

SARABANDE BOOKS  
2021



# SARABANDE BOOKS

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Sarabande Books is a nonprofit literary press dedicated to poetry, short fiction, and essay. We are committed to: creating lasting editions that honor exceptional writing; distributing these works nationally; and serving as an educational resource for readers, students, and teachers of creative writing.

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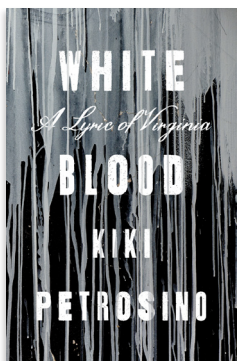


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## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

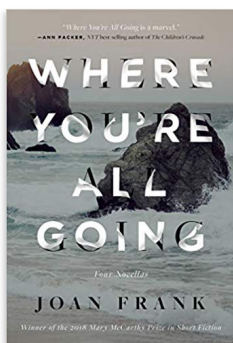


### WHITE BLOOD Kiki Petrosino | Poems

“New and Noteworthy”  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW*

“An Anti-Racist Poetry Reading List”  
*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*

“Black Voices Matter 2020”  
*LIBRARY JOURNAL*



### WHERE YOU'RE ALL GOING Joan Frank | Novellas

“15 Small Press Books To Kick Off Your  
2020 Reading Season”  
*BUZZFEED NEWS*

“Death looms in these four sparkling  
novellas—thus the book’s sly title—but  
until then there’s the wonder of life.”

—KIM HUBBARD, *PEOPLE MAGAZINE*



### HOTEL ALMIGHTY Sarah J. Sloat | Visual Poems

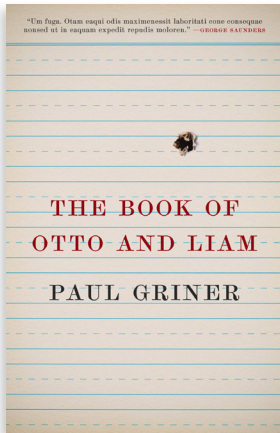
“New & Noteworthy Poetry, from the  
Ancient Greeks to Billy Collins”  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW*

“Absolutely marvelous.”  
—MARY RUEFLE

# THE BOOK OF OTTO & LIAM

Paul Griner | A novel | April

“Every so often a writer whose work you’ve admired makes a sudden leap into new and fertile territory. This is the case with Paul Griner’s dazzling new novel, *The Book of Otto and Liam*. Fast, timely, structurally daring, deeply humane, it is also wildly entertaining, in the best sense of the word: it drives the reader through it by virtue of her natural human



feeling of concern. It has something important to teach us about our dangerous national addictions to violence, hostile projection, and political polarization and does so in that classic literary way: by making us care deeply about individual human beings.” —**GEORGE SAUNDERS**

*The Book of Otto and Liam* is a suspenseful, edge-of-your-seat read and, at the same time, it is a meditation on the forms evil can take, from the irredeemable act of the shooter himself, to the anger and devastation it causes in the victims’ families. Griner has managed to make an amazing, incredibly powerful book, one that is like no other.

**PAUL GRINER** Paul Griner is the author of the novels *Collectors*, *The German Woman*, and *Second Life*, and the story collections *Follow Me* (a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers choice) and *Hurry Please I Want to Know* (winner of the Kentucky Literary Award). He teaches writing and literature at the University of Louisville.

ISBN 978-1-946448-76-7  
paperback; 5.5 x 8.5; 400 pages; \$16.95

# STAY SAFE

Emma Hine | Poems | January

Winner of the 2019 Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry

“Simply said: this is the renewable energy we’ve been waiting for. So attuned are these poems to their introspective nature and terrors of the self, their wild narratives, and linguistic spells, this book begins to feel like its own solar farm: each page, a panel of skyshine and wonderments.”

