The Pittsburgh Stories of Willa Cather

By Willa Cather and Peter Oresick

In these six stories, Willa Cather vividly captures the character of early 1900s Pittsburgh, a place she called home during her formative years as a writer. She depicts a city where culture is beginning to take root, rising from the harsh industrial landscape. Her characters, ranging from a skinny young usher boy to an elderly doctor, seek meaning in music, art, and human connection. Through them, Cather explores the dual nature of art as a higher purpose. Art tugs at the edges of human emotion, inspiring a sense of wonder, but also instilling an insatiable longing for beauty in a disorderly world. Cather deftly captures transient moments of brilliance and pain to convince us of this fundamental truth.

About the Author:

After graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1895, Willa Cather obtained a position in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on a family magazine. Later she worked as copy editor and music and drama editor of The Pittsburgh Leader.

Peter Oresick is a scholar of Western Pennsylvania literature, and a poet whose works include Iconoscope, Warhol-O-Rama, and Working Classics: Poems on Industrial Life. He has taught at Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, the University of Pittsburgh, and Emerson College.
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Where Are We in This Story?

By Sarah Rosenblatt

Sarah Rosenblatt laments, celebrates and questions the meaning of the ongoing story of time. Seasons speak but don't recognize us. Time creeps through the windows in the same way it did with our ancestors. Light shines through and touches hope and sweetness but this is only fleeting, leaving us to a vast sky that doesn't name us or our troubles. Leaves on the trees watch, hold and rot. The collection challenges the guts and touches the heart and soul of being alive in a story in which we are challenged to find meaning.

About the Author:
Sarah Rosenblatt received an MFA from Brooklyn College, and an MSW from the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare. She is child and family therapist and lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This is her third book of poems.
Inside Job

By John Skoyles

The poems in Inside Job range from intensely autobiographical lyrics to brief historical portraits of literary figures like Grace Paley and Jorge Luis Borges, to obituaries of idiosyncratic characters such as heavyweight boxing contenders and inventors of candy bars. The tone is often wry, sometimes wistful, and always compassionate.

Praise for John Skoyles:

"For poems so full of linguistic playfulness, there is a surprising accuracy of perception." -The Georgia Review

"Wise, benevolent, witty." -Northwest Review

"Skoyles scrapes at the surface of everyday things and finds a wonderful strangeness just underneath." -Harvard Review

About the Author:

John Skoyles is the author of four previous collections of poems, A Little Faith, Permanent Change, Definition of the Soul and The Situation. He is also the author of the autobiographical novel: A Moveable Famine: A Life in Poetry; a memoir, Secret Frequencies: A New York Education; and Generous Strangers, a collection of personal essays. He teaches at Emerson College and is the poetry editor of Ploughshares.
Suddenly, It's Evening
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Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Alan Dugan described Skoyles's poems as "clear-eyed but passionate, sarcastic but grave, all at the same time." That description holds true for this selection of poems from his previous four books: A Little Faith; Permanent Change; Definition of the Soul, and The Situation. The title, taken from the Italian poet Salvatore Quasimodo, alludes to the temporal quality of existence, how one moves from sunlight to twilight in the course of a lifetime. And how those evening hours arrive suddenly, as if in no time at all.

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"Economy, intuitively just-so pacing, extra-dry humor, humility, the sense that life doesn't get the rewards it merits, even as it doesn't deserve the punishments it suffers. Best of all for a poet, he's blessed with a perfect ear." -David Rigsbee

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Letters from Limbo
By Jeanne Marie Beaumont

In Letters from Limbo, voices of the dead reach the living through various means, including the titular letters, revealing experiences harrowing and mysterious, and exploring limbo as an abode of souls as well as a state of entrapment and intermediacy. Fluent in many modes—lyric to documentary—the poet commands varied poetic forms. That we dwell in metaphorical limbos by virtue of our unpredictable earthly sojourn is a haunting truth this book both illuminates and celebrates.

