



CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press

is seeking creative submissions (poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction) for an edited collection entitled

Borderlands and Crossroads: Writing the Motherland

Editors: Jane Satterfield and Laurie Kruk

Deadline for Abstracts: September 1, 2015

“Mothers are the countries we come from.”—Rachel Cusk

Mothers do not just originate in their bodies, but in a landscape—a place, a region, a country/nation, a language or a culture. Considering how identity shapes environment, and how environment shapes identity, this project invites writers to reflect on their most intimate and embodied relationship to borderlands, crossroads, and maternal landscapes of all kinds, including those of heritage, matrilineage, genealogy, geography, emigration, residency, alienation, and affiliation.

Fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Raising children in a 21st-Century world, while also experiencing and inhabiting national, regional and local identities
- Women’s relationships of heritage and place (foremothers, grandmothers, foster/adoptive mothers, stepmothers, etc.)
- Mothering and memory places/the place of memory in mothering
- Mothering in global and transnational contexts
- Long-distance and cross-cultural mothering
- Canadian/American maternal border-crossings
- Native Americans and indigenous women mothering against colonization (i.e. Status cards, “blood quantum,” and band affiliations)
- Diversity of mothering/mothering in diverse ways: crossing borders, marking crossroads in a multiplicity of ways
- Home and the “motherland,” maternal silences and mother tongues

Deadline for submissions: 1 September 2015

Response to submissions: 31 December 2015

Submission Guidelines: Send completed manuscripts: 3-5 poems that total no more than 10 pages; 15 pages of prose, plus a 50-word biographical note. Please note that final acceptance of submissions is based not just upon the strength of individual submissions, but the editors’ sense of “fit” with the entire collection. We are seeking highly-crafted literature about mothering that reflects a wide range of voices and experiences

Please send inquiries and submissions to editors Laurie Kruk (author of *My Mother Did Not Tell Stories*) and Jane Satterfield (author of *Her Familiars* and *Daughters of Empire: A Memoir of a Year in Britain and Beyond*) at: WritingtheMotherland@gmail.com

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