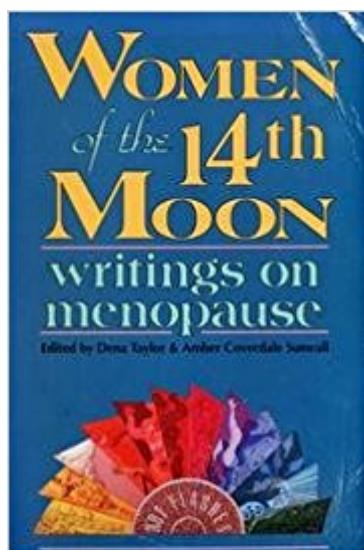


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Women Of The 14th Moon: Writings On Menopause



Synopsis

With these almost 100 brief essays, stories and poems, Taylor (*Red Flower*) and Sumrall (*Touching Fire*) offer a valuable collection, practically a support group in a package. Both Janine O'Leary Cobb and Elaine Goldman Gill challenge the premise that any problems women have during menopause are their own fault. Many contributors, who range from playwrights to artists and activists, discuss their experiences with great candor, and they disagree on some issues. For example, Jane L. Mickelson voices strong reservations about hormone therapy, while Marcia Seligson, who opted for such therapy, assesses the issue as one of "benefits versus risks." In a short story, Sumrall shows what happens when a condescending man crosses an uppity menopausal woman, and in a poem Katherine Wells muses, "It's not the babies I'll regret / but myself, stuck in an old VW body / concealing a Rolls-Royce engine." Mary Lou Logothetis's effective article reviews three decades of medical writing that sees the middle-aged woman as "a caricature of her younger self at her emotional worst."

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Customer Reviews

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This anthology of poetry and prose by women offers unique first-person accounts of menopause. The 90 contributors--Ursula K. Le Guin, Marge Piercy, Betty Friedan, and Brooke Medicine Eagle, among others--present their feelings about this transition and their reactions to the negative values that society and the medical establishment have given to women who are no longer fertile. They encourage women to consider menopause as a positive change bringing new freedom. Unlike other books on the subject (Sadia Greenwood's *Menopause Naturally*, Volcano Pr., 1989. rev. ed.; Anne Dickson and Nikki Henriques's *Women on Menopause*, Healing Arts Pr., 1988), this one is not restricted to medical and health information. The contributors discuss personal thoughts and urge women to use menopause as an opportunity to make creative changes in their lives. An interesting addition for public, health, and women's studies collections. - Barbara M. Bibel, Oakland P.L., Cal. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a long-time favorite I reread over and over. Bought this copy as a gift for a younger woman friend so she can start learning how to prepare peacefully and gracefully.

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