—MAJOR JACKSON



“This is a collection that is startling in its revelations and the latitudes it traverses, and Hine is a tremendous voice reminding us what it is to mark an existence and to endure.” —JENNY XIE

At the center of this stellar collection are three sisters and their imaginative fear of grief. Their great-uncle was bitten by a shark, their mother has a brain tumor, their neighbor hangs himself from a tree—and to cope with these very real terrors, the oldest sister creates an intimate fantasy world. The voice in these poems is the perfect mix of grief and imagination, quiet and explosion. *Stay Safe* is delicate and extraordinary, a powerful debut.

**EMMA HINE** received an MFA from New York University and currently serves as the Communications Manager at the CLMP and the Education Content Specialist at the Academy of American Poets. Her poems have appeared in *Gulf Coast*, *Ninth Letter*, *The Offing*, *The Paris Review*, and elsewhere. Hine won the 2014 *Arts & Letters* Rumi Prize in Poetry.

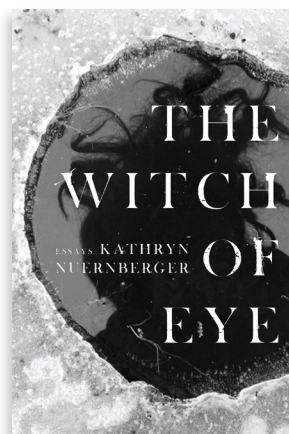
ISBN 978-1-946448-68-2

paperback; 6 x 9; 112 pages; \$15.95

# THE WITCH OF EYE

Kathryn Nuernberger | Essays | February

“A magnificent book, full of incidental pleasures, and incidental terrors, and fundamental truths. Nuernberger writes like a Baudelaire who instead of walking across a city can walk across time.” —RIVKA GALCHEN



“In language ranging from the meditative to the brutally funny, Nuernberger stitches histories and hexes together, elegantly tracing the threads between how we talk about violence, nature, industry, and culture.”

—V. V. GANESHANANTHAN

This amazingly wise and nimble collection investigates the horrors inflicted on so-called “witches” of the past and considers parallels to present-day questions of social justice.

**KATHRYN NUERNBERGER** is the author of poetry collections, *Rue*, *The End of Pink*, and *Rag & Bone*, and essay collection *Brief Interviews with the Romantic Past*. She is the recipient of grants and fellowships from the NEA, H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest, and others. She was awarded the James Laughlin Prize from the Academy of American Poets and has twice been included on the list of Best American Notable Essays. She teaches on the faculty of the MFA program at the University of Minnesota.

ISBN 978-1-946448-70-5

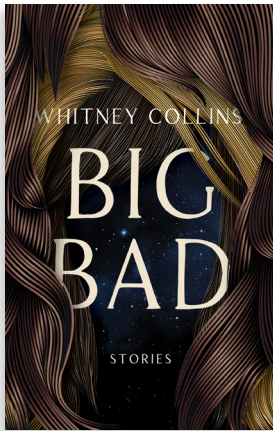
paperback; 5.25 x 7.75; 144 pages; \$16.95

# BIG BAD

Whitney Collins | Stories | March

Winner of the 2019 Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction

“Darkly, subversively, hilarious stories carom along with brilliance and surety. In fiction both exquisitely bizarre and deeply satisfying, the excitement of discovery resounds throughout Collins’s work.” —**LESLIE DANIELS**



“What a raw delight of a book! This collection reads like an instant modern classic, to be found on the shelf between Joy Williams and George Saunders.” —**JARDINE LIBAIRE**

A young woman gives birth to future iterations of herself; a widower kills a horse en route to his grandson’s circumcision; a conflicted summer camper is haunted by a glass eye. Collins’s cast of characters must repeatedly choose to fight or flee the “big bad” that dwells within us all.

