



Nodin Press

5114 Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis, MN, 55416

Contact Norton Stillman (952) 546-6300 / Fax (952) 546-6303

nstill4402@aol.com

Rocked by the Waters

Poems of Motherhood

Margaret Hasse and Athena Kildegaard, editors

R*ocked by the Waters* offers 136 poems by a diverse group of writers, all of them mothers, from Minnesota and across the country. These poets explore experiences of mothering with what Molly Sutton Kiefer, a publisher and writer herself, describes in her foreword as “hope and fear and clarity and disillusion and exhaustion and desire and guilt and hunger.”

Edited by poets and mothers Margaret Hasse and Athena Kildegaard, the anthology includes a wide range of voices and styles. Camille T. Dungy, Heid E. Erdrich, Brenda Hillman, Deborah Keenan, Leslie Adrienne Miller, and Connie Wanek are among the contributors. And the poems themselves explore many aspects of motherhood—conception, birth, adoption, the joys and challenges of raising children, loss, and relationships with adult offspring. Meet a mother who spars with her children using outrageous names with good humor, and another who remembers how much bouncing her baby required. In some poems, mothers watch their children learn their first words, go off to college, or make their own decisions—and mistakes. Several poems describe mothers wrestling with the heartache of children who struggle, are estranged, or have died too young. The poems are written by new mothers and by mothers with grandchildren, single mothers, queer mothers, and even a mother-daughter pair.

This collection will delight and challenge not just mothers but all readers. As the editors remark in their introduction, it’s “a labor of love, born of delights and upheavals, conceived to widen the way for more poems of motherhood.”

ABOUT THE EDITORS: Margaret Hasse, author of *Between Us* (2016) and four other books of poems, is originally from Vermillion, South Dakota. Now living in St. Paul, Minnesota, she writes, teaches, and works on projects with arts organizations and other writers. Athena Kildegaard is the author of *Course, Ventriloquy*, and three other books of poetry. Her poems have been set to music by numerous composers. She teaches at the University of Minnesota Morris where she also directs the Honors Program.

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