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Looking at our mothers
Iman Mersal
Drawing from Roland Barthes’ writings on photography, this excerpt from How to Mend: Motherhood and Its Ghosts describes the difficulty of seeing our mothers in their photographs

The Evanesced: Embodied Disappearance [Shifting Spectators to Witness]
Kenyatta A.C. Hinkle
An essay tracing some of the histories and ideas that inform the artist’s ongoing performance series The Evanesced—a body of work that asks, “What does it mean to emerge from erasure?”

Mothering Swells
Litia Perta
A consideration of how the acts of care that make up mothering raise fundamental questions about our interdependence and entanglement

Heavy Swimmers
Alexis Pauline Gumbs
Dedicated to Ebony Wilkerson, a mother who drove herself and her children into the ocean, this poem asks difficult questions about care and responsibility

A Conversation with Keeonna Harris
Harris discusses the complexities of raising a family while living in what she has termed the “borderlands of the criminal justice system”

Nel Nome Del Padre
Due Collective
The art collective describes the bureaucratic gridlock in which their children were caught as they sought Italian citizenship

Body Blitz
Anjuli Fatima Raza Kolb
A poem that investigates pregnancy, calibration, and queer kinship

A Conversation with Priscilla Ocen
A professor of law speaks about the ways in which criminalization and incarceration are used to police the reproductive choices of poor women of color

Mama Virtual
Jeny Amaya
The filmmaker reflects on her cinematic project, which centers stories of transnational mothering by women who have children living in other countries

Watching Her Watching Him
Kate Wolf
This essay reconsiders the 1968 performance piece Mon fils by the artist Lea Lublin

A Conversation with Stephanie Lumsden and Caitlin Keliiaa
A discussion about the language of benevolence with which the state masks its surveillance and policing of Natives in the U.S.

Afterword
Lily Gurton-Wachter

Contributors
All interviews conducted by Sophie Hamacher

Works by the following artists are presented throughout the book:
Gemma Anderson
Cary Beth Cryor
Sabba Elahi
Laura Fong Prosper
Regina José Galindo
Kenyatta A.C. Hinkle
Tala Madani
Mónica Mayer
Hương Ngô
Viva Ruiz
Ming Smith
Sable Elyse Smith
Sheida Soleimani
Stephanie Syjuco
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Carrie Mae Weems
Kandis Williams
Carmen Winant