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## Muse: Poems by Susan Aizenberg

By Susan Aizenberg

Southern Illinois University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Muse: Poems by Susan Aizenberg, Susan Aizenberg, Muse, the first full-length collection from poet Susan Aizenberg, brings together poems of personal history, elegy, and the complex lives of artists, writers, and "ordinary" people, in an exploration of the relationship between art and life, esthetics and ethics. She is sharp-eyed in purpose, trying to understand "what love is" in a continual shifting between loss and knowledge. While "there is no other world than this one" for Aizenberg, nevertheless she finds a world of affirmation. Aizenberg sings elegant blues, keeps a perfect balance between elaboration and restraint with formal skill that is both impressive and consoling, reminding us that poetry is a form of intelligence in which music creates a world full of mystery and depth. Cortland, 1970 Always Monday, light October drizzle misting our hair, wet-wool musk of our peacoats. Remember your father's library? Three-for-a-buck novels, all the rosy headlights he could dream, group-gropes he couldn't. Breakfast was beer in a jelly glass. Then the ten-block walk, hardscrabble shacks imploding, to swing shift at Smith Corona. I still have the scar acid etched through my jeans that first night. Peeling them...



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