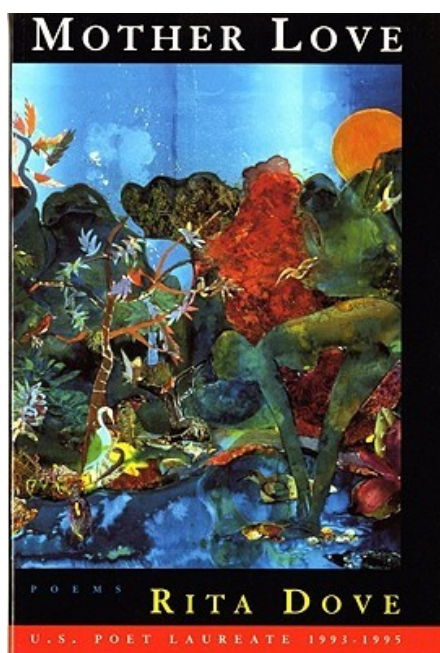




Mother Love

Rita Dove

Download now

Read Online ➔

Mother Love

Rita Dove

Mother Love Rita Dove

In settings as various as a patio in Arizona, the bistros and boulevards of Paris, the sun-drenched pyramids of Mexico—and directly from the Greek myth itself—Rita Dove explores this relationship and the dilemma of letting go.

Mother Love Details

Date : Published May 17th 1996 by W. W. Norton Company (first published May 17th 1995)

ISBN : 9780393314441

Author : Rita Dove

Format : Paperback 96 pages

Genre : Poetry, Academic, Read For School

 [Download Mother Love ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Mother Love ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Mother Love Rita Dove

From Reader Review Mother Love for online ebook

Arryn says

Just finished reading this collection of poems by Rita Dove! It was so wonderful. I've been trying to get my hands on it since studying a few of Dove's poems in my Writing By Women's class last semester.

Dove's writing is brilliant and powerful. It's no surprise that she was poet laureate for the U.S from 1993-1995. In this collection, Dove works with the Greek myth of Persephone and Demeter to explore the relationships between daughters and mothers at numerous stages and settings.

I would recommend to friends and acquaintances. Especially if they like poetry, modernized tellings of myths, and women writers who are just completely brilliant.

Laurie says

Just pulled this collection off my shelves and dove into it, and by the third poem or so wondered what took me so long to find it and actually read it.

The poems in this volume are tough but delicate. Dove's use of imagery and voice are stunning; I'm drawn into the ways in which Dove weaves her personal experience (or invented narrative experience that is vivid enough to seem personal) into the Persephone-Demeter mythology. I'm particularly keen on the ways in which Dove alludes to versions of the self in time -- the young self in Paris, for instance, vs. the older self in the US -- linking Demeter/mother to Persephone/daughter in rich and compelling ways.

Dove's ability to capture the darkness *and* the ecstasy of mother love is what binds all of these poems together. Whether you're a bio-parent or a parent-by-proxy, you understand the dangerous essence of that parental love, and how it opens us to potentially fatal grief. Dove reminds me of that, and though her poems hold that darkness fully, they also offer me the hope/love that redeems it.

Xandria says

Dove explores the mythos of Persephone and Demeter.

It's a collection of poetry about traveling, about the kidnapping and aftermath of Persephone, including Demeter's perspective. The reader is a guest in a different country, the kidnapped, the worried mother, the "other" in a different culture.

Readers can easily empathize with the roles that they might not experience, and perhaps during this time in the United States while many of us are reeling with the recent election, Dove's words speak vividly to a reality that we are experiencing. We are mother's to a country taken from our grasp, we are a homeland that sees its own people as outsiders. This collection is a call to empathy, a call to see the world and explore while embracing different cultures, a celebration of languages.

Give Dove's *Mother Love* a read, it inspires, it reminds, and it shows the vastness of love.

Michael says

I've walked there, too: he can't give
you up, so you give in until you can't live
without him. Like these blossoms, white sores
burst upon earth's ignorant flesh, at first sight
everything is innocence—
then it's itch, scratch, putrescence.

—from "Afield"

Jennifer says

Picked this up on the poetry month table at the library. Really cool, seamless crossing of borders throughout worlds--Greek mythology, tourism, everyday life.

Yana says

I could tell from the first poem that I would really like this collection. Dove has a cool, humorous voice.

Robert says

another poet--she's a prof at UVA. I discovered through a poem on a mural on the side of a building that I saw during a run in Charlottesville. English professors here (UD) love her. I want to read her some of her other books.

Her poems here were loosely based on the Greek myth of Demeter and Persephone. Demeter is the mother and Hades kidnapped Persephone. Demeter negotiated that she got to keep Persephone for half the year (spring and summer) and Hades got her half the year (fall and winter). BTW, Demeter is the goddess of the seasons.

One of the neat things about this book of poetry is that she has written a large number of sonnets that are approachable.

C. Varn says

Rita Dove reimagines the myth of Hades, Demeter, and Persephone and interweaves them with Dove's contemporary world from 1995. While I admit that reimagining Greek mythology in contemporary terms wasn't necessarily an original conceit two decades ago when this was written, and even less so now, but re-visiting this I was struck by Dove's warm humanism in these poems: these feel like human voices more than archetypes. Dove's use of forms is subtle, particularly her sonnets. She also seems to weave in aging and changing perspectives very well.

Erik Caswell says

really loved the content & form of this one. and the note at the beginning about how the sonnet is this idealized utopian sort of space in the traditional sense which makes it sort of a gated off Eden that's not real - so Dove makes her sonnets in this realm of wrongness where everything echoes sharp or flat. plus I just loved the exploration of mother daughter relationship through the Persephone Demeter myths. there were a lot of really weighty poems and I love that feeling of having to stop after you've read something just to let it soak in...

also read *Psyche in a Dress* and this was like, what that book wanted to do, but way way better and more artfully & without the creepy glamourization of Persephone's half-life of servitude to Hades...

Jason says

The myth of Persephone and Demeter inspires Rita Dove to consider mothers, myths, missing, death and daughters.

"Party Dress for a First Born," "Persephone in Hell," "Hades' Pitch," and "Her Island" are among the best but it's "Demeter's Prayer to Hades" -- withering advice to a tolerated son-in-law -- that I'll re-read the most:

"There are no curses--only mirrors
held up to the should of gods and mortals.
And so I give up this fate, too.
Believe in yourself,
go ahead--see where it gets you."

Kima says

Rita Dove manages to elevate the sonnet, effortlessly. With mythology at her disposal, she weaves a narrative that is equal parts contemporary, historic and elegy. A reimagining of the tale of Demeter, Persephone and Hades, Ms. Dove charts lust along the wheel of history right along with grief, longing, and dread.

Sara Khayat says

Greek myth meets contemporary female song.

Thanks to Mike for lending me this one!

Iris says

Booktubeathon read #1

Aaron says

Not all of this made sense to me, as usual with poetry, but I liked it.

Olivia Chambers says

I thought it was interesting that all the poems connected and centered around the Persephone/Demeter story. I wasn't all about it, but it wasn't bad.
