

"Lisa Samuels' beautiful Anti M is a delicate. dark, expansive, and obviously elliptical text that explores not the opposite but the obverse both to a repository of past experiences and the function that surveys and salvages them; it is notoriously selective. Anti-memory, on the other hand, carries out deselection and dispersal. It redistributes and redisturbs its back story. In Anti M, memories are broken apart and intensified, they have become charged partithe lovely, enigmatic images included in the book bring film to mind) but with electricity. It is that exciting play of light, cast by shadows and patches of even darker darkness, that makes the language of Anti M luminous. And it is luminous—this is a gorgeous work."

A work of 'omitted prose', Anti M re-makes memory as anti-memoir. Is Daisy the narrating I? Where is Dorothy? Extending this doubleness, the visual images in Anti M gesture to the locations of memory in North America, Europe, and the Middle East. The omitted prose constellates family and the body, religions and languages, gender and authority, and the formation of a transcultural character. Lisa Samuels

Lisa Samuels Anti M

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