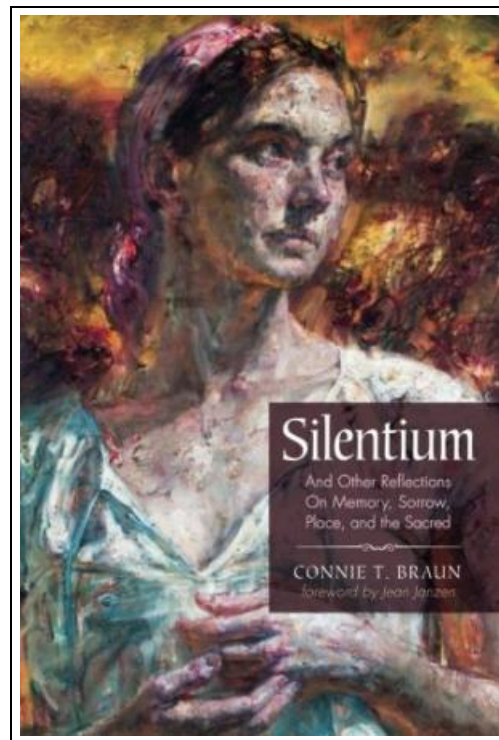


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Wipf Stock Publishers, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. With this collection of meditative, personal, memoir, and lyrical essays and narrative poetry, Connie T. Braun explores the multi-valences of silence within themes of loss, displacement, identity, heritage, and faith. Reflecting on her childhood in Canada, and her ancestral Mennonite homeplace, these pieces form a memoir about her maternal grandparents and her mother's life in Poland, their experiences of war and displacement, and their eventual immigration and acculturation. In these pages, and in consecutive travels to Poland, the author invites the reader to accompany her as she traverses the territory of old and new worlds, war and peace, the landscape of dispossession, and the mass forced migrations of World War II within the ground of holocaust. Braun conveys through story that not only words, but silences, speak meaning. Private memory within the historical record reveals people caught up in catastrophe striving to survive with their humanity intact. These are stories crafted from silence and language, memory and obscurity, faith and doubt, chaos and hope, the past, and future possibility. Telling and listening to stories performs the acts of mourning and witness, and attests to the regenerative and transcendent qualities of narrative. Connie Braun offers us fragments of family past that refuse to be forgotten: glimpses of happiness, shards of horror and exile. Her meditations reveal how, at their best, food and sewing and photographs and family gossip can transform bits of memory into quiet, understanding beauty. --Rudy Wiebe, Author of *Of This Earth: a Mennonite Boyhood in the Boreal Forest*, winner of the Charles Taylor Prize In the aftermath of violent histories, telling stories and listening to stories are acts of peace, writes this daughter of World War II refugees. Seeking family memories and public records,...



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