
Metaphysical Dog Frank Bidart

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Metaphysical Dog Hansen
Publishing Group LLC
A dazzling story of obsessive
love emerges in Cynthia
Zarin ' s luminous new book
inspired and inhabited by the
title character of Nabokov ' s
novel Ada, or Ardor: A Family
Chronicle, who was the lifelong

love of her half brother, Van.
These electric poems are set in a
Nabokovian landscape of
memory in which real places,
people, and things—the
exploration of the Hudson River,
Edwardian London, sunflowers,
Chekhov, Harlem, decks of
cards, the death of Solzhenitsyn,

morpho butterflies—collide with the speaker ’ s own protean tale of desire and loss. With a string of brilliant contemporary sonnets as its spine, the book is a headlong display of mastery and sorrow: in the opening poem, “ Birch, ” the poet writes “ Abide with me, arrive / at its skinned branches, its arms pulled / from the sapling . . . the birch all elbows, taking us in. ” But Zarin does not “ Destroy and forget ” as Nabokov ’ s witty, tender Ada would have her do; rather, as she writes in “ Fugue: Pilgrim Valley, ” “ The past ’ s / clear colors make the future dim, Lethe ’ s / swale lined with

willow twigs. ” Like all enduring love poetry, these poems are a gorgeous refusal to forget. A riveting, high-stakes performance by one of our major poets, *The Ada Poems* extends the reach of American poetry.

**Song & Error Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Metaphysical
Dog Farrar, Straus and Giroux**

Dark Fields of the Republic: Poems 1991-1995 Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Poems contemplate the art of writing, Eros, the desolations of history, and the illusion of will

The Ground Metaphysical
Dog

Despite the odds stacked up against them, the Remnants seem to be surviving in the Rock's harsh environment while living peacefully with the inhabitants, but this new world still has its set of problems that Billy cannot handle.

Straight James / Gay James Fourth Estate
Harryette Mullen's fifth poetry collection, *Sleeping with the Dictionary*, is the abecedarian offspring of her

collaboration with two of the poet's most seductive writing partners, Roget's Thesaurus and The American Heritage Dictionary. In her ménage à trois with these faithful companions, the poet is aware that while Roget seems obsessed with categories and hierarchies, the American Heritage, whatever its faults, was compiled with the assistance of a democratic usage panel that included black poets Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps, as well as feminist author and editor Gloria Steinem. With its arbitrary yet determinant alphabetical arrangement, its gleeful pursuit of the ludic pleasure of word games (acrostic, anagram, homophone, parody, pun), as well as its reflections on the politics of language and dialect, Mullen's work is serious play. A number of the poems are inspired or influenced by a technique of the international literary avant-garde group Oulipo, a dictionary game called S+7 or N+7. This method of textual transformation--which is used to compose nonsensical travesties reminiscent of Lewis Carroll's

"Jabberwocky"--also creates a kind of automatic poetic discourse. Mullen's parodies reconceive the African American's relation to the English language and Anglophone writing, through textual reproduction, recombining the genetic structure of texts from the Shakespearean sonnet and the fairy tale to airline safety instructions and

unsolicited mail. The poet admits to being "licked all over by the English tongue," and the title of this book may remind readers that an intimate partner who also gives language lessons is called, euphemistically, a "pillow dictionary." Farrar, Straus and Giroux Directing Herbert White is the debut poetry collection by the actor, director, and writer James

Francis I'm a nocturnal creature, And I'm here to cheat time. You can see time and exhaustion Taking pay from my face— In fifty years My sleep will be death, I'll go like the rest, But I'll have played All the games and all the roles. —from "Nocturnal" "There's never been a book quite like this. Hollywood—fame, celebrity, the promise of becoming

an artist—is the beast at its center. Franco knows it like Melville knows whaling. Hollywood this book devours its young. Obsessed with myths about its own past, it can be survived only by finding a vantage point that is not Hollywood. Bold yet subtle, fearless yet disarming, Franco has made a book you will never forget." —Frank Bidart "A star-studded cast moves like ghosts across the screen of James Franco's poetic consciousness, imbuing the writing with scenes of icons who are also humans replete with sorrow and presence in our own psyches. James Dean, Monica Vitti, Catherine Deneuve, Sal Mineo, Heath Ledger, pass and fade. The author has a wonderful, self-reflexive insouciance about his own fame and roles inhabited, from Hart Crane to Allen Ginsberg to Harvey Milk's lover. Franco is a gifted contemporary Renaissance kind of guy, surveying the waterfront of illusion, suffering, and impermanence. We leave the movie theater a little wiser." —Anne Waldman

