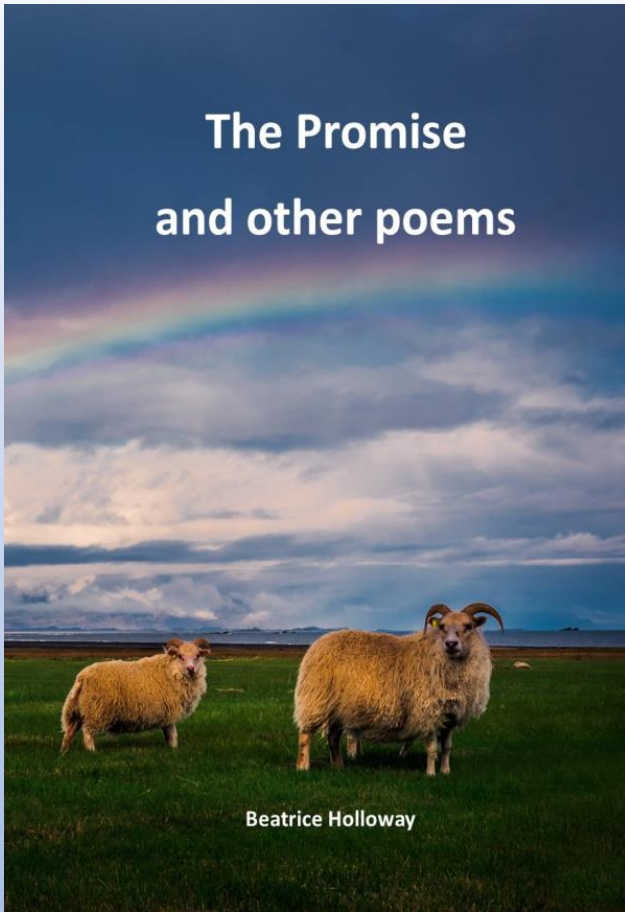


The Promise and other poems



Beatrice Holloway

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THOUGHTS ON DECEMBER

Mornings of crisp sparkling frost
Bright sunshine belies the cold
That seems to last.
The very last of garden plants
Lose the battle to survive
Give way to tips of peeking bulbs.
Early closing of the day
Draw the curtains, turn on the heat
Shut out the darkness.
Bright lights illuminate the streets.
Every culture seeks to entice the sun,
Gifts, singing, dancing parties, fun
Sacrifice and fire until,
The evidence is clear,
The lengthening day bringing hope
the sun will re-appear.

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