**WHITNEY COLLINS** Whitney Collins’s fiction has appeared in *Ninth Letter*, *The Southeast Review*, *Grist*, *The Pinch*, *Moon City Review*, *Quarter After Eight*, *The Laurel Review*, *Lumina*, and *Raleigh Review*, among others. She is the recipient of a 2020 Pushcart Prize, a semifinalist for *American Short Fiction*’s 2019 The Short(er) Fiction Prize, and her flash horror is forthcoming in Catapult’s *Tiny Nightmares* anthology.

ISBN 978-1-946448-72-9

paperback; 5.5 x 8.5; 224 pages; \$16.95

# EVEN SHORN

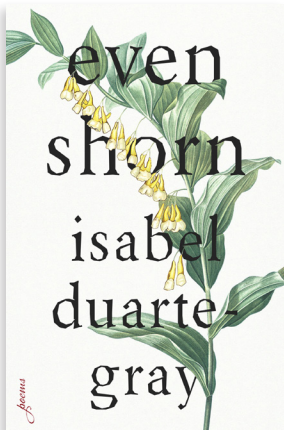
Isabel Duarte-Gray | Poems | May

Linda Bruckheimer Series in Kentucky Literature

“Isabel Duarte-Gray’s grasp of deep and perhaps forbidden vernaculars, cultural edges and crossings is profound. The place is underground, underwater, under the crackling structures and somewhere inside abandoned, formless barns in a far-off crimson. An immediate prize-winner. A

bold, brave, rare, genius, meticulous, deeper and deeper at work.”

—JUAN FILIPE HERRERA



“In this strong first collection, a song of songs, an evidence of evidence, a manifestation from places some of us know and many more of us should hear. I give thanks for it.” —STEPHANIE BURT

A grandfather plays drunk, solitary Russian Roulette. A cousin lives in a closet. Duarte’s poetry is shocking, whip smart, and truly unique.

**ISABEL DUARTE-GRAY** was born in Oakland, California and raised in a trailer in Kuttawa, Kentucky. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University, where she studies Latinx Literature, Poetry, and Ecocriticism. She received her B.A. in English and Russian from Amherst College. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Colorado Review*, *Bat City Review*, *The South Carolina Review*, and *december magazine*, among others.

ISBN 978-1-946448-74-3

paperback; 6 x 9; 72 pages; \$15.95



# JULY

Kathleen Ossip | Poems | June

“What’s a poet to do in a time when the great weapon used to suppress critical thought is a raw overwhelm of meaningless language? Kathleen Ossip demonstrates one approach in her brilliant *July*, which feels at once totally intimate, familiar, and also miraculous, unprecedented.”

—KAVEH AKBAR



“*July* charts something like the mechanics of human attentiveness, tracing the mind’s movement with maximum candor and in the process kicking open new doors of possibility for the poem.” —JANA PRIKRYL

In her groundbreaking and most politicized collection, Kathleen Ossip takes a hard look at the U.S.A. as it now stands. She meditates on our various responses to our country—whether ironic, infantile, righteous, or defeated. Her diction is both high and low, her tone both elegant and straightforward.

**KATHLEEN OSSIP** is the author of *The Do-Over*, a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice; *The Cold War*, which was one of *Publishers Weekly’s* best books of 2011; *The Search Engine*, which was selected by Derek Walcott for the *American Poetry Review*/Honickman First Book Prize; and *Cinephrastics*, a chapbook of movie poems. She teaches at The New School in New York, and she has been a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University.

ISBN 978-1-946448-78-1

paperback; 6 x 9; 88 pages; \$15.95

# PAPER CONCERT: A CONVERSATION IN THE ROUND

Amy Wright | Essays | August

“Like the ambitious, miracle-making spider that opens this book, Amy Wright spins a web that connects an array of fields and fields of thought. Touching on art, philosophy, race, class, poetry, ecology, and more, this is a good guide for the present disasters, leading us back along the strong



lines of Wright’s web to what is most beautiful and inspiring in the human endeavor.” —**ELENI SIKELIANOS**

“Amy Wright’s inventive composition is a playful and profound interrogation of creativity, freedom and art. Bravo for *Paper Concert!*” —**AMY FUSSELMAN**

Amy Wright, conductor extraordinaire, has managed to piece apart, then fold together conversations from a bevy of thinkers like Dorothy Allison, Rae Armantrout, Gerald Stern, Lia Purpura, Raven Jackson, Wendy Walters, Kimiko Hahn, Philanese Slaughter, and others.

