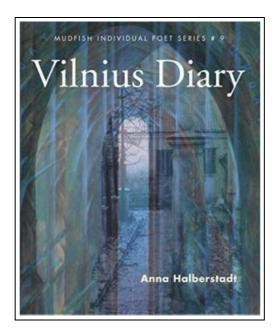
Vilnius Diary (Paperback)



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VILNIUS DIARY (PAPERBACK)



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Box Turtle Press/Attitude Art, Incorporated, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Poetry. Jewish Studies. With the concentrated precision of poetry, VILNIUS DIARY has also the richness of a novel and the intimacy of a memoir. Memory, loss, and immigration are captured in poignant images. Each poem inhabits a dual time and space. Never simply a lament, Halberstadt weaves together the sacred and the wildly profane, lighting the great darkness with wit and laughter. Anna Halberstadt's VILNIUS DIARY kept me reading late into the night. With the concentrated precision of poetry, it has also the richness of a novel and the intimacy of memoir. One poem leads to the next with addictive power, moving from her childhood in Lithuania to her later life in New York by way of Moscow, Vienna, and Rome. Memory, loss, and immigration are captured in poignant images: the print of cat's paws in the dust of an attic in Vilnius, a knitted cap clutched in white-knuckled hands at the Moscow airport, buildings in Rome peeling and bruised like old hand-made shoes, a grandfather's grave buried in beer cans in the vandalized Jewish cemetery of Kaunas, pigeons huddling on a New York street like small-time drug pushers. There s an occasional lyrical burst of feeling for the natural world, as in the enormous palace of the evening sky. Throughout, the poet returns again and again to Vilnius: provincial, sleepy, magical, Atlantis of disappeared life, its cobblestones stained with the blood of pogroms. The reader, like the writer, will fall under its spell, haunted by the terrible magic of the city. VILNIUS DIARY is impossible to forget. Elizabeth Dalton The need to forget gradually / turned into a need to remember, Anna Halberstadt writes in this moving autobiographical collection of poems,...



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