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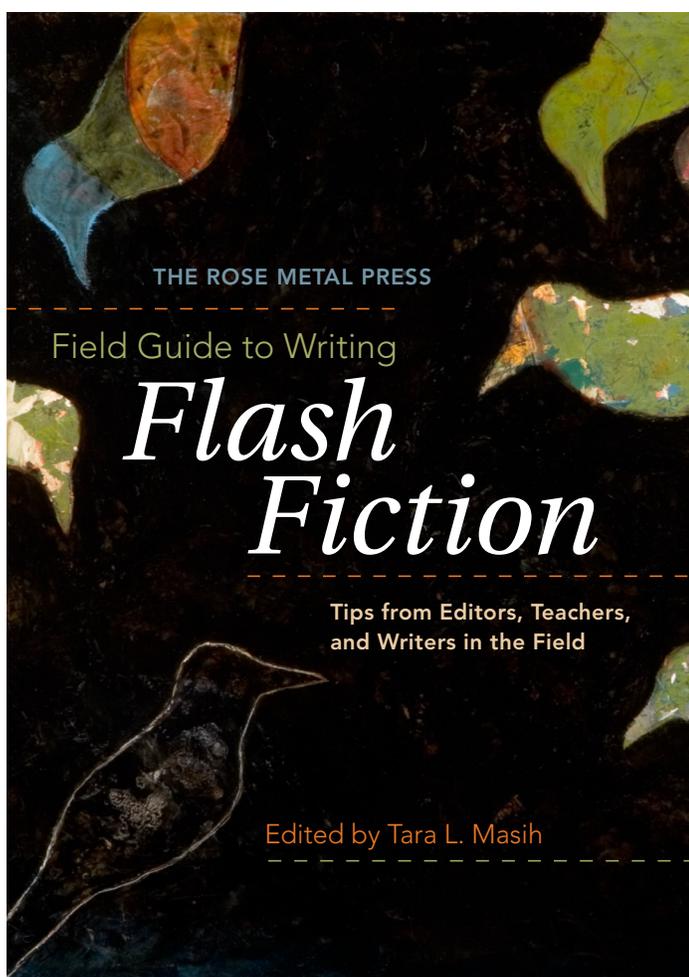
Announces the upcoming publication of

The Rose Metal Press

FIELD GUIDE TO WRITING FLASH FICTION:

Tips from Editors, Teachers, and Writers in the Field

Edited by Tara L. Masih



FEATURING ESSAYS FROM:

Steve Almond - Rusty Barnes - Randall Brown - Mark Budman - Stace Budzko - Robert Olen Butler - Ron Carlson - Pamelyn Casto - Kim Chinquee - Stuart Dybek - Pia Z. Ehrhardt - Sherrie Flick - Vanessa Gebbie - Tom Hazuka - Nathan Leslie - Michael Martone - Julio Ortega - Pamela Painter - Jayne Anne Phillips - Jennifer Pieroni - Shouhua Qi - Bruce Holland Rogers - Robert Shapard - Deb Olin Unferth - Lex Williford

With its unprecedented gathering of 25 brief essays by experts in the field, *The Rose Metal Press Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction* meets the growing need for a concise yet creative exploration of the re-emerging genre popularly known as flash fiction. Each essay is accompanied by original exercises or prompts and example stories chosen by the essayist. The book's introduction provides, for the first time, a comprehensive history of the short short story, from its early roots and hitherto unknown early publications and appearances, to its current state and practice. This guide is a must for anyone in the field of short fiction who teaches, writes, and is interested in its genesis and practice.

MAY 2009

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Paperback, 208 pages

Essays, Exercises, and Short Stories

\$15.95

www.rosemetalpress.com

Advance Praise

for *The Rose Metal Press Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction*

“A thoughtful and thought-provoking resource, casting fresh light on the practice of flash fiction. Each essay is a gem, encrusted with outstanding prompts and valuable exercises. Anyone who hopes to write (or teach) the very short fiction form needs to read this book.”

—Dinty W. Moore, editor of *The MAMMOTH Book of Miniscule Fiction*

“*The Field Guide to Flash Fiction* is an exhaustive, thoughtful, idea-producing guide to one of the lesser-known forms of literary expression, the short short story—I can’t imagine that there’s anything left out of this remarkable anthology of essays about flash fiction. It should prompt the neophyte and the veteran writer to get busy and try one of these difficult stories.”

—Anne Bernays, coauthor of *What If? Writing Exercises for Fiction Writers*

“As professors of English, we find *The Field Guide* invaluable. The essays are cogent, clear, and short—to the point. Students wishing to practice creative fiction are provided with tools, theory, and inspiration throughout each step of the composition process. Writers reading about literature and then reading the literature itself will discover how effectively *The Field Guide* presents concepts as it eschews academic jargon in favor of a hands-on approach.”

—Jon Redfern and Jack David, editors of *Short Short Stories*

“How many words does it take to tell an important story? In the many words contained in this field guide, written by masters of the short-short fiction form, you may begin to understand. Or not. There always remains the mystery that is fiction itself. Let’s be glad.”

—James Thomas, co-editor of *Sudden Fiction* and *Flash Fiction Forward*

About the Editor

Tara L. Masih received a BA in English and a minor in sociology from C. W. Post College at Long Island University, and an MA in Writing and Publishing from Emerson College (where she taught freshman composition and grammar). As an in-house editor, she worked for Little, Brown’s college division and Bedford Books of St. Martin’s Press, and now freelances for companies such as Ballantine Books and Harvard University Press. Her fiction writing has won awards, and her flash has been anthologized in *Brevity & Echo* and *Word of Mouth: 150 Short-Short Stories by 90 Women Writers*. Two flash fiction chapbooks (*Fragile Skins* and *Tall Grasses*) were published by The Feral Press in 2006 and feature photographs by Joan Digby. Her website is www.taramasih.com.

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