

THE START OF AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR WILMA ELIZABETH  
McDANIEL

Unless otherwise specified, all items here have been in hand and are described to the best of my ability.

THE BOOKS:

1. The Carousel Would Haunt Me (1973) Self-published at the Tulare Print Shop, Tulare CA; 14.0 x 21.5 cm., stapled in wrappers (bright red-orange matte stock with black offset lettering); unpagged (48 pp.) offset black text on textured white stock; edition of 500 copies. Price not known, o.p.  
    ¶ Dedication (inside front cover) "To ... Cornelia and Irving." Carousel drawing on cover by Opal Faye McDaniel, sister of the poet. Contains 60 poems. All copies signed.
2. Letter To Cleotis (1974) Not seen; poet reports 100 copies printed with all signed and selling for \$4. All poetry.
3. the wash tub/Stories of a people who knew the wash tub as an integral part of life in America (1976) Pioneer Publishing(1759 Fulton St.), Fresno CA; 13.8 x 21.1 cm., perfect-bound in wrappers (matte red stock with black offset lettering); xii + 68 pp., offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 250 copies. \$5, o.p.  
    ¶ Published for the city of Tulare's Bicentennial Celebration. Cover drawing by Opal Faye McDaniel. Contains a 6-page "preface," 9 "short stories" and 1 poem. All copies were signed by the poet; copy in hand dated 12/2/1976.
4. Someone Find My Old Doll! (1976) Stone Woman Press (853 North F St.), Tulare CA (93274) Perfect-bound in wrappers (glossy white stock with blue offset lettering); irregular paging (40 pp.) offset black text on matte white paper; edition of 200 copies. \$4, o.p.  
    ¶ Cover done by poet's mother (Anna Elizabeth McD.) at the age of 88 and contains drawing of a doll. Contains an introduction and 13 prose-poems (no titles) reproduced in the poet's handwriting. Dedication (p.3) reads "By the color/of their names/ rich/and slow spreading/I know the people/belong to me." There were 100 signed numbered copies. Last page carries a 6.1 x 8.9 cm. black-and-white reproduction of a photo of the poet. Vignettes of San Joaquin Valley life. Very desirable book for serious collectors. Stone Woman Press is the registered name of the poet's press.

5. The Peddlers Loved Almira. Poems By W.E.McD. (1977) Stone Woman Press, 853 North F. St., Tulare CA 93274; 12.6 x 17.8 cm., stapled in wrappers (bright yellow matte stock, textured, with black offset lettering); unpagged (24 pp.) offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 500 copies. \$3, o.p.  
 ¶ Cover, title-page and copyright page in poet's handwriting with cover drawing by "author." Dedicated "to my Brother Roy." Contains 15 poems. There were 100 signed numbered copies, each with a short holograph poem.
6. The Coughdrop Saint (1977) Stone Woman Press(853 North F St.), Tulare CA 92374; 13.9 x 21.2 cm., stapled in wrappers (electric yellow-green matte stock, textured, with black offset printing), iv + 36 pp., offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 100 copies. \$6, o.p.  
 ¶ Cover and title-page drawing by Art Cuelho. Dedicated "to all the friends at St. Francis." Contains one 34-page short story. All copies were signed.
7. Cooking For Eli. Recipes By W.E.McD. (1978) Stone Woman Press, 853 North F. St., Tulare CA 93274; 13.7 x 21.0 cm., perfect-bound in wrappers (glossy white stock with blue offset lettering); irregular paging (40 pp.) offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 500 copies. \$3.98, o.p.  
 ¶ Cover in poet's handwriting incorporating a drawing of Eli (a cat) by the poet. Also one drawing in the text. Contains 3 prose pieces with the title piece incorporating a number of "plain food" recipes; including bean pie. Also includes a poem by Art Cuelho dedicated to W.E.McD., "She Calls Us Her Sons." There were 100 signed copies, each with a short holograph poem. Very desirable book for collectors. Format similar to Item 4.
8. The Fish Hook. Okie And Valley Prose And Poems (1978) Seven Buffaloes Press(Box 249, Big Timber MT 59011); 13.8 x 21.7 cm., stapled in wrappers (tan matte stock with black offset lettering); v + 31 pp., offset black text on matte white stock; edition size unknown (750?). Unpriced (\$3.50), available.  
 ¶ Cover design/drawing by editor Art Cuelho. Contains 12 short prose pieces and 11 poems, including the long-poem, "A Freight Train Guru."
9. This is Leonard's Alley (1979) Stone Woman Press(853 North F St., Tulare CA 93274); 13.7 x 21.6 cm., stapled in wrappers (light blue matte stock with black offset lettering); iv + 24 pp., offset black text on white textured stock; edition of 70 copies. \$4, o.p.  
 ¶ Cover design/drawing by W.E.McD. Contains 33

poems with book dedicated to Leonard Bernstein. All copies were numbered and signed, each with a short holograph poem. Copy in hand dated 6/19/80.

