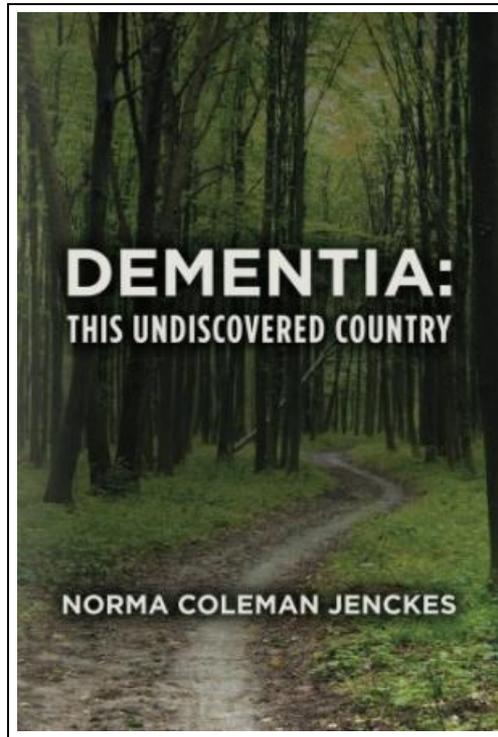


Dementia: This Undiscovered Country



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(Jeanette Kreiger)

DEMENTIA: THIS UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY



Blackstone River Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Norma Jenckes knows the costs of dementia more than most, having watched two loved ones travel into the shadowy realm where memory and personality slowly erode. First she watched her mother succumb to the disease, then, years later, realized her husband travelled the same road. Enjoying a fulfilling life of shared research and interests, Jenckes is blind-sided by the unwelcome and rapid changes her husband, a respected Shakespearian scholar, began experiencing memory loss and an increased inability to perform daily tasks. Unable to cope with the demands of academic life, he retired, and Jenckes, who had planned to continue her career for several more years, found herself trading her career for that congenial commitment. The transition took a severe toll on Jenckes, both physically and emotionally. As she adjusted to her new life, she found strength and comfort in two old friends: reading and poetry. Already a published poet, she began to articulate the pain, loss, and occasional triumphs of caregiving in her poems, emerging forcefully in new work that demanded to be told. The collection is broken into three distinct parts. First, she remembers her mother, a creative, hard-working individual who raised Jenckes and two other daughters with Down syndrome. Drawing inspiration from her mother's Irish heritage, Jenckes weaves elements of Gaelic songs and expressions into a poetic tribute to a strong, loving woman. The second portion of the collection focuses on her husband's life and personality. No longer capable of telling his own story, Jenckes evocative poetry celebrates his life both as he was and as he is now, lost in the undiscovered lands of dementia. In the last section of the...



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