



The Mother on the Other Side of the World: Poems (Paperback)

By James Baker Hall

Sarabande Books, United States, 1999. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In his fifth book of poems, *The Mother on the Other Side of the World*, James Baker Hall revisits his dark childhood with a spiritual maturity earned of lifelong struggle with the forces of silence, secrecy, deception, and hiding. Without the usual linear guideposts and cathartic emotional epiphanies we've come to expect from contemporary poetry, he reveals the dangerous and strange aspects of family intimacies that are both universal and taboo. With talismanic images from the natural world, he refigures the mother's body as a timeless landscape, through which these visceral and worldly poems move. And move they surely do, with a distinctive panache, with great kinesthetic intensity and subtlety. A pilgrimage is implicit in the stops they make and in the sacraments they achieve. An experienced conjurer dealing with his deepest urgencies, Hall realizes a poetic technique in these poems that refracts embodied experience to reveal the energies—secular, spiritual, animal, and human—that come and go in forms. What these poems know—without explanation—is a grace beyond both intuition and belief. *The Mother on the Other Side of the World* is James Baker Hall's...



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