

Biblioasis
Winter
catalogue 2027



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WINTER 2027

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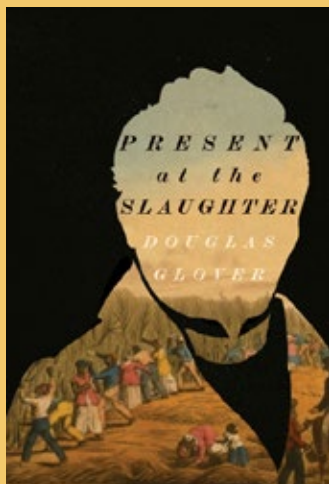
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DOUGLAS GLOVER

PRESENT AT THE SLAUGHTER

A deeply rooted familial story excavating colonial slavery and exposing the layers of oppression and exploitation then and now.



Feb 9, 2027 | Nonfiction
5.5 × 8.5, 320pp
\$24.95 | 9781771967228
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Mélikah Abdelmoumen,
Baldwin, Styron, and Me

Kevin Hart,
*Dark-Land: Memoir of a
Secret Childhood*

Saidiya Hartman,
*Lose Your Mother: a Journey
Along the Atlantic Slave Route*

When Douglas Glover’s mother told him their Scottish ancestor was the “youngest planter in the British Empire indemnified for freeing his slaves,” he felt uneasy pride—and a child’s confusion. *Present at the Slaughter* is the story of what happened when he decided to find out what those words really meant.

Moving between colonial archives, slave registries, family lore, and fieldwork in Grenada and Carriacou, Glover reconstructs the lives of his Scottish ancestors and dozens of enslaved people they owned. These slave biographies—sparse, factual, often heartbreaking—form the deep structure of the book. “The counter story,” he writes, “is the weight of blackness.” What emerges is not a story of guilt or denial, but something stranger and more revealing: how the memory of slavery can be preserved without remorse, passed down not as shame but as family legend.



Douglas Glover is the author of two historical novels *Elle* and *The Life and Times of Captain N. Elle* won the Governor-General’s Award for Fiction and was a finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. He grew up on a farm in southwestern Ontario.

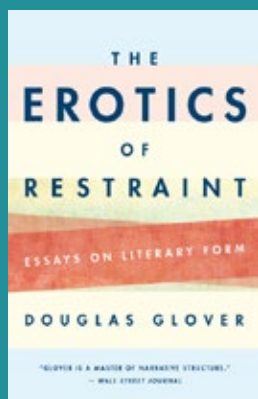
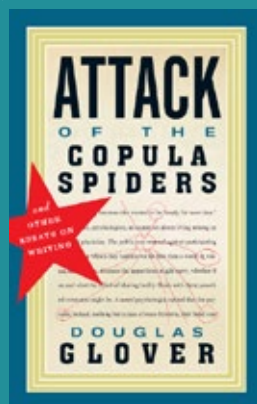
ALSO FROM DOUGLAS GLOVER

A *GLOBE & MAIL* BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR, 2012

“Glover is a master of narrative structure.”

—*Wall Street Journal*

Whether his subject is Alice Munro, Cervantes, or the creative writing classroom, Glover’s take is frank and fresh, demonstrating again and again that graceful writers must first be strong readers. This collection is a call-to-arms for all lovers of English, and *Attack of the Copula Spiders* our best defense against the assaults of a post-literate age.



“The collection is a fascinating journey through literature, philosophy, form, and the connection we all feel when we encounter incredible writing.”

—*Fiction Writer’s Review*

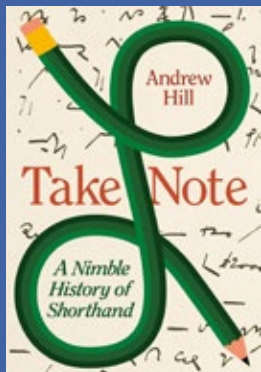
Call it a new kind of criticism or an operator’s manual for readers and writers, *The Erotics of Restraint* extends Glover’s long and deeply personal conversation with great books and their authors.

“So sharp, so evocative, that the reader sees well beyond the tissue of words into ... the author’s poetic grace.”

