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2019-10-03

BEST AGUILAR

An Autobiography Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Emotionally and intellectually engaging, Dean Rader's debut collection of poetry undertakes provocative questions about identity in original, ambitious, and playful ways. In a style that is at once both traditional and experimental, these poems map the terrains of high and popular culture with serious meditation and wry humour. Characters in Rader's interactive landscape include Wallace Stevens, Michael Jackson, Dorothea Lange, Arvo Part, and even Frog and Toad. Like its namesake, *Works and Days* by the Greek poet Hesiod, Rader's work takes on the great issues of any era -- our attempts to make sense of dreams, duty, and the divine.

Sometimes I Never Suffered Faber & Faber

From the author of *How Should a Person Be?* ("one of the most talked-about books of the year"—*Time Magazine*) and the *New York Times* Bestseller *Women in Clothes* comes a daring novel about whether to have children. In *Motherhood*, Sheila Heti asks what is gained and what is lost when a woman becomes a mother, treating the most consequential decision of early adulthood with the candor, originality, and humor that have won Heti international acclaim and made *How Should A Person Be?* required reading for a generation. In her late thirties, when her friends are asking when they will become mothers, the narrator of Heti's intimate and urgent novel considers whether she will do so at all. In a narrative spanning several years, casting among the influence of her peers, partner, and her duties to her forbearers, she struggles to make a wise and moral choice. After seeking guidance from philosophy, her body, mysticism, and chance, she discovers her answer much closer to home. *Motherhood* is a courageous, keenly felt, and starkly original novel that will surely spark lively conversations about womanhood, parenthood, and about how—and for whom—to live.

The Road to Inver Random House

The poems in David Harsent's new collection, whether single poems, dramatic sequences, or poems that 'belong to one another', share a dark territory and a sometimes haunting, sometimes steely, lyrical tone. Throughout the book - in the stark biography of 'Songs from the Same Earth', the troubling disconnects of 'A Dream Book', the harrowing lines of connection in four poems each titled 'Fire', or the cheek-by-jowl shudder of 'Sang the Rat' - Harsent writes, as always, with passion and a sureness of touch.

My Maiden Cowboy Names Carcanet Press Ltd

The award-winning poet Karen Solie's striking fifth collection of poetry blends the story of a seventh-century monk with contemporary themes of economic class, environmentalism, and solitude in an ever-connected world if one asks for a sign must one accept what's given? Ethernan, an Irish missionary in the seventh century, retreated to the Caiplie Caves on the eastern coast of Scotland to consider life as a hermit. In *The Caiplie Caves*, Karen Solie's fifth collection of poems, short-listed for the T. S. Eliot Prize, Solie inhabits a figure inspired by Ethernan, a man torn between the communal and the contemplative. His story is remarkable for the mysticism embedded in the ordinary; as Solie writes in her preface, Ethernan is not known for supernatural feats, but "is said to have survived for a very long time on bread and water." Interwoven with the voice of this figure are poems whose subjects orbit the physical location of the caves and join the sharply contemporary to the mythic past: the fall of a coal-fired power station; a "druid shouting astrology" outside a liquor store, putting "the Ambien in ambience"; seabirds "frontloaded with military tech"; the dichotomous nature of the stinging nettle. These are meditations on the crisis of time and change, on class, power, and belief. Above all, these are ambitious and exhilarating poems from one of today's most gifted poetic voices.

Ransom Random House

Winner of the 2020 Sunday Times/University of Warwick Young Writer of the Year Award Jay Bernard's extraordinary debut is a fearless exploration of the New Cross Fire of 1981, a house fire at a birthday party in which thirteen young black people were killed. Dubbed the 'New Cross Massacre', the fire was initially believed to be a racist attack, and the indifference with which the tragedy was met by the state triggered a new era of race relations in Britain. Tracing a line from New Cross to the 'towers of blood' of the Grenfell fire, this urgent collection speaks with, in and of the voices of the past, brought back by the incantation of dancehall rhythms and the music of Jamaican patois, to form a living presence in the absence of justice. A ground-breaking work of excavation, memory and activism - both political and personal, witness and documentary - Surge shines a much-needed light on an unacknowledged chapter in British history, one that powerfully resonates in our present moment. 'The verse has anger and political purpose, but a rare lyrical precision, too. The combination is powerful' Sebastian Faulks, *Spectator*, Books of the Year 2020 *Winner of the Ted Hughes Award for New Work in Poetry* *Shortlisted for the Costa Poetry Award; T.S. Eliot Prize; Forward Prize for Best First Collection; Dylan Thomas Prize; RSL Ondaatje Prize; John Pollard Foundation International Poetry Prize* *Longlisted for the Jhalak Prize 2020*

Poems Pan Macmillan

Using long poems, ekphrasis, and ruptured forms, *RENDANG* is a startling new take on the self, and how an identity is constructed. Drawing on his Anglo-Indonesian heritage, Will Harris shows us new ways to think about the contradictions of identity and cultural memory. He creates companions that speak to us in multiple languages. They deftly ask us to consider how and what we look at, as well as what we don't look at and why. It is intellectual and accessible, moving and experimental, and combines a linguistic innovation with a deep emotional rooting. *Mother Country* The shades open for landing, I see the pandan-leafed interior expanding towards the edge of a relieved horizon. Down along the banks of the Ciliwung are slums I had forgotten, the river like a loosely sutured wound. As we begin our descent into the black smog of an emerging power, I make out the tin shacks, the stalls selling juices, the red-tiled colonial barracks, the new mall. It is raining profusely. After years of her urging me to go, me holding back, I have no more excuses.