About the Author:
Jeanne Marie Beaumont grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs. She is the author of three previous collections of poetry: Burning of the Three Fires, Curious Conduct, and Placebo Effects, a winner in the National Poetry Series. She has taught at The Frost Place, Rutgers University, The Unterberg Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, and is on the poetry faculty of the Stonecoast MFA Program in Maine. Since 1983, she has made her home in Manhattan.

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NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
Round Lake
By Grace Bonner

Round Lake begins with an awakening in solitude. It moves through a search for romantic love, and attempts to create a sense of home and family through art and travel. There are elegies: surviving a sibling's drug addiction, and the losses of a father (to cancer) and a mother (to suicide).

About the Author:
Grace Bonner holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University and a BA from Sarah Lawrence College. Round Lake is her first book of poetry. She is a MacDowell fellow, and the former Director of the 92Y Poetry Center. She has taught English and Creative Writing at the Pierrepont School and abroad. Her poems have appeared in The New Republic, The Paris Review, Parnassus, Poetry Daily, The Southampton Review and other publications. Her memoir, Ghost Tracks, is about inheritance, sibling rivalry, mental illness, and how the American prison-industrial complex stretched one fragile family to its breaking point. She is a mentor in PEN’s Prison Writing Program.
Monsters
By Karen Brennan

Literal as well as metaphorical monsters inhabit this book of 38 innovative fictions. Here the reader will encounter not only zombies and ghosts, but a lyrical dream braided into a brutal and sorrowful real world. Monsters' vision embodies the heartbreakingly private and depressingly public—and the funny flipside of it all.

About the Author:
Karen Brennan is the author of six books of varying genres including poetry collections Here on Earth (1989) and The Real Enough World (2006), both from Wesleyan University Press; AWP Award-winning short fiction Wild Desire (1990), U Mass Press; The Garden in Which I Walk (2005), Fiction Collective 2; and a memoir, Being with Rachel (2001) Norton. Her fiction, poetry and nonfiction has appeared in anthologies from Norton, Penguin, Graywolf, Spuytin Duyvil, Michigan and Georgia, among others. A National Endowment for the Arts grant recipient, she is Professor Emerita at the University of Utah and teaches at the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. She holds a PhD from University of Arizona.
Off Message
By Joel Brouwer

In fiber-optic-fast meditations on everything from Marxism to the Marianas Trench, Off Message probes the troubling corners of our globalized lives with humor, pathos, and verve. Political without being preachy, contemporary without being cloying, funny without being flip, these poems are unafraid to implicate themselves: like us, their speakers are part of the problem, and their struggles highlight the absurdities of broadband capitalism. What should we think of televised warfare, crackdowns on Twitter, and factory farms? What pages should we take from our history books? Off Message wrestles with questions like these by overlaying the near and the far, the lyric and the encyclopedic. Each poem is a mixtape, an abandoned essay, a satire of modern conscience.

About the Author:
Joel Brouwer is the author of Exactly What Happened (1999), Centuries (Four Way Books, 2003), and And So (Four Way Books, 2009). He has held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation, and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He teaches at the University of Alabama.
God's Breath Hovering Across the Waters
By Henry Israeli

God’s Breath Hovering Across the Waters begins with the story of Arthur Penzias's discovery of the echo of the big bang through a cryogenic microwave receiver and from there explodes into a meditation on the author’s mother's untimely and tragic death. Memories, history, war, science, horror movies, space exploration, and the RCA dog are just some of the subjects that expand and contract, intersect and repel, throughout the arc of the collection.

About the Author:
Henry Israeli’s previous poetry collections include New Messiahs (Four Way Books, 2002), and Praying to the Black Cat (2010). He is the translator of Fresco: the Selected Poetry of Luljeta Lleshanaku (2002), Child of Nature (2010), and Haywire: New and Selected Poems (2011). He is also the founder and editor of Saturnalia Books.

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The Off-Season
By Jen Levitt

The poems in The Off-Season are populated with things—'90s TV shows, mixtapes, crosstown buses, winter beaches—signifiers that trace a trajectory from girlhood to adulthood and bring to the surface feelings and desires that ordinarily stay hidden. We witness the strangeness of modern life, relive our own adolescent awkwardness and listen in on conversations with dead poets, TV characters, family members and intimates. With humor, fierceness and generosity, The Off-Season grapples with the question of how to be in the world.