—*New Yorker*

TAKE NOTE: A NIMBLE HISTORY OF SHORTHAND

A wide-ranging history of the uses and evolution of shorthand, and its place in the world today.



April 20, 2027 | Nonfiction
5.25 x 8.25, 304pp
\$26.95 | 9781771967785
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:
Roland Allen,
The Notebook

Stephen Marche,
On Writing and Failure

Dennis Duncan,
A History of the Index

Cicero's scribe invented it. Samuel Pepys, Charles Dickens and even Astrid Lindgren, used it. Rivalries, adulteries and actual martyrdoms arose from it. Spycraft was reliant on it, courtroom dramas were changed by it, and feminism has an uneasy debt to it. But today, its continuing existence is at risk. So, what exactly is shorthand? What has it given us? And what would we lose if this world-changing technology disappeared? Andrew Hill follows the story from the scribes of Ancient Rome to today's takeover of AI, revealing how a system of symbols invented to speedily transcribe speech shaped the modern world and can still offer a valuable way to record, store, and recall our brightest ideas today.

Andrew Hill is an award-winning journalist, writer and public speaker. A senior writer at the *Financial Times*, he is the author of *Leadership in the Headlines* and prize-winning *Ruskinland*. Over a thirty-year career, Andrew has used shorthand to report from around the world; his top speed was once an impressive 130 words per minute.

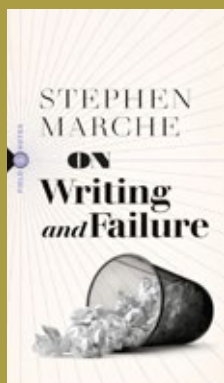
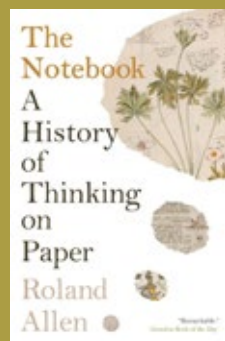
MORE ILLUMINATING BOOKS

A NEW YORKER BEST BOOK OF 2024

“As an intimate repository for thought, notebooks, Allen amply shows, are essential. An enthusiastic, informative cultural history.”

—**Kirkus Reviews** (starred review)

The first history of the notebook, a simple invention that changed the way the world thinks.

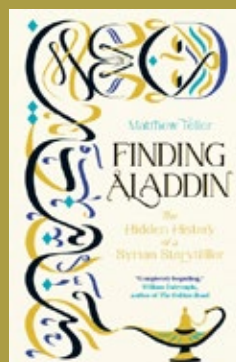


“[Marche’s] writing style is buoyant and funny. ... When the stars are aligned, someone writes a work as provocative, informed and droll as *On Writing and Failure*.” —**Maureen Corrigan, NPR**

Less a guide to writing and more a guide to what you need to continue existing as a writer, *On Writing and Failure* describes the defining role played by rejection in literary endeavors and contemplates failure as the essence of the writer’s life.

“A beautifully written tale of tales, and a work of remembrance and recovery, of stories and lies, theft and justice. Superb stuff—completely beguiling.” —**William Dalrymple, author of *The Golden Road***

Finding Aladdin is a tale full of strange and wonderful twists that celebrates one of the world’s greatest storytellers and restores their once dismissed authorship.

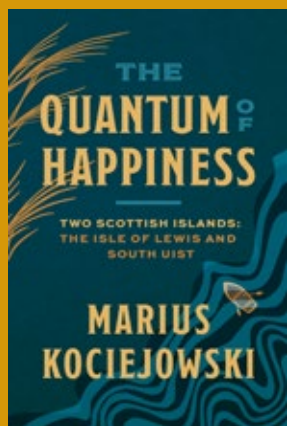


MARIUS KOCIEJOWSKI

THE QUANTUM OF HAPPINESS

TWO SCOTTISH ISLANDS: THE ISLE OF LEWIS AND SOUTH UIST

A travelogue of multiple journeys to the Hebridean Isle of Lewis and South Uist, taking the reader through the lives of people, past and present, and placing them within the context of Gaelic culture, religion, and local superstition.



