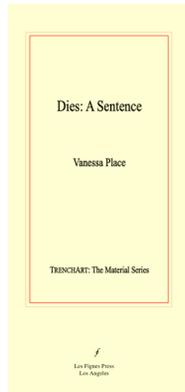


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## ***Dies: A Sentence***

by Vanessa Place  
with an Introduction by Susan McCabe  
Les Fignes Press  
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In **DIES: A SENTENCE**, Place withholds the period for 117 pages and one long night as its legless narrator recounts the war journey that has lead him to his final point of final truth, next to an armless man making stew. Place's single sentence unmoors time and space, subject and object, victim and perpetrator, in a voice sanctifying everything and elegizing nothing. John Witte of *Northwest Review* calls **DIES** "a marvel of sustained synergy. Editors live to encounter such work, that thrills, provokes, and finally deeply gratifies its reader. Not recommended for the faint-of-heart, Vanessa Place pulls out all the stops." As poet and scholar Susan McCabe says in her Introduction, "Roll over, dear Whitman. Here's our new original."

Author Dennis Cooper (*Frisk* and *Period*) calls Place "a new literary hotshot," while poet Carol Muske-Dukes (*Sparrow*) says she is "a sky-writer, a kind of Beryl Markham aviator of words—she loops the loop, stalls and re-starts, dips her wings—then lands on a dime, delivers the mail," her sentence "up in the air, drifting continuum."

**DIES: A SENTENCE** has been selected by NPR's Michael Silverblatt as an October/November 2005 Bookworm Library title, and as a "recommended read" by *Northwest Review*.

### **Praise for *DIES: A SENTENCE***

"The architectonics of *Dies* calls upon the aural touchstones, not only of Pound, but of Dante, Rabelais (beware of a scatological extravaganza), Eliot, Whitman, Stein, the Bible, Beckett, Joyce, Remarque, even *'the ghost of mark twain'*—a babbling horde that makes this sentence both humbling and beyond paraphrase, both mythic and contemporary."

—Susan McCabe, author of *Swirl* and *Cinematic Modernism*

"If (and I like to believe it is) a single sentence is a unit of thought, then this present thought of Vanessa Place is dizzyingly complex, compound, and full of miraculous side trips as well—not so dissimilar to the world that contains it."

—Jim Krusoe, author of *Iceland*

"a delightful tour de force of a hopelessly grim predicament."

—American Book Review

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Vanessa Place's work has appeared in *Northwest Review*, *Northridge Review*, *4th Street*, *Film Comment*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *LA Weekly Literary Supplement* and *TrenchArt: Material*. Her nonfiction book about sex-offenders and the morality of guilt is forthcoming from Other Press. She lives and works in Los Angeles.