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| John Hunt Publishing - **Roundfire** - announces the new title | | |
| **Gilda Trillim: Shepherdess of Rats**  Steven L. Peck  Steven L. Peck's intriguing, literary narrative follows Gilda Trillim's many adventures; from her origins on a potato farm in Idaho, to an Orthodox Convent in the Soviet Union, to her life as a badminton champion... When Gilda is taken prisoner during the Vietnam war, she finds comfort in the company of the rats who cohabit her cell. Follow Gilda as she struggles to comprehend the meaning of life in this uncanny, philosophical novel which explores Mormonism, spirituality and what it means to be human.  **Author Bio** Steven L. Peck is professor of Biology at Brigham Young University. He has published widely in academic journals, and has previously published two novels, a short story collection and a collection of speculative poetry. Peck lives in Pleasant Grove, Utah, USA. Online: [Blog](http://sciencebysteve.net)  **Previous Titles** The Scholar of Moab, (9781937226022), Torrey House Press, 2011. A Short Stay in Hell, (9780983748427), Strange Violin Editions, 2012. Evolving Faith: Wanderings of a Mormon Biologist, (9780842529440), Neal A. Maxwell Institute, 2015. Wandering Realities: Mormonish Short Fiction, (9780988323346), Zarahemla Books, 2015.  **Endorsements** *Beautifully bizarre! I could not have taken this dizzying journey except for a master hand leading me through the surprising giggles into the even more surprising blessings of grace, wisdom and healing. I really don’t think Gilda is fiction, for I fell in love with her, and as she and I both know, love is stunningly real.* ***Carol Lynn Pearson, author of The Ghost of Eternal Polygamy: Haunting the Hearts and Heaven of Mormon Women and Men***  **Promotional Plans** Promotion via author's social media and blog, which is popular with readers of science and religion. Author speaks regularly at Science Fiction conventions and in chain and independent bookstores, will promote book alongside previous titles. Promotions via Mormon networks. Podcasts and interviews.  **USP** This unique, experimental novel examines what it means to be human through the experiences of a fascinating, original heroine. It also shines a light on Mormonism, a subject which is of interest to both Mormons and readers less familiar with the denomination, exploring philosophy, science and religion.  **Competing Books** The Elegance of the Hedgehog 9781906040185, by Muriel Barbery Gallic Books, 2011  **Categories** FICTION (General)(FIC039000) -> Visionary & Metaphysical(FIC039000) FICTION (General)(FIC064000) -> Absurdist(FIC064000) FICTION (General)(FIC026000) -> Religious(FIC026000) |  | **Publication Date** September 2017  **Paperback** ISBN: 978-1-78279-864-4 $21.95  |  12.99 8.5x5.5 inches | 216x140 mm 296PP  **e-book** ISBN: 978-1-78279-881-1 $7.99  |  4.99  **Library of Congress** 2016954753 |
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