



THE BLACK SEA

Stephanos Papadopoulos

*...One day all the scattered boats that line the harbor
will sink with hulls rammed full of holes
through which the moon will shine its cargo
on the cold sea bed where nothing moves.*

In this third collection of poems Papadopoulos addresses the historical subject of the Pontic Greek massacre in the 1920's in a series of "sonnet-monologues" that link cinematically to create a very specific, semi-fictional account of a group of people living within this particular historic context. His own Greek family is of Pontic and Cretan origin, and he traveled the black sea extensively while writing these poems, but the abstracted landscapes and the slightly "grotesque" characters that inhabit these poems lead anyone, regardless of his/her knowledge of the region, into a new and intimate relationship with this volatile and tragic story.



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