About the Author:
Jen Levitt received her MFA from NYU. Her poems have appeared in Boston Review, DIAGRAM, Sixth Finch, Tin House, and elsewhere. She lives in New York City and teaches high school students.
Violent Blues

By Bruce Willard

Violent Blues is a blues-harp album of words, a soundtrack of self-violence and loss, introspection and renewal—one man's search for intimacy and enduring music. Its poems are rooted in the natural world and tethered by concrete experience.

About the Author:

Bruce Willard’s first collection of poems, Holding Ground, was published by Four Way Books in 2013. Willard is a graduate of Middlebury College with a BA in American Literature and holds a MFA from Bennington College’s Writing Seminars program. In addition to his work as a poet, Willard is a businessman/entrepreneur.

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Hotel abc
By Susan Gevirtz

The poems in Hotel abc function as ethnographic notes, exposing the fact that we are all under the thumb of circadian rhythm, struggling to negotiate our shared condition. Reporters and hotel guests leave and enter the book, revealing that the face of the beloved is also an icon, that some sounds can only be heard in certain places and that the origins of language are impossible to locate.

Praise for Susan Gevirtz:
"Her poetry moves through passageways of mystery, words weighted with a permanent tension on a background daringly displaced." – Barbara Guest

About the Author:
Susan Gevirtz is the author of seven books of poetry, including AERODROME ORION & Starry Messenger, Thrall, and Hourglass Transcripts. Her critical works include Narrative s Journey: The Fiction and Film Writing of Dorothy Richardson and Coming Events (Collected Writings). She co-organizes the annual translation and conversation meeting of The Paros Symposium and teaches at California College of the Arts in San Francisco.
Threnody
By Juliet Patterson

Part lamentation, part ode, Threnody (the word originates from the Greek, threnos, "wailing" and oide "ode."), examines the beauty and violence of our present ecological moment with a lyric and meditative eye. Concerned with the precise relationship of components in the world these poems exist in the overlap between imagination and fact, truth and history, territory and map, the living and the dead.

"Juliet Patterson's poems are entirely themselves; they use time and the eye and tongue-all the body, as thought and insight, inside and outside history." – Jean Valentine

About the Author:
Juliet Patterson is the author of The Truant Lover, winner of the Nightboat Books Poetry Prize, and the chapbooks Epilogue and Dirge. As a community activist and artist, Patterson has worked on a number of collaborative projects related to place-making and the environment. She lives in Minneapolis with her partner and son.
Ocular Proof
By Martha Ronk

Taking its title from Shakespeare's Othello, a play that questions the veracity of what eyes actually see, Ocular Proof explores not only what each of us sees, but also how photographs modify sight as they capture, distort, frame, and simultaneously encourage discovery. These poems play off critical insights about the function of photographs and the power of visual imagery in the modern world and yet are decidedly personal. They address the unreality of one's own life, the illegibility of the past and future, and our strong attraction to focused details such as "Kertesz photographing stairs extending past the small figure and out of sight."

About the Author:
Martha Ronk is the author of 11 books of poetry, including Transfer of Qualities, long-listed for the National Book Award, and Vertigo, winner of the National Poetry Series. She has won a National Endowment Grant and the Lynda Hull Poetry Award. She has been a faculty member at Occidental College in Los Angeles and during fall 2015 at Otis College of Art and Design.
Watchful
By Molly Bendall

Witness to the late and sorrowful pact between predator and prey, spectator and species, Molly Bendall's fifth book beckons the reader into the enigma of animal relation. "What's left?" she asks. The answer is past remembering, attuned to extinction. Forsaking the names of creatures, Bendall returns like a sleepwalker to a painted habitat of swamps and savannahs, of captivity and display. At once playful and melancholy in its sifting of ritual discretion and shame, Watchful brings every sense, every measure, to bear on the blood mirror of the human.

