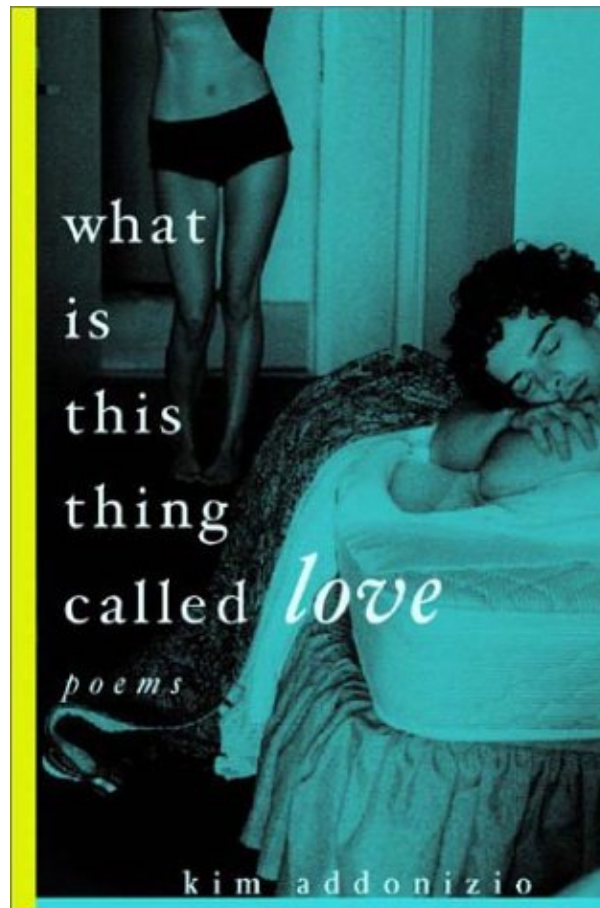
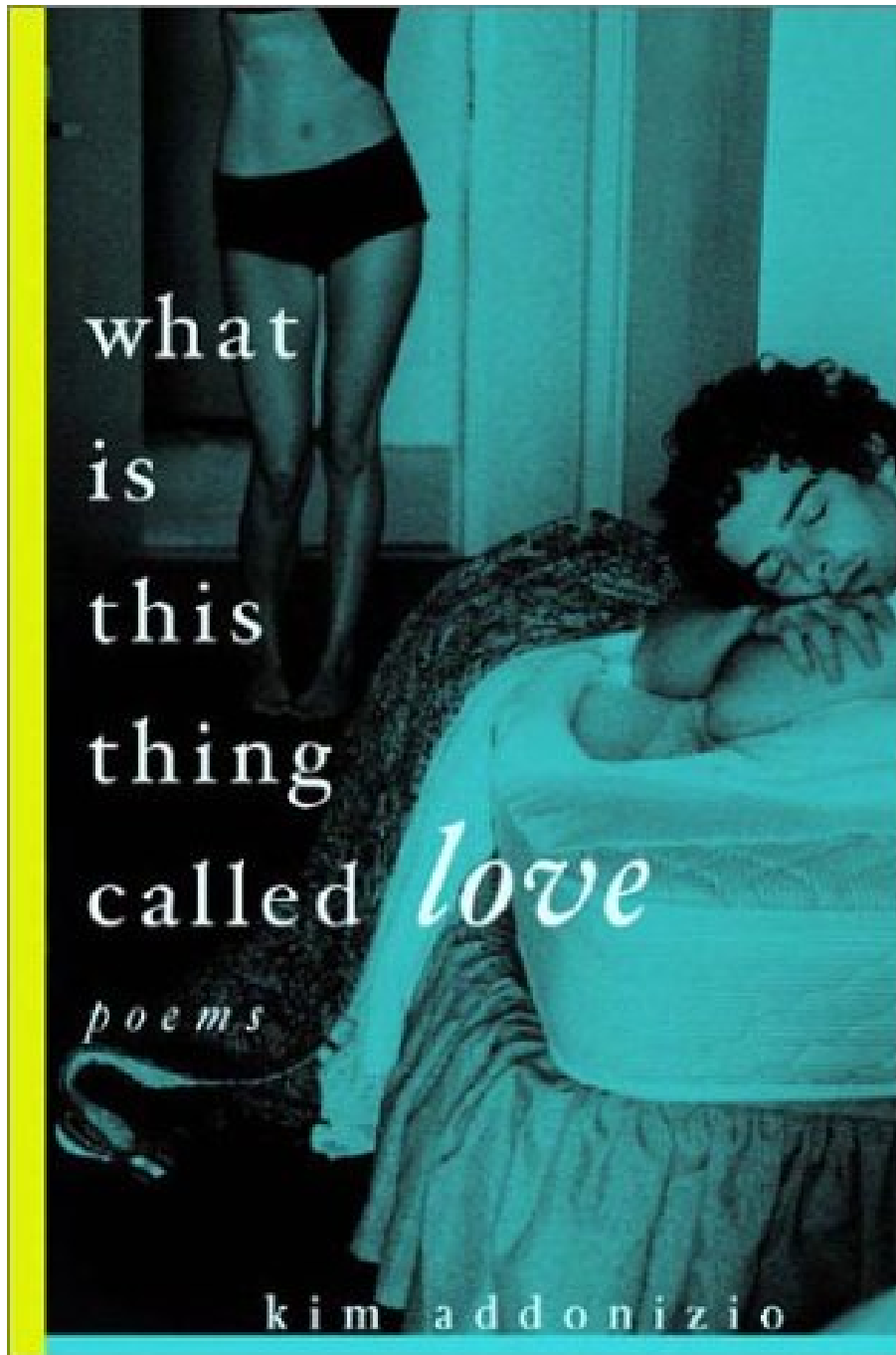