Begin Again Crown
WINNER OF THE NOBEL
PRIZE IN LITERATURE A
haunting new book by
a poet whose voice
speaks of all our

lifetimes Louise
Glück's thirteenth
book is among her
most haunting. Here
as in the Wild Iris
there is a chorus,
but the speakers are
entirely human,
simultaneously
spectral and ancient.
Winter Recipes from
the Collective is
chamber music, an
invitation into that
privileged realm
small enough for the
individual instrument
to make itself heard,
dolente, its line

sustained, carried,
and then taken up by
the next instrument,
spirited, animoso,
while at the same
time being large
enough to contain a
whole lifetime, the
inconceivable gifts
and losses of old
age, the little
princesses rattling
in the back of a car,
an abandoned
passport, the
ingredients of an
invigorating winter
sandwich, a sister's
death, the joyful

presence of the sun,
its brightness
measured by the
darkness it casts.
"Some of you will
know what I mean,"
the poet says, by
which she means, some
of you will follow
me. Hers is the
sustaining presence,
the voice containing
all our lifetimes,
"all the worlds, each
more beautiful than
the last." This
magnificent book
couldn't have been
written by anyone

else, nor could it have been written by the poet at any other time in her life.

Accepting the Disaster

W. W. Norton & Company

A masterful debut from a powerfully original poetic voice

A poignant and terse vision of New York City unfolds in Rowan Ricardo Phillips's debut book of poetry. A work of rare beauty and lyric grace, *The Ground* is an entire world, drawn and revealed through contemplation of the post-9/11 landscape.

With musicality and precision of thought, Phillips's poems limn the troubadour's journey in an increasingly surreal modern world ("I plugged my poem into a manhole cover/That flamed into the first guitar"). The origin of mankind, the origin of the self, the self's development in the sensuous world, and--in both a literal and figurative sense--the end of all things sing through Phillips's supple and idiosyncratic poems.

The poet's subtle formal sophistication--somewhere between flair and restraint--and sense of lyric possibility bring together the hard glint of the contemporary world and the eroded permanence of the archaic one through remixes, underground sessions, Spenserian stanzas, myths and revamped translations. These are poems of fiery intelligence, inescapable music and metaphysical splendor that concern themselves with lived life and the

life of the imagination--both equally vivid and true--as they lay the framework for Phillips's meditations on our connection to and estrangement from the natural world. *Watching the Spring Festival* Farrar, Straus and Giroux The collected works of one of contemporary poetry's most original voices Gathered together, the poems of Frank Bidart perform one of the most remarkable transmutations of the

body into language in contemporary literature. His pages represent the human voice in all its extreme registers, whether it's that of the child-murderer Herbert White, the obsessive anorexic Ellen West, the tormented genius Vaslav Nijinsky, or the poet's own. And in that embodiment is a transgressive empathy, one that recognizes our wild appetites, the monsters, the misfits, the misunderstood among us and inside us. Few

writers have so willingly ventured to the dark places of the human psyche and allowed themselves to be stripped bare on the page with such candor and vulnerability. Over the past half century, Bidart has done nothing less than invent a poetics commensurate with the chaos and appetites of our experience. Half-light encompasses all of Bidart's previous books, and also includes a new collection, *Thirst*, in which the poet

austerely surveys his life, laying it plain for us before venturing into something new and unknown. Here Bidart finds himself a "Creature coterminous with thirst," still longing, still searching in himself, one of the "queers of the universe." Visionary and revelatory, intimate and unguarded, Bidart's *Half-light: Collected Poems 1965-2017* are a radical confrontation with human nature, a conflict eternally renewed and reframed,

restless line by restless line. *Against Silence* Vintage Frank Bidart and David Gewanter have compiled the definitive edition of Robert Lowell's work, from his first, impossible-to-find collection, *Land of Unlikeness*; to the early triumph of *Lord Weary's Castle*, winner of the 1946 Pulitzer Prize; to the brilliant willfulness of his versions of poems by Sappho, Baudelaire, Rilke, Montale, and other

masters in *Imitations*; to the late spontaneity of *The Dolphin*, winner of another Pulitzer Prize; to his last, most searching book, *Day by Day*. This volume also includes poems and translations never previously collected, and a selection of drafts that demonstrate the poet's constant drive to reimagine his work. *Collected Poems* at last offers readers the opportunity to take in, in its entirety, one of the great careers in twentieth-century poetry.

