



QUESTIONS FROM OUTER SPACE

poems

DIANE THIEL

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Questions from Outer Space reinvigorates the world of the everyday, a world we think we know until we read Diane Thiel. She not only makes it strange and makes it new, she wants us to reinvest in a sensuous world, replete with complex thoughts and experiences. Her poems display complexity of form, are allegorical, narrative, psychological, political, and advocate on behalf of the natural world. She offers subtle critiques of the machine and digital age for their impersonality and for mounting assaults on nature. Diane Thiel subverts our conventional impulses, mostly blind ones, into an awareness that a sacred poetics informs our secular lives.

—Fred D’Aguiar, author of *Year of Plagues*

Diane Thiel is the author of eleven books of poetry and nonfiction, including *Echolocations* and *Resistance Fantasies*. Thiel's work has appeared in *Poetry*, *The Hudson Review*, and in many other publications. Her awards include a PEN Award and a Fulbright. Thiel received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Brown University and has traveled and lived in Europe, South America, Asia, and Australia. She is Regents’ Professor of English at the University of New Mexico and lives in the Sandia Mountain foothills. www.dianethiel.net

Diane Thiel is a poet of unusual worldliness, capable of bringing biology, anthropology, and global travel to the mix. This is a strong new collection—field notes from “the edge of reason,” poems of intelligence and concern. *Questions from Outer Space* is a book tuned to deep experience of life on earth, marking the welcome return of a first-rate poet.

—David Mason, author of *The Sound: New and Selected Poems*

Diane Thiel’s *Questions from Outer Space* is a deft, accomplished collection. We join her philosophical investigations of the multiverse, her earthly journeys, the complications and rewards of parenting, the mutability of memory. Her curiosity and openness to experience throughout, both “belonging// to [the] world, while also being alien to it,” amplify an appreciation of Thiel’s various and richly traveled galaxies.

—Adrienne Kalfopoulou, author of *A History of Too Much*

Diane Thiel is the real thing—a genuinely memorable lyric poet whose intuitive music strikes the difficult balance between the mythic and the real, the personal and the historical, the familiar and the unknown.

—Dana Gioia, poet, critic and American Book Award winner