

# Troubling The Line Trans And Genderqueer Poetry And Poetics

TROUBLING THE LINE: TRANS AND GENDERQUEER POETRY AND POETICS. Troubling the Line Since I Moved in Wanting in Arabic Holy Wild day/break Gephyromania Gender Queer Men & Sleep Lyric Sexology Here to Stay The Rise of Genderqueer Meant to Wake Up Feeling Cream City Review Water I Won't Touch Vetch: a Magazine of Trans Poetry and Poetics The Virginia Quarterly Review Our Weather Our Sea Trans A Defense of Poetry T.C. Tolbert TC Tolbert Trace Peterson Trish Salah Gwen Benaway Gwen Benaway TC. Tolbert Joan Nestle Jay Besemer Trish Salah Marcelo Hernandez Castillo Wren Hanks Aimee Herman Kayleb Rae Candrilli Vetch: A Magazine of Trans Poetry and Poetics Samuel Ace Hilda Raz Percy Bysshe Shelley

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the first ever collection of poetry by trans and genderqueer writers

poetry in trace peterson s first collection of poems since i moved in desire is the restless remainder of body subtracted from voice or maybe it s voice from body whitmanian in its quick and tender grandeur its penchant for direct address and its abstract kinkiness and longing since i moved in moves exorably from the transgenering non performance of trans figures to the startled suspended chiasm of spontaneous generation where at last the fetish body dispersed into landscape becomes simply an ambient mode of seeing or saying in a post everything ecology where voice broods over the face of the waters becoming the prosthetic body of the world tenney nathanson

wanting in arabic is a refusal of convenient silences convenient stories concerned with not covering the tracks of her own metamorphosis the author dwells in the contradictions of a transsexual poetics in this attendand disfigurations of lyric ghazal I ecriture feininine and in particular her own sexed voice without a memory of her father s language the questions her poems ask are those for a home known through photographs for a language lost with childhood braiding theoretical concerns with the ambivalences of sexed and raced identity

with profound romanticism wanting in arabic attempts to travers the fantasies of foundational loss and aggressive nostalgia in order to further a poetics of a consious partiality of being of generous struggle and comic rather than tragic misrecongition

winner of the 2019 governor general s literary award for poetry finalist for the 2019 trillium book award for poetry finalist for the 2019 lambda literary awards transgender poetry category finalist for the 2019 publishing triangle awards trans and gender variant literature category longlisted for the 2019 pat lowther memorial award in her third collection of poetry holy wild gwen benaway explores the complexities of being an indigenous trans women in expansive lyric poems she holds up the indigenous trans body as a site of struggle liberation and beauty a confessional poet benaway narrates her sexual and romantic intimacies with partners as well as her work to navigate the daily burden of transphobia and violence she examines the intersections of indigenous and trans experience through autobiographical poems and continues to speak to the legacy of abuse violence and colonial erasure that defines canada her sparse lines interwoven with english and anishinaabemowin ojibwe illustrate the wonder and power of indigenous trans womanhood in motion holy wild is not an easy book as benaway refuses to give any simple answers but it is a profoundly vibrant and beautiful work filled with a transcendent grace

day break poet gwen benaway s fourth collection of work explores the everyday poetics of the trans feminine body through intimate experiences and conceptualizations of trans life day break asks what it means to be a trans woman both within the text and out in the physical world shifting between theory and poetry benaway questions how gender sexuality and love intersect with the violence and transmisogyny of the nation state and established literary institutions in beautiful lyric verse day break reveals the often unseen other worlds of trans life where body self and sex are transformed becoming more than fixed binary locations

poetry lgbt studies in geophyromania literally an addiction to or an obsession with bridges tolbert s choice isn t between female and male lover and self or loss and relief but rather to live willingly intentionally in the places where those binaries meet questions arise is a bridge simply an attempt to connect one seemingly stable body back to itself whose body which embodiment is absent when we say i miss you and who is adored when we say i love sensing the parallels between a lover who leaves and his own female body as it chooses as he chooses for it to recede the poems in geophyromania explore the spaces between among across and even within bodies

gender identity an issue that has galvanised the queer community in recent years goes beyond the nature of male female to a yet to be traversed region that lies somewhere between and beyond biologically determined gender in this groundbreaking anthology three experts in gender studies and politics navigate around rigid societally imposed concepts of two genders to discover and illuminate the limitless possibilities of identity

composed using words chosen from children s early to mid 20th century readers and from early 20th century natural history textbooks

men sleep exposes hidden currents and meanings in teaching materials from the past the two long poems presented in this volume draw readers into a strange yet quotidian world of ordinary wonder and transformation inhabiting creaturely life plant animal co embodiment queering sexual gender even species distinctions this book invites readers to mix in their own evanescent experiences moving beyond the limits of linear narrative or cause and effect men sleep requests and makes space for repeated engagements just as if readers were exploring a forest or a marsh when it s never quite clear whether the being you encounter here is a human a tree an insect or some unique combination of all of these how do you behave how does their behavior impact you how do you both change in the encounter perhaps these questions will help men sleep reveal itself to you can poetry be both mysterious and physical i am utterly intrigued by jay besemer s men sleep it is an immersive book that hums with the sensuality of spore filled organs as it meditates on the relationship between language masculinity and nature while it is a book of trees it s also a decidedly horizontal book we creep through the mosses and leaves smelling the ëpuzzling odor johannes göransson when i see a tree i think trees enjoy being trees or maybe it s more accurate to say i feel them their commitment to the vitality of struggle and survival as enjoyment and pleasure as i was reading this collection i thought jay besemer understands what i mean by this even though we ve never met or had a conversation human beings are also this way like trees or are we trees the word like here doesn t feel quite right to designate separateness in the sexual autumn we respond to change entangled with the earth beings we ve othered through language poetry brings us back home to where we belong nikki wallschlaeger poetry lgbtq studies

