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XTRA TUF #5: The Strike Issue



Journal by Moe Bowstern chronicles the labor struggles of commercial fishing in Kodiak, Alaska

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Coast zine culture meets Alaskan commercial fishing lore in Moe Bowstern's book/ zine *Xtra Tuf #5*. Subtitled "The Strike Issue", *Xtra Tuf* features stories, firsthand accounts, songs and poems from the front lines of labor struggles in the Alaska salmon and crab fishing industries. *Xtra Tuf: The Strike Issue* is a whopping 192 pages, complete with a hand letter-pressed cover by Third Termite Press and is chock full of vivid illustrations by crew-mates and collaborators.

Bowstern is an amazing storyteller and reveals much about the history of commercial fishing and labor disputes through a descriptive and informal writing style. The book is fascinating reading. Moe combines artistic and DIY/ activist sensibilities with labor tactics to achieve the fishermen's goals and get everyone back to work!

Moe Bowstern has been a deckhand for fifteen years and has published her tales of thriving in the manly world of fishing since the first issue of *Xtra Tuf* in 1996. She has toured the West coast reading from her zine with *Hip Mama* editor Ariel Gore, and has presented shadow puppet shows based on her experiences of commercial fishing in Alaska.

"Commercial fishing seems to have a way of seizing hold of someone and not letting go. It gets in your blood, and next thing you know you're a lifer. That certainly happened to Moe Bowstern, and she's got the stories to prove it. Blessed with a wonderful gift for storytelling, Moe waxes poetic about the varied experiences she's had over the years of fishing for Kodiak salmon. (*Xtra Tuf*) is a collection that, despite not being written as a whole, flows seamlessly. I was lucky enough to hear Moe reading some of these stories at the Portland Zine Symposium, and I can say for sure that she's got a knack for bringing them to even larger life through spoken word. Highly recommended!"

-Sean Stewart, *Thoughtworm*

XTRA TUF

No.5

THE
STRIKE
ISSUE



Product Details:

ISBN# 0-9726967-7-6
Category: US labor history/ feminist studies/ non-fiction
Format: paperback, 5" X 7"
Number of pages: 192, illustrated

Comparative Titles:

THE ENTANGLING NET Alaska's Commercial Fishing Women Tell Their Lives, Janet C Gilmore, American Folklore Society, March 31, 2001, ISBN 0252065654, \$20
The Labour Companion: A Bibliography of Canadian Labour History Based on Materials Printed from 1950 to 1975, G. Douglas Vaisey, 128 pages, Lorimer, January 1, 1980, ISBN: 0888625227, \$20
Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America: Barbara Ehrenreich, 240 pages, Henry Holt & Company 2002, ISBN 0805063897, \$9.95
Atlas of the Human Heart: Ariel Gore, 319 pages, Seal Press 2003, ISBN 1580050883, List: \$14.95
Best of Temp Slave!: Jeff Kelly, 176 pages, Garrett County Press 1997, ISBN 1891053426, List: \$10
Bad Attitude: The Processed World Anthology: Chris Carlsson, 281 pages, Verso Press 1990, ISBN 0860919463, List: \$20

Sales Handles:

- Author is very active in local literary, art and activist community
- Unique perspective on labor and feminist issues
- Author self-published a fanzine for the last 10 years that is among the most famous in her genre and subculture.
- Featured "Fisher Poets Gathering" Artist

Marketing Plans:

- Advertise regularly in *Punk Planet*, *Maximum Rock and Roll*, *Slug and Lettuce*, *Reader's Guide to the Underground Press* magazines.
- 10,000 postcards distributed to stores with book featured on them.

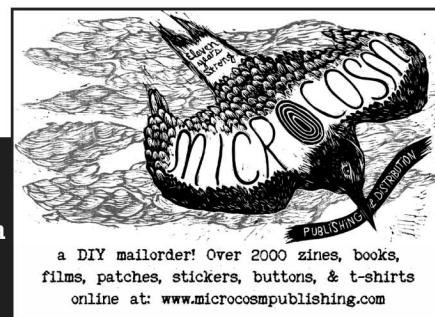
Book Release: 01.01.06 | Pre-book: 10.01.05

Retail: \$6 | Direct: \$5 | Wholesale: \$3.60

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