Jan, 26, 2027 | Nonfiction

5.25 x 8.25, 496pp

\$28.95 | 9781771967532

(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Dorthe Nors,

A Line in the World

Marius Kociejowski,
*The Serpent Coiled In
Naples*

Marius Kociejowski,
*A Factotum In the Book
Trade*

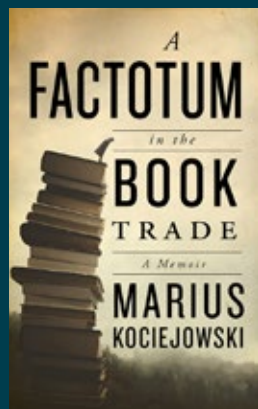
The islands of the Outer Hebrides have long fostered a culture outside of time, a culture since eroded by the Highland Clearances and the suppression of Gaelic. But even now, in this age of electricity, mass media, smartphones, and the overwhelming dominance of the English language, a desire still lingers among most islanders to both tell and be told stories, a desire as ancient as oatcakes.

Marius Kociejowski ranges across the islands of Lewis and South Uist exploring the faith, language, and histories of these last outposts of a traditional Gaelic culture that exists here as it does nowhere else. Part history, part travelogue, *The Quantum of Happiness* is a book which, like its author, abhors a straight line, but in straying off the main path, guides the reader to unexpected places, proving that even the smallest of islands can hold entire worlds within them.

Marius Kociejowski, poet, essayist, and writer about place, whose most recent books are *The Serpent Coiled in Naples* (2022) and *A Factotum in the Book Trade* (2022), lives in London, England.

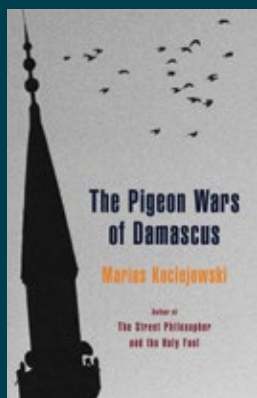
ALSO FROM MARIUS KOCIEJOWSKI

“[*A Factotum in the Book Trade*] is cranky, obscure, charming, ... and illuminating. It reads like a used bookstore smells.” —*Globe & Mail*
A Factotum in the Book Trade is a story of the serendipities and collisions of fate, the mundane happenings and indelible encounters, the friendships, feuds, losses, and elations that characterize the business of books—and, inevitably, make up an unforgettable life.



“Horror and Violence Continue for the People of Syria” —*Vatican Radio*

Beautifully written, *The Pigeon Wars of Damascus* is essential reading for anyone who wishes a deeper and truer understanding of the Middle East and the political and economic pressures currently refashioning it, and reminds us once again of the deeper purpose of travel: to absorb and understand the spirit of a place, and to return changed.



“Poet and travel writer Kociejowski journeys widely and writes to ‘describe the world’ and make deeper inquiries into human nature ... Highly recommended for its poetic presentation of experiences in different locations, this account is inspired by the past and a plethora of emotions.” —*Library Journal*, Starred Review

Bringing together the best of Marius Kociejowski’s travel writing *Zoroaster’s Children* snags on the borderline between dream and meaning, offering unusual glimpses of some of the places, exotic or otherwise, the author has been.



BIBLIOSHORT 2: CARYS DAVIES

THE TESTOMONIE OF ALYSS TEEG

A new story from Carys Davies, the award-winning author of *Clear* and *The Redemption of Galen Pike*.



April 13, 2027 | Fiction
4.5 x 7.75, 48pp
\$11.95 | 9781771967907
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Carys Davies,
*The Redemption of
Galen Pike*

Carys Davies,
Clear

Graeme Macrae Burnet,
Benbecula

James Elward makes a surprising announcement to his family one evening. Told from the perspective of James' younger sister—the titular Alyss Teeg—and written in phonetic, broken English, this peculiar family drama marks the second installment in the Biblioshorts series.

Biblioshorts is a new series that showcases standalone short fiction and novellas: small books with big impact. We are curating a list from some of the world's leading masters of the form. Similar in spirit to the Faber Stories series in the UK, these conveniently sized books will be elegantly designed and easy to take with you anywhere.

