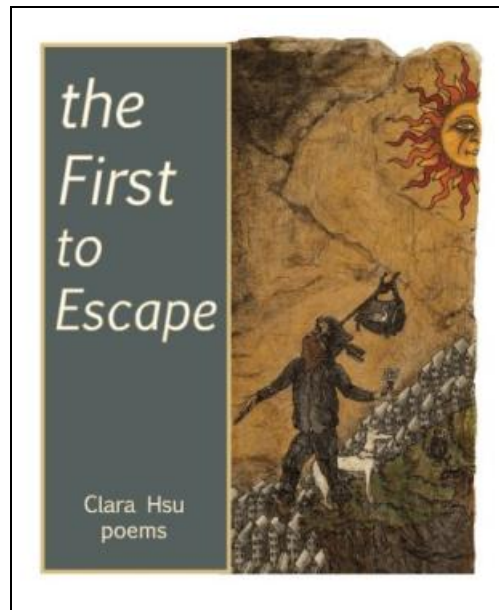


The First to Escape (Paperback)



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Reviews

Thorough information! Its this kind of good read. Yes, it is perform, continue to an amazing and interesting literature. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.
(Loyal Grady)

THE FIRST TO ESCAPE (PAPERBACK)



Poetry Hotel Press, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Though she describes herself as not ethnic enough, everything in this book bears the brand of Clara Hsu's Chinese identity. A couplet like this, Where there is no beginning or end there are definitely walls wars would have a profoundly different effect if it had been written by a non Chinese person. Those troublesome r's and l's - so often mindlessly parodied by the non Chinese-inform the words walls and wars, and each of those words might suggest aspects of Chinese experience in the USA. Clara Hsu is also a professional musician, and this book clearly makes a music-a music which extends to what I believe is the only homophonic translation of a Chinese poem that anyone has produced. (Louis Zukofsky and David Melnick, respectively, stick to Latin and Greek; Howard L. Chace's Frayer Jerker is from the French.) As Eastern and Western modes harmonize and collide-and though there are autobiographical elements here-reading this book makes it clear that you don't have to write autobiography (grandmother's congee) in order to write ethnic poetry. Poems like Not Ethnic Enough, Moving with Li Po, Metamorphosis of a Poem by Su Shi, and Mad House Fantasia and Fugue -to say nothing of the amazing sequence on the Tao-te Ching-reveal Hsu's Chinese identity in a way that would be impossible to the autobiographically-bound construct that is the usual ethnic offering. And if she plays on walls and wars in the title poem, look at what she does to the word like in ekillike. Clara Hsu was born in Hong Kong; she came to the United States as a young girl. How is Hong Kong like San Francisco? How is she like American...



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