

KAMINSKI, Margaret (edited by) - Moving to Antarctica (An anthology of women's writings), published as part of "The American Dust" series by Dustbooks, P.O. Box 1056, Paradise, CA 95969.

This anthology is interesting, because it is a magazine which is entirely worked out and published by a women's collective. This collective is characterized not by the common male hierarchy of boss and subordinate, but by a real democratic relationship, where everybody has the same rights. The anthology includes poetry, one novel excerpt, short stories, diaries, drama, and articles. So, it is an attempt to give an overview of what women are doing in the different areas of literary expression.

The title Antarctica suggests something unknown, something new and unexplored. Marge Piercy expressed it very well by saying that,

"We're walking into Antarctica except it's the Antarctica of our psyches and our lives and it's not full of ice, it's full of everything beautiful and ugly and lush and scary and earthly in the world, everything in OUR world."

It is an anthology of crabbed, bitter feminists, but an attempt of expressing women's reality, women's feelings. It is the search for identity, as Miriam Frank expresses it in the poem "German Brother":

"I've been trying to restore you/like the roomfull of madonnas/ whose sweet paint is fading/ whose bodies are bored by worms/ A roomfull of you/ Could fill my dreams." (p. 12)

It seems to me that this is an extremely necessary anthology. Necessary because in it women get a hearing, who elsewhere maybe would not have the chance of it. And it is important that women express themselves, because, as Margaret Kaminsky says, "Men and women need Liberation/ THE Liberation."

IRENE MARIA DIETSCHI