



Aphrodite s Daughters: Three Modernist Poets of the Harlem Renaissance (Paperback)

By Maureen Honey

Rutgers University Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Harlem Renaissance was a watershed moment for racial uplift, poetic innovation, sexual liberation, and female empowerment. Aphrodite s Daughters introduces us to three amazing women who were at the forefront of all these developments, poetic iconoclasts who pioneered new and candidly erotic forms of female self-expression. Maureen Honey paints a vivid portrait of three African American women - Angelina Weld Grimke, Gwendolyn B. Bennett, and Mae V. Cowdery - who came from very different backgrounds but converged in late 1920s Harlem to leave a major mark on the literary landscape. She examines the varied ways these poets articulated female sexual desire, ranging from Grimke s invocation of a Sapphic goddess figure to Cowdery s frank depiction of bisexual erotics to Bennett s risky exploration of the borders between sexual pleasure and pain. Yet Honey also considers how they were united in their commitment to the female body as a primary source of meaning, strength, and transcendence. The product of extensive archival research, Aphrodite s Daughters draws from Grimke, Bennett, and Cowdery s published and unpublished poetry, along with rare periodicals and biographical materials, to immerse...



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