10. A Homemade Dress (1979) Not seen; poet reports 50 copies printed with all signed and selling for \$2. Cover by poet's mother Anna Elizabeth McD.
11. Toll Bridge (March 1980) Contact II Publications, P.O. Box 451, Bowling Green, New York NY 10004; 14.0 x 21.7 cm., stapled in wrappers (tan matte stock, black offset printing except for red title); 24 pp. with poem on inside back cover, offset black text on matte cream stock; first edition size unknown. \$2.50, o.p.; second edition size unknown, 1983 (1000?). \$6, o.p.  
    § ISBN:0-936556-01-3. Cover photo by Walker Evans (resembles but not identical to Plate 2 in James Agee's Let Us Now Praise Famous Men), used courtesy of Whitney Museum of American Art. Contains 31 poems. Won 1980 Wormwood Award (given to the most overlooked book of worth in a calendar year); see Wormwood: 81/82, 47 1981. Of the first edition, the poet signed about 50 copies for friends, each with a short holograph poem. Good review by Mary McNally in Territory of Oklahoma (Fall/Winter 1981, pp. 23-26).
12. Sand in My Bed (1980) Stone Woman Press (853 North F St.), Tulare CA (93274); 13.6 x 21.7 cm., stapled in wrappers (tan matte stock, textured, with black offset lettering); iv + 24 pp., offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 70 copies. \$2, o.p.  
    § Cover drawing (wrap around) by Ada Morine Stanley. Contains 44 poems not including title page poem: "there was always sand/in the bed/grating between the sheets/of my mind/scouring like a good abrasive/all the rust away." All copies were numbered and signed.
13. Flowers in a Tin Can (1982) The Wormwood Review Press, P.O. Box 8840, Stockton CA 95208; 13.9 x 21.4 cm., stapled in wrappers (orange-brown matte stock, linen finish, with black offset lettering); pp. 41-76 (36 pp.) offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 700 copies. \$2, available (\$4, postpaid).  
    § ISBN:0-935390-07-3. Cover reproduces holograph manuscript of title poem. Contains 55 poems with two reproduced from holograph manuscript. Editor: Marvin Malone. There were 60 poet-signed copies. Also distributed as The Wormwood Review: 86 (V. 22, no. 2).
14. SISTER VAYDA'S SONG (May 1, 1982) Hanging Loose Press, 231 Wyckoff St., Brooklyn NY 11217; 13.8 x 21.3 cm., perfect-bound in wrappers (glossy white stock with offset orange margin and leaf design with dark brown margin and title; black-and-white photo of poet by

Don LeBaron on back cover along with short biography); ii + 68 pp., offset black text on matte cream stock; edition size unknown (1,200?). \$4, available(?).

¶ ISBN:0-914610-27-9; Library of Congress 81-20191. Cover design by Harley Elliott. Contains 54 poems divided into four sections titled: Expenses, Sister Vayda's Song, Buried Treasure and Proportions. Primary editor: Robert Hershon.

15. GOING STEADY WITH R.C. BOLEY (January 1984) M.A.F. Press, Box 392, Portlandville NY 13834; 14.0 x 21.7 cm., stapled in wrappers (tan matte stock with black offset lettering); 24 pp., offset black text on matte white stock; edition size unknown (100?). \$2.50, available(?).
- ¶ Cover drawing, title page drawing and 7 text designs by Mary Ann Henn. Contains 22 poems and a one-page forward by Ken Stone, editor of Thirteen Poetry Magazine. Excellent biblical quote on p. 2 (2 Peter 12-15).
16. Who Is San Andreas: poems to survive earthquakes (1984) The Blue Cloud Quarterly (Blue Cloud Abbey), P.O. Box 98, Marvin SD 57251; 14.0 x 21.2 cm., stapled in wrappers (light-blue matte linen-finish cover stock with black offset lettering); unpagged (24 pp.) offset black text on matte linen-finish white stock; edition size unknown (3,000?). \$1 by subscription, available.
- ¶ Published as V. 30, no. 3 of The Blue Cloud Quarterly. Cover design (Dear Cousin letter) by the poet. Contains 40 poems. Biographical statement by poet inside back cover. Primary editor: Brother Benet Tvedten O.S.B.
17. I Killed A Bee For You (1987) The Blue Cloud Quarterly (Blue Cloud Abbey), P.O. Box 98, Marvin SD 57251; 14.1 x 21.1 cm., stapled in wrappers (white matte cover stock with blue offset lettering); unpagged (24 pp.) offset black text on matte linen-finish white stock; edition size unknown (1,125?). \$1 by subscription, available.
- ¶ Published as V. 34, no. 1 of The Blue Cloud Quarterly. Cover drawing (two children) by Opal Faye McDaniel. Contains 35 poems. Primary editor: Brother Benet Tvedten O.S.B.
18. Fourteen And Feeling It (June 1988) The Wormwood Review Press, P.O. Box 8840, Stockton CA 95208; 13.7 x 21.0 cm., center-fold booklet stapled into The Wormwood Review: 109 (V. 28, no. 1), matte dark-brown magazine wrappers, linen finish, with black offset lettering); pp. 15-26 (12 pp.) offset black text on matte white stock; edition of 700 copies. \$3, available (\$4, postpaid).

