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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“The Altar of Innocence” is a brave, daring confessional

BALTIMORE, MD (March 31, 2015) --- Poet [Ann Bracken](#), whose memoir in verse [The Altar of Innocence](#) (New Academia Publishing, 2015) has been hailed a "brave, daring confessional," will read her work throughout April at several venues in the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore area.

Saturday, April 11, from 6-10 pm, Bracken will participate in [The Word Art Exhibit](#) readings being held at the Towson Art Collective. The purpose of this event is to demonstrate collaborations between visual and literary artists.

On Sunday, April 12, from 3-5 pm at [The Foundry Gallery](#) in Washington, D.C., Bracken will read as part of "[The Painted Word](#)" exhibit, which runs April 1-26. "The Painted Word" is an exhibit of artists paired with area poets in whose work each heard an echo — or felt a sting — to produce images and texts that vibrate with each other.

[Grace Cavalieri](#), poet and producer of the radio show "*The Poet and the Poem*" from the Library of Congress, wrote in her March 24 [Washington Independent Review of Books](#), "The emotion is in the taut line. The lesson is invaluable. This is a book for this time in history where women are moved from what is possible to what is manifest. The book is a pushback to authoritarianism and, from the shards — how to rise to our spiritual best."

"By telling her mother's story and sharing her own, Ann Bracken takes us on an intimate journey through two generations of mental illness and ultimate healing. Readers will find hope in her journey," said [Laura Shovan](#), author of *Mountain, Log, Salt, and Stone*, and winner of the Harriss Poetry Prize.

The Altar of Innocence is a 90-page volume of poetry, available in paperback with a retail price of \$20.00. The ISBN number is ISBN 978-0-9906939-5-6. Published through [New Academia Publishing/Scarith Books](#), *The Altar of Innocence* is now available via [Amazon.com](#) and [B&N.com](#). For more information or to request a review copy, please contact Debby Rippey at [debbyrippey@gmail.com](#).

About Ann Bracken:

Ann Bracken is a writer, educator, and expressive arts consultant whose poetry, essays, and interviews have appeared in [Little Patuxent Review](#), *Life in Me Like Grass on Fire: Love Poems, Reckless Writing Anthology: Emerging Poets of the 21st Century*, *Women Write Resistance: Poets Resist Gender Violence*, *Pif Magazine*, *Scribble*, *New Verse News*, and *Praxilla*. Nominated for a 2014 Pushcart Prize, Bracken also serves as a contributing editor for *Little Patuxent Review* and leads workshops at creativity conferences, including The Creative Problem Solving Institute, Florida Creativity, and Mindcamp of Toronto. Her company, [The Possibility Project](#), offers expressive arts and creativity workshops for women of all ages, as well as poetry workshops in schools. Bracken is a lecturer in the Professional Writing Program at the University of Maryland, College Park. For additional information, visit: <http://www.annbrackenauthor.com>.

About New Academia Publishing:

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