



The sea with no one in it

By Niki Koulouris

The Porcupine's Quill, 2013. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. No Jacket. 1st Edition. In this stunning first collection, Canadian-Australian poet Niki Koulouris takes her readers out to sea. Born of Greek descent in Melbourne, Australia, Koulouris' imagination is fixed on the ocean. Here she conjures striking displays of power from a bygone era, transposing the potent energy of each wave into each line. Deep in Koulouris' sea, a formidable original force can be found, available to any who recognize it. Even on land one is not far from this oceanic spell. Here life is composed of disparate pieces that confound us by falling into place. With startling juxtaposition, Koulouris creates a lollapalooza of the obsolete, extinct, familiar and yet-to-be. Sundry artifacts, remnants of a pan-epochal uprising, are adeptly curated, resulting in a realm-altering aftermath. As Koulouris' modern speakers present us with oracular quandaries and recollections of various items--a Grecian kore, a telephone and sandwich in a Philip Guston painting, or a Twinkie and window envelope conjured up on a cab ride in Chicago, the city of their origins--we find the extraordinary amongst the contemporary disorientation that plagues us all.



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