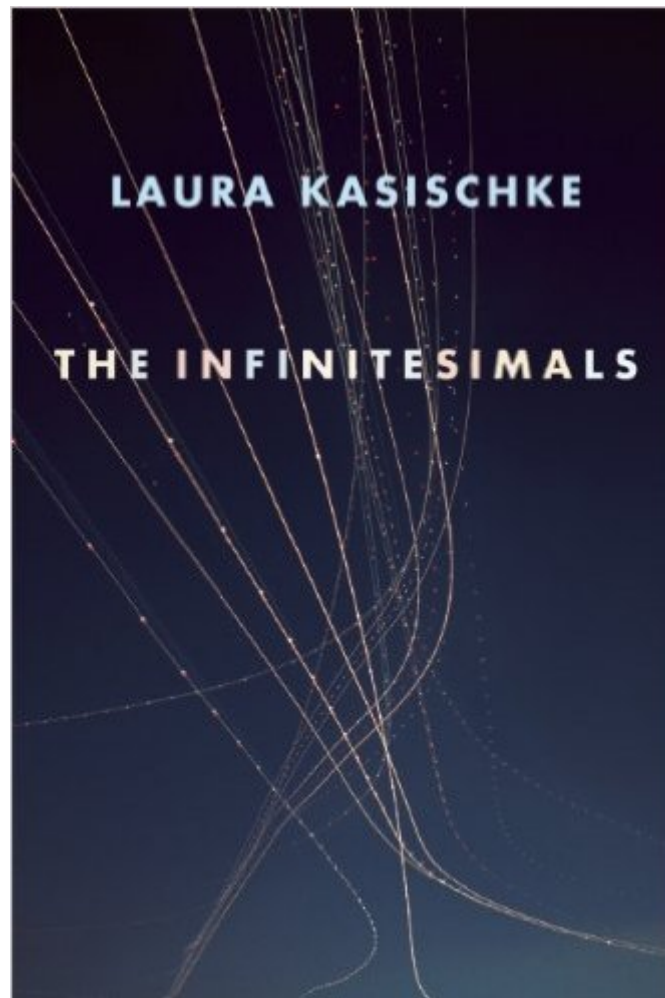


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# The Infinitesimals



## Synopsis

"Kasischke's poems are powered by a skillful use of imagery and the subtle, ingenious way she turns a phrase." —Austin American-Statesman

*The Infinitesimals* stares directly at illness and death, employing the same highly evocative and symbolic style that earned Laura Kasischke the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award for poetry. Drawing upon her own experiences with cancer, and the lives and deaths of loved ones, Kasischke's new work commands a lyrical and dark intensity.

Laura Kasischke is the author of eight collections of poetry and seven novels. She teaches at the University of Michigan and lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## Book Information

Paperback: 100 pages

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Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #785,696 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #133 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Death, Grief & Loss #539 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Women Authors #3617 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States

## Customer Reviews

Laura Kasischke's "The Infinitesimals" is a meditation on mortality and the inevitable losses we all face as we move into mid-age. There is still the imaginative Kasischke of "Space, In Chains" but her lyricism--undeniably poetic, whatever subject she writes about--takes on a darker cast as she floats through hospitals, memories, and a young girl on a bike struck by a car: "and what else can you do she they've come for you with their sirens and lights and you're young and polite except get into their ambulance and pretend to smile?"

In the "Second Trumpet, she contemplates the silence of God. One day in August I went to the lobby of the hospital to listen. One icy night in February I drove my car into a ditch. Once, I saw a dog in traffic, and the child running after it. And after the funeral. And just before the diagnosis. And when the phone call did not come but I did not yet know what that meant. Each time, expecting trumpets, I received silence instead. Expecting angels,

tongues on a slaughterhouse floor."it always lasted half a hour, and then--"I return and re-return to this collection. It has the imagistic power of a slightly more subtle Lorca coupled with the restrained emotive intensity of an Ignatow. Absolutely recommended.

One of the best books of poetry that I've read in several years. The language of these poems is gorgeous, and the questions that the poems ask, but don't necessarily answer, are essential. I return to this collection almost every month.

A wonderful book of poetry. Laura has a fantastic way with the written word. Personal recommendations include "Perspective," "Room," "Game," "Tall Grass," and "Present Perfect." I plan on picking up another book of poetry from her soon.

lots of gems in this one

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