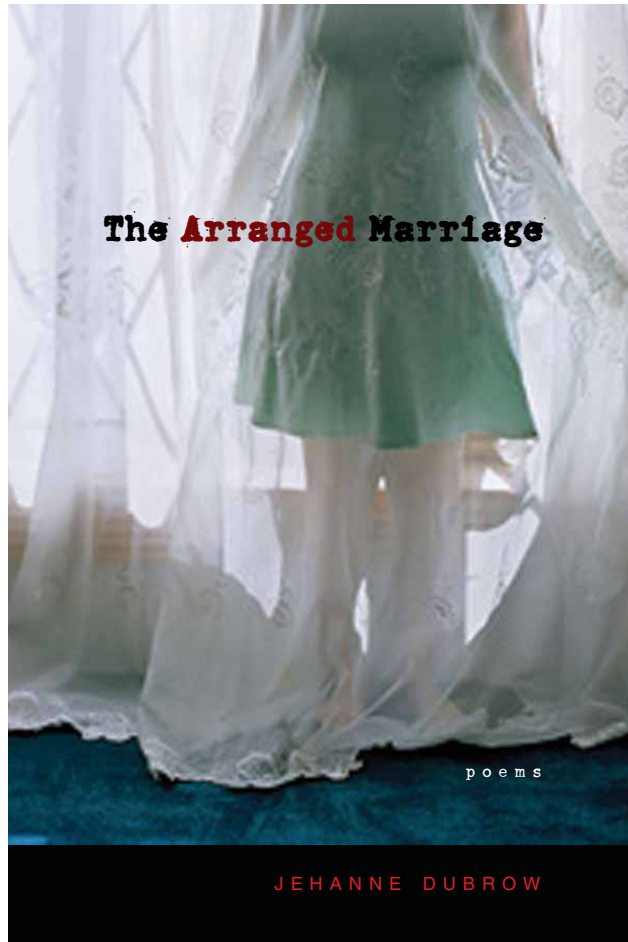


The Arranged Marriage

Jehanne Dubrow



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Praise for The Arranged Marriage

“Jehanne Dubrow in her fifth book of poems tells us a story so compelling that we put down our tasks and turn to her voice.”

— Hilda Raz

“We witness in these pages raw violence of marriages arranged, marriages broken. We feel the knife blade, recognize as our own every wounded body.”

— Peggy Shumaker

With her characteristic music and precision, Dubrow delves unflinchingly into a mother’s story of trauma and captivity. The poet proves that truthtelling and vision can give meaning to the gravest situations, allowing women to create a future on their own terms.

“*The Arranged Marriage* brims with gorgeous wants: some of them dark and some “the pink of bouganvillea.” In her newest collection Jehanne Dubrow writes of the dark bonds that tie women—“so easily torn, devoted to ornament”—to the complicated institution that is marriage in lyric portraits that uncover, unstitch, and unearth the secret entanglements at the heart of these intricate unions.”