A Blood Condition Peepal Tree PressLtd

WINNER OF THE FORWARD PRIZE FOR BEST COLLECTION 2019 **WINNER OF THE ROEHAMPTON PRIZE FOR BEST POETRY COLLECTION 2019** Violence hangs over this book like an electric storm. Beginning with a poem about the teenage dawning of sexuality, *Vertigo & Ghost* pitches quickly into a long sequence of graphic, stunning pieces about Zeus as a serial rapist, for whom woman are prey and sex is weaponised. These are frank, brilliant, devastating poems of vulnerability and rage, and as Zeus is confronted with aggressions both personal and historical, his house comes crumbling down. A disturbing contemporary world is exposed, in which violent acts against women continue to be perpetrated on a daily - hourly - basis. The book shifts, in its second half, to an intimate and lyrical document of depression and family life. It sounds out the complex and ambivalent terrain of early motherhood - its anxieties and claustrophobias as well as its gifts of tenderness and love - reclaiming the sanctuary of domestic private life, and the right to raise children in peace and safety. *Vertigo & Ghost* is an important, necessary book, hugely impressive in its range and risk, and dramatic in its currency: a collection that speaks out with clarity, grace and bravery against the abuse of power. **SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2020 RATHBONES FOLIO PRIZE** **SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2019 T. S. ELIOT PRIZE** 'Misogynistic violence, ancient myth and modern rage confront each other in moving and dynamic verse' *Financial Times*

The Water Table Farrar, Straus and Giroux

A powerful and ambiguous body of water lies at the heart of these poems, with shoals and channels that change with the forty-foot tide. Philip Gross's meditations move with subtle steps between these shifting grounds and those of the man-made world, the ageing body, and that ever-present mystery, the self. Admirers of his work know each new collection is a new stage; this one marks a crossing new clarity and depth.

A Portable Paradise Pavilion Poetry

Victoria Brockmeier composes a mosaic of storytelling, myths, and feminist ideas in her award-winning collection of poems, *My Maiden Cowboy Names*. Both linguistically playful and genuinely experimental, these poems explore the smallness of human experience. The sumptuousness and vitality of this collection does not sacrifice the capacity for excavating observation and sharp wit. Lush and spacious, these poems revel in the unexpectedly beautiful and the beautifully broken.

District and Circle Peepal Tree Press

Revision seems to be an intrinsic part of good writing. But Hannah Sullivan argues that we inherit our faith in redrafting from the modernist period. Examining changes made in manuscripts, typescripts, and proofs by Eliot, Joyce, Woolf, and others, she shows how rewriting shapes literary style, and how the impulse to touch up can go too far.

Three Poems Wesleyan University Press

'A highly original, piercingly beautiful work, full of beautiful shocks... I felt like a door had been kicked open in my brain' Johanna Thomas-Corr, *Observer* A woman searches Buenos Aires for the paintings that are her inspiration and her refuge. Her life -- she is a young mother with a complicated family -- is sometimes overwhelming. But among the canvases, often little-known works in quiet rooms, she finds clarity and a sense of who she is . . . 'I was reminded of John Berger's *Ways of Seeing*, enfolded in tender and exuberant personal narratives' Claire-Louise Bennett 'This woman-guide, who goes from Lampedusa to *The Doors* with crushing elegance, is unforgettable' Mariana Enriquez 'A dazzling combination of memoir, fiction and art book, like nothing you've ever read before' Elle

Motherhood Farrar, Straus and Giroux

"First published in hardcover in Great Britain by Viking, an imprint of Penguin Books, a division of Penguin Random House Ltd., London"--Copyright page.

A Year in the New Life Pamela Dorman Books

A collection of unforgettable poems, 'Where Horizons Go' is as compelling as it is technically stunning. The book bridges the sometimes vast distances between the personal and the impersonal, the transitory and the permanent, the imagined and the real, the internal and the external, the self and the other. The language here is always clear, always controlled without sacrificing sincerity or honesty. Read this book again and again and be rewarded

every time.

