



News from

Red Hen Press

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Some Help from the Dead

Poems by

Ally Acker

One critic said about *Some Help From the Dead*, "These are flawless poems, poems I like as much as any of W.S. Merwin's poems (at his best)." In this, her third collection, Ally Acker continues her fascination with how the familiar proves to be mysterious, how the present, past and future all to merge as our lives progress. As Elizabeth Bishop once wrote, *the art of losing isn't hard to master*. And so with her ear tuned to the ground, garnering wisdom from those who have passed, Acker listens for the lyrical cadences of nature on what is lost, and found again. The mundane becomes surreal, (as in *The Window*, where *the photographs are where/the building once was:/Cows, mountains, streams./But her landlord will do nothing...*, and in her extraordinarily inventive interpretations of the paintings by the Surrealist, Remedios Varo), and the surreal transmutes into the quotidian. What arises is a miraculous resonance in the everyday, and a poetry that celebrates the living.



*Some Help from the Dead*

Poems by Ally Acker

ISBN: 978-1-59709-519-8

6 x 8.75; Tradepaper

136 pages

Price: US \$22.95

Release: October 1, 2010

New York Poet & Filmmaker Ally Acker is the author of three books of poems and the non-fiction, "Reel Women: Pioneers of the Cinema," the ground-breaking story of the women who changed the course of cinema since its inception. 2010 will see a two-volume update, "Reel Women: The First Hundred Years." Based on Reel Women, Acker has directed ten full length documentaries, "Filmmakers on Film," featuring interviews with Hollywood's most influential filmmakers. Acker also sits on the board of Poetry Salzburg, out of Austria. Praise for *Suck on the Marrow*

Praise for *Some Help from the Dead*:

"Ally Acker's latest is a beautiful book—by turns brazen, un-sappily Sapphic... Created with a compositional brilliance throughout... There's a fearless honesty that underlies Acker's writing... She evokes the dignity of the aloneness of loneliness with a natural ingenuity that is breathtaking."

—Jack Hirschman

"Ally Acker writes with verve and passion—her poems wake up dull terrains of thinking and snap us back into vivid mind."

—Naomi Shihab Nye