through lyric and language poetry this book explores and reimagines archives and histories of transsexuality and gender from psychoanalysis sexology literature anthropology and feminism as well as personal history

finalist for the international latino book award s best poetry anthology a lush tapestry of poetry and prose here to stay is an invitation to engage with a new field of contemporary american poetry i cannot separate my work from my undocumented identity aline mello from the indomitable writers and activists janine joseph esther lin and marcelo hernandez castillo comes an anthology gathering some of the best work from currently and formerly undocumented poets as well as poets from mixed status families from across the undocumented diaspora in america here to stay is a collection of honest searing and evocative poems interspersed with short personal narratives deeply intimate these works explore how to exist in the space between the familiar and the unknown between the safety of silence and the desire to share highlighting the significant insights of undocumented poets this brilliant compendium challenges misconceptions of what it means to live and write as an undocumented person in modern america beautiful poignant and timely this must read collection is a rich and essential new chapter in the ongoing story of the eclectic immigrant experience and the united states itself

a truly incomparable collection the rise of genderqueer constructs a voice with unmitigated and authentic yearning its poems soak ink into page from margin to margin pressing into the reader s assumptions about gender unmercifully

aimée herman s powerful new poetry collection meant to wake up feeling addresses the complexities of identity gender memory and body

image this is a book of surprise humor intimacy fallibility renewal in herman s own words walk away from formula resuscitate the dark inside look for new bulb of light

both radically tender and desperate for change water i won t touch is a life raft and a self portrait concerned with the vitality of trans people living in a dangerous and inhospitable landscape through the brambles of the pennsylvania forest to a stretch of the jersey shore in quiet moments and violent memories kayleb rae candrilli touches the broken earth and examines the whole in its parts written during the body s healing from a double mastectomy in the wake of addiction and family dysfunction these ambitious poems put new form to what s been lost and gained candrilli ultimately imagines a joyful queer future a garden to harvest lasting love the insistent flamboyance of citrus

poetry sam ace s fourth collection reads brilliantly as a new and selected even though these poems are fresh and just here this is because the book travels through so much of what we love about ace s work an intergenerational and sexually fluid map fashioned by a transgressive tenderness that seems to always be heading somewhere in this way these poems are culminations towards a queer futurity i beg you to stay unformed ace writes with what is now his classic voice both a determined command and compassionated plea for ace whose work and presence now spans decades of activism lives and genders this collection honors them all as a site of inquiry community and ultimately celebration in the face of uncertainty bravo maestro thank you brother ocean vuong the poems in samuel ace s *our weather our sea* orbit many great bewilderments embodiment desire time loss but at the center of this expansive solar system of wonder is a presiding fascination with sound and language itself ace writes i want to forget how to put words together and then he begins to offer some alternatives to the traditional order words repel words across the page sounds come together in dazzling sensual new arrays to accommodate his commanding and unprecedented experience the effect is astonishing the meanings change then change again he writes in these poems ace has pulled our language his aperture wide enough to fit the whole scene kaveh akbar in *our weather our sea* samuel ace is onto something startlingly new growling and minty in deconstructed epistolary forms song cycles and serial prose sequences arenas so soft ace makes his way via word images painterly phrases which are part visual part linguistic the middle roads of half mooned cherries these poems cultivate an air of liminality or mystery which accrues as the musical composition unfolds the changing lyrical self knowledge in process threads of you a farm of threads confronts us with experiences rendered strange but close up headlights breathing down my neck some big clothing or revealed as intimate because of their linguistic oddity sticky with coasts ace s *pan gender* prepositions play the heroes in this story connecting different domains of experience inverting meanings recontextualizing turning poignant or partying on the head of a pin in this infinite slide through the river of identitude gender is a bridge and love is a preposition trace peterson the cadences are quiet pretty and insistent the sounds are like mesquite leaves repetitive and delicate celebratory the book is celebratory this book is very beautiful wrap around line that can shade into prose and makes a true cognitive bend the line break is there because it s not a long line being used but a wrap around clausal acknowledging stein in an overall similitude of texture the book is grand and as if from a different dimension or planet you don t recognize everything there but you know how to be there alice notley

winner of the nebraska center for the book s nebraska book award for poetry 2002 this elegant and moving collection grew out of hilda raz s experience with her son s journey to a transgender identity born sarah now aaron raz s child has had a profound impact on her understanding of what it means to be a family to be whole and to know oneself the collection moves between past and present allowing raz to reflect on her own childhood and on her experience with breast cancer to find ways to connect with aaron the journey takes us from intimacy to strangeness and back again from denial to humor to grief and rage but always laced with love and acceptance trans means across through over to or on the other side and beyond the book documents some major transformations of body self society and spirit that art requires and life allows the poems themselves are accessible and finely wrought they are equally testaments to raz s insistence on making an order out of chaos of finding ways to create and understand and eventually accept new definitions of self and family the physical and sensuous language of raz s poems and their humanity keep them intimately bound to the world and to the senses

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