



★ **Amu Nowruz and His Violets**

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Elsewhere Editions (Oct 15, 2024)

Hardcover \$19.95 (34pp)

978-1-953861-92-4

Delicate details and joyful colors vivify this Persian folktale. From a castle made of snow atop the highest mountain, Naneh Sarma spreads winter across the land; her icy isolation grows lonely. From beyond the edge of winter, she hears Amu Nowruz, the herald of spring, singing; she sets out to meet him at the boundary. She falls asleep before he arrives, however, and he plants violets in her sleeping hands; the two forever meet only “at the dusk of winter and the dawn of spring.”

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (November / December 2024)

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