Carys Davies is the author two award-winning novels, *West* and *The Mission House*. She has also published two collections of short stories, *Some New Ambush* and *The Redemption of Galen Pike*. Born in Wales, she grew up there and in the Midlands, lived and worked for twelve years in New York and Chicago, and now lives in Edinburgh.

START FROM THE BEGINNING

“‘Seven Stories About Tammy’ by Elizabeth McCracken, paints a portrait of a complicated family with the concision of a short story and the depth of a novel, and makes it look easy.”

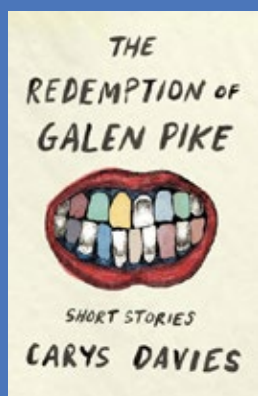
—**Celeste Ng**

Morris Harkin brings his new girlfriend Tammy to meet his family. She is not at all who they expected. But who, really, is Tammy? Across seven vignettes, in Elizabeth McCracken’s witty and tender fashion, we see Tammy through the eyes of the Harkin family throughout the years, and a picture of an insecure and unhappy family emerges.



MORE BY CARYS DAVIES

WINNER OF THE 2015 FRANK O’CONNOR INTERNATIONAL SHORT STORY AWARD



“The stories in *The Redemption of Galen Pike* are tiny marvels of technique and language ... [it] feels startlingly original, in part precisely because of the restraint the author exhibits. Davies’s technically accomplished, glancing tales offer the frisson of the unexpected.” —**Globe & Mail**

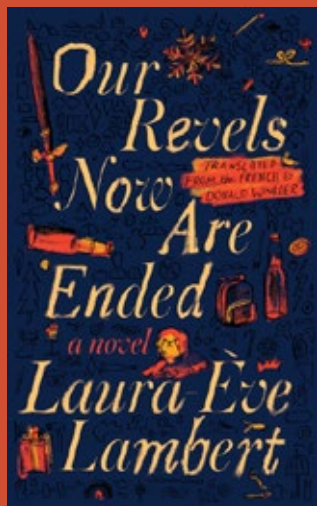
This Frank O’Connor Award-winning collection introduced readers to a writer who has gone on, in novels like *The Mission House* and *Clear*, to write tiny, hard-cut gems that are now celebrated around the world. The stories in this collection—one a single, brutal page—shows that this book is the equal of anything that has followed it.

LAURA-ÈVE LAMBERT

TRANS. DONALD WINKLER

OUR REVELS NOW ARE ENDED

“A queer coming-of-age novel set in the 2000s. Two children must journey a Zelda-esque landscape to arrive at a terrible and wonderful discovery about themselves.”



Feb. 23, 2027 | Fiction
5.25 x 8.25, 350pp
\$24.95 | 9781771967303
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Laura-Ève Lambert,
May Our Joy Endure

Margaret Killjoy,
The Sapling Cage

Michelle Tea,
Little F

Zoey's parents have recently separated, and it's their first Christmas apart. Zoey is spending the first half of the holidays with his father in Lac-Saint-Jean. Amidst sparkling snowflakes and bitter cold, stretching from Christmas to New Year's, with one family then the other, Zoey explores the hallucinatory paths of childhood with his favorite cousin, Émie-Anne, the bravest person he knows. The winding paths snake through the deep forest, populated by monsters and strange characters. A creature with a face covered by a frightening mask watches over them. Dangers are not uncommon on these paths that plunge even deeper into their minds. With the exception of his uncle's new girlfriend, Josiane, the adults are of no help on their adventure.

🍁 **Laura-Ève Lambert** has written four novels, all to critical acclaim. *May Our Joy Endure* won the Prix Médicis, *Querelle de Roberval* won the Prix Sade and *You Will Love What You Have Killed* won a prize for the best novel from the Saguenay region. Lambert lives in Montreal.

🍁 **Donald Winkler** is a translator of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. He is a three-time winner of the Governor General's Literary Award for French-to-English translation. He lives in Montreal.

