



Beneath the Ice: An Anthology of Contemporary Icelandic Poetry

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Editorial Review

Review

W.C. Williams said, 'Write what's in front of your nose.' Iceland's poets take to heart this literal truth in a surreal landscape. The results are poems that gaze at nature yet are heated from within by the subterranean currents boiling up through the pastoral and the mythic. For all of us that have wondered or rather fantasied, about the inhabited far north, this brilliant collection 'Beneath the Ice' presents a contemporary and invaluable portrait of the state of the art of Icelandic poetry. --Brenda Coultas.

'Beneath the Ice,' Helen Mitsios' superb edition of the best new poetry now being written in Iceland, that fabled land of Ice and Fire, offers generous selections from each poet, so that we get a sense of the range of voices, concerns, and poetics (from neo-pastoral to postmodern). Today's Iceland is both worldly, a distinctly cosmopolitan and European country, and otherworldly at once. Today no elves, as one poem casually mentions in passing, just ice-flowers. Many of the poems are spare, understated, but in them is condensed the power of an Icelandic volcano under an apparently calm mountain face, a power and beauty that the translators convey deftly. Be-neath the Ice is wonder. --Cynthia Hogue

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About the Author

Helen Mitsios is the editor of 'Digital Geishas and Talking Frogs: The Best 21st Century Short Stories from Japan,' and 'New Japanese Voices: The Best Contemporary Fiction from Japan' twice listed as a 'New York Times Book Review' summer reading selection and editors choice. She is the co-author of 'Waltzing with the Enemy: A Mother and Daughter Confront the Aftermath of the Holocaust.' She is recipient of the Gwendolyn Swarthout Award in Poetry and a professor of English at Touro Col-lege in New York City.

Users Review

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Theodore Stewart:

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Dolores Albert:

Why? Because this Beneath the Ice: An Anthology of Contemporary Icelandic Poetry is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap that but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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