

## ***The Last Girl* is a powerful new collection of poems from award-winning contemporary poet Rose Solari**

“Solari’s poems begin from the center of her heart. Word seduction, myth given life again, these poems descend from the sky as if there was another beautiful galaxy out there, just beyond our reach, breaking apart, poem by poem.”  
—**E. Ethelbert Miller**, author of *How We Sleep on the Nights We Don’t Make Love* and *The Fifth Inning*

“*The Last Girl* is wonderfully sensuous, vivid, and alert to the physicality of our most important feelings and experiences. Sending crystal-clear reports back from the incorporeal underworlds of myth and the remembered past, these poems, with their battery charged textures of imagination, live ‘like a first self, pre-body’ in every sharply attentive line.”—**Jane Draycott**, author of *Over*

“*The Last Girl* by Rose Solari casts the spell of a held piano note on a dark key. A haunting melancholy runs through these rich, finely crafted poems. Solari writes with honesty, empathy, and tenderness about the islands we find ourselves on—our shipwrecked lives, and our survival. Evocative, sensual, wistful, but with the sharp edge of one who endures, who carries on.”—**Jim Daniels**, poet and co-editor of *American Poetry: The Next Generation*

CHICAGO: A shimmering girl who disappears in daylight. A boy who goes to war and comes back forever broken. New landscapes in which old ghosts appear, telling their bits of stories. Lovers and losses, visions and dreams—such are the people, places, and images who fill Rose Solari’s third collection of poetry, *The Last Girl* (Alan Squire Publishing; November 1, 2014).

Moving beyond the often-narrative constructions of her previous collection, the poems in *The Last Girl* tell their truths slant-wise, in spiky, inventive lines that sing their way under the reader’s skin. Solari’s whole-hearted lyricism and range of tones sweep the reader from dark to light, from pain to joy, from unbearable loss to giddy delight. The poems in this collection represent a writer working at the peak of her powers, possessed of technical mastery, fierce perception, and a tender but unsentimental heart.

Serious readers of contemporary poetry and those who have read Solari’s previous collections will be drawn to her accomplished language and powerful insights, while those with less experience of contemporary poetry will be delighted by how accessible her poetry can be. *The Last Girl* explores human relationships, including a straightforward, searing depiction of grief and its aftermath, and illustrates a sophisticated use of the poetic form, expanding readers’ ideas of what is possible.

### **About the Author:**

**Rose Solari** is the author of two full-length collections of poetry, *Difficult Weather* and *Orpheus in the Park*; the one-act play, *Looking for Guenevere*; and a novel, *A Secret Woman*. She has lectured and taught writing workshops at many institutions, including the University of Maryland–College Park, the Jung Society of Washington, and the Centre for Creative Writing at Kellogg College, University of Oxford. Her poems and essays have appeared in various magazines, journals, and anthologies. She is the recipient of several awards, including the Randall Jarrell Poetry Prize, an Academy of American Poets University Prize, and the Columbia Book Award. She lives in Bethesda, Maryland.



***The Last Girl*** by Rose Solari

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