About the Author:
Molly Bendall is the author of four previous collections of poetry, After Estrangement, Dark Summer, Ariadne's Island, and Under the Quick. She also has co-authored with the poet Gail Wronsky Bling & Fringe from What Books. Her poems and translations have appeared in many anthologies, including American Hybrid and Poems for the Millenium. She has won the Eunice Tietjens Prize from Poetry, The Lynda Hull Award from Denver Quarterly, and two Pushcart Prizes. Currently she teaches at the University of Southern California.
Squander
By Elena Karina Byrne

Squander occupies a place where "the mind's upstairs windows [are] blown out": a place of juxtapositional delight through sensory and conceptual dislocation. Poems based in word origins work as fables, and poems based in dialogue work within a select concordance from authors and artists. The consequent subject's meaning is diverted and new vantage points are created. Squander's energized music, its alliance with feeling's final rhythm "makes us complicit" in the re-awakening of language.

About the Author:
Elena Karina Byrne’s previous poetry books include The Flammable Bird and MASQUE. She is currently completing an essay collection: Voyeur Hour: Meditations on Poetry, Art and Desire. A Pushcart Prize winner, her publications include, Best American Poetry, Yale Review, Paris Review, APR, Poetry, Verse, Kenyon Review, Volt, TriQuarterly, Denver Quarterly. Former Regional Director of the Poetry Society of America, Elena Karina Byrne is Poetry Consultant for The Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, The Ruskin Art Club's Literary Programs Director, and one of the final judges for the Kate/Kingsley Tufts Prizes in Poetry.
House A

By Jennifer S. Cheng

House A investigates the tones and textures of immigrant home-building by asking: How is the body inscribed with a cosmology of home, and vice versa? With evocative and intellectual precision, House A weaves personal, discursive, and lyrical textures to invoke the immersive-obscured experience of an immigrant home’s entanglement while mapping a new poetics of American Home, steeped in longing and rooted by displacement.

About the Author:
Jennifer S. Cheng is a poet and essayist with MFA degrees from the University of Iowa and San Francisco State University and a BA from Brown University. A US Fulbright scholar, Kundiman fellow, and Pushcart Prize nominee, she is the author of an image-text chapbook, Invocation: An Essay (New Michigan Press). Having grown up in Texas, Hong Kong, and Connecticut, she currently lives in San Francisco.

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Asian Poetry
Poetry

NOT FOR SALE:
CA, MX, US
Our Lives Became Unmanageable
By Jackie Craven

An advertising copywriter searches for her missing reflection. An artist tries to sculpt clouds. A businessman fades into the atmosphere while an old man drifts over rooftops, his gravity broken. Eleven narrative strands fragment and reform to weave a story of other-worldly ailments and compulsions. As the befuddled narrators cross paths, their lives grow increasingly unmanageable. Told with wit and pathos, the linked tales are comical and strange, yet heartbreakingly familiar. These are the confessions you might hear at a 12-step meeting in a universe of fairy tales and dreams.

About the Author:
Jackie Craven’s stories and poems have appeared in many journals, including Berkeley Fiction Review, Chautauqua, The Fourth River, Limestone Journal, Mid-American Review, New Ohio Review, Nimrod International Journal, Pearl, Salamander, and Water Stone Review. She holds a Doctor of Arts in Writing from the University of New York at Albany. She lives in Schenectady, NY, Cocoa Beach, FL, and online at JackieCraven.com.

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NOT FOR SALE: CA, MX, US
White Decimal

By Jean Daive and Norma Cole

About the Author:
Jean Daive (1941) is a Belgian poet and translator. He is the author of novels, collections of poetry and has translated work by Paul Celan and Robert Creeley among others. He has edited encyclopedias, worked as a radio journalist and producer with France Culture, and has edited four magazines: fragment (1970 73), fig. (1989 91), FIN (1999 2006) and K.O.S.H.K.O.N.O.N.G. (from 2013 to the present). Publishing since the 1960s, Daive is known as one of the important French avant-garde poets. Also a photographer, Daive chairs the Centre international de poesie de Marseille.