**AMY WRIGHT** has previously authored two poetry books, one collaboration, and six chapbooks. Her essays have won contests from *London Magazine* and *Quarterly West*. She has also received two Peter Taylor Fellowships to *The Kenyon Review* Writer’s Workshop, an Individual Artist Grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission, and a fellowship to Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Her essays appear in *Georgia Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *Ninth Letter*, and elsewhere.

ISBN 978-1-946448-80-4

paperback; 5.25 x 7.75; 216 pages; \$16.95

# A DANGEROUS PLACE

Chelsea B. DesAutels | Poems | October

2020 Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry Finalist

“Right from the first pages, these poems pull us into a palpable, lush undertow of feeling. It is a place beyond words but not beyond living. This book insistently embraces possibility not as an abstraction but as a working part of the



pact that the real makes with each of us. “of course / I always mention gratitude because / people like that ending. // And so what? Find me one person who / hasn’t swallowed the past / & lost it inside the body.” These poems, finally, discover what seem to be new places inside us, new in their uncovering but not unfamiliar in our human dailiness.”

—ALBERTO RIOS

**CHELSEA B. DESAUTELS** is a poet and educator living in Minneapolis. Her work appears in *Ploughshares*, *The Adroit Journal*, *Pleiades*, *Ninth Letter*, and elsewhere. A National Poetry Series finalist, DesAutels earned her MFA from the University of Houston, where she was the recipient of the Inprint Verlaine Prize in Poetry and served as Poetry Editor of *Gulf Coast*. She has received support from the Anderson Center at Tower View, Vermont Studio Center, Minnesota Northwoods Writers’ Conference, Community of Writers at Squaw Valley, and others.

ISBN 978-1-946448-86-6

paperback; 6 x 9; 112 pages; \$15.95

# ETERNAL NIGHT AT THE NATURE MUSEUM

Tyler Barton | Stories | November

2020 Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction Finalist

The characters in *Eternal Night at the Nature Museum* take refuge in strange, repurposed spaces. A middle-aged addict emcees at demolition derby, which transforms into a hostel—then a cult. An elderly folk artist builds mailbox reproductions of her dream homes. A church congregates in an abandoned Hardee's. Octogenarians escape their nursing home. Unsupervised children sell knives to the neighborhood. In twenty vivid, rowdy, buoyant stories, Tyler Barton assembles a collection of places to crash, if only for the night.



**TYLER BARTON** is a literary advocate and cofounder of Fear No Lit, home of the Submerging

Writer Fellowship. His fiction has appeared in *The Iowa Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Subtropics*, and elsewhere. He's earned honors from *Kenyon Review*, *The Chicago Review of Books*, *Pheobe Journal*, *Best of the Net*, *Best Microfiction 2020*, and *Best Small Fictions 2020*. His collection of flash fiction, *The Quiet Part Loud*, was published by *Split Lip Press* in 2019. He lives in Lancaster, PA.

ISBN 978-1-946448-84-2

paperback; 5.5 x 8.5; 224 pages; \$16.95

## 2022 PREVIEW

### WHITE BULL

Elizabeth Hughey | Poems | January  
Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry

### THE MAN WITH EIGHT PAIRS OF LEGS

Leslie Campbell | Stories | February  
Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction

### MERCY

Ashley Farmer | Essays | March  
Sarabande Series in Kentucky Literature

### BRIGHT

Kiki Petrosino | Essays | May

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