Us Bloodaxe Books Limited

In the language of fan fiction, a 'Mary Sue' is an idealised and implausibly flawless character: a female archetype that can infuriate audiences for its perceived narcissism. Such is the setting for this brilliant and important debut by Sophie Collins. In a series of verse and prose collages, *Who Is Mary Sue?* exposes the presumptive politics behind writing and readership: the idea that men invent while women reflect; that a man writes of the world outside while a woman will turn to the interior. Part poetry and part reportage, at once playful and sincere, these fictive-factive miniatures deploy original writing and extant quotation in a mode of pure invention. In so doing, they lift up and lay down a revealing sequence of masks and mirrors that disturb the reflection of authority. A work of captivation and correction, this is a book that will resonate with anyone concerned with identity, shame, gender, trauma, composition and culture: everyone, in other words, who wishes to live openly and think fearlessly in the modern world. *Who Is Mary Sue?* is a work for our times and a question for our age: it is a handbook for all those willing to reimagine prescriptive notions of identity and selfhood.

Fire Songs Faber & Faber

NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • An inspiring and intimate self-portrait of the champion of equality that encompasses her brilliant tennis career, unwavering activism, and an ongoing commitment to fairness and social justice. "A story about the personal strength, immense growth, and undeniable greatness of one woman who fearlessly stood up to a culture trying to break her down."—Serena Williams In this spirited account, Billie Jean King details her life's journey to find her true self. She recounts her groundbreaking tennis career—six years as the top-ranked woman in the world, twenty Wimbledon championships, thirty-nine grand-slam titles, and her watershed defeat of Bobby Riggs in the famous "Battle of the Sexes." She poignantly recalls the cultural backdrop of those years and the profound impact on her worldview from the women's movement, the assassinations and anti-war protests of the 1960s, the civil rights movement, and, eventually, the LGBTQ+ rights movement. She describes the myriad challenges she's hurdled—entrenched sexism, an eating disorder, near financial peril after being outed—on her path to publicly and unequivocally acknowledging her sexual identity at the age of fifty-one. She talks about how her life today remains one of indefatigable service. She offers insights and advice on leadership, business, activism, sports, politics, marriage equality, parenting, sexuality, and love. And she shows how living honestly and openly has had a transformative effect on her relationships and happiness. Hers is the story of a pathbreaking feminist, a world-class athlete, and an indomitable spirit whose impact has transcended even her spectacular achievements in sports.

Translations, Versions, Imitations Random House

Hannah Lowe taught for a decade in an inner-city London sixth form. At the heart of this book of compassionate and energetic sonnets are 'The Kids', her students, the teenagers she nurtured. But the poems go further, meeting her own child self as she comes of age in the riotous 80s and 90s, later bearing witness to her small son learning to negotiate contemporary London. Across these deeply felt poems, Lowe interrogates the acts of teaching

and learning with empathy and humour. Social class, gender and race - and their fundamental intersection with education - are investigated with an ever critical and introspective eye. The sonnet is re-energised, becoming a classroom, a memory box and even a mind itself as 'The Kids' learn and negotiate their own unknown futures. These boisterous and musical poems explore and explode the universal experience of what it is to be taught, and to teach, ultimately reaching out and speaking to the child in all of us. The poems in the first section of the book draw on Hannah Lowe's experiences as a teacher in the 2000s, but the scenarios are largely fictitious, as are the names of the students. *The Kids* is a Poetry Book Society Choice.

Works & Days Faber & Faber

****SHORTLISTED FOR THE TS ELIOT PRIZE 2020**** From the winner of the Costa Poetry Award A lone martian returns to Earth. He leaves behind him a hardened survivalist culture, its muddled myths and songs, its continued abuse of the environment that sustains it. During this journey back to the now-broken and long-abandoned mother planet, the martian begins to consider his own uncertain origins, and his own future. Cut off from his people, the martian's story is that of the individual: his duty at odds with his desire; the race of which he's still a part playing always on his mind, as well as the race that once was. This is the story of what life becomes when stripped of all that makes it worth living - of what humans become when they lose their humanity. *The Martian's Regress* is a brilliant, provocative, often darkly comic work that explores what a fragile environment eventually makes of those who persist in tampering with it.

A Novel Saqi Books

A poignant sequence of poems traces the evolution of a divorce while exploring themes of love, sex, sorrow, memory and freedom as reflected by everyday familiarities and the poignancy of former lovers parting, in a collection by the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author of *The Dead and the Living*.

The Martian's Regress Random House

Part horror, part comedy, this poetry collection considers the changing relations between a citizen white host with liberal political views, and an immigrant guest whose visa status is precarious. Looking at the limits of charitable acts, the breakdown of a social relationship, these poems are written for a raw voice.

& Othered Poems Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The Road to Inver gathers the verse translations of Tom Paulin from four decades, and brings together distinguished versions of classical and European poets which have appeared in his previous collections, from *Liberty Tree* (1983) to *The Wind Dog* (1999). But *The Road to Inver* also includes dozens of new and recent translations from the European canon; it is at once a new volume of poetry by Tom Paulin and a personal anthology of European poetry, ranging from Horace to Heine and covering a surprising range of French, German, Russian and Italian poets. *The Road to Inver* is the richest collection of its kind since Robert Lowell's *Imitations*.