

## Catherine Texier – PANIC BLOOD

Eva, a Franch chanteuse, is raising her young daughter, Mimi, in a once-elegant Times Square hotel with the help of Albertine, an aging French dressmaker. Young, beautiful and unabashedly sensual, Eva has carved out a paradoxically secure life for herself and her daughter in the sordid New York City neighborhood known as the Deuce. When Eva isn't singing, she's making extra money as Lola, of Lola's Love Phone Fantasies, or making love to her tough, guitar slinging, boyfriend, Johnny. Their unconventional but secure existence is shaken by the arrival of Mimi's father, Frank, a black musician who had vanished before Mimi was born, reappears and announces he wants to "get to know" his daughter and her "get to know him." Eva's safety and peace of mind are threatened and the life she has so precariously constructed begins to fall apart...

Provocative, haunting, and filled with unremitting suspense, *Panic Blood* portrays one woman's struggle against the dangers lurking beneath the surface of the modern urban world.

Authentic and ominous, *Panic Blood* is an ambitious and fully realized novel by a very talented young writer.

### Excerpted reviews:

"A surprisingly good read... The novel generates a sort of hard-boiled cynicism." The New York Times Book Review.

"For ultra-sophisticated readers." Library Journal

"The lineage here will be traced back to Selby, Kathy Acker, Anaïs Nin, Jim Thompson, Crane, Dreiser, Zola – to David Lynch's films. All there. But this is really a Proustian novel, a novel of memory and desire. If the blues could be a novel, this is what it would be like. Courage, beauty, earned respect. These are the people Chekhov writes about: not for sale, finally." American Book Review

"[*Panic Blood*] makes for distinctly contemporary, hyper-urban and raw reading." The Sunday Times (London)

"Texier writes with the kind of restless energy which continually suggests the fluidity and danger of white-water rapids – it has the same cruel beauty of potential death hidden beneath the rushing flow of life. It is also a sexy book, with Eva's private sexuality promoted as an inevitable,

unstoppable force to be relished, embraced and indulged. But ultimately, it is about the price of staying alive as a woman." Time Out (London)

"Texier is ...an extremely talented writer. She has an astonishing visual imagination that animates every detail of the book: Eva, with her emerald-green bustier, black hair in a twisted bun, carmine mouth and black Bakelite bracelet, is unforgettable. Similarly, wild child Mimi with her "sugary, oily" curls. Texier has great taste and delicacy when writing about sex, and combines powerful pornography with impeccably stylish sensual allure." New Statesman and Society (London)

"A poetic, personal story of survival in New York...[written] with delicate starkness." Montreal Mirror

<http://www.catherinetexier.com/>

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**Q&A with Catherine Texier:**

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Talk to me about love

