



## Blankness, Melancholy, and Other Ways of Dying (Paperback)

By Brenna LeMieux

Five Oaks Press, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.The characters in this terrific new book by Brenna Lemieux are hybrids worthy of Edward Hopper, Salvador Dali, and Charles Simic. They inhabit their houses, their clothing, their bodies, their lives like Russian dolls, packed inside interiors freighted with pitchforks and ribs. They zip bones into a person who drinks coffee by the bucket. Half object, half injury, the living go crazy and propose. Lemieux's is a purgatorial world of couples--mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, lovers, husbands wives--enmeshed with and in pursuit of each other through surreal suburban landscapes. Lemieux's paradise is urban: a city apartment with eccentric neighbors and no roaches, where true lovers listen to jazz at night and if they have/ a telephone at all they'll keep their numbers unlisted. In *Courting*, a woman exfoliates herself to the very bone while her partner asks did you get a haircut or something. Beneath the poems extravagant exteriors, heartbreaking sacrifice is reset like a broken bone by platitude: What a blessing, says a nurse relieved of her duties. A dying mother says to the daughter who sacrifices herself:...



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