ALSO FROM LAURA-ÈVE LAMBERT

FINALIST FOR THE 2025 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARD IN TRANSLATION

"At a time when many fiction writers feel pressure to write socially useful literature, Lambert's refusal to deal in solutions feels like an invigorating slap in the face."

—**André Forget, *The Walrus***

A dazzling social novel set in the microcosm of the ultra privileged, *May Our Joy Endure* depicts with razor-sharp acuity the terrible beauty of wealth, influence, and art in the era of late capitalism.



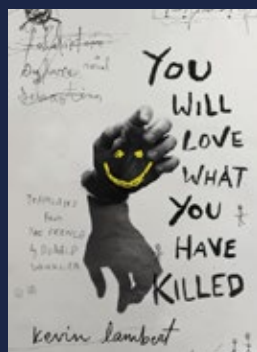
SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2022 ATWOOD GIBSON WRITERS' TRUST FICTION PRIZE

"Febrile, postmodern to the bone and unexpectedly affecting, the novel is a startling, mile-a-minute performance." —***Toronto Star***

Homage to Jean Genet's antihero and a brilliant reimagining of the ancient form of tragedy, *Querelle of Roberval*, winner of the Marquis de Sade Prize, is a wildly imaginative story of justice, passion, and murderous revenge.

"A powerful, inventive first novel midway between a memoir and a fantasy novel, funny and violent, unbelievably freewheeling even as it remains under tight control." —***La Presse (Montreal)***

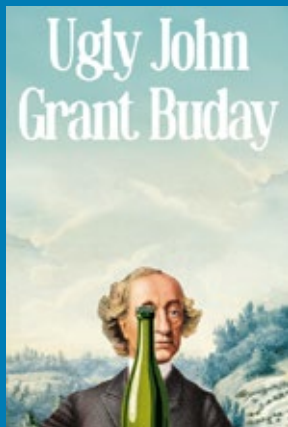
Surreal and darkly comic, this debut novel by Laura-Ève Lambert, one of the most celebrated and controversial writers to come out of Quebec in recent memory, takes the adult world to task—and then takes revenge.



GRANT BUDAY

UGLY JOHN

Ugly John is a novel based on the life and times of Sir John A. Macdonald. It loosely follows a chronological structure, exploring Macdonald's youth and adulthood, and the evolution of his personal and political life.



Jan. 19, 2027 | Fiction
5.25 × 8.25, 288pp
\$24.95 | 9781771967327
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Grant Buday,
In the Belly of the Sphynx

Jack Wang,
The Riveter

Cheryl Parisien,
The Unweaving

Macdonald was many things: deeply ambitious, doggedly loyal to the British Empire, a joker, a wit, a flamboyant dresser and a very heavy drinker. He was also shrewdly self-serving. A case in point, he endorsed giving the vote to women, First Nations men, and African-Canadian men as long as they owned property, a position more about earning him votes than in service to the principle of universal suffrage. *Ugly John* is neither a condemnation of this most notoriously controversial figure nor an exoneration; rather, it is a humorous evocation and process of discovery.



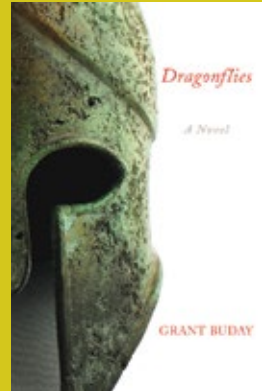
Grant Buday's novels include *Orphans of Empire*, shortlisted for the BC Book Prizes and City of Victoria Book Awards. His short story 'The Light Never Shuts Up' is included in the *Best Canadian Stories 2026* anthology. He lives on Mayne Island, BC.

UNFORGETTABLE HISTORICAL FICTION

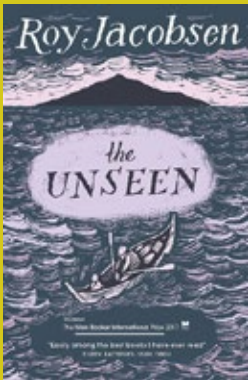
“[A] brilliant reimagining of the Iliad.”

