

MY WIFE'S LOVERS

This new collection of ten tales, by one of Scotland's foremost practitioners of the novella and short story, is remarkable for its range and variety: from the virtual-documentary to the outlandishly surreal; from the comic and satirical to the uncanny and disturbing.

With his customary playful inventiveness, Herdman moves lightly from the moral equivocations of a desperate literary biographer, in pursuit of a *femme fatale*, to the sad case of a heretical clergyman who goes on fire during a country church service; from the nostalgic memories of an ageing Scottish Nationalist to social-class farce and mayhem on a luxury-cruise liner.

But all this diversity is held together by the author's highly individual style and by his underlying thematic pre-occupation with perennial questions of truth and delusion. Thus, the stories presented in this volume continue the dark exploration of ambiguous worlds familiar to readers of *Imelda*, *Ghostwriting*, and *The Sinister Cabaret*. Those three earlier novels are also available from:

www.blackacebooks.com

JOHN HERDMAN

The author was born in Edinburgh in 1941 and now lives in Highland Perthshire. Fuller biographical details and a critical appreciation can be found in Macdonald Daly's Introduction to Herdman's *Four Tales*, Zoilus Press, 2000. The author's own web site is:

www.johnherdman.co.uk