the heavenly Father. Like “ordinary” invisible friends—at least invisible to others—she ran with them beside her, flying free, and played with them. But they were more. The heavenly Father sent them to stand by her and protect her. And while many childhood playmates leave us as we mature, the ones sent to Rose by God have stayed with her throughout her life. Rose’s personal stories in *Playmates from Heaven* reflect the courage and comfort that come from trusting in God, whose love is extended to all who believe in Him and entrust themselves to the care of His ministering angels. They are playmates and protectors for life.

Cockney Girl

Our Vampires, Ourselves

A Century of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual African American Fiction

Gilda Joyce: The Ladies of the Lake

Westside

It's Always Something

Tracing the growth of lesbian Gothic fiction over the 25 years since the advent of the Women's Movement and Gay Liberation in the 1970s, this text discusses a wide selection of novels and stories contextualizing and re-evaluating them in the light of changing currents in lesbian/queer culture and politics. The figure of the lesbian, frequently portrayed in a homophobic/misogynistic light, has long been a standard component of popular Gothic fiction and film. The author argues, however, that in more contemporary fiction, motifs and modes of fiction with Gothic associations, such as the witch, the vampire, the spectral visitor and the Gothic thriller, have been appropriated by writers adopting a lesbian viewpoint to articulate the transgressive aspect of lesbian sexuality and existence.

Gilda was living a quiet life, but being so big made things more complicated for her. Now she needs to set off to find a new home. African American, Cabo Verdean/Wampanoag/loway all converge in Jewelle Gomez's exquisite collection of poetry that explores the legacies of family heritage, history, and identity. Gomez contemplates her sexuality, multi-ethnic and class identities, and what it means to experience love, loss, grief, friendship, and solidarity with other women during times of political upheaval. Gomez's poems are a gift: at times sumptuous and impassioned, always striking in their clarity.