Touch Univ of
California Press
In 2002, Frank Bidart
published a sequence
of poems, *Music Like
Dirt*, the first
chapbook ever to be a
finalist for the
Pulitzer Prize. From
the beginning, he had
conceived this
sequence as the
opening movement in a
larger structure--now,
with *Star Dust*,
finally complete. In
this profound and
unforgettable new
book, the dream beyond
desire (which now
seems to represent

human destiny) is
rooted in the drive to
create, a drive
tormented at every
stage by failure, as
the temporal being
fights for its survival
by making an eternal
life. Bidart is a poet
of passionate
originality, and *Star
Dust* shows that the
forms of this
originality continue to
deepen and change as he
constantly renews his
contract with the idea
of truth. *Star Dust* is
a 2005 National Book
Award Finalist for
Poetry.

The Golden State
Random House (NY)
*Straight James /
Gay James*, actor
James Franco's new
chapbook of poems,
explores the facets
of his public and
private personas.
*Straight James /
Gay James* is a
poetic
bildungsroman--raw,
candid, and
uninhibited. James
Franco writes about
life as an actor,
sexuality,

questions of identity, gender, family, Gucci, Lana Del Rey, James Dean, Hollywood, and more. His poetic style varies from the imagistic to the prosaic. The chapbook also contains an interview of "Gay James" conducted by "Straight James." Yes, Straight James asks the question: "Let's get substantial: are

you f*****g gay or what?" *Half-light* Farrar, Straus and Giroux A first collection of lyrics by the Bollingen Prize-winning author of *Star Dust* evaluates the role of imminent mortality in forcing the self to question the relation between actual life and the promise of transformation, in a volume that explores such subjects as Marilyn Monroe, the

ballet *Giselle*, and the nature of tragedy. **Abide** Macmillan A sumptuous lyric exploration of the pain & pleasure of embodiment amidst what feels like end times. *Doomstead Days* is a lyrical series of experiments in embodied ecological consciousness. Drafted on foot, these site-specific poems

document rivers,
cities, forests,
oil spills,
mountains, and
apocalyptic
visions. They
encounter
refineries and
urban watersheds,
megafauna and
industrial toxins,
each encounter
intertwining
ordinary life and
ongoing
environmental
crisis. Days pass:
wartimedays, days

of love and sex,
sixth extinction
days, days of
chronic illness,
all of them
doomstead days.
Through these
poems, we
experience the
pleasure and pain
of being a body
during global
climate change.
Collected Poems
Farrar, Straus and
Giroux
A vibrant and eclectic
collection from a
stunningly mature

young poet "The
world—the time has come
to say it, though the
news will not be
welcome to everyone—has
no intention of
abandoning enchantment
altogether." Roberto
Calasso's words in
Literature and the Gods
remind us that, in an
age of reason, of
mechanization, of
alienation, of rote
drudgery, we still seek
out the transcendent,
the marvelous. Ange
Mlinko's luminous
fourth collection is
both a journey toward
and the space of that

very enchantment.
Marvelous Things
Overheard takes its
title from a collection
of ancient rumors about
the lands of the
Mediterranean. Mlinko,
who lived at the
American University of
Beirut and traveled to
Greece and Cyprus, has
penned poems that
seesaw between the life
lived in those ancient
and strife-torn places,
and the life imagined
through its literature:
from The Greek
Anthology to the
Mu'allagat. Throughout,
Mlinko grapples with

the passage of time on
two levels: her own
aging (alongside the
growing up of her
children) and the
incontrovertible
evidence of millennia
of human habitation.
This is an assured and
revealing collection,
one that readers will
want to seek refuge in
again and again.
The Ada Poems Knopf
National Book Award
Finalist A clear-
sighted revelation, a
deep penetration into
the world of
Scientology by the

Pulitzer Prize-
winning author of The
Looming Tower, the
now-classic study of
al-Qaeda's 9/11
attack. Based on more
than two hundred
personal interviews
with current and
former
Scientologists—both
famous and less well
known—and years of
archival research,
Lawrence Wright uses
his extraordinary
investigative ability
to uncover for us the
inner workings of the