— Carmen Giménez Smith

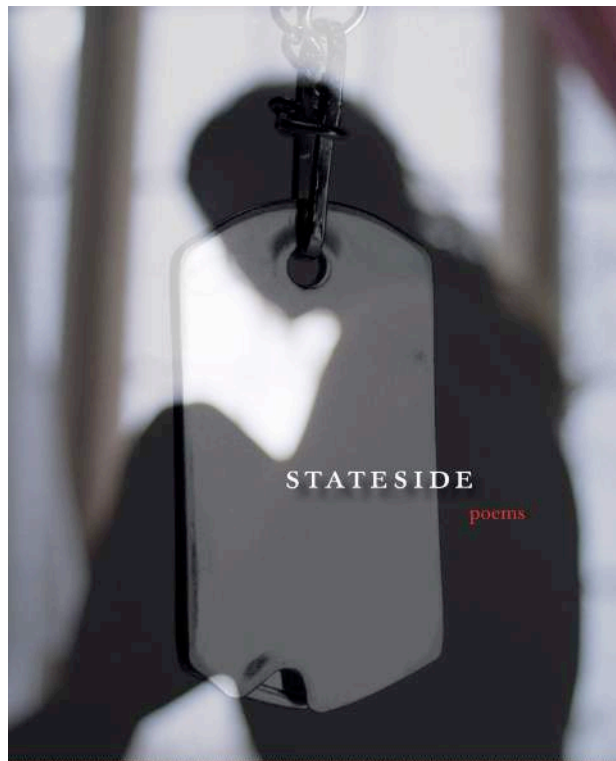
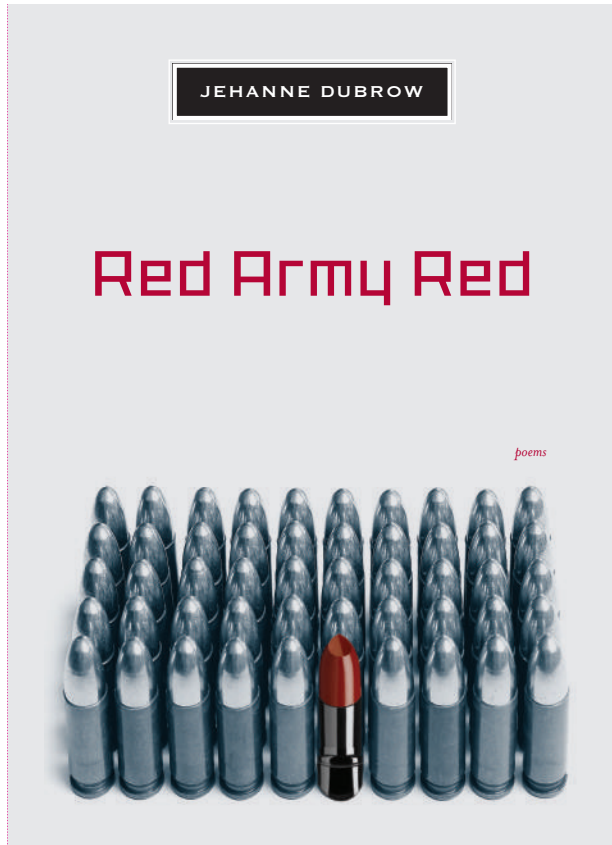
From The Arranged Marriage:

A GROUNDING FOR THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS

Or perhaps the story starts with books on her table. When the man breaks in, she's sleeping. Tomorrow: an exam. Tomorrow: a paper due. She's half-asleep, the sound of someone in the room soft as turning pages. First, he tells her, I heard a noise. By he is meant the handyman. And when there is no noise to hear, he bolts the door. He grinds her face into the wood. A cardboard box kicked. A hand bitten. That he will kill her if the night stays gray too long, a kind of a priori knowledge. He read Kant in prison, comics too black and white, dime store pulp too literal in its black and blue. There is an argument for anything, he says: to drown the small brown dog, to swipe the wallet, even to unlock the girl's apartment where she is falling in her sleep.



Jehanne Dubrow is the author of five poetry collections, including most recently *Red Army Red* and *Stateside*, and is the co-editor of *The Book of Scented Things: 100 Contemporary Poems About Perfume*. Her work has appeared in *Southern Review*, *The New England Review*, and *Prairie Schooner*. She is the Director of the Rose O'Neill Literary House and an Associate Professor of creative writing at Washington College, where she edits the national literary journal, *Cherry Tree*.



Jehanne Dubrow
Foreword by Ted Kooser

Praise for Jehanne Dubrow's work

"Jehanne Dubrow's *Red Army Red* takes a remembered childhood behind the Iron Curtain and transforms its shadows and deprivations into the saturated colors of poetry. This book is not only bright with verbal wit, cultural observation, and fresh imagery, but interconnected sounds: an artfully wrapped package which opens with 'the crisp whisper / of tissue paper.'"

— Mary Jo Salter

"In Jehanne Dubrow's *Stateside*, the formalities of structure—rhyme and meter—play against the formalities imposed upon the life of a military wife. There are poems in marching meters and poems that provide counterpoint to those rhythms, but most of all, hers is a fully experienced suite, fully composed in every sense of that word, both intimate and public, an accomplished book. She is a contemporary Penelope whose tale is epic."

— Sam Hamill

"Dubrow dispels the durable myth that war is *there—there* in order to keep us safe *here*. War is in fact everywhere. I believe that the best poetry always takes on a life of its own beyond the poet's vision, the poet's own parameters, in the very same way that there is no here or there, there is only this frightening and yet majestic oneness, a 'thisness' that makes these poems eerie, sharp as a scalpel and memorable."

— Djelloul Marbrook