

What the Trapeze Artist Trusts by Malaika King Albrecht

Written by Administrator Friday, 09 March 2012 12:30 - Last Updated Thursday, 08 March 2012 09:44

What the Trapeze Artist Trusts: Poems by Malaika King Albrecht

Press 53 \$12.95, paperback April, 2012 ISBN 978-1-935708-54-4 Poetry Available from local bookstores, from the publisher, or at www.Amazon.com

—Anthony S. Abbott, author of If Words Could Save Us

[&]quot;What the Trapeze Artist Trusts is a collection to read and read again, not just individual poems, but the whole book, because the book tells a story—a powerful story of love and loss and brokenness and healing—a passionate, moving story told through images of the sea, of shipwreck, and of the nurturing power of motherhood. 'We are all wounded, trying / to stay awake, treading water,' Malaika King Albrecht writes. Indeed, we are."

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"Through Malaika King Albrecht's poems flow both the literal water she has lived alongside, its tides and currents rendered lovingly, and the metaphorical water that gathers up the things of this world, the way, as she says, 'Menokin Bay can hold the image of the whole / sky and a single eagle.' Her lines eddy, swell, and crest, leaving their images shining on the page, in the ear, waiting to be claimed by the searching imagination."

—Kathryn Stripling Byer, former North Carolina Poet Laureate and author of *Southern Fictions*

"Someone has said that the work of literature is to strip us of illusions, forcing us to face the starkness of reality. Similarly, Malaika King Albrecht writes 'Seeing becomes a study / of loss in slow motion.' In this collection, written in brilliantly vivid language and with searing honesty, she describes the results of such seeing: loss of expectations, of relationships, of a sense of self. But despite a litany of loss, this is not a cantata of despair; hope and grace flutter among the lines. Read this collection and you will never see the world—or yourself—the same way again." —Sally Buckner, author of *Nineteen Visions of Christmas*

Malaika King Albrecht is the author of two poetry chapbooks: *Lessons in Forgetting* and *Spill*. Her poems have won numerous awards and have been published in literary magazines and anthologies and nominated for the Pushcart Prize. She's the founding editor of *Redheaded Stepchild*

, an online magazine that accepts only poems that have been rejected elsewhere. What the Trapeze Artist Trusts is her debut full-length collection of poetry.