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Dancing, with Mirrors

By Amabile, George

Erin, ON, Canada: Porcupine's Quill, Incorporated, 2011. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. No Jacket. 1st Edition. More than twenty years in the making, *Dancing, With Mirrors* is the result of George Amabile's patient examination of his life. The light of careful attention, shining into his past, sends fragments of memory ricocheting into sensuous poems that arrange themselves, as if by magnetic attraction, into eleven remarkable cantos, each with a different focus, rhythm and texture. In this lyrical retrospective, decades are distilled into scattered moments: flashes of pain, sparks of affection, the smart of disappointment, small graces of the everyday. Organized thematically into a roughly chronological narrative, these lyrical fragments make up George Amabile's most intelligent and moving collection to date. Intense snapshots of life-defining moments, from his brother's death to his relationship with a younger woman, are rendered with vivid immediacy, but also with a resonating aura that elicits questions which may never be answered by experience alone. These poems offer hard-won wisdom alongside a fierce commitment to life itself, capturing one man's journey in exquisite imagery, an impressive variety of forms and a voice that is recognizably authentic in all its registers. Since 1972 George Amabile has written seven...



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Reviews

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-- **Paolo Spinka**