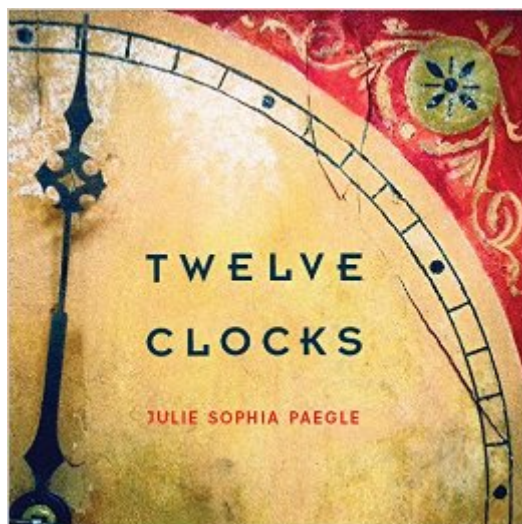


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# Twelve Clocks (Camino Del Sol)



## Synopsis

From the fall of Troy recorded at the beginning of Western poetry to the ongoing mass extinction of species, *Twelve Clocks* meditates on the temporality of loss across the many scales of our experience and knowledge. Framed by central images of beginnings and ends, this collection searches six cities and intervals of time for the measures of loss, labor, and care. Through formal innovations derived from the second, the minute, the hour, etc., and the methods of their measure, these poems move from the stark violence of Homer's tale to the terrible precision and power of the atomic age. As the reader is transported from Las Vegas to Argentina to the landscapes of Ancient Greek epic poetry, *Twelve Clocks* explores the connections between song, ancestry, family, loss, and time. If the imagery of the collection hints Troy might be an image of the wrecked Argentine economy under neoliberal economics, the poems eschew the abstractions of politics in favor of a vivid and sensuous lyricism. The interconnectivity of the poems in *Twelve Clocks* is mirrored by different elements' transcendence throughout the collection. The clock that goes missing in one poem turns up in another, characters vanish and reappear, matter destroyed in one poem reoccurs as energy in another, and then matter and energy both go missing. Taken together, the poems confront the literary legacy of Western poetic tradition and our shared future.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The first thing I noticed when I picked up my copy of *Twelve Clocks* by Julie Sophia Paegle, was the

width of the page, and thumbing through the book, that the poems used every inch of that horizontal real estate to change the perception of the time of the lines. This book is about time, relationships, space, and the incredible form play the poems use to trace these millennia spanning ideas. The book is philosophical, but never without relation to what we as people experience when we live, particularly people with deep relationships with words. Everywhere the reader is rewarded with sound, thought patterns and above all a very human story of our engagement with time and space. The work is dense, profound and provokes us to explore how our common understandings of time and space undermine deeper realities that are all around us. Paegle encourages us to leap into new mind-disciplines to follow the thread through an ever opening maze of associations. As we work our way through the book we are aided by the deeply personal and family oriented sections into the deep personal space of characters in myth, into the lives of philosophers and theoretical mathematicians. We recognize ourselves through them, we are projected into a life stream which honors all connections, while keeping a critical eye on the manipulations present in quotidian understanding. It is in the disorientation and disintegration process of common space/time interactions that Paegle's plays give us such great gifts of understanding of self and others. The Queen and the Spy are revealed in their deceptions, Las Vegas becomes both a heaven and hell, a reprieve from the mundane, and a hell-hole slowly draining the life giving force of its water reserves.

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