

Drowning Lessons

POEMS BY MAUREEN SCOTT HARRIS

"Everything comes to this — a pause where the material world thins and questions." Everything in *Drowning Lessons*? No book so rich will reduce to a single line, but this line will conduct you to the rest, to the shadows, the edges, the depths, the biting sense of betweenness in a life that has not thrived. Such a bleak life concentrated in these pages — why is the book so wonderfully satisfying to read? Because Maureen Harris has gone deep, down and in, and returned with news as strange as it is familiar. "How can nothing/ have so many shapes and be so hard to hang onto?" Between everything and nothing this compelling book shimmers like a liquid mirror.

— STAN DRAGLAND


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