Church of
Scientology. At the
book's center, two
men whom Wright
brings vividly to
life, showing how
they have made
Scientology what it
is today: The darkly
brilliant science-
fiction writer L. Ron
Hubbard, whose
restless, expansive
mind invented a new
religion. And his
successor, David
Miscavige—tough and
driven, with the
unenviable task of

preserving the church
after the death of
Hubbard. We learn
about Scientology's
complicated cosmology
and special language.
We see the ways in
which the church
pursues celebrities,
such as Tom Cruise
and John Travolta,
and how such stars
are used to advance
the church's goals.
And we meet the young
idealists who have
joined the Sea Org,
the church's clergy,
signing up with a

billion-year
contract. In *Going
Clear*, Wright
examines what
fundamentally makes a
religion a religion,
and whether
Scientology is, in
fact, deserving of
this constitutional
protection. Employing
all his exceptional
journalistic skills
of observation,
understanding, and
shaping a story into
a compelling
narrative, Lawrence
Wright has given us

an evenhanded yet keenly incisive book that reveals the very essence of what makes Scientology the institution it is. *The Sacrifice* Farrar, Straus and Giroux Winner of the 2014 National Book Award for Poetry A luminous, seductive new collection from the "fearless" (The New York Times) Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Louise Glück is one of the finest American poets at work today. Her Poems 1962-2012 was hailed as "a major event in this country's literature" in the pages of The New York Times. Every new collection is at once a deepening and a revelation. Faithful and Virtuous Night is no exception. You enter the world of this spellbinding book through one of its many dreamlike portals, and each time you enter it's the same place but it has been arranged differently. You were a woman. You were a man. This is a story of adventure, an encounter with the unknown, a knight's undaunted journey into the kingdom of death; this is a story of the world you've always known, that first primer where "on page three a dog appeared, on page five a ball" and every familiar facet has been made to

shimmer like the contours of a dream, "the dog float[ing] into the sky to join the ball." Faithful and Virtuous Night tells a single story but the parts are mutable, the great sweep of its narrative mysterious and fateful, heartbreaking and charged with wonder. *Five Days at Memorial* Ballantine Books
SHORTLISTED FOR THE BAILEY

WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION 2014. From the award-winning author of *Half of a Yellow Sun*, a powerful story of love, race and identity. As teenagers in Lagos, Ifemelu and Obinze fall in love. Their Nigeria is under military dictatorship, and people are fleeing the country if they can. The self-

assured Ifemelu departs for America. There she suffers defeats and triumphs, finds and loses relationships, all the while feeling the weight of something she never thought of back home: race. Obinze had hoped to join her, but post-9/11 America will not let him in, and he plunges into a dangerous,

undocumented life in the National Book
London. Thirteen Critics Circle
years later, Obinze Award-winning
is a wealthy man in *â~Americanah* (tm)
a newly democratic is a richly told
Nigeria, while story of love and
Ifemelu has expectation set in
achieved success as today (tm)s
a blogger. But globalized world.
after so long apart *Our Andromeda*
and so many Scholastic Paperbacks
changes, will they A lush, lyrical debut
find the courage to from a vibrant new
meet again, face to poetic voice A
face? Fearless, sparrow like a
gripping, spanning "fumbled punch line"
three continents is lost in an
and numerous lives, airport; a man
translating Ovid is

transfigured by
witnessing a massacre
in Jamestown in 1621;
a woman smiles
seductively as the
skin on her back is
opened out like a
wing; a lizard upon a
laptop shimmers with
the true life,
primitive and binary,
of our modern
information age. In
the sonically rich,
formally restless
poems of this debut
collection, *Song &
Error*, the thread
that unravels all we

think we know of the world is plucked loose and drawn from a seal's beached corpse. Uniting past and present, history and autobiography, Averill Curdy's poems strive to endure within "the crease of transformation" and to speak-sing-of that terrible beauty.

Music Like Dirt

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

"When does a life bend towards freed? grasp its direction" asks Adrienne Rich in Dark

Fields of the Republic, connection--and then her major new work. Her invites the reader to explorations go to the heart of democracy and love, and the historical and present endangerment of both. A theater of voices of men and women, the dead and the living, over time and across continents, the poems of Dark Fields of the Republic take conversations, imaginary and real, actions taken for better or worse, out of histories and songs to extend the poet's reach of witness and power of participate.