



The Handless Maiden

By Vicki Feaver

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The Handless Maiden By Vicki Feaver

The poems in this extraordinary book deal in familiar emotions - love, grief, rage, loneliness - but do so with such a fresh and fierce eye, such lived intensity, that the familiar is given again the force to touch our nerves, to seem raw and new. Some of the poems are based in the territory of home and childhood, others move into that unnerving space where the safe and polite world plunges over a ledge - into anarchic revisions of what is possible or acceptable. They treat myths and fairy stories, or even paintings, not as fictions but as part of our continuing experience. Powerful and sensuous, wry and witty, their clear voice stays in the mind: provoking, questioning, refusing to accept the soft lie. These disturbing and passionate poems demand to be read.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Thin beautifully etched ice—over such deep shocking water." —Ted Hughes

"A rich, disturbing and vibrant collection of poems . . . confident, mature and visionary, creating an artistic identity which a great many novelists could only dream of." —*Guardian*

"First-rate, infused with a joyful eroticism that is neither sensationalist nor vengeful." —*Independent on Sunday Books of the Year*

About the Author

Vicki Feaver is the author of *The Book of Blood*, *Close Relatives*, and *The Handless Maiden*. *The Book of Blood* was shortlisted for both the Forward Prize and the Costa Poetry Award.

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