—**Globe and Mail**

This deeply imagined and exquisitely written novel details the last days of the Trojan War. Told from Odysseus’ perspective, it fleshes out the myth and mystery of one of the greatest stories in the Western canon.



SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2017 INTERNATIONAL MAN BOOKER PRIZE



“Even by his high standards, his magnificent new novel *The Unseen* is Jacobsen’s finest to date, as blunt as it is subtle and is easily among the best books I have ever read.” —**Irish Times**
Islanders are never afraid: if they were, they wouldn’t be able to live here. Born on the Norwegian island that bears her name, Ingrid Barrøy’s world is circumscribed by storm-scoured rocks and the moods of the sea by which her family lives and dies. *The Unseen* is a profoundly moving exploration of family, resilience, and fate.

A NYT BOOK REVIEW BEST HISTORICAL FICTION BOOK OF THE YEAR

“*The Singing Forest* blends thought-provoking reflections on the moral reckoning of war crimes with ... a young woman’s attempts to decode her eccentric professional and personal families.”

—**Alida Becker, New York Times**

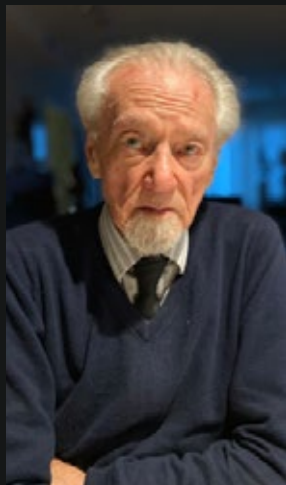
In attempting to bring a suspected war criminal to justice, a lawyer wrestles with power, accountability, and her Jewish identity.



JOHN METCALF

STIGMA: WILLIAM HOFFER AND THE FINAL JUDGEMENT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

In Stigma: William Hoffer and the Final Judgement Construction Company, editor John Metcalf compiles a selection of essays on bookseller William Hoffer.



March 9, 2027 | Nonfiction
5.25 x 8.25, 500pp
\$24.95 | 9781771967471
(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Marius Kociejowski,
*A Factotum in the
Book Trade*

Ruth Shaw,
*The Bookseller at the End of
the World*

John Metcalf,
*The Museum at the End of
the World*

Far beyond the confines of the trade, however, he bequeathed to Canadians four major legacies. His first legacy was his 80 catalogues of books for sale, or Lists, as he modestly called them. His second legacy was to make us aware of how much we didn't know about writers and their books. His third legacy was his assertion, implicit in all his negative catalogue entries, of the necessity in evaluation of comparing Canadian writing with world literature in English. To not compare was to remain in the sandbox with a scattering of nasty plastic toys. The fourth of Bill's legacies to us was his challenge to government subsidy of the arts. In essence, his argument was that subsidy masked the brutal fact that an audience did not exist.



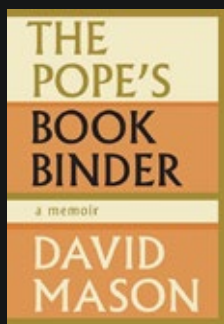
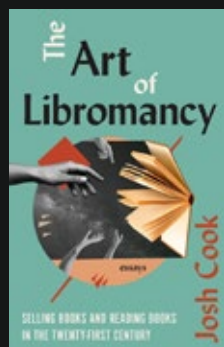
John Metcalf is a writer, editor, critic, and jolly good fellow. He is the fiction editor for Biblioasis.

MORE BOOKS ON BOOKS

ONE OF LIT HUB'S MOST ANTICIPATED BOOKS OF 2023

"In the age of book banning, publishing industry consolidation, and the pandemic's lingering aftershocks, Cook's words ring with frightening truth." —*Esquire*

The essays in *The Art of Libromancy* explore the politics, philosophies, technologies, emotional experience, and craft of selling books in the twenty-first century.



