Orphans
By Joan Cusack Handler

In Orphans, a verse memoir, poet psychologist Joan Cusack Handler explores our most primitive and ambivalent relationships—those with aging parents—meanwhile confronting her own mortality. In a life lesson we're often unprepared for, Handler presents the reversal of roles and the eruption of unresolved conflicts that persist from childhood.

ISBN: 978-1-933880-56-3
BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £13.99
PUBLISHER: Cavankerry Press
PAGES: 128
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Poetry
NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
Can I Finish, Please?
By Catherine Bowman

Not-quite-woman, not-quite-man, not-quite-animal, not-quite-flower: the poems in Can I Finish, Please? are shape-shifting acts, lyric interruptions that crave and resist completion, where the mutable self and the world are made and unmade over and over. These poems explore hungers, from appetite to hedonistic consumption, from prayer to a yearning for generative resolution. An exiled couple remakes a ruined world out of buttons and string; tools give advice on love; a magic walking stick guides a speaker through haunted stone quarries; beds turn into musical instruments; a great antlered deer lives inside a locket; flowers transform into frogs, dogs, hobos in a lecherous garden that howls and laments on the violence we do to each other and the world. Pain and loss are recognized as necessary elements in the making of a self.

BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £11.99
PUBLISHER: Four Way Books
PAGES: 132
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Poetry
NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
The End Begins
By Cynthia Cruz

How the End Begins juxtaposes the world's seductions and incessant clamoring for more with the invisible world: the quiet, the call of the desert, and the pull to faith. The book chronicles this move toward faith and away from the "dingen" (things or stuff). Within the worlds of these poems are Orthodox monks, Emily Dickinson, anorexic patients inside a hospital ward, Larry Levis, Ingeborg Bachmann, Thomas Bernhard, Captain Beefheart, Henry Darger, Jean Genet, Goya, Karen Carpenter, Joan of Arc, and, of course, God. How the End Begins is a burning down, a kind of end of the world while, at the same time, a new, triumphant beginning.

BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £11.99
PUBLISHER: Four Way Books
PAGES: 92
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Poetry
NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
No Doubt the Nameless
By Sydney Lea

No Doubt the Nameless delves the depths of elegy, yet moves at last into a positive reading of the human situation. Here are familiar rural characters, whose sturdiness and joy figure as strongly into Lea's narratives, both overt and implied, as do their trials and misfortunes.
Travels of Marco
By Mark Levine

The poems in Travels of Marco speak with a heightened awareness of the incipience of personhood and of its tatters. Exploring a friction between living and surviving, the poems are preoccupied with employment-physical and spiritual-and unemployment, flight and immobility, ethereal selves and animal selves, absurdity and actuality. Here is work that raises the questions of whether the person who has lost language continues to dream and of whether the most remote memories of love and care might provide sustenance. The story these poems are telling in their shifting tones and identities is one of the restorative power of imaginative transport-travels in language-at the mind's limit.
The Taxidermist's Cut
By Rajiv Mohabir

The Taxidermist's Cut is a collection that centers the pressures of being a queer brown youth awakening sexually in a racist, anti-immigrant matrix. As an Indo-Caribbean, the queer-countried speaker is illegible as an "Indian" as well as an "American." Haunted by his migration narrative, the speaker tries to make himself fit into his environment by sloughing off his skin and stretching new ones over his body. At stake here is surviving a palimpsest of violence: violences enacted upon the speaker and violences the speaker enacts upon himself through cutting. Mohabir engages with the body and the land as a series of incisions and overlays to cover the damage of memory of a South Asian brown body dealing with aggressions and joys. This is a collection of twisted love stories-as-slits that exposes the meat and bone of trauma and relief. Drawing from outside source texts such as animal tracking guides and taxidermy manuals, these poems attempt to show the process of how to survive being erased on all fronts.
Emoticoncert
By Maya Pindyck

Emoticoncert follows intensities and absences across different bodies and scales. Broken up into musical "movements," each section serves as its own composition. As a whole, the book works as a concert of intensities associated with loss, nationalism, and the slippery boundary between human and animal. Moving across both real and dreamed terrains, Emoticoncert is a dislocated kind of traveling linked by a sense of musicality and a desire to record the intensities that arise in the author's entanglements with things both present and gone.

ISBN: 978-1-935536-71-0

BINDING: Paperback

PRICE: £11.99

PUBLISHER: Four Way Books

PAGES: 96

PUBLICATION DATE:
March 31, 2016

READER INTERESTS:
Poetry

NOT FOR SALE:
CA, MX, US
From Nothing
By Daniel Tobin

From Nothing, a book-length poem in 33 sections, explores the conflicted and exemplary life of Belgian physicist and priest Georges Lemaître, known as "the father of the Big Bang," and his life's profound implications, through what John Barth called the principle of metaphoric means: "the writer's investiture in as many aspects of the text as possible with emblematic significance." Though associative and even multivalent in its orchestration, From Nothing weaves its many frequencies into a resonant whole.

BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £11.99
PUBLISHER: Four Way Books
PAGES: 64
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Poetry
NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
The Halo
By C. Dale Young

The Halo is quasi-autobiography about a man who has wings and wants desperately to simply be human. Tracking from adolescence through adulthood, it explores an accident that temporarily paralyzes him and exposes him to human weakness all the way to his transformation into something more powerful than even he realizes. It explores a personal evolution from being prey to becoming the hunter.

