CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press
is seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled
Mothers Without Their Children
Editors: Charlotte Beyer and Andrea Robertson
Deadline for Abstracts: July 1, 2015

This anthology will explore the subject of mothers without their children from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives. We welcome original submissions on new fields of enquiry that address the complex issues surrounding the figure of the mother without her children and her representation. These may include cultural, literary, socio-political, relational, ethical, phenomenological, and biological perspectives and investigations. We hope to include both scholarly and creative contributions, and would also consider direct contributions from mothers who have been separated from their children.

In her book from 1997 *Mother Without Child: Contemporary Fiction and the Crisis of Motherhood*, the critic Elaine Tuttle Hansen discussed this complex maternal figure, and urged for critical and feminist engagement with what she described as: 'the borders of motherhood and the women who really live there, neither fully inside nor fully outside some recognizable "family unit", and often exiles from their children' (p. 10). This anthology extends and expands this important enquiry by offering a variety of perspectives on the experiences, representations, creative manifestations, and embodiments of mothers without their children. The anthology also offers the opportunity to look at maternal experience and mothering in different historical and cultural contexts, thereby opening up the way in which we imagine and represent mothers without their children to reassessment and revision.

Topics may include (but are not limited to):
Maternal loss, bereavement, estrangement, absence, non-custodial mothering, mothering and migration, creative writing and mothering, voluntary and forced adoption, and mother-child separation through state intervention. Topics which address race, age, dis/ability, gender and sexual identity in relation to mothers without their children are also encouraged.

Submission guidelines
Abstracts/Proposal: 400 words. Please include a 50-word biographical note. Due July 1, 2015.
Notification of acceptance: September 1, 2015.
Completed manuscripts (15-18 pages double-spaced with references in MLA format) will be due March 1, 2016.
Please send enquiries and abstracts to the editors
Charlotte Beyer and Andrea Robertson at
motherswithoutchildren@gmail.com

DEMETER PRESS
140 Holland St. West, P.O. Box 13022 Bradford, ON, L3Z 2Y5 (tel) 905-775-5215
http://www.demeterpress.org info@demeterpress.org