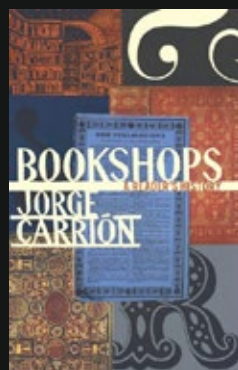
"A witty raconteur and compulsive gossip, Mason has written a book that will delight anyone who loves literary scuttlebutt." —**Alberto Manguel**

"From his drug-hazy, book-happy years at the Beat Hotel in Spain to his present career as one of Canada's foremost antiquarian book dealers, David Mason has led a storied life?and whether he's crashed out on William Burroughs' floor or gilding a white morocco for Pope John XXIII, Mason's humor and industry expertise is everywhere apparent. A must-read memoir for bibliophiles.

"Excellent...entertaining...this quietly intelligent little book speaks volumes"

—**Michael Dirda, *Washington Post***

Filled with anecdotes from the histories of some of the famous (and not-so-famous) shops he visits on his travels, thoughtful considerations of challenges faced by bookstores, and fascinating digressions on their political and social impact.



MEGHAN HARRISON

WHO TURNED ON THE LIGHTS?

“I’m not reading my horoscope for a couple of days /
in a small experiment with postponing the placebo
of foresight.”



April 6, 2027 | Poetry

5.5 × 8.5, 124pp

\$24.95 | 9781771967747

(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Kayla Czaga,

Midway

Nick Thrane,

Existing Music

Jake Byrne,

DADDY

Who Turned On the Lights? is a smart, smarting look at performativity and spectatorship in our postfeminist wasteland, along with the isolation—and strange, specific pleasures—that characterize both ends. At turns biting, slapstick, and earnest, Harrison’s lyrics are a rogue, stream-of-consciousness evocation of contemporary forms of mania and consumerism.

 **Meghan Harrison** is a writer, performer, and editor based in Toronto. Rahila’s Ghost Press put out her poetry chapbook *Amateur Hours* in 2018 after she self-published *psychogeography* (2007) and *Pride Fight* (2016). *Who Turned On the Lights?* is her debut full-length poetry collection.

MORE BOOKS OF POETRY

A FINALIST FOR THE 2025 A. M. KLEIN PRIZE FOR POETRY

"In alternately nervous and incisive modes, roberts explores the profound contradictions behind even the most clear-eyed criticisms or desires . . . With a resolute inward stare, roberts reveals the cumulative nature of life."

—Emily Mernin, *Literary Review of Canada*

UNMET explores frustration, justice, and thwarted rescue from a perspective that is Black-Latinx, Canadian, immigrant, and female.



SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2023 E.J. PRATT FAMILY POETRY AWARD



"Rhythmic and engaging...the collection follows its central figure from childhood through to middle age in well-crafted lyrics that reveal an impressive attention to phrasing and sound.

—Jury Citation, 2023 E.J. Pratt Poetry Award

Set against the backdrop of a post-moratorium St. John's, Newfoundland, *The Debt* explores tensions between tradition and innovation, and between past and present in a province unmoored by loss and grief.

A CALIFORNIA REVIEW OF BOOKS BEST POETRY BOOK OF 2025

"*We're Somewhere Else Now* is a gravely beautiful collection, chronicling days 'spent and drying.' No poet has published anything close to it this year, and it confirms Sarah as one of our best."

—Carmine Starnino, "The Best Books of Fall 2025," *The Walrus*

In her first collection of new poems in a decade, Robyn Sarah chronicles the pandemic years with quiet wisdom and her flair for meshing the familiar with the numinous.



KEVIN ANDREW HESLOP

HERE LIES THE REFUGEE BREATHER WHO DRANK A BOWL OF ELSEWHERE

“Don’t let me get away with a claim to authority.
Nothing on my wall is framed. I have no dog.”



April 6, 2027 | Poetry

5.5 × 8.5, 124pp

\$24.95 | 9781771967761

(trade paper)

COMP TITLES:

Anne Carson,
Wrong Norma

Shane Neilson,
The Reign

Lisa Robertson,
Riverwork

Alternating between prose poems chiseled from light and a cavalcade of centos borrowing fragments that span centuries, *here lies the refugee breather who drank a bowl of elsewhere* is care for the multitudinous, the nuanced, the uncertain.

