



THE ZIG ZAG WOMAN

Maggie Sawkins

'Maggie Sawkins draws brilliantly on extended metaphor and the surreal to explore painful relationships, mental illness and problematic situations. She writes both from personal experience and beyond it. Her inventive and highly individual voice is always authentic. The taut writing carries emotional weight and sends that shiver up my spine which tells me I am reading real poetry. This is a very exciting first collection.' *Myra Schneider*

'I loved *The Zig Zag Woman*. Maggie Sawkins has a distinctive and beguiling voice. Her poems are tautly written, full of wonderful and strange images, and heartbreakingly moving.' *Vicki Feaver*

THE BOOK

A first collection of poetry by Maggie Sawkins.

THE AUTHOR

Maggie Sawkins was born in 1953 and spent her childhood in Leigh Park, a large council housing estate north of Portsmouth. She began writing poetry at the age of nine after being inspired by her head teacher. Her first poems were published in Hampshire Poets when she was seventeen. After a series of office jobs, including three years with The Exeter Flying Post, Maggie returned to education and went on to gain an MA with distinction in creative Writing. For the past twelve years she has taught students with specific learning difficulties at South Downs College near Portsmouth.

In 2004 Maggie co-founded the popular Tongues & Grooves Poetry and Music Club in Southsea where she now lives with her husband, younger daughter and a growing menagerie. Flarestack published a pamphlet collection, *Charcot's Pet*, in 2003. *The Zig Zag Woman* is her first full collection.

DETAILS

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