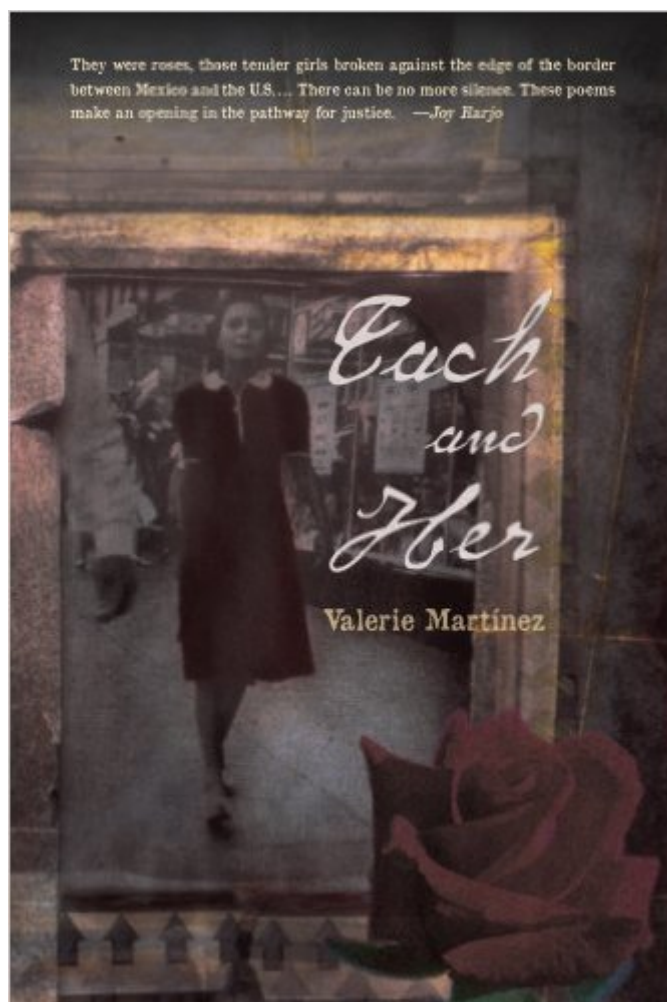


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# Each And Her (Camino Del Sol)



## Synopsis

In 2004 twenty-eight women and young girls were murdered in Ciudad Juárez and the surrounding areas. The tragedy escalated to fifty-eight murders in 2006, then again to eighty-six in 2008, and current estimates top four hundred deaths. Now poet Valerie Martínez offers a poetic exploration of these events, pushing boundaries "stylistically and artistically" with vivid poems that contextualize femicide. Martínez departs from traditional narrative to reveal the hidden effects and outcomes of the horrific and heart-wrenching cases of femicide. These poems "lyric fragments and prose passages that form a collage" have an intricate relation to one another, creating a complex literary quilt that feels like it can be read from the beginning, the end, or anywhere in between. Martínez is personally invested in the topic, evoking the loss of her sister, and *Each and Her* emerges as a biography of sorts and a compelling homage to all those who have suffered. Other authors may elaborate on or investigate this topic, but Martínez humanizes it by including names, quotations, realistic details, and stark imagery. The women of Juárez, like other women around the world, are ravaged by inequality, discontinuity, politics, and economic plagues that contribute to gender violence. Martínez offers us a poignant and alarming glance into another world with these never-before-told stories. Her refreshing and explosive voice will keep readers transfixed and intrigued about these events and emotions "removed from us and yet so close to the heart.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #308,822 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States > Hispanic American](#) #75 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > Caribbean & Latin American](#) #237 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Women Authors](#)

## Customer Reviews

In her poem "Each and Her", Valerie Martinez stunningly illustrates both the debilitating sadness and the compelling beauty of these young women in northern Mexico. She does this with an eloquence that is captivating and once started, her poems are almost impossible to put down. There are verses where, without the use of one single word, the awful emptiness brings tears. There are others where her admiration of their beauty evokes joy and a celebration of their brief lives. A delightful book. This is a poem that needs to be read, a story that needs to be told. It is so rewarding to have happened upon such a treasure.

I read the entirety of EACH AND HER in one sitting, something I rarely do. It was riveting, heart-breaking, memorable. An original and surprising stylistic choice to treat such subject matter, and very effective...the collage, fragments, found poems, the gardening blight metaphor all represent the subject, stories, the shocking official neglect, and the emotion powerfully. Pairing the part about Adam and Eve and Christ and Mary with the list of Marias was brilliant. Bravo!

Quick Ship, Just as described

Each and Her is a poem about the murders of over four hundred fifty girls and women in or near Juarez and Chihuahua Mexico since 1993. In spite of investigations and arrests, the murders continue. Some were students and some workers in maquiladoras which are factories or assembly plants, their murders linked with evidence of torture and mutilation. Maquiladora operators discriminate against pregnant women and demand their workers use birth control. If a worker is found to be pregnant, she is fired. These workers receive low wages and work long hours. Some of the snippets are verses from the author, some of them are quotes and excerpts from poems or books. Valerie Martinez lists some of the women's names, ages ranging from 7 through 60's. The author's voice within these verses is sad as it tells the story of these lost women. Some of the pages have a single word such as sigame, which means follow me in Spanish. I found that while I was reading, those singular words would make an impact. They were perfectly placed within the poem. This book is manufactured in the U.S. on acid-free, archival quality paper containing a minimum of 30% post consumer waste and processed chlorine free.

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