A NEW BOOK BY

MARTHA GIES

BROKEN OPEN:
A MEMOIR IN THREE ACTS

"Transformation can happen over a day's mule ride into the Maya highlands, or over ten minutes with one's 'enemy' on the phone." From "Who Do You Say I Am" in *Broken Open*, by Martha Gies

ABOUT BROKEN OPEN

Essays exploring a life robustly and thoughtfully lived from Martha Gies, a writer, activist and teacher, now entering the eighth decade of life. With dry wit, sharp insights, and deep empathy for the underdog, Gies writes about the principal illusions and disillusions of childhood and the experiments made in exploring "right livelihood," following both fate and choice to a wise and forgiving assessment of what it all means.

"AN EXQUISITE BOOK"

"I was sifting through memory and idea to find a story of my own… that might rise above personal chronicle and speak meaning to another person," Gies writes of her first short story; these essays are a testament that she has found it. In *Broken Open*, she breaks open not only herself but everything and everyone she writes about. It is an exquisite book."

- Elinor Langer, author of *A Hundred Little Hitlers*

ABOUT MARTHA GIES

Martha Gies began publishing journalism in the seventies and later studied fiction with Raymond Carver. Her short stories and essays have been published widely in literary magazines, including *Orion*, *Gettysburg Review*, *The Sun* and *Zyzzyva*. Her previous book, *Up All Night*, is a portrait of Portland, told through the stories of twenty-three graveyard-shift workers. Called "A fine example of living, breathing oral history," by *Booklist*, and "intriguing" and "stirring" by *Publisher's Weekly*. More at www.marthagies.com
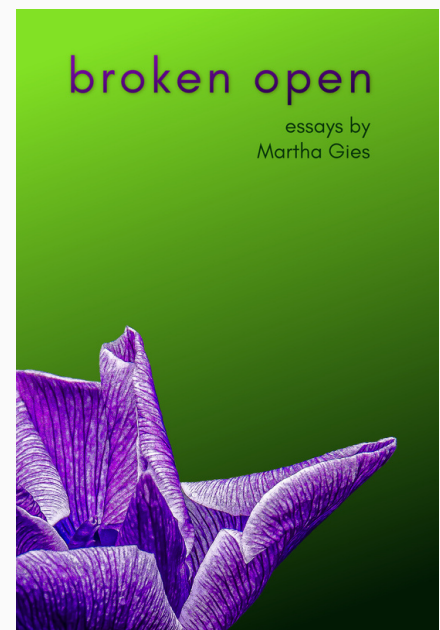
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