

Basia Miller. *The Next Village/Le prochain village*. Trans. Francine Caron and Marie Cayol. Santa Fe: Allegra Printing, 2016. 81 pp.

Basia Miller's collection of poems in *The Next Village/ Le prochain village* is inspired by moments—a snowfall, the sight of a stray cat, a visit to a monument. These moments are explored in a narrative fashion. The reader can hear the voice of the narrator, imagine the characters (all seemingly based on real people), and travel to the setting.

Miller's poetry has a beautiful rhythm that is best experienced vocally. The beats, when read aloud, add a deeper dimension to the work. The poems have a certain musicality and each one has a different flow. Many of the poems are also extremely descriptive and visual. They take the reader on a journey, not only to the various inspired moments, but also to different times and places. You are transported to the Seine, to the Somme, to the Sainte-Chapel. Many of Miller's poems reflect on the human condition, and particularly on the fleeting passage of time. Two poems in particular, *the Precious Air* and *Here and Gone*, stood out as truly capturing the idea of time as fleeting—of lost moments, passed hopes and abandoned dreams. And even with these more solemn themes, Miller touches the reader with her compassion and humour.

The collection is complemented by translations by Francine Caron and Marie Cayol. The inclusion of these translations furthers the feeling of being on a journey. Not only is the reader transported through the descriptive poems, they are transported through the appearance and experience of another language.

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