

Broken Ground By Jack Hodgins

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the first ever study of women in canadian publishing toronto trailblazers delves into the cultural influence of seven key women who despite pervasive gender bias helped advance a modern literary culture for canada publisher irene clarke scholarly editors eleanor harman and francesc halpenny trade editors sybil hutchinson claire pratt and anna porter and literary agent bella pomer made the most of their vocational prospects first by securing their respective positions and then by refining their professional methods individually each woman asserted her agency by adapting orthodox ways of working within canadian publishing collectively and perhaps more importantly their overarching approach emerged more broadly as a feminist practice guided by the resolve to make industry wide improvements these women disrupted the dominant masculine paradigm and reinvigorated the culture of publishing and authorship in canada through their vision and method these trailblazing women became agents of change who helped transform publishing practice

modern management has come to the world beacon this means that a new editor fred morgan has been sent to inspire everyone to get out and write newspaper stories that will matter to their readers stories about their lives their children their careers and cloth cloth clearly the new editor is making some unusual plans and parker macveigh our hero senses an opportunity parker divorced 40 ish is ready for serious career advancement when his stories about cloth get him into fred s good graces and a local professor reveals that there are saturnians among us wreaking havoc fred puts him in charge of the top secret saturnian task force how parker befriends the professor and turns his staff of tony frusilla hard nosed young reporter and juanita eldridge soft nosed ivy league graduate onto a real story is the stuff of well of newspaper satire for uncle bob the legendary american evangelist and fishing trophy winner is coming to town and the chamber of commerce expects millions of dollars to flow in as a result the newspaper cast in this novel ranges from a man with a genius for creating the dumbest headlines in the world to a freelancer who writes the stamp column under m u cilage then there s shirley davis business editor in her university of manitoba sweater orville and smokey the old guys from type setting and of course the russian immigrant cartoonist who keeps trying to slip in his cartoon of the grim pig a confused combination of a pig and the grim reaper this is delightful satire in the tradition of william weintraub s why rock the boat and evelyn waugh s scoop and any similarity between this novel and a newspaper in a box near you is purely coincidental

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