ISBN: 978-1-935536-68-0
BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £11.99
PUBLISHER: Four Way Books
PAGES: 76
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Gay & Lesbian Poetry

NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
Proxies
Essays Near Knowing
By Brian Blanchfield

Past compunction, as in the lifewriting of Eileen Myles or Alison Bechdel, and incisive in the traditions of Roland Barthes and Guy Davenport, these twenty-four single-subject essays train focus on a startling miscellany of topics—Foot Washing, Dossiers, Br'er Rabbit, Housesitting, Man Roulette, the Locus Amoenus—that begin to unpack the essayist himself, weighing out his identity as a noted "queer intellectual" poet; his upbringing in working-class, Primitive Baptist, central piedmont North Carolina; and his prospects entering middle age at the margins of the gig economy.

In Proxies an original compositional constraint, a "total suppression of recourse to other authoritative sources," engineers the disarming mode of independent inquiry in which Brian Blanchfield addresses his rotating concerns: sex and sexuality, poetry and poetics, family and fallout, and subject positions in American labor (not excluding academia). The "repeatable experiment" to draw only from what he knows, estimates, remembers, and misremembers about the subject at hand often opens onto an unusually candid assessment of self and situation. The project's driving impulse, courting error, peculiar in an era of crowd-sourced consensus knowledge, is at least as old as the one Montaigne had when, putting all the books back on the shelf, he asked, "What do I know?".
Friends with Dogs
By David Blair

ISBN: 978-1-937679-60-6
BINDING: Paperback
PRICE: £12.99
PUBLISHER: Sheep Meadow Press
PAGES: 68
PUBLICATION DATE: March 31, 2016
READER INTERESTS: Poetry
NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
Night Sky Frequencies
New and Selected Poems
By Debra Nystrom

About the Author:
DEBRA NYSTROM'S three previous poetry collections include A Quarter Turn (Sheep Meadow Press, 1991). She's received awards from Five Points, VQR, Shenandoah, the Library of Virginia, and the Virginia Arts Commission. She teaches in the University of Virginia's MFA Program.
The Book of Landings
By Mark McMorris

The Book of Landings brings together the second and third parts of Mark McMorris's visionary trilogy "Auditions for Utopia,"-initiated in Entrepôt-and marks two stages in the evolution of the poet's conception of space. The first stage of the collection is the entrepôt, a space where disparate vectors of identity congregate, come into conflict, and finally merge into hybrid forms. The poetry follows a trajectory of diaspora, or exile, instigated by conquest, colonialism, wars, and political defeat in the search for Utopia. In The Book of Landings the promised dwelling has been removed from the realm of physical geography, and there is only transition-fragmentary episodes of arrival and departure, in transit from one entrepôt to another. These episodes of transit do not only compose a linear sequence only. Instead, they define a space or surface marked by repeated traversals over time-tracings and, importantly, re-tracings, by explorers, conquerors, migrants, merchants, slaves, refugees, and exiles-a city of palimpsests. An online reader's companion will be available at markmcmorris.site.wesleyan.edu.
The Spokes of Venus
By Rebecca Morgan Frank

Magicians, wig makers, sculptors, perfumers, choreographers, and composers all help conjure the worlds of Frank's second collection, The Spokes of Venus. These poems offer a landscape shaped by the tensions between the act of making and the art of observing. If music and art are the sisters of poetry, this collection is a chorus—a glorious one-of siblings arguing and singing.
Adult Swim
By Heather Hartley

From mermaids to lovers to skinny dogs to dervishes, Heather Hartley's second collection, Adult Swim, gathers together unlikely characters whose different stories explore the connections we share—love, loss, and laughter. Engaging, playful, and often with a dark sense of humor, the brutal and beautiful, sensual and spiritual, live side by side in poems that shift that from lyric to sonnet to elegy.
Swastika into Lotus
By Richard Katrovas

In Swastika into Lotus, Richard Katrovas, a "punk formalist," casts a wary eye on poetry, poetry readings, higher education, the UFO cottage industry, organized religion, fine dining, climate change denial, and national right-wing politics. The book's humor is dark, by turns self-deprecating and fierce, and yet many of the poems are unabashed in their assertions of both filial and romantic love. Heaving traditionally "formal" verse through a looking glass, Katrovas has produced a book that is not for the passive-aggressively "sensitive."
The Nomenclature of Small Things

By Lynn Pedersen

The Nomenclature of Small Things explores grief through the language of science, history, and art. From Charles Darwin to Carl Linnaeus, from the passenger pigeon to fossil ammonites, each poem seeks to name, to enumerate, to order-to claim a particular place for the human creature in a catalog of extinction and loss.
Hundred-Year Wave

By Rachel Richardson

In Rachel Richardson's second collection of poems, she juxtaposes the grand quests of Ahab and Melville with the quotidian journeys of contemporary life. Hundred-Year Wave launches stories of marriage and motherhood over the currents of a nearly mythological ancestry: women and men who built their possessions out of iron and flour and whalebone and wool. If reaching back into the past is akin to plumbing a depth, then Richardson exhibits the rare abilities of craft to build, from our language, vessels light enough to travel on that element, but sturdy enough to weather the storms we are likely to find there.
Scarecrow
By Robert Fernandez

Taking Dante and other catalogers of failure and ruin (Baudelaire, Trakl, Rimbaud) as its guiding lights, Scarecrow charts situations of extremity and madness: "Are you / insistent? Are you dead? / Are you guilty? Has your / name been lifted, a vein / of earth from earth?" It also charts the insistence of time's passing and with it the awakening to both new and foreclosed possibilities. What will remain for us after the disaster? How will we rebuild? To whom will we address ourselves and with what voice? Also a love poem, one of desire and hope, Scarecrow aligns a tragic sensibility with a faith in the other and in the redemptive power of forgiveness. Within the beauty and strangeness of this work rests an imperative that captures the directive of poetry at its best: "Present yourself / in the full radiance of captivation." In its mystery and defiance, Robert Fernandez's collection does precisely this. An online reader's companion will be available at robertfernandezsite.wesleyan.edu.