Perhaps the Honourable Members of Parliament and their civil servants should put aside their magazines of whip-cracking dominatrixes wearing black masks and bustiers. Surely it is time for them to do some serious reading and thinking. Surely it is time for them to start talking about issues such as censorship and pornography and violence against women.

And, while they’re at it, maybe it’s time for them to educate themselves about lesbians.

Candis Graham has been writing about all sorts of lesbian things since 1976. She is 47, white, mostly Celtic, and working class but brought up to think of herself as middle class.

1This quote appeared in *Deneuve*, March/April 1995.
3It appeared in the book section of the Saturday paper on August 14, 1993.
4I was wearing black Birkenstocks that day. In November 1995 I bought myself a pair of brown Doc Martens boots. If I ever do another CBC interview, I will wear my butch boots—even if it is the worst heat of July. Well, maybe not in the humid July heat.
5The case received remarkably little coverage in the media. This information appeared in the March/April 1995 issue of the American lesbian magazine *Deneuve*.
6Little Sister’s is a gay and lesbian bookstore in Vancouver.

References


Betsy Warland

o thou undaunted daughter of desire

in the doorway your hands, mouth
to open to first summer wind
wanting through your house, butterfly-
amber-purple-bluegreen tunic made
half a world away wind
through you worry if it will
i slip it on suddenly shy, silken
breasts wanting your hands, wind
o-o-o’s current of your
mouth, house floating on you open
your cocoon, tonguing its larva silken in
your

thrending hair haloing trembling
thighs, door frame holding, wind
lifting moan wings beating in your
infinite mouth

Betsy Warland is currently working on
Bloodroot—A mother’s death, a contemplative
prose manuscript. Afterlife of the Heart, her
most recent collection of poems (which investigate
various forms of longing) is presently being
considered by a publisher. She lives in Saskatoon.