



Polishing the Glass Storm

A Sequence

KATHERINE SONIAT

"I am in awe of Katherine Soniat's latest collection. Her poetic energies and talents are many and fierce—mystery, imagination, story, knowledge, music, and wonder."—**Dannye Powell**

"The weathered grace of Soniat's *Polishing the Glass Storm* is full of erudition and lived experience rendered into a personal mythology."—**David Lazar**

"Soniat speaks like a mystic in her new collection. She travels a landscape of mythology and memory to explore the mystery of existence in 'thin places' where there is an overlap between the living and the dead."—**Alison Pelegrin**

"Soniat has the audacity to create a mythic language for the soul's adventure that is utterly unguaranteed, adamantly open to the unknown. . . . *Polishing the Glass Storm* is a new departure in American poetry, masterful and visionary."—**D. Nurkse**

With *Polishing the Glass Storm*, Katherine Soniat constructs a riveting sequence of verse that explores how archetype can expand both personal vision and narrative perspective as we hone our experiences into an understanding of shared commonality. In poems that weave a linguistic web between the metaphysical and material realms, Soniat reminds us of the many ways in which language can reinforce otherwise frail connections between vision and experience.

KATHERINE SONIAT has taught at the University of New Orleans, Hollins University, the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Virginia Tech, where she was a faculty member for twenty years. Her previous collections include *Bright Stranger*, *The Swing Girl*, and *A Shared Life*, winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize and selected by Mary Oliver for a Virginia Prize in Poetry.

Migration

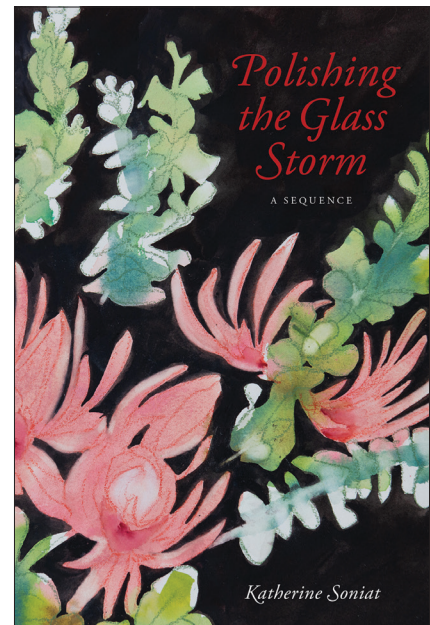
Watch the patterned weather,
the design of the slow, returning
whale.

Clouds roll by, each shape a whole new
species with no purpose yet in mind.

They cast illusion on rhythms in my whale.

By evening, I want a nocturne on a formal
instrument. Wind blows on the bare branch.

It turns me small,
my shadow long.



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Poetry

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