J Magazine cover by Ernest Stranger (M. Malone). Booklet contains 19 poems with two reproduced from holograph manuscript. There were 70 poet-signed copies. Editor: Marvin Malone. A very perceptive review by Cornelia Jessey appears in V. 46, no. 5 Way of St. Francis (September/October 1990, pp. 39-46).

19. A Primer for Buford (1990) Hanging Loose Press, 231 Wyckoff St., Brooklyn NY 11217; 13.8 x 21.6 cm., perfect-bound in wrappers (glossy coated stock with offset printing in black, yellow and red; red lettering; black-and-white photo of poet from Tulare Advance-Register on back cover along with biography and short quotes from Faye Kicknosway and Pete Seeger); 126 pp. offset black text on matte off-white stock; edition size unknown. \$9, available.  
J ISBN:0-914610-87-2; Library of Congress 89-26757. Cover art by Ann Mikolowski. Excellent introduction by Gerald Haslam. Contains 95 poems divided into six sections titled: Origins, Essentials, American Folk Music: 1937, Roster, Appearances and Wings. Not all poems are first appearances; no acknowledgements made for previous appearances. Primary editor: Robert Hershon. Unspecified number signed for her friends with a short holograph poem.
20. A GIRL FROM BUTTONWILLOW (November 1990) Wormwood Books and Magazines, P.O. Box 4698, Stockton CA 95204; the item you now have in hand.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

1. First published poem: Depew Oklahoma Independent, published when poet was 14 years of age. Newspaper ceased publication over 50 years ago. Reprinted here with poet's permission:

NATURE IS UNFAIR (1933)

The sky is crying grey color  
like the buttons in the bin  
at Pettigrew's store

and makes me feel the sun  
will not come out for us  
poor folks today

but over there in Texas  
where they live in their  
dry land

and we know they don't  
need any more sun

2. First long dedicatory poem: Tulare Advance-Register, published to celebrate the completion of the Angra Tower, a distinctive clock-tower of a downtown Tulare redevelopment project. Editorial page (p. 12) of the April 17, 1975 issue. Reprinted here with poet's permission:

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

It started with one fresh idea  
that fell upon an other  
then an other  
until Angra Tower began rising in  
Tulare's mind  
turning the first spade of earth  
smoothing trowel on mortar  
brick by brick  
long before the new clock began  
to operate

When builders scooped up  
dust so thick  
it turned high noon to darkness  
the frightened people asked  
"Tia Maria, what time is it  
now?"

A blind woman leaned on her  
cane  
and read the clock's silent face  
she told the waiting crowd  
"It is half-past turning back time  
and always has been  
since Adam squeezed the first  
year through his fingers  
and asked himself  
where did it go?"

A small girl pressed forward  
braiding a ribbon into her long  
thick hair  
she said  
"Tia Maria, I must ask you  
what color will the tower be?"

The blind woman thought a long  
time  
until the image came to her  
clearly  
she answered  
"It will be the color of truth  
and the dome  
like your ribbon  
the color of sky"

3. First poems accepted for Wormwood (July 6, 1980) appeared in Wormwood: 81/82; other poems in WR: 86 (pp. 41-76, 104 (p. 133), 109 (pp. 15-26, 118/119 (pp. 49-96). The first poems are reprinted here:

#### INSIGHT

Leland Way  
never bought a pink shirt  
in his life  
but there it flaps on Bonnie's  
clothesline  
she found it at a yard sale  
and told the other women  
This color will drive my husband  
crazy  
but he will wear it when I tell  
him  
it only cost a quarter

#### AFTER EASTER

It's a poor dry plant  
he got it cheap  
at Alpha Beta, one drooping  
bud may open yet  
and show itself a lily

#### SLEUTHING IN NEW MEXICO

Small town darkness  
barking dogs  
weathered houses  
searching for a cousin  
down a pothole street  
when a window pops out  
square  
with yellow light  
and the aroma of frying  
onions  
pinpoints cousin's house  
before I read the number

4. First major review of the books of W.E.McD., "Gravy Says A Lot": The Poetry of Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel, in Western American Literature (August 1978, pp. 159-164) by Gerald Haslam of Sonoma State College. Very much on target. Review mentions a book not included above: The Red Coffee Can (1974). Watch out for it!