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From Publishers Weekly

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Donna Seaman

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From lines about a love that dizzies up the brain's back room to haunting fragments beckoning death and decline in a suffering world, Kim Addonizio articulates the way that our connections - to the world, to self, and to others - endure and help make us whole.

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Most helpful customer reviews

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

A Girlfriend's Guide to Poetry

By Anna Evans

It is rare to find a modern free verse poet whose work is lucid and yet does not open itself to the accusation of being "prose with linebreaks." Kim Addonizio, however, manages to produce poems which do not sacrifice any clarity and yet remain musical, moving and often surprising. Kim is a poet who somewhat refreshingly writes mostly in complete sentences, but she uses those sentences to go somewhere unusual. In a poem like "Miniatures," which is entirely in complete grammatical sentences, a train of thought is followed through to a huge, unexpected conclusion. In many of her poems, the narrative itself is a metaphor or an allegory.

The poems are grouped into themed sections: Section 1 = Sex, 2 = Death/Sickness/Old Age, 3=Birth/Human Nature, 4 = Decadence, 5 = Writing Poetry/Creation. There are also several formal poems in here, including Kim's own joke form, the sonnenizio, and a paradelle that is better than Billy Collins. But regardless of theme or style, the voice is always Addonizio, that of a wise, tough, sassy older sister or girlfriend. I would recommend these poems to anyone who is disillusioned with reading poetry that is either too superficial or too incomprehensible. I would also recommend these poems to anyone who has never read poetry and does not see its relevance. Read this book: you'll be surprised.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

another winner from addonizio

By adead_poet@hotmail.com

I very excitedly waited for Addonizio's latest collection of poetry to come out, and even though I didn't have the money, I bought it within a couple of weeks of its publication. And I read slowly so that I could savor this collection. Addonizio is a phenomenal poet--probably the best of her generation--a mix of Anne Sexton and Edna St. Vincent Millay. I will admit that this is the weakest of her collections (though it would be hard to top *Tell Me* and *The Philosopher's Club*). Even so, it is great work, especially "First Kiss" and "Stolen Moments" which are classic Addonizio. Also of note are "Dear Reader" and "Fever Blues" and "California Street" which is definitely one of the best in the book. She also writes a well done sonnenizio (it's explained in the book) and a very workable paradelle. I can never say enough good about the work of Kim Addonizio, and her latest collection is no exception.

7 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

And she rocks again.

By A Customer

I am a devote fan of Kim Addonizio, gobbling up all of her work as fast as I can. And while I love that this collection continues her voice and her struggle against the world, I do think that this collection is weaker than *Tell Me* or *The Philosopher's Club*. This collection is divided into 5 sections corresponding to love, death, ways of the world, booze, and other. Her writing is very confessional and bluesy. She even refers to Sharon

Olds, and a "form" of Billy Collins. I recommend this book to anyone who loves to read about love and heartache, the pains of mourning, the efforts of raising a daughter and the difficulties of minor celebrity.

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