

ders: "I have watched twin towers fall/ a dozen times." Shepherd's rigid stanzas and ear for music in a minor key spread this bad news beautifully. (Feb.)

POETRY NOTES

MARCH PUBLICATIONS

Inspired by urban gardens, the morning subway and history speaking from each cornice, fire escape and Laundromat window of New York City, *Floating City*, Anne Pierson Wiese's lyrical if talky Walt Whitman Award-winning debut (selected by Kay Ryan) mixes lavish descriptions, scene-setting reportage and understated self-revelation: "I notice myself growing older most/ among other growing things." Wiese also remembers her Midwestern roots, taking a few scenes and subjects from the Great Plains, where her family still lives. (LSU, \$16.95 72p ISBN 978-0-8071-3235-7)

The Resurrection Trade, the detail-rich fifth outing from Minnesota poet Leslie Adrienne Miller delves into the surprisingly close connections between the anatomy of women, as described by Leonardo da Vinci and others; the real erotic life of the poet and of women in general; the poet's European travels; and, most affectingly, the toddler she is now raising, who made those travels difficult or impossible, but gave her even better sources for poems: "The house is a map the new mother unfolds." (Graywolf, \$14 paper 110p ISBN 978-1-55597-463-3)

FEBRUARY PUBLICATIONS

Performance poet and Slam champ Roger Bonair-Agard shows his chops and his Trinidad-via-Brooklyn roots in his exciting if occasionally unpolished debut, *Tarnish and Masquerade*, packaged with an audio CD. The book follows the journey he—and so many others—undertook to American cities, where hip-hop culture, Afro-Caribbean tradition, familial affection and economic hardship all add their timbres to his voice, "a haughty English and rhythmic dialect strung together on the stout cord of understanding." (Cypher [SPD, dist.], \$12 paper 104p ISBN 978-

1-892494-69-6)

Excellent new poems by prolific surrealist, grouchy comic, underground hero and oddball formal virtuoso Bill Knott ("One of my pores creaks/ when I pass through it/.../ soon for the last time") join haunting, humorous collages by poet and artist Star Black in *Stigmata Errata Etcetera*; intro. by Mark Doty. (Saturnalia [SPD, dist.], \$16 80p ISBN 978-0-9754990-4-7)

MYSTERY

★ Play Dead

DAVID ROSENFELT. Warner, \$24.99 (320p) ISBN 978-0-446-58241-4

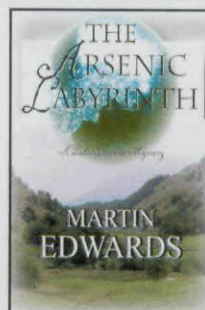
Edgar-finalist Rosenfelt's riveting sixth legal thriller (after 2006's *Dead Center*) brings independently wealthy Paterson, N.J., lawyer Andy Carpenter to the defense of a very special domestic violence victim, Yogi, a golden retriever alleged to have bitten its owner. Andy uses the court system to spring Yogi from an animal shelter's death row and adopt him, adding the dog to a small family that includes longtime pet golden Tara. But when the gang goes for a walk that leads to a joyful reunion between Yogi and a woman named Karen Evans, Andy learns Yogi is actually Reggie, presumed dead five years earlier after the conviction of Karen's brother, U.S. Customs Inspector Richard Evans, for the murder of his fiancée, Stacy Harriman. Suspecting Richard's innocence, Andy tackles the case like a dog on a chew toy, undeterred by an intricate web of deception involving a possible government coverup. No shaggy dog story, this puppy's alive with reliable Rosenfelt wit and heart. (May)

Damsels in Distress: A Claire Malloy Mystery

JOAN HESS. St. Martin's Minotaur, \$24.95 (304p) ISBN 978-0-312-31501-6

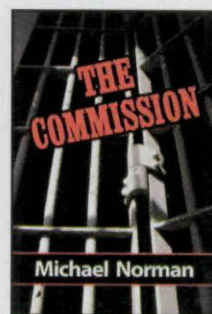
In bookseller Claire Malloy's sprightly 16th outing (after 2006's *The Goodbye Body*), a Renaissance fair descends on

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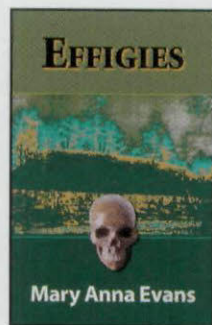
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