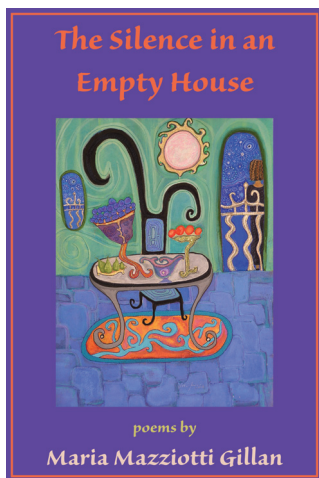


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NYQ Books™ Announces the Publication of *The Silence in an Empty House* by Maria Mazziotti Gillan



September 25, 2013 - New York, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the release of *The Silence in an Empty House*. In *The Silence in an Empty House*, Maria Mazziotti Gillan comes to the limit of human experience, stares death in the face, and struggles to keep moving. These moments she faces and speaks of so clearly are unavoidable, and the long illness and death of her husband, Dennis, is her personal version of the fundamental struggle we all face. *The Silence in an Empty House* speaks of forgiveness, guilt and grace. With courage and a stubborn refusal to look away from the terrors that surround her on so many levels, Gillan documents the parallels between our own struggles with mortality and the struggles being played out on the world stage today. From wars to climate change to the death of whole species to her own struggles with the deaths of her husband, family and friends, she makes each of these battles the reader's own, and gives order and meaning to those fundamental things that otherwise threaten to capsize us.

"In *The Silence in an Empty House*, Maria Mazziotti Gillan chronicles a long marriage—love triumphing class, geographical moves, fondue parties, orange shag carpets and ultimately wheelchairs, nurse's aides, and cold compresses. This is a book of easy and gentle humor regarding the first sparks of true love and the hard truths about what it is truly like to be a caregiver at the end of a spouse's life, what it

is like for a spouse to feel like "a burden," and, finally, what it feels like to be a widow. Maria Mazziotti Gillan's speaker includes not just personal and familial suffering but the suffering of the planet, its people and wildlife. This is a voice that is graceful and purposeful, elegant and humane." —Denise Duhamel

"These are poems many people will relate to, perhaps, because Maria Gillan is amazingly honest about her reactions to the long trauma of her beloved husband disappearing into Parkinson's disease, perhaps, because this is the sort of anguish many of us in tight partnerships most fear. Gillan takes us on a journey from young love and marriage through the long slow decline of her husband, through his death, and slowly out the other side into survivor's guilt and, finally, the acceptance of her continued life and vitality." —Marge Piercy

Maria Mazziotti Gillan is a recipient of the 2011 Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award from *Poets & Writers*, and the 2008 American Book Award for her book, *All That Lies Between Us* (Guernica Editions). She is the Founder/Executive Director of the Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College in Paterson, NJ, and editor of the *Paterson Literary Review*. She is also Director of the Creative Writing Program and Professor of Poetry at Binghamton University-SUNY. She has published sixteen books, including *What We Pass On: Collected Poems 1980 - 2009* (Guernica Editions), *The Place I Call Home* (NYQ Books) and *Writing Poetry to Save Your Life: How to Find the Courage to Tell Your Stories* (MiroLand, Guernica). With her daughter, Jennifer, she is co-editor of four anthologies.

NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the *New York Quarterly* poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.



photo by Joseph Costa