Unfolding the relationships—often unexpected—between languages, cultures, and things, *the refugee breather* is metaphor-making at its strangest and most bountiful. Heslop’s language is a playful and loving re-evaluation of reality and its ten-thousand connections.

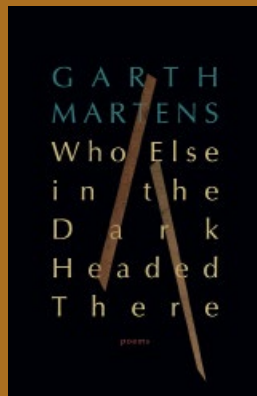
 **Kevin Andrew Heslop** is a multidisciplinary artist from Canada. His nonfiction debut *The Writing on the Wind’s Wall: Dialogues about ‘Medical Assistance in Dying’* came out in 2025 from The Porcupine’s Quill. Kevin is currently living in São Paulo to research his first feature film, a biopic about Zé Celso.

MORE AND MORE BOOKS OF POETRY

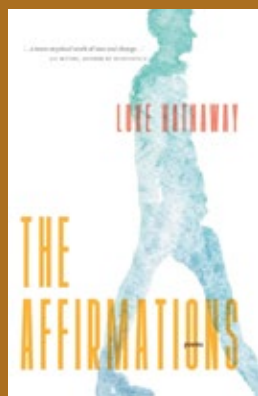
“Poems of intense emotion, the torque on the language extreme—as it must be, reaching this far into the dark, this honestly.”

—**Jan Zwicky**

In his first collection since the Governor General’s-nominated *Prologue for the Age of Consequence*, Martens adds an autobiographical lens to his concerns about class and labour.



ONE OF THE TIMES' BEST POETRY BOOKS OF 2022



“These are masterful, musical poems about faith and transformation, by one of our best contemporary poets.”

—**Jason Guriel, for the *Globe and Mail***

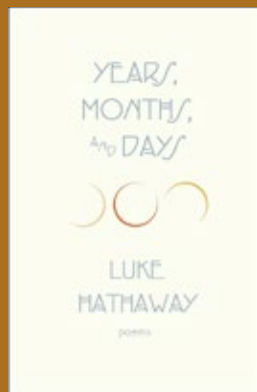
Luke Hathaway tells the story of the love that rewired his being, asking each of us to experience the transfiguration that can follow upon saying yes—with all one’s heart, with all one’s soul, with all one’s mind, with all one’s strength ... and with all one’s body, too.

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“[*Years, Months, and Days*] is carried by [Hathaway’s] obvious respect for [his] sponsoring material and by [his] superb ear.”

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A transfiguration of Mennonite hymns into heartbreaking lyric poems, *Years, Months, and Days* is a moving meditation on the possibility of translation.



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Against norm, an underwriter takes the bus to work one day, encountering—alongside ads for Claritin and business college—a poem that follows him around in fragments all week, reigniting memory and care for the people in his life, including his wife of many years.

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Caroline Adderson is the author of five novels, *A Russian Sister*, *Ellen in Pieces*, *The Sky Is Falling*, *Sitting Practice*, and *A History of Forgetting*. Caroline lives and writes in Vancouver.

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In a summery daze of spinning dandelion heads, an unborn baby attends her own baby shower, swathed in a hilarious, surprising cast of local women (“estrogen city”). *Momma Had a Baby* is good fun, told with sharp wit and a keen observation for the dark collisions of small town life.

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Terry Griggs is the author of *Quickening*, which was nominated for a Governor General's Award. Her novel, *The Iconoclast's Journal* (Biblioasis, 2018), and the short fiction collection, *The Discovery of Honey* (Biblioasis, 2017). She lives in Stratford, Ontario.

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Richard Kelly Kemick is an award-winning poet, journalist, and fiction writer. His debut collection of short stories, *Hello, Horse*, was published by Biblioasis in 2024. He is also the author of *I Am Herod* (available on audiobook), the poetry collection *Caribou Run*, and the stage play *Amor De Cosmos: A Delusional Musical*. Richard's limited series podcast, *Natural Life*, is an intimate and unexpectedly honest documentary on his cousin, who is serving a life sentence without parole in Michigan. He lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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