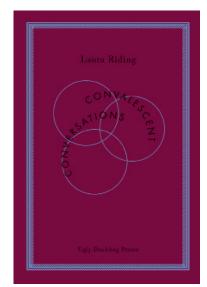
Laura Riding Convalescent Conversations

Edited by George Fragopoulos

Originally published under the pseudonym Madeleine Vara in 1936 by Laura Riding's and Robert Graves's Seizen Press, *Convalescent Conversations* is one of Riding's least known works, and one of her most idiosyncratic. Unfolding almost entirely in dialogue form, the novel tells the story of Adam and Eleanor, two patients recovering from unknown maladies in a nondescript sanitarium. Through a series of increasingly esoteric philosophical conversations regarding topics such as God, love, and the meaning of illness, Adam and Eleanor come to tell the stories of who they are and what ails them.

Convalescent Conversations is an irreproachable jewel, equal in wit and ferocity and linguistic acuteness to the best fiction of the century.

- WAYNE KOESTENBAUM



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Laura Riding was a poet, novelist, short-story writer, essayist, and publisher. While primarily known for the critical works that she co-authored with Robert Graves, Riding also left behind an incredibly powerful body of poetry and prose works that, regrettably, remain little read today. She was awarded the Bollingen Prize in 1991, the same year that she died.



George Fragopoulos's poetry has appeared in the journals *The Found Poetry Review, House Organ*, and *Momoware*. He has published academic articles on the poetry of Olga Broumas, Robert Duncan, and others. He lives in New York City and is an assistant professor of English at Queensborough Community College, CUNY.

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