



Butterfly Valley: A Requiem

By Inger Christensen, Susanna Nied

New Directions Publishing Corporation, United States, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 201 x 135 mm. Language: English, Danish. Brand New Book. Inger Christensen, often cited as a Nobel contender and one of Europe's most revered poets, is perhaps best known for her groundbreaking work *Det (It)*, a cycle of poems published in 1969. Her first book published in the U.S., *alphabet* (New Directions, 2001), met with a tremendous response: *Seductive*, said *Boston Review*. A visionary reincarnation of the natural world in the atomic age, wrote *The Chicago Review*. *Butterfly Valley: A Requiem* collects four medium-length works, each startling for its beauty and formal innovation. *Butterfly Valley* is a sonnet cycle in which the glowing colors and beauty of butterflies are described, and yet also their obvious fragility and mortality: memory is uncovered in the poem like the fluttering of their wings. In *Watersteps*, the fountains and piazzas of Rome coalesce, brought alive by the imagination in the poem's shifting rhythms, lines, and overall structure. In *Poem on Death* the poet seeking immortality faces the whiteness of the page as the blankness of death: it feels so odd/ immodest to think/ about death when no one/ you know has...



Reviews

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