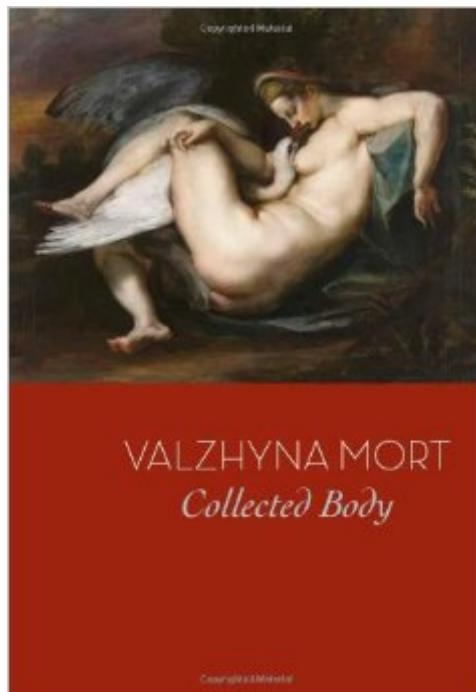


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Collected Body



Synopsis

"Mort is a fireball. . . . Personal, political, and passionate, Mort's poetry will surely sustain many reading audiences. Highly recommended."—Library Journal "A one-of-a-kind work of passion and insight."—Midwest Book Review "Mort's style is tough and terse almost to the point of aphorism; recalls the great Polish poets Czeslaw Milosz and Wislawa Szymborska."—Los Angeles Times Valzhyna Mort is a dynamic Belarusian poet, and *Collected Body* is her first collection composed in English. Whether writing about sex, relatives, violence, or fish markets as opera, Mort insists on vibrant, dark truths. "Death hands you every new day like a golden coin," she writes, then warns that as the bribe grows "it gets harder to turn down." "Preface" on a bare tree is a red beast, so still, it has become the tree. now it's the tree that prowls over the beast, a cautious beast itself. a stone thrown at its breast is so fast; the stone has become the beast. now it's the beast that throws itself like a stone, blood like a dog-rose tree on a windy day, and the moon is trying on your face for the annual masquerade of the dead. death decides to wait to hear more. so death mews: first your story, then me. Valzhyna Mort was born in Minsk, Belarus. Her American debut, *Factory of Tears*, appeared in 2008 and she was featured on the cover of *Poets & Writers*. She has received many honors and awards, including a Civitella Raineri fellowship. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

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