



BOOK RELEASE

Poetry
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POEMS FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC NAMES **Soraya Peerbaye**

In this unusual collection, Soraya Peerbaye examines the relationships between names and gestures of kinship, of acquisitiveness and possession. Divided into five sections, the book examines the relationship between people and objects and names.

The fourth section, from which the book draws its title, is based on a trip Peerbaye took to the Antarctic Peninsula and her research on the Yaghan (the indigenous people of Tierra del Fuego) and the whaling industry of the South Seas. These poems integrate her observations of that landscape, considerations of her interaction as an “eco-tourist,” and questions about how naming defines our relationship to each other and the natural world. Traces left behind by human beings — whether an early explorer's hut, a current research station, or abandoned whaling boats amid processed whale bones on Deception Island — are all sources of inspiration for Peerbaye as she examines issues of possession and meaning.

Other sections in the book examine the relationships between people and the material world — to the objects of play, profession, and pastime — the things tangible and intangible that are inherited or that a person has come to love.

Of Mauritian ancestry, **SORAYA MARIAM PEERBAYE** was born in London, Ontario, and has lived in Toronto and Mauritius. Her poetry has been published in *big boots*, *Other Voices*, *Prairie Fire*, and *The New Quarterly*, as well as *Red Silk: An Anthology of South Asian Canadian Women Poets*. Her work has been commissioned by CBC Radio 1, the Deep Wireless Festival of Radio Art, and the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto. She also curated the second edition of Poetry Projections for LIFT, and has worked as an editor and translator.

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