Norma Cole’s books of poetry include Win These Posters and Other Unrelated Prizes Inside, Where Shadows Will: Selected Poems 1988 2008, Spinoza in Her Youth and Natural Light, and most recently Actualities, her collaboration with painter Marina Adams. TO BE AT MUSIC: Essays & Talks made its appearance in 2010 from Omnidawn Press. Her translations from the French include Danielle Collobert’s It Then, Collobert’s Journals, Crosscut Universe: Writing on Writing from France (edited and translated by Cole), and Jean Daive’s A Woman with Several Lives. She lives in San Francisco.
Güera
By Rebecca Gaydos

Invoking a Mexican slang term that translates roughly as "white girl," Güera considers how the body's meaning as a racialized, gendered, and sexualized surface shifts as it crosses linguistic and national borders. Gaydos's disarmingly direct addresses slip between the spaces of story and reality, traversing the many meanings of "appearance": not only the physical image and its attendant assumptions, but also the act of arriving or becoming visible. Moving between Los Angeles, Oaxaca, Mexico City, and Talcott, Virginia, Güera traces the way touristic desire, folklore, and stereotype transform the languages we speak and the bodies we inhabit.

About the Author:
Rebecca Gaydos was born in Santa Barbara, California. At U. C. Berkeley, she won the Eisner Prize in Poetry and earned her PhD in English. She has taught literature and writing at Diablo Valley College, San Quentin State Prison, and U. C. Berkeley. In addition to writing poetry, she is editing an unpublished novella by poet Larry Eigner and completing a scholarly book on the significance of technoscientific thought in post-World War II American poetry.
The Field
By Robert Andrew Perez

The Field traces the I across a constellation of lyric psychodramas, where the voice navigates the daily traumas of embodiment and the force majeure of the out-of-body experience. At its center, this first collection from Robert Andrew Perez is a curation of the perils of love in an age of persistent angst, or the virtues of love from a persistently anxious mind. This I in crisis posits itself in a multitude of lyric containers, vibrating in the tension of terror and ecstasy's diametric vectors through the curses of memory, emotion and contemplation.

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Robert Andrew Perez lives in Berkeley. He is an associate editor for speCt!, a letterpress imprint based out of Oakland, where he also curates readings. He is a recipient of a Lannan prize and a Lambda Literary fellow. Recent work can be found in The Awl, Omniverse, DIAGRAM, and The Laurel Review.
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*Jeanne Marie Beaumont* grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs. She is the author of three previous collections of poetry: *Burning of the Three Fires*, *Curious Conduct*, and *Placebo Effects*, a winner in the National Poetry Series. She has taught at The Frost Place, Rutgers University, The Unterberg Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, and is on the poetry faculty of the Stonecoast MFA Program in Maine. Since 1983, she has made her home in Manhattan.

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About the Author:
Robert Andrew Perez lives in Berkeley. He is an associate editor for speCt!, a letterpress imprint based out of Oakland, where he also curates readings. He is a recipient of a Lannan prize and a Lambda Literary fellow. Recent work can be found in The Awl, Omniverse, DIAGRAM, and The Laurel Review.
Silchester
Integrating geophysics and archaeology: the results of the Silchester mapping project 2005-10
By John Creighton and Robert Fry

Key Features:
· The volume combines data from historical maps, excavations and
gеophysical surveys to map the interior of the Roman town and its environs

· The volume includes a series of maps which will form a basic resource for future work on Roman Silchester

This volume draws together for the first time all the fieldwork known to have taken place from the earliest located trenches in the 1720s up until the modern campaigns of Fulford. It integrates this work with a new geophysical survey of 217ha to provide a new overarching narrative for the town.

The volume starts with a historiography of work on the city from earliest antiquarian investigations. This sense of changing interpretations of the site permeates all the later discussion, showing how new discoveries have transformed understandings. The core of the volume contains the empirical data, mapping the past excavations alongside evidence from aerial photography, fieldwalking, LiDAR and geophysics. The final sections provide essays in interpretation, with thematic reviews of: the defenses; the development of the oppidum; the military connection; the mortuary landscape; trade and industry; and public entertainment. Finally a narrative overview examines how the town's remains have been interpreted within an historical setting.