

## The Heart Hungers for Wildness

### Synopsis:

In Diane Glass's new book of poetry, she shares with the reader her hunger for wildness in its diverse forms. In the first section, *Hunger*, we learn how she has pieced together a life of joy and sorrow, healing and illness, and boundless exploration and limitation. In the title poem, *The Heart Hungers for Wildness*, we travel with Diane from her city condo with its orderly landscaping to the prairie with its wild grasses and natural inhabitants. When she sinks her bare feet into the Iowa soil, we too revel in the beauty of undisturbed nature.

In the second section, *Heart*, the reader experiences what both enlivens and pains Diane's deep sensibilities: remembering the simple pleasures of growing up in small-town Iowa, becoming a grandmother, losing a stepson, and responding to the country's racial injustice and out-of-control pandemic. Her sense of humor surfaces in her spirited approach to chasing away cancer cells by howling in the wilds of Montana and to imagining herself a mermaid as she swerves down hallways due to neuropathy in her feet.

We leap into *Wildness*, section three, as she travels to Tunis and falls under the spell of the Blue Monkey face, crosses a cavern on a rope bridge at Goat Haunt in Glacier National Park, and learns to listen to the voices of Native American lands. She imagines how people with differing abilities might lead us into adventure. Throughout these sections, you will hear Diane's gratitude for living long enough to revel in this full life.

Although Diane would not compare herself to Mary Oliver's level of excellence, she strives to be as readable and accessible as this beloved poet. Read this collection of poems slowly and savor not only the stories Diane relates, but also the universal themes of love, joy, loss, gratitude, and unrelenting change likely to be at the heart of your life also.