

DEAR REVIEWER:

Saddle Road Press is pleased to enclose the Advance Readers Copy of "Slow Arrow: Unearthing the Frail Children" by Kathryn Winograd. Winograd explores the microcosm of a forty-acre high mountain meadow and its surrounding lands vast worlds of ecological and familial migrations. In this collection of essays, Winograd braids together the pressing environmental issues of today with the sacred and profane intersections of the human and natural world.

The announcement by her eighty-five-year-old mother that she would be moving to Colorado to live out her last years sparks Winograd into a journey of what it means to be a steward of the land and its inhabitants she knows little about and a steward to a grieving mother sliding irrevocably into the blindness she fears and the dying for which she longs.

Expanded gold mines, drought-induced wildfires, sudden aspen decline, solitary hawks and summer-pastured longhorns, coyote and elusive cougar, fairy trumpets: as Winograd takes her mother on an exploration of the inhabitants of this deceptively remote and arid landscape in southwest Colorado at the "back" of Pikes Peak, she begins to discover its metaphorical connections to the emotional family landscape she now lives in.

Kathryn Winograd has written six books including "Phantom Canyon: Essays of Reclamation" which was a finalist in the Forward Reviews 2014 INDIEFAB Book of the Year Awards. "Air Into Breath", her first collection of poetry was the winner of the Colorado Book Award in Poetry. Her essays have been noted in "Best American Essays," and published in journals and anthologies including "Arts & Letters," "Fourth Genre," "Hotel Amerika," and "The Fourth Genre: Contemporary Writers of/on Creative Nonfiction. Her poetry has received three Pushcart Prize nominations and a Special Mention in Pushcart Prize XXXVIII in addition to winning the "Chautauqua Literary Journal's" Poetry contest on War and Peace and the "Writers Digest" Annual Writing competition for non-rhyming poetry. Additionally they have appeared in numerous literary journals, including "The New Yorker." Kathryn Winograd currently teaches poetry and creative nonfiction for Regis University's Mile-High MFA program.

Please be aware that this is an uncorrected proof. Do not quote for publication without checking against the finished book, which will be published March 2020.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Winograd & Saddle Road Press
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SLOW ARROW: UNEARTHING THE FRAIL CHILDREN

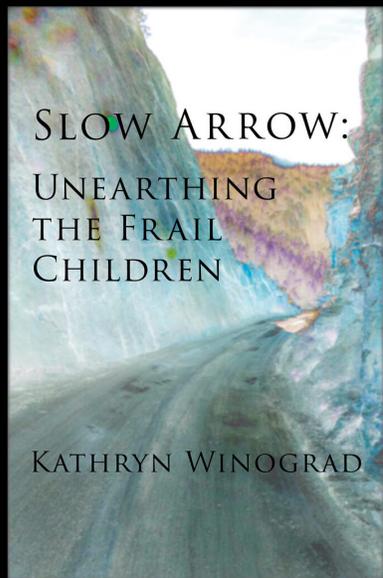
Excerpt:

"Gold King, Moose, Anna Lee, Dead Shot, Anaconda, these are the names of the mines that pockmark these mountainsides we drive past. I say the words of the mine here-assay and ribs, winze and whim. And history walks through—

For more than a decade now Leonard and I have lived when we can on these outskirts of a mining district. Rotting head frames, "gallows frames," miners call them, rise above the vertical mining shafts, stipple Battle Mountain and the western horizon where the Sangre De Cristo mountains sprawl - named Blood of Christ at sunset by a dying Spanish Padre seeking gold. Evenings, walking down the lane to this cabin ,I see the flared peaks with a dead man's eyes.

"Would you want this to be your death bed?" Leonard asks me, pointing to the daybed I bought at a garage sale. We have been talking about my mother, who tells us she wants to die, who has chosen me, a daughter she has not lived with for over thirty-eight years, to steward her through inevitable blindness and death.

Caldera volcanoes, Late Eocene fossils, mines and coyotes, hummingbirds and droughts, old fires and husbands and fearful mothers, how do I begin to reshape these stories, to find the gallow ways of their hidden mines? Am I ready for this?"



A note from the author:

The book began as a series of monthly pieces I wrote for a start-up journalism site called Beacon. My premise was a year long journey into what my 40 acres, and the land that surrounded it could teach me about the environment and both the issues and the wonders the natural world continues to unveil to us. Yet, because I am interested in the lyrical essay, even as I wrote these, I knew I had another purpose for the collection: to discover in this microcosm I loved near the historic Colorado gold mining district of Cripple Creek and Victor, the sacred and profane intersections of man and the environment on a personal level, too.

Slow Arrow: Unearthing the Frail Children
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Biography | Environmentalism

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 Kathryn Winograd

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