## **Living with Lesbians**

## Alix Dobkin

The fields were cut the other day.

We hired a boy up the hill.

A neighbor has lowered the old barn down.

We admire his equipment, his skill.

My daughter, she's five, he lets her drive

His bulldozer, he shows her how.

We do all that we can, but we

Can't always manage to live just with women now.

Liza is my sweetheart: Adrian is my child.
We've been working out our relationships:
Our tastes, our flaws, our styles.
I attend their moods, ideas, demands;
They do the same for me.
And living with Liza I've learned to rely
On her insight: Her sanity.

Smokey and Mary live right next door
In a home-sweet-home they built so well.
We're preparing our stoves for the winter's cold,
And we're stacking up our fuel.
Penny and Janet are coming tonight to watch Rhoda's
New season premiere.
They've been trying out life in the country.
And we're all hoping they'll move around here.

Oh, there are Lesbians over in the valley.

Further south, in the mountains: more.

They are making their lives with women work

Like it's never been done before.

There are more in town: Many more around

That I've never met, I know.

And we have friends in the cities, in the centers of men

Where the women can toughen up so.

Living with Lesbian sensibilities.

They absorb our time: Inspire our thought,
Provoke anger, sometimes injury.

Bring out, Talk about, Analyze, Then agree
What is really going on.

Lesbian consciousness: Struggle to get It's a skill, it cannot be withdrawn.

I'm living with women. I'm living with Lesbians.

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