Kim Whale has been an avid collector of western Canadiana for over forty years. Recently, he has owned an antiquarian book business specializing in this literature. His sales catalogues are the foundation for the present book, which contains 1,754 numbered entries.

The entries are listed alphabetically by author and include complete bibliographical information — the mark of a true bibliophile. Each item contains a short description of the content of the item plus a reference to any other relevant bibliographic listings. A selling price is given at the end of each citation, taken from the author’s sales catalogues. The inclusion of ephemera and pamphlets is very useful, since these are often difficult to identify. A number of historical vignettes are interspersed throughout, which helps to lighten the text. A bibliography and subject index, containing geographic terms as well as specific references, follow the main text. Morriss Printing of Victoria, well known for its excellent work and attention to detail, was responsible for the typesetting and printing.

Although this book is not for everyone, it is an excellent reference tool for those interested in the literature of western Canada and the Pacific Northwest. A collector or library specializing in the field will find it valuable.