



Conjuring My Leafy Muse (The Lillian Trilogy)

Mary Meriam

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*** Nominated for the Poets' Prize**

Mary Meriam is a rare and original poet. This is a dazzling book, a fusion of anguish and wit and song, written in clear and compelling language. I love the wildness, the inventiveness, the always surprising but accurate metaphors. She writes of real things, real people, always musically. She uses Mother Goose rhythms and rhymes or echoes of Sapphic meters or settings as grim as any of the Grimm Brothers' tales, to tell searing truths that move, frighten, and delight one with the skill of their telling.

- Naomi Replansky, Author of *The Dangerous World* and *Collected Poems*

Mary Meriam is a frightening poet, a frighteningly good poet. The intensity of her writing will frighten you, but also her technical skill. She can put a chill into the most common rhyme. The poems speak like "a gust of gorgeous / thundering swallows." She identifies her models as Christina Rossetti and Charlotte Mew, whose *Goblin Market* and "Farmer's Bride" rightfully haunt the collection. But her real soulmate is Thomas Lovell Beddoes, the ultimate poet of the queer and scary whose masterpiece, *Death's Jest Book*, was left appropriately unfinished. She may ask us to "unspook" her dreams, but we won't succeed. The uncanny is too engrained in her sensibility. All we can ask is that she continue to keep writing.

- David Bergman, Poetry Editor of *The Gay & Lesbian Review*

Mary Meriam is an accomplished technician and imaginative Mother Goose artist, who like Mother Goose (my favorite collection in the world), is almost always serious, even tragic, along with fun. I am floored by poems with lines like the opening of "I Learn Today My Mother Lied": "*Not one drop of Jewish blood / in me or you!*" *my mother cried, / as if she had a drop to hide...* We are lucky to have her dissident voice.

- Willis Barnstone, American Poet

Mary Meriam's new collection is a treasure chest of charm and trouble. Her sonnets, lyrics and chants show the best of the New Formalism, being personal but not ever inaccessibly private, and musical without a touch of pretense. There is life and sweetness in her approach, and reproach and rue as well.

- Zachary Bos, Editor of *Poetry Northeast*

Mary Meriam is a poet who takes risks, by which I don't mean what you think I mean. There's nothing risky about breaking rules that haven't been in effect since 1880. I'm talking about the modern rules, the new respectability, the advice given in poetry workshops by legions of successful poets whom no one reads. Mary doesn't give a shit about Pound's "don'ts," she's too busy writing fierce, gorgeous poems about love and pain. She's a true rebel, in all her heartfelt, singsong, vulnerable, girly glory.

- Rose Kelleher, Anthony Hecht Prize for *Bundle o' Tinder*

This is my kind of a poet. 'She speaks,' as Larkin said of the beautiful and wistful and utterly different Stevie Smith, 'with the authority of sadness.' She also speaks in the language of tradition. She uses old forms fiercely. She is rather a fierce poet. Oh, and a Lesbian. You can't ignore that. But what does she do? Do with words. Magic. Above all, Mary Meriam is a magic poet and if that is what you want (as I do) this is a book for you.

- John Whitworth, British Poet

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Joan Burton:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their very own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about the data about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some research before they write for their book. One of them is this *Conjuring My Leafy Muse (The Lillian Trilogy)*.

Jacqueline Stalling:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that's look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent all day long to reading a e-book. The book *Conjuring My Leafy Muse (The Lillian Trilogy)* it is very good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book offers high quality.

Ruth Mullins:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specially book entitled *Conjuring My Leafy Muse (The Lillian Trilogy)* the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe not known for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a e-book then become one application form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The *Conjuring My Leafy Muse (The Lillian Trilogy)* giving you a